

**PARTNERSHIP
IN
ENVIRONMENT
PROTECTION**

**SCHEMES IN THE
MIDLAND REGION
1995 - 1996**

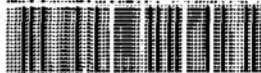
October 1996

INDEX

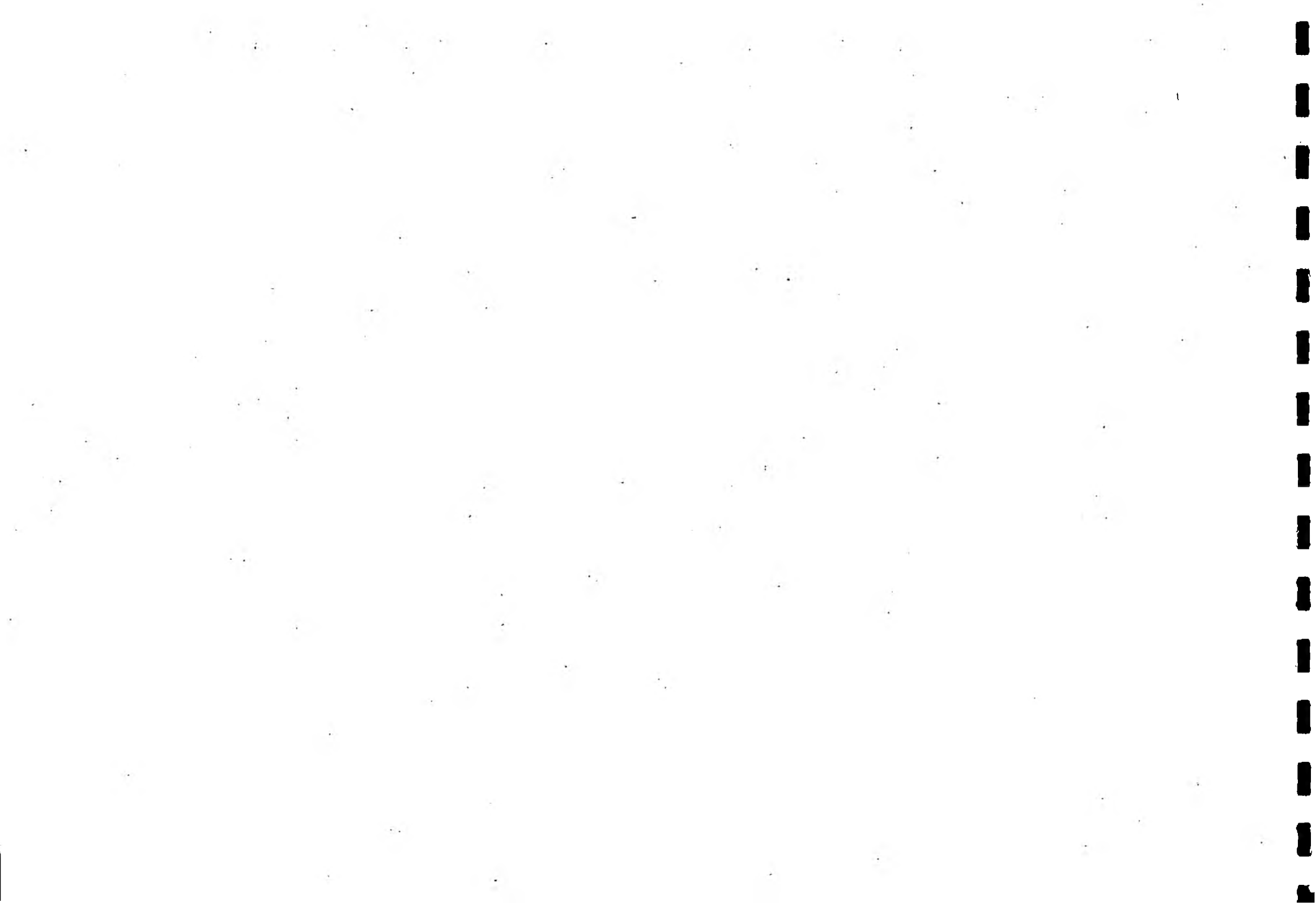
	<u>PAGE</u>
Introduction	1
Upper Severn	2
Lower Severn	9
Upper Trent	13
Lower Trent	17
Abbreviations	20

Environment Agency
Information Centre

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



127039



PARTNERSHIP IN ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION.

