

Water Resources

Ensuring water resources and food security

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UKIA Conference 6 July 2022



1

Ensuring water resources and food security – the challenges

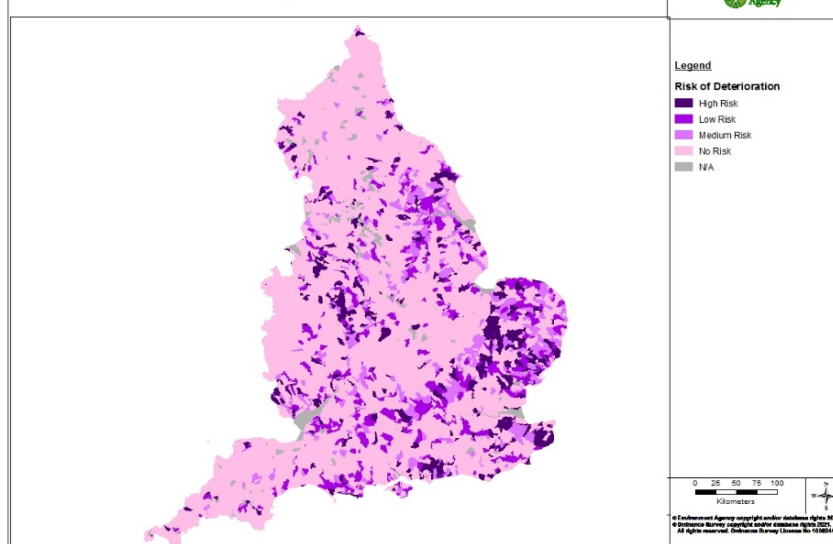
- Climate change and population growth are adding pressure to food and water security
- We may run out of water in the future without action
- Geopolitical uncertainties are affecting land-use
- The need to protect a sustainable water environment will affect the amount of water allocated
- Irrigation accounts for 1-2% of water use



2

Achieving sustainable abstraction – protecting the environment

Risk of Deterioration at Q95 under fully licensed scenario as of 2019



Part 1: Anglian river basin district
River basin management plan

Updated: December 2015



3

Achieving sustainable abstraction - mechanisms and actions

Mechanisms

- All new licences and upward variations – meet environmental requirements
- Review licences
- New Authorisations
- Prepare for implementation of the Environment Act 2021 from 2028 onwards
- Regional water resource plans

Actions for abstractors

- Reduce demand
- Changed operations to favour sustainable water sources
- Adopt complementary measures such as 'nature-based solutions' and hydromorphological enhancement to delay the need for licence change
- Catchment based solutions
- Water trades



4

The Water Resources National Framework

Meeting our Future Water Needs:
a National Framework for
Water Resources



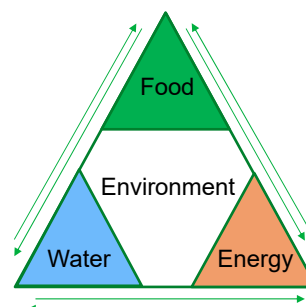
Autumn 2022
Consultation:
Final draft
regional plans

Autumn 2023
Publish:
Final regional
plans – period
Apr 2025 to
March 2050

Spring 2025
Publish:
Refreshed
National
Framework for
Water
Resources

~ 2027
Consultation:
Draft regional
plans – period
2030 - 2055

- The National Framework looks at England's long-term water needs and sets out the scale of action needed to ensure resilient supplies and an improved water environment
- We plan to strengthen our steer ahead of the next regional plans to consider water needs for food security.
- We will continue to evolve regional planning for public water supplies and other sectors – there is a clear need for better agriculture input.



5

Environmental Permitting Regulations

- Defra is considering the responses and will produce a Government Response document later this year
- Laying of the Statutory Instrument in Winter 2022 with implementation in October 2023
- We are starting to develop the guidance to sit alongside the Regulations
- We will work closely with the External Advisory Group to shape some key processes. Kelly Hewson Fisher, Jo Woodhams (NFU) Andrew Blenkiron (Euston Estates) Alice Green (CLA) sit on the group.
- We are developing communications for existing licence holders to prepare them for transition



Changes to the regulatory framework
for abstraction and impounding
licensing in England

