

RIVER DART

CATCHMENT ACTION PLAN



NRA

*National Rivers Authority
South West Region*

✓

C O N T E N T S

MAP OF NRA SW REGION SHOWING TARGET CATCHMENT

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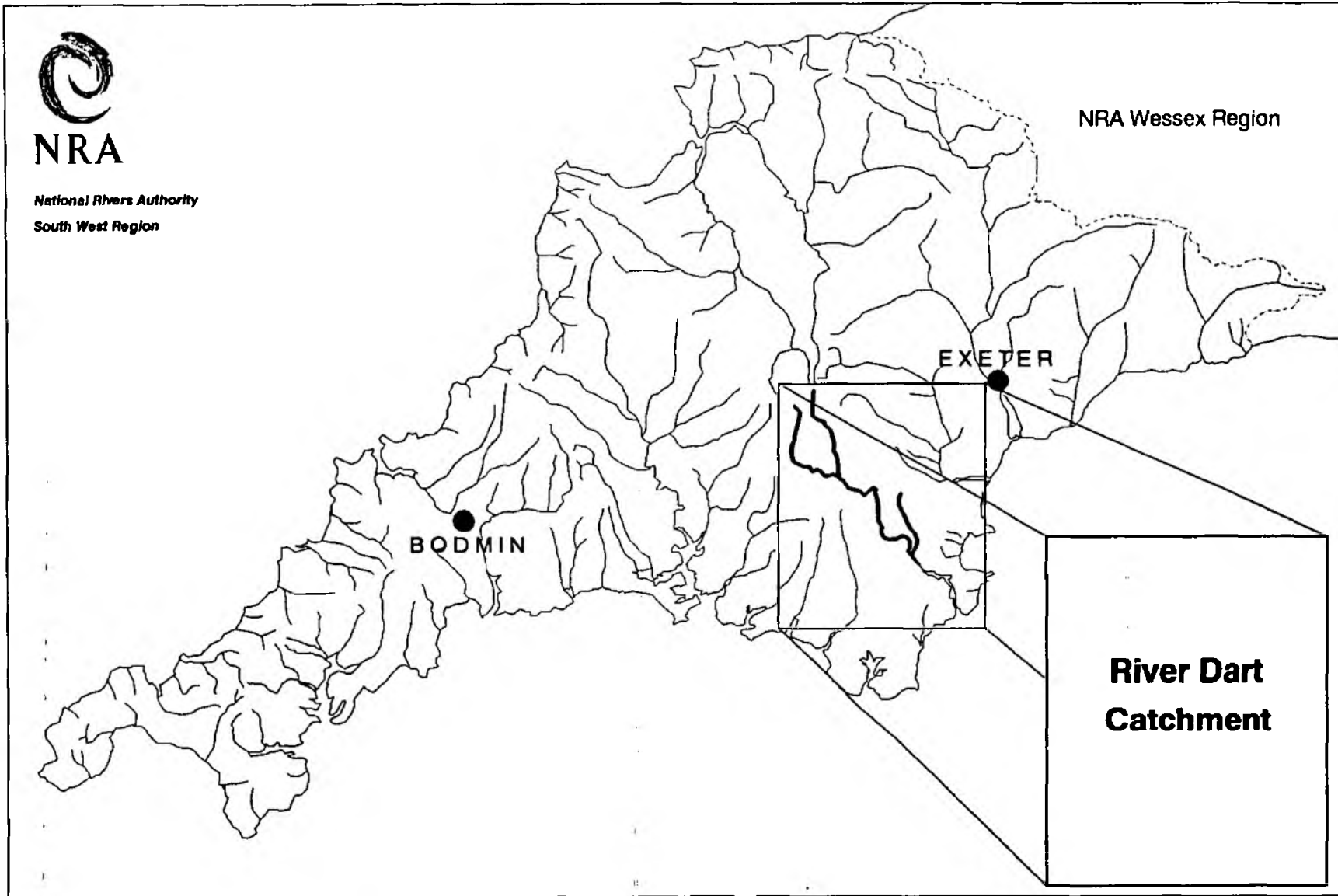


**National Rivers Authority
South West Region**



NRA

*National Rivers Authority
South West Region*



River Dart Catchment

**River Dart
Catchment**

1. INTRODUCTION

CATCHMENT ACTION PLANS are designed to be a simple, practical means of directing resources to achieve environmental improvements on a priority basis, between and within catchments. They set out the essential routine tasks, and a five year programme of specific actions for each catchment to meet regional and national targets. Changes may occur where unplanned work such as an extreme drought requires priority.

The NRA has inherited a legacy of environmental challenges arising from the use and abuse of our natural resources. Although significant progress has already been made it will be many years before all the work needed can be assessed, funded and carried out.

To achieve the environmental objectives will require not just the clear, vigorous direction of the NRA towards priority work but the help and support of the whole community.

The NRA has consulted with the Regional Advisory Board and Advisory Committees and the local interests about the draft action plans and the format is the outcome of those discussions.

Progress to achieve the Action Plan objectives will normally be reviewed on an annual basis but more frequently where severe problems have been identified.

2. ROUTINE SERVICES

Despite the fact that the NRA is largely a reactive, regulatory body it is possible to plan for much of the environmental protection work even the fact that unpredictable events will occur!

Much of the routine workload such as monitoring, enforcement of statutes and dealing with pollution and flooding incidents needs to have clear priority to ensure that it is dealt with to satisfactory standards throughout the region.

This essential work is carried out according to need in all catchments.