Introduction

The Environment Agency's principal aim is to "protect or enhance the environment, taken as a whole and to contribute toward achieving sustainable development." It cannot do this on its own. The Agency needs to develop appropriate relationships, such as partnerships and voluntary agreements, with all other sectors in the wider Community to work toward this end.

The predecessor bodies of the Agency, the National Rivers Authority, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Pollution, Waste Regulation Authorities and some parts of the Department of the Environment have all engaged previously in a variety of activities with different organisations to the benefit of the environment. This will continue. The Portfolio is a collation of some of the "Partnership" arrangements that have been used to protect or enhance the environment and shows how the "Partnership in Environment Protection" initiative can be taken forward.

Partnerships are applicable in all kinds of situations, in all places and necessary if sustainable solutions are to be found to the many environmental problems with which the Agency and other Organisations are concerned. The Environment Agency's work is divided into eight main functions: Flood Defence, Water Resources, Pollution Control, Waste Regulation, Fisheries, Navigation, Recreation and Conservation. This range of statutory functions provides scope for "added value" schemes, the Agency takes advantage of this opportunity and develops projects with the various sectors within the Community to the benefit of the environment.

The projects featured in the Portfolio demonstrate this clearly. Those included are either recently completed, ongoing or planned to start in the very near future. These projects provide the opportunity for ownership, openness and participation with the Community and allow an innovative and flexible approach to be taken when addressing environmental problems. The Portfolio is designed to promote an even more proactive approach to "Partnership Working Arrangements" and serve as a record of projects within the Midlands Region.

The Portfolio is in four sections, one for each of the Areas within the Midlands Region. It will be regularly updated and expanded upon as more partnership schemes are planned or completed.

Midlands Region
October 1996

PARTNERSHIP IN ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

UPPER SEVERN

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Environmental Assessment of Developments	Working with the different sectors of the Community to agree the best practical environmental option for new developments.	Landowners, Wildlife Trusts.	Core business	Ongoing	Reduced environmental impact. Sustainable developments. More informed public.
Monitoring of Water Quality in the River Stour	To set Statutory Water Quality objectives for the river. One of seven rivers to benefit from a national pilot scheme which will lay down legally binding targets for improved water quality.	Local Community including, landowners, anglers, general public, STW, businesses, farmers and LAs. HM Government	Core business	Stages 2000, 2005	Advice to government on what targets should be set for 48 stretches of the Stour and the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal.
Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site Management Plan	Site Management Plan for Ironbridge Gorge	Wrekin District Council English Heritage Bridgnorth Dist. Council Shropshire CC Ironbridge Gorge Trust Severn Gorge Countryside Trust	5 man days for stewardship	1995 - 1998	Promotion of the Agency LEAPs Link with Management Plan. Support for good environmental credentials projects.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Shropshire Countryside Strategy	The development of a Biodiversity Action plan	Salop County Council County wide environmental groups	3 man days for stewardship	1996	County wide Biodiversity Plan
West Midlands Regional Forum sustainable development	Assessment of Environmental target areas for the West Midlands	Sustainable Development Sandwell MBC Hereford & Worcs CC Staffordshire CC Wolverhampton MBC Birmingham CC Coventry CBC Warwickshire CC Environmental Working Groups Walsall Borough Council Dudley MBC GO-WM Shropshire CC	5 man days for stewardship	1996 ongoing	Regional Environmental Audit Reports and Regional Environment Targets (Group in progress of being reformed: Summer 1996)
Joint SSSI Initiative for Rivers	A workshop in Peterborough to discuss the development of SSSI initiative for Rivers and ongoing joint action plan	English Nature	4 man days for stewardship	1996 ongoing	Coordinated SSSI management plan and CMP/LEAP actions

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Air Quality Monitoring	The Agency has agreed to provide a site and services for the LAs Air Quality Monitoring Station at Hafren House in 1977	Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council	2 man days per annum	1996 ongoing	The provision of local air quality information. Raised