Moving into the Environmental Permitting Regulations
regime

Consultation Document
September 2021



6

Digital transformation

Live Functionality

- Service registration
- Delegate access
- View my licence online
- Submit my returns online
- View my returns online
- Receive water abstraction alerts (post and email)

Future Improvements

- Check my flows and levels
- Water rights trading
- Manage my contacts
- Online permit applications
- Interactive water availability maps (pre-app)
- Calculate my charges (pre-app)
- Online public register

GOV.UK Manage your water abstraction or impoundment licence

BETA This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

Sign in or create an account

Create an account
Select if you have not used this service before.
[Create account](#)

Sign in
Select if you already have an account for this service.
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GOV.UK Manage your water abstraction or impoundment licence
Contact information Change password Sign out

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[View licences](#) [Reports and notifications](#)

Licence number 6/33/58/G/0266/R01
Ashwood Bore
Current licence version started on 1 April 2018 and ends on 31 March 2024

Licence name	Ashwood Bore Rename this licence
Licence holder	THE WALES FAMILY PARTNERSHIP View licence contact details
Source of supply	GROUND WATER SOURCE OF SUPPLY
Purpose of abstraction	Spray Irrigation - Direct
Abstraction amounts	53000.00 cubic metres per year 1296.00 cubic metres per day 54.00 cubic metres per hour 15.00 litres per second
Period of abstraction	From 1 April until 31 October View details of your purpose, period and amounts

Environment Agency

7

Digital transformation

Potential benefits to economy and society

£100 million **25 years**

Improved access to water rights through enhanced trading

Fast trade, share or broker water.
Important pilot extended.
Your chance to influence the future of water abstraction.
Get involved at no cost to you.

wheatley watersource

£300k per year

Reduced costs from online submission of abstraction returns

£13.7 million/ year **Economic benefit**

More rapid notifications improve access to water as flows and levels recover.

Do you have a water abstraction or impoundment licence?
Register for our digital service to manage your licence.

GOV.UK Manage your water abstraction or impoundment licence

BETA This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.



8

New charges scheme

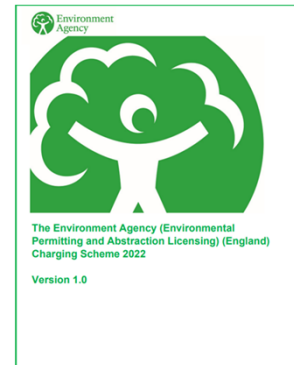
- A more consistent charging arrangement
- Clear line of sight between costs and services received
- Ability to invest more funding in our services.

Impact of charges

- Applications made after 1 April will see some higher fees
- Majority of abstractions are smaller volumes and will see subsistence reductions
- Some high-volume abstractors will see larger increases
- Agricultural sector sees a 13.4% reduction in annual charges

Implementation

- Annual bills expected later this summer
- Charge indicator tool available on GOV.UK

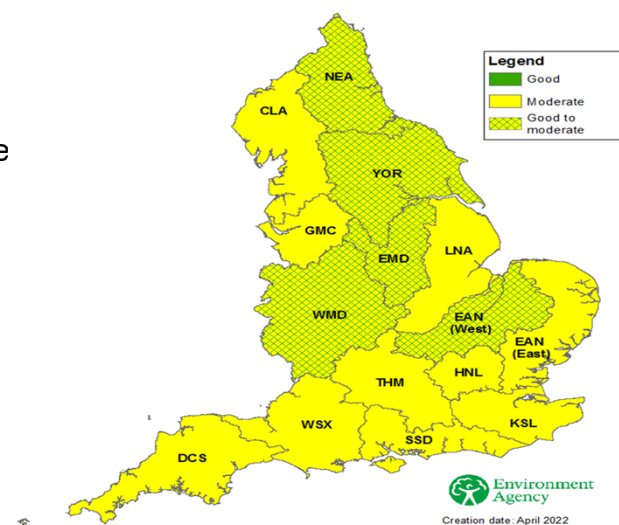


9

Managing current dry weather conditions

Figure 1 - Updated Irrigation Prospects
spring - summer 2022

- Dry spring
- Prospects for water availability irrigation – moderate/good to moderate
- Consider water needs for 2023



10

Summary

- We will run out of water in the future without action
- The regulatory and economic landscape is changing
- Societies expectations are changing
- We need to work together ensure there is enough water for abstractors and the environment now and in the future