The NRA SW handles over 3000 pollution incidents a year, the majority of which are reported by members of the public. Many are attended within minutes and most within a few hours. In some cases major operations are undertaken to control the pollution and minimise impact on the environment.

Several thousand routine inspections of industrial premises, farms, weirs, fish passes and treatment works are also undertaken. In many cases improvements are required to minimise the risk of pollution or to ensure protection of fish and conservation of the water environment.

As part of the overall environmental protection exercise many flood defence schemes and thousands of planning applications are screened; hundreds of farm pollution grant proposals and effluent discharge applications are processed each year. Many new or varied abstraction licences and drilling consents are also processed to protect surface and underground waters.

Each year about 67,000 samples of rivers, lakes, ground and tidal waters and effluents are taken. Around 1.25 million chemical tests are made on these samples to ensure water quality standards are met and to identify where enforcement action is needed.

In addition detailed studies of samples of invertebrates, fish, algae and plants are undertaken to provide information on the status of the aquatic communities and to test the accuracy of the conclusions of chemical monitoring.

The key abstractions, discharges and monitoring sites for this catchment are marked on map(s) in Appendix 1.

Routine regulatory action is taken to ensure the conditions of thousands of discharges, abstractions and other legal requirements are enforced and illegal fishing is curtailed.

The NRA SW also handles many hundreds of letters and enquiries for information from the Water Act Register and provides press releases, reports and other information to a wide range of interests in the community.

CHALLENGES AND ACTION

The River Dart has its source on Dartmoor. After the East and West Dart tributaries join, the river runs south east through Buckfastleigh and Totnes to the sea at Dartmouth. The major tributaries include the Harbourne River, the Blackabrook and the Webburn.

The river supports excellent runs of salmonids and is used for potable supply. Water is abstracted at Littlehempston near Totnes. The Dart catchment like its neighbour the Teign has seen rapid growth of population at Buckfastleigh, Totnes and Dartmouth. Coupled with intensive use as an amenity particularly around the estuary, the quality of the environment is of great importance.

The aim of the plan is to maintain and improve where appropriate, salmonid stocks, achieve water quality objectives; to ensure proper use of water and to enforce pollution control legislation.

Functional officers have identified the remaining challenges to the achievement of environmental objectives. Where solutions are clear these have been programmed. In other cases further investigations are needed to determine the way forward.

ACTION

TIMETABLE

1991 1992 1993 1994 1995

FISHERIES

Enforce and monitor fixed net legislation.

Monitor sea fishing activity in the estuary and introduce closure byelaw if necessary (DSFC byelaw).

Assist DSFC to enforce bass legislation.

Review NLO by December 1991.

Review salmon netting byelaws.

Implement new rod season change by byelaw.

Survey all weirs/fish passes. Plan and implement fish pass installation/improvements.

Survey for trash dams/plan/clearance.

Plan and implement spawning gravel rehabilitation.

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
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Survey for trash dams/plan/clearance.					
Plan and implement spawning gravel rehabilitation.					

ACTION

TIMETABLE

1991 1992 1993 1994 1995

FISHERIES Continued

Initiate studies into effects of Water Resource Development Scheme on fish movement and production.

Programme to be determined

Undertake regular juvenile surveys.

Programme to be determined

Annual monitoring of fish production in vicinity Devonport leat off takes.

Programme to be determined

Annual redd count - particular attention to the Devonport leat abstractions.

Survey possible fish counter site - possibly Totnes Weir.

_____ Programme to be determined

Undertake radio tracking studies to develop abstraction rules at Littlehempston.

Programme to be determined

CONSERVATION

Restore area of wet woodland adjacent to river in Totnes.

Programme to be determined

POLLUTION CONTROL

Carry out review of water quality in the catchment.

Identify the causes of non-compliance with water quality objectives and take remedial action. (In particular the Lower Dart tributaries).

_____ - - - - -

Review intake protection arrangements and consider installation of automatic monitor/alarm with SWWS.

_____ - - - - -

ACTION

TIMETABLE

1991 1992 1993 1994 1995

POLLUTION CONTROL Continued

Assess impact of 1990 drought on water quality at four chemical and two biological sites and consider appropriate mitigation action.

Assess impact on water quality of SWWS water resource scheme.

Assess impact of historic mining activities on receiving water quality.

Pre and post scheme appraisal of SWWS sewage treatment works capital improvements programme.

Review impact of Buckfastleigh and Totnes sewage treatment works and determine need for review of consents to discharge.

Develop catchment quality model using QUASAR.

Prepare catchment description.

Undertake estuary survey to determine hydrographic and water quality.

Develop estuary water quality management plan.

Determine deemed discharge consents.

Baseline water quality survey of groundwater to establish:
a) suitability for potable use
b) extent of contamination by substances controlled by EC Directives.

ACTION

TIMETABLE

1991 1992 1993 1994 1995

WATER RESOURCES

Review future public water supply abstraction arrangements, including Devonport Leat redeployment.

Review prescribed flow monitoring arrangements at Austins Bridge and agree improvements with SWWS.

Review residual flow monitoring downstream of Dart/Totnes intakes and impact on estuary.

Formulate and promote low flow alleviation scheme in Dart headwaters caused by Devonport Leat abstractions.

Design and construct river gauging station near tidal limit to monitor low flows.

Water resource actions depend on SWWS proposals for development of public waters supplies.

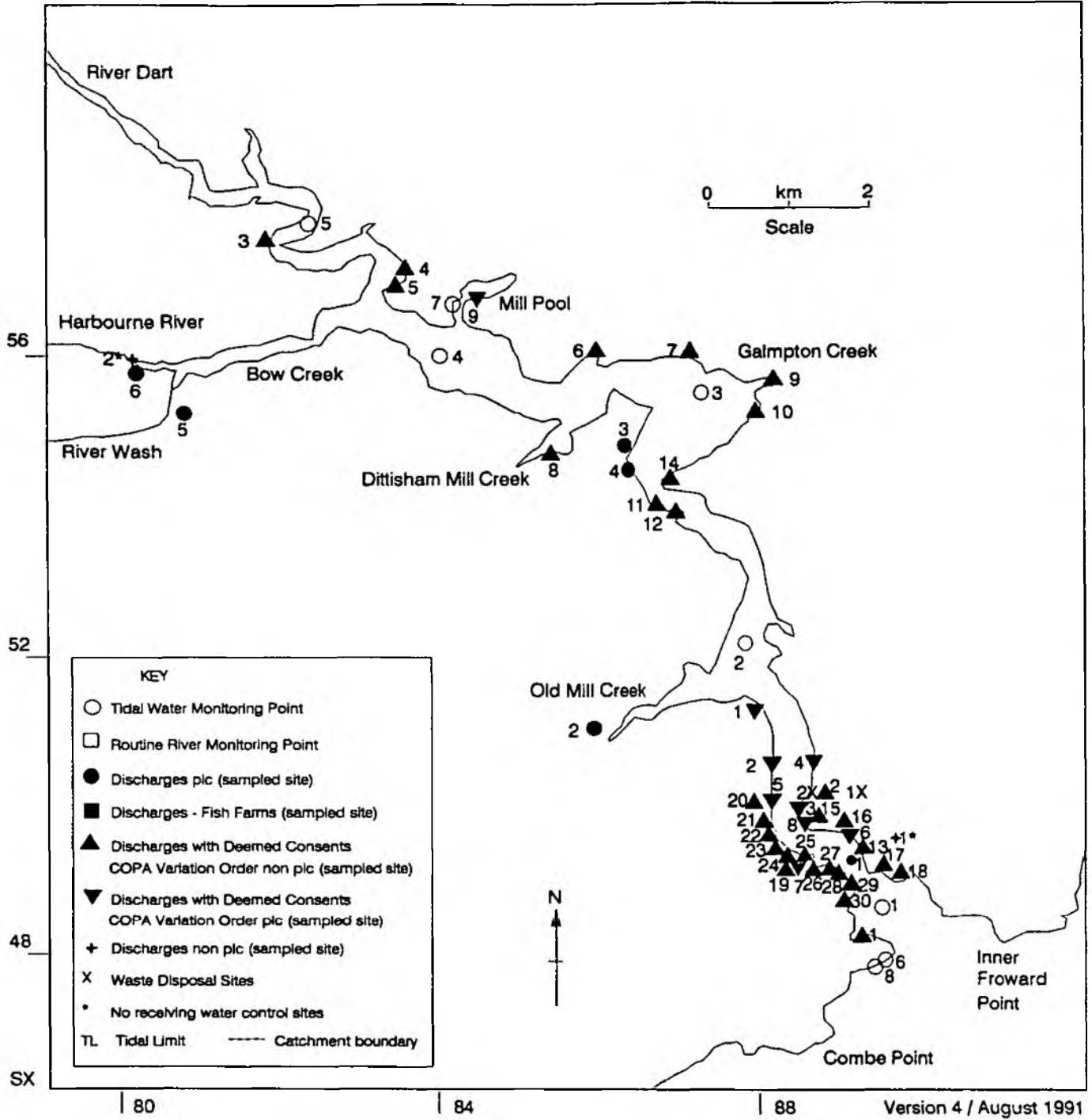
APPENDIX 1

CATCHMENT MAPS

KEY

- Tidal Water Monitoring Point
- Routine River Monitoring Point
- Discharges pic (sampled site)
- Discharges - Fish Farms (sampled site)
- ▲ Discharges with Deemed Consents - COPA Variation Order non pic (sampled site)
- ▼ Discharges with Deemed Consents - COPA Variation Order pic (sampled site)
- + Discharges non pic (sampled site)
- X Waste Disposal Sites
- TL Tidal Limit
- No receiving water control sites

Dart Estuary 7A



DART ESTUARY 7A

NO	REFERENCE	NGR	LOCATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
DISCHARGES NON PLC				
1*	PO7A/P/77	SX88905170	Waterhead Cove	STW domestic
2*	PO7A/P/57	SX81305660	Watermans Arms	Public House STW
DISCHARGES PLC				
1	OUT6426	SX88075150	Dartmouth main	Outfall
2	WWTW6825DI	SX86055200	Old Mill	Water treatment works
3	WSTW6087FE	SX86405510	Dittisham riverside	Sewage treatment works
4	WSTW6084FE	SX86755480	Dittisham main	Sewage treatment works
5	WSTW6062FE	SX82615572	Cornworthy	Sewage treatment works
6	WSTW6002FE	SX81505650	Ashprington	Sewage treatment works
DISCHARGES WITH DEEMED CONSENTS - COPA VARIATION ORDER PLC				
1	OUT6418	SX87955199	Northern Slipway	Outfall
2	OUT6412	SX88005175	Coronation Park	Outfall
3	OUT6442	SX88135140	Lower Ferry slip	Outfall
4	OUT6444	SX88535131	Waterhead Creek	Outfall
5	OUT6410	SX87885109	Bayards Cove	Outfall
6	OUT6443	SX88305082	Toft Quay	Outfall
7	OUT6424	SX88285053	Warfleet Creek	Outfall
8	OUT6446	SX88125095	Yacht Club	Outfall
9	OUT6476	SX84775691	Stoke Gabriel	Outfall
DISCHARGES WITH DEEMED CONSENTS - COPA VARIATION ORDER NON PLC				
1	PO7A/P/401	SX88825040	Creekside	
2	PO7A/P/400	SX88155100	Longford House (Flats & Cottage)	
3	PO7A/P/405	SX82915768	The Boat House, Sharpham	
4	PO7A/P/403	SX84235724	Duncannon Cottage	
5	PO7A/P/425	SX84205730	Duncannon House	
6	PO7A/P/404	SX86205650	Sandridge Boathouse	
7	PO7A/P/450	SX87505650	Waddeton Boathouse	
8	PO7A/P/447	SX85615526	Dinahs Side	
9	PO7A/P/440	SX88155585	Cliff Cottage	
10	PO7A/P/439	SX87955560	Galampton Mill	
11	PO7A/P/412	SX86705475	Smugglers Cottage	
12	PO7A/P/449	SX87005460	Vipers Quay	
13	PO7A/P/453	SX88355140	Inverdart Boathouse	
14	PO7A/P/452	SX86935476	Ferry Cottage	
15	PO7A/P/426	SX88355090	Cottages/Kingswear	
16	PO7A/P/430	SX88435080	Yarrow Road	
	PO7A/P/431	SX88465081	Cottages/Kingswear	
17	PO7A/P/441	SX88905035	Kingswear Castle	
18	PO7A/P/428	SX89365026	Warren House	
19	PO7A/P/410	SX87905130	Ten Fathoms	
20	PO7A/P/414	SX87855095	Castle House	
	PO7A/P/438	SX87865091	Beacon Boathouse	
21	PO7A/P/413	SX87905075	Beachcroft Cottage	
	PO7A/P/417	SX87905080	Flats 2,3,4 Beachcroft	
	PO7A/P/420	SX87855090	The Boat House	
	PO7A/P/421	SX87885085	Waterside	
	PO7A/P/422	SX87845081	Fish Hoek	
22	PO7A/P/415	SX87965071	The Wilderness/Bell House	
23	PO7A/P/423	SX88015064	Deans Lodge	
24	PO7A/P/402	SX88105060	Paradise Point	
25	PO7A/P/409	SX88205050	Boat Cot/Oriel House	
	PO7A/P/411	SX88205055	La Crevette	
	PO7A/P/455	SX88205045	Warfleet	

DART ESTUARY 7A (cont)

DISCHARGES WITH DEEMED CONSENTS - COPA VARIATION ORDER NON PLC

26	PO7A/P/434	SX88355045	One Gun Point
	PO7A/P/437	SX88305047	Gunfield Boathouse
27	PO7A/P/436	SX88425047	Galions Quay
28	PO7A/P/432	SX88505045	Rosebank
	PO7A/P/433	SX88505045	The Gunfield Hotel
	PO7A/P/435	SX88535040	Haven Lights
29	PO7A/P/454	SX88705030	Dartmouth Castle
30	PO7A/P/451	SX88665029	Public toilets/tea room

WASTE DISPOSAL SITES

1	11FE	SX885513	Manor House, Kingswear
2	11FS	SX883512	Darthaven Marina, Kingswear

TIDAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING POINT - ESTUARY QUALITY

1	EO7A20	SX88705050	One Gun Point	Routine monitoring site
2	EO7A19	SX87755330	Higher Noss Point	Routine monitoring site
3	EO7A18	SX87005595	Lower Gurrew Point	Routine monitoring site
4	EO7A17	SX84255650	White Rock	Routine monitoring site
5	EO7A16	SX83205775	Sharpham House	Routine monitoring site

TIDAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING POINT - BATHING WATER

6	ECB0280	SX88655020	Sugary Cove	EC identified bathing water
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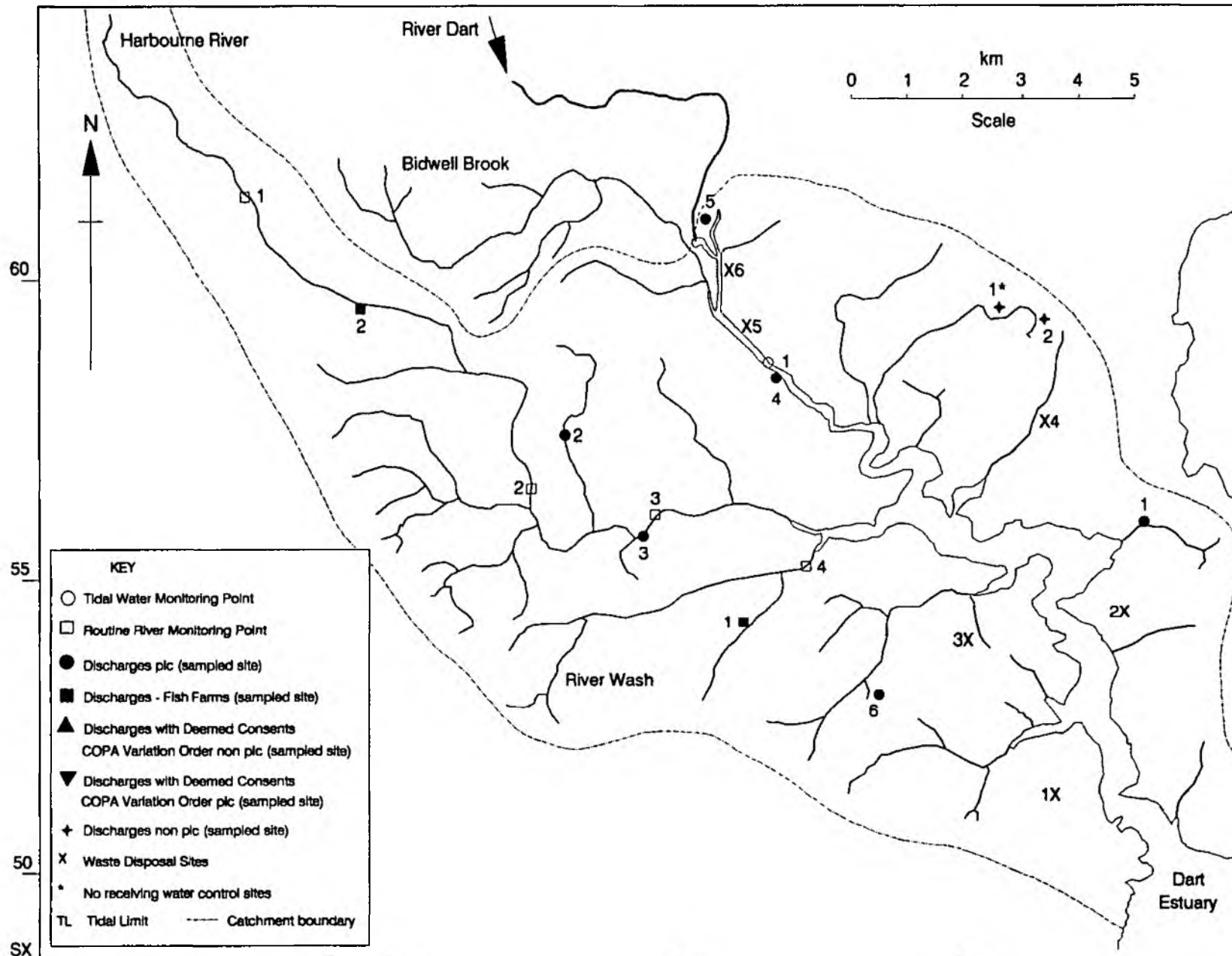
TIDAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING POINT - NON DESIGNATED SHELLFISHERIES

7		SX84805700	Dart Estuary
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TIDAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING POINT - BIOTA SAMPLING

8	SF015	SX886501	Sugary Cove
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Dart (Harbourne) Catchment 7A



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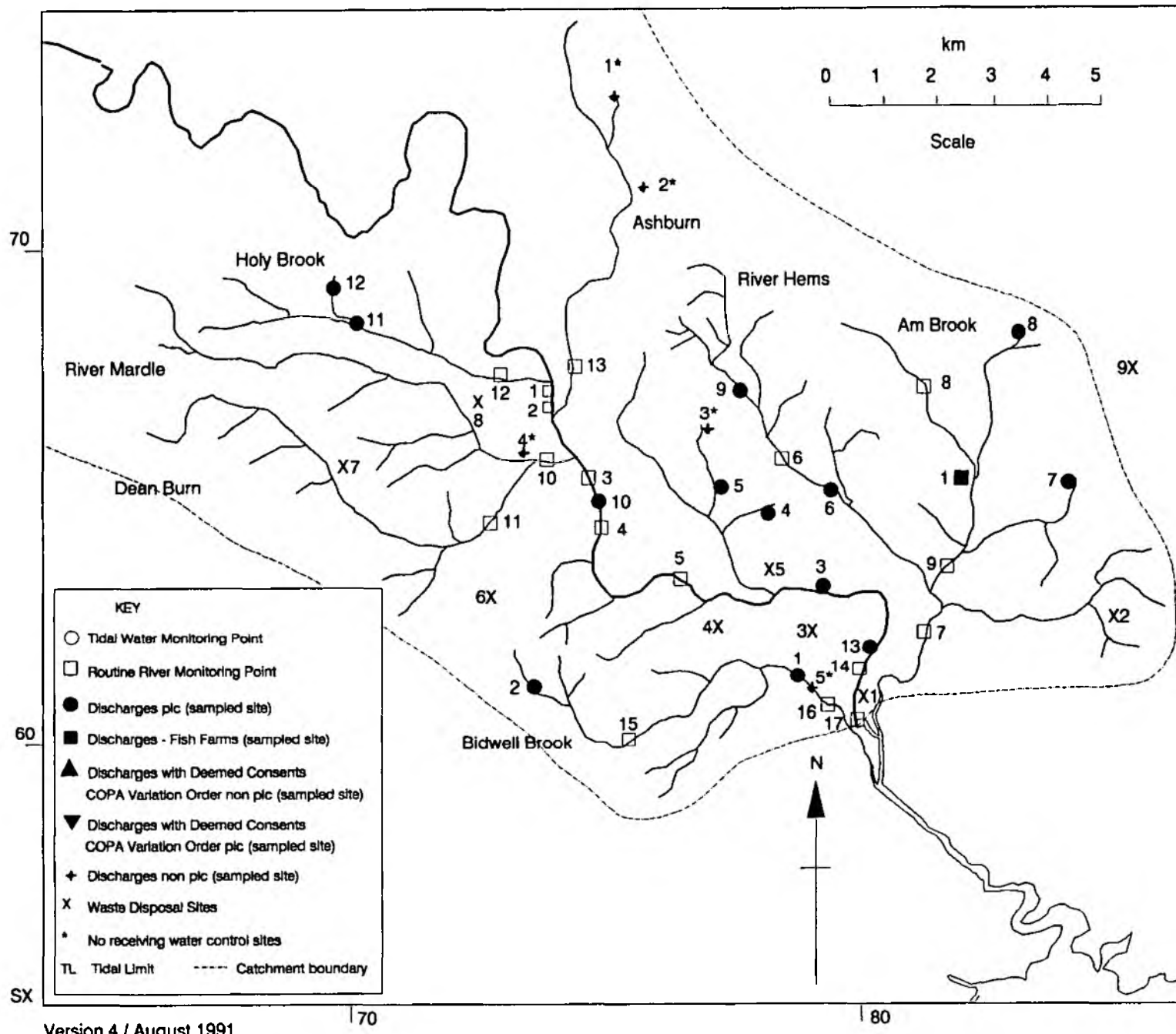
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DART CATCHMENT (HARBOURNE) 7A

NO	REFERENCE	NGR	LOCATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
DISCHARGES NON PLC				
1*	PO7A/P/3	SX84706010	Ayreville Lido	Holiday Camp STW
2	PO7A/P/78	SX85706000	Torbay Holiday Motel	Sewage Treatment Works
DISCHARGES PLC				
1	WSTW6128FE	SX88305620	Galampton	Sewage treatment works
2	WSTW6144FE	SX77755820	Harberton	Sewage treatment works
3	WSTW6146FE	SX79105600	Harbertonford	Sewage treatment works
4	WSTW6321FE	SX80706102	Totnes	Sewage treatment works Site for current and proposed dangerous substances
5	WWTW6821D	SX80356185	Littlehempston	Water treatment works
6	WSTW6044FE	SX83305320	Capton	Sewage treatment works
FISH FARMS				
1	PO7A/P/1	SX81105440	Hatchlands Fish Farm, Blue Post, Totnes	
2	PO7A/P/2	SX73556040	Dart Vale Trout Farm, Tuckenhay Mill, Totnes	
WASTE DISPOSAL SITES				
1	11FD	SX876516	Collingwood Road, Dartmouth	
2	11DY/11DZ	SX882547	Maypool Woods, Galampton	
3	11DK	SX852541	Downton Road, Dittisham	
4	11CZ	SX862583	Torbay Transfer Station, Paignton	
5	11AK	SX809597	Longmarsh, Totnes	
6	11FC	SX807608	Babbage Road, Totnes	
TIDAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING POINT - ESTUARY QUALITY				
1	EO7A15	SX81005950	Upper Estuary	Routine monitoring site
ROUTINE RIVER MONITORING				
1	RO7A001	SX71756232	Harbourneford	Chemical/biological site
2	RO7A002	SX77105666	Leigh Bridge	Chemical/biological site
3	RO7A003	SX79735660	Beenleigh	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
4	RO7A004	SX81765590	Tuckenhay	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive

Lower Dart Catchment 7B



LOWER DART CATCHMENT 7B

NO	REFERENCE	NGR	LOCATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
DISCHARGES NON PLC				
1*	PO7B/P/50	SX75307220	Ashburton Caravan Park	STW domestic
2*	PO7B/P/4	SX76647133	Linhay Hill Quarry	Quarry waste
3*	PO7B/P/49	SX77306617	Landscope School	Sewage treatment works
4*	PO7B/P/6	SX74056611	Kingcombe Court	
5*	PO7B/P/3	SX79206170	Queens Head Dartington	Public House STW

DISCHARGES PLC				
1	WSTW6076FE	SX79306190	Dartington & Week	Sewage treatment works
2	WSTW6274FE	SX74336158	Rattery	Sewage treatment works
3	WSTW6306FE	SX79636363	Staverton	Sewage treatment works
4	WSTW6216FE	SX78376531	Landscope	Sewage treatment works
5	WSTW6218FE	SX78156550	Landscope	Sewage treatment works
6	WSTW6031FE	SX79816563	Broadhempston	Sewage treatment works
7	WSTW6166FE	SX82316670	Ipplepen	Sewage treatment works
8	WSTW6080FE	SX82846837	Denbury	Sewage treatment works
9	WSTW6214FE	SX77806720	Landscope	Sewage treatment works
10	WSTW6034FE	SX75106580	Buckfastleigh	Sewage treatment works
11	WSTW6288FE	SX71006850	Scorriton	Sewage treatment works
12	WSTW6152FE	SX70826856	Holne	Sewage treatment works
13	WSTW6074FE	SX80206250	Dartington Hall	Sewage treatment works

FISH FARMS				
1	PO7B/P/1	SX823665	Torbryan Fish Farm,	Torbryan, Totnes

WASTE DISPOSAL SITES				
1	11GK	SX802619	Littlehempston WTW,	Totnes
2	11DS	SX854623	Wildwoods Farm,	Marldon
3	11CL	SX790626	Symons Tree,	Dartington
4	11EP	SX772630	Hood Quarry,	Dartington
5	11AA	SX787640	Staverton Bridge Mill,	Totnes
6	11DV	SX737637	Dean Quarry,	Buckfastleigh
7	11DN	SX705660	Greendown Farm,	Buckfastleigh
8	11DM	SX728673	Churchland Farm,	Buckfastleigh
9	11AL	SX851660	Dainton Quarry,	Ipplepen

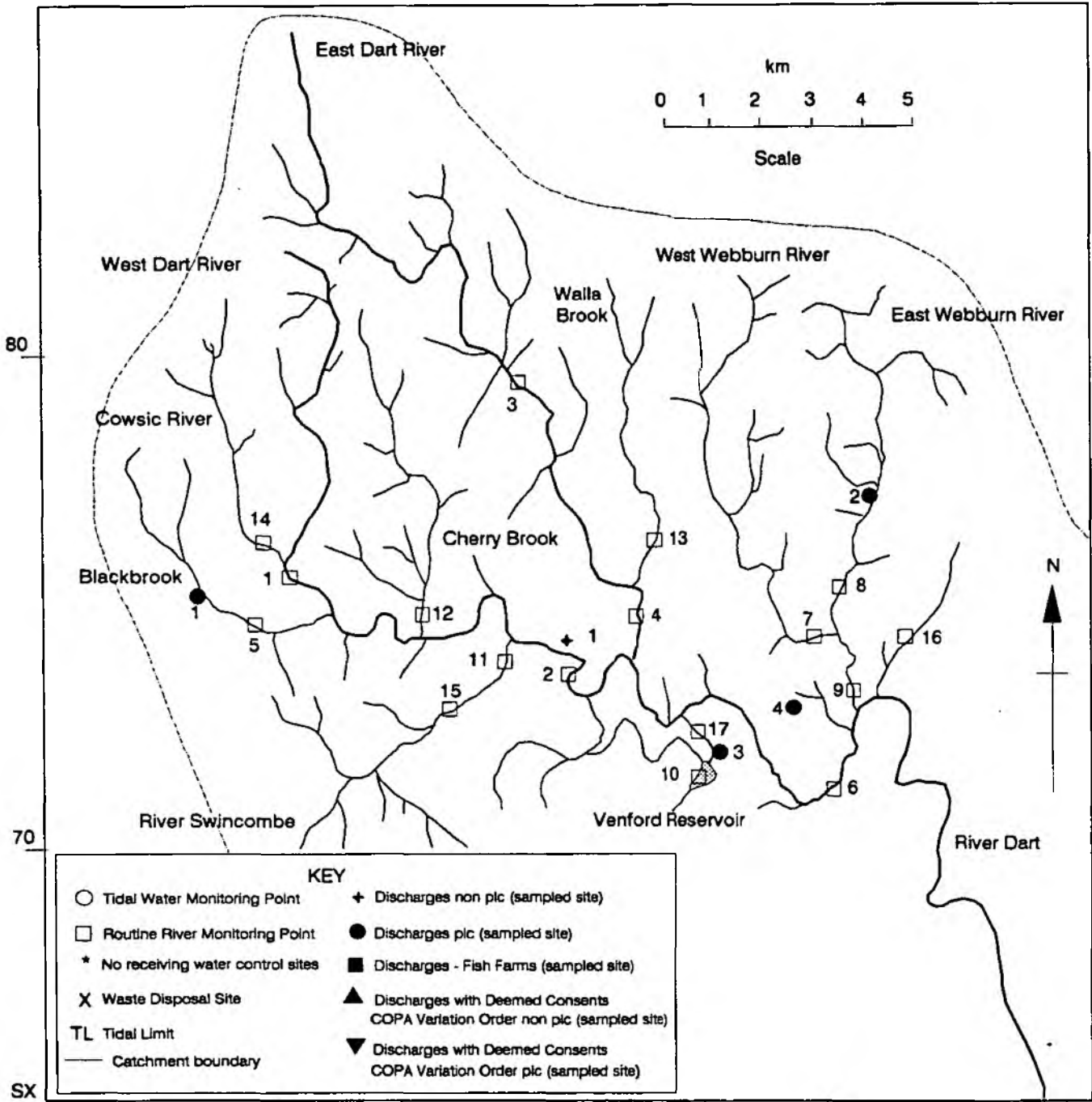
ROUTINE RIVER MONITORING				
1	R07B007	SX74306730	Buckfast Abbey	Chemical/biological site Dangerous substances control site
2	R07B038	SX74506680	Dart Bridge	Chemical site Dangerous substances site
3	R07B008	SX75006600	Austins Bridge	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
4	R07B053	SX75366531	Buckfastleigh STW	Chemical site Dangerous substances site
5	R07B009	SX77206372	Riverford Bridge	Chemical/biological site
6	R07B011	SX78896588	Portbridge	Chemical/biological site
7	R07B012	SX81156237	Littlehempston	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
8	R07B016	SX81076745	Collacombe Bridge	Chemical/biological site
9	R07B017	SX81906445	Fishacre Bridge	Chemical/biological site
10	R07B014	SX74726612	Buckfastleigh	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
11	R07B052	SX73286511	B3380 Br Dean Burn	Chemical/biological site
12	R07B020	SX74016767	Northwood Buckfast	Chemical/biological site
13	R07B050	SX74566678	Dart Bridge	Chemical/biological site

LOWER DART CATCHMENT 7B (cont)

ROUTINE RIVER MONITORING

14	R07B063	SX80056163	Littlehempston	EC surface water abstraction directive monitoring site
15	R07B018	SX75736086	Tigley	Chemical/biological site
16	R07B019	SX79906150	Dartington Lodge	Chemical/biological site Dangerous substances directive
17	R07B010	SX80106122	Totnes Weir	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive Dangerous substances site Harmonised monitoring site Red list site

Upper Dart Catchment 7B



UPPER DART CATCHMENT 7B

NO	REFERENCE	NGR	LOCATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
DISCHARGES NON PLC				
1	PO7B/P/2	SX67207320	Pixies Holt	Restaurant STW
DISCHARGES PLC				
1	WSTW4730FE	SX58807420	Princetown	Sewage treatment works
2	WSTW6342FE	SX71857655	Widecombe in the Moor	Sewage treatment works
3	WWTW6840D	SX68727125	Venford	Water treatment works
4	WSTW6268	SX70607228	Poundsgate	Sewage treatment works
ROUTINE RIVER MONITORING POINT				
1	R07B003	SX60807499	Two Bridges	Chemical/biological site Dangerous Substances Directive
2	R07B004	SX65887292	Huccaby	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
3	R07B001	SX64787893	Postbridge	Chemical/biological site Dangerous Substances Directive
4	R07B002	SX67207320	Dartmeet	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
5	R07B049	SX60177383	Tor Royal	Chemical/biological site
6	R07B005	SX71167090	New Bridge	Chemical/biological site
7	R07B037	SX70117390	Ponsworthy Bridge	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
8	R07B036	SX71687508	Cockingford	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
9	R07B015	SX71897196	Buckland Bridge	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
10	R07B048	SX68587105	Venford Reservoir	Chemical site Freshwater Fish Directive
	R07B059	SX686711	Venford Reservoir	EC surface water abstraction
	R07B060			directive monitoring site
	R07B061			
	R07B062			
11	R07B021	SX686711 SX64757370	Venford Reservoir Prior To West Dart	Algological site Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive Dangerous Substances Directive
12	R07B032	SX63117484	Cherry Brook	Chemical/biological site Dangerous Substances Directive
13	R07B051	SX67307516	Babeny	Chemical/biological site
14	R07B057	SX60317530	Beardown Farm	Chemical/biological site
15	R07B058	SX63257187	Swincombe Intake	EC surface water abstraction directive monitoring site
16		SX72457308	Ruddycleave Water	Biological site
17		SX68707139	Venford Brook	Biological site

NRA DUTIES AND POWERS

The Authority has statutory duties and powers in relation to water resources, pollution control, flood defence, fisheries, recreation, conservation and navigation along with various other functions given under the 1989 Water Act.

Whilst most of the Authority's duties and powers are exercised in respect of inland waters in England and Wales, it also has substantial responsibilities for the marine environment around the coast of England and Wales. For pollution control and fisheries purposes it has duties and powers out to distances of three nautical miles and six nautical miles respectively, the six miles being for salmonid protection. For flood defence it is responsible for a large number of sea defences (but not coastal protection which falls within the remit of local authorities).

As well as new duties, the NRA has also inherited other duties and powers under earlier legislation such as the 1963 Water Resources Act, 1975 Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act, and 1976 Land Drainage Act.

The Authority also has responsibility for implementing a number of Statutory Instruments, Orders, Notices and Directives relating to the 1989 Water Act. Various European Community Directives on the protection of the aquatic environment eg. Bathing Water Quality, Surface Water Quality, and Freshwater Fishlife also strongly influence its work.

NRA MISSION STATEMENT

The National Rivers Authority will protect and improve the water environment. This will be achieved through effective management of water resources and by substantial reductions in pollution. The Authority aims to provide effective defence for people and property against flooding from rivers and the sea. In discharging its duties it will operate openly and balance the interests of all who benefit from and use rivers, ground waters, estuaries and coastal waters. The Authority will be businesslike, efficient and caring towards its employees.

NRA AIMS

To achieve a continuing improvement in the quality of rivers, estuaries and coastal waters, through the control of water pollution.

To assess, manage, plan and conserve water resources and to maintain and improve the quality of water for all those who use it.

To provide effective defence for people and property against flooding from rivers and the sea.

To provide adequate arrangements for flood forecasting and warning.

To maintain, improve and develop fisheries.

To develop the amenity and recreation potential of waters and lands under NRA control.

To conserve and enhance wildlife, landscape and archaeological features associated with waters under NRA control.

To ensure that dischargers pay the costs of the consequences of their discharges, and as far as possible, to recover the costs of water environment improvements from those who benefit.

To improve public understanding of the water environment and the NRA's work.

REGIONAL PRIORITIES

The overall priority is to continue the improvements which were started in the last year in the following key areas.

WATER RESOURCES

- Develop regional strategy document.
- Improve response to licence applications.
- Establish Water Resources planning forum.
- Progress schemes to ameliorate low flows.
- Implement groundwater protection policy.

POLLUTION CONTROL

- Develop regional strategy document.
- Introduce charging for discharges scheme.
- Implement new consenting policy; begin review of deemed consents.
- Complete 1990/91 survey and consult on water quality objectives.
- Carry out EC Directive requirements.
- Introduce new monitoring programmes for effluents and controlled waters.
- Establish a regional laboratory service.

FISHERIES

- Develop regional strategy document.
- Review licence and other charging schemes.
- Harmonise stock assessment techniques.
- Extend programme of restoration and rehabilitation of fish stocks.
- Increase action to control illegal fishing.
- Submit new fishery byelaws to MAFF for confirmation.

RECREATION

- Continue implementations of Water Act Code of Practice.
- Produce strategy for regional sites.
- Improve cost recovery from the recreation service.

CONSERVATION

- Establish database for regulatory purposes.
- Produce strategy for regional sites.
- Promote conservation schemes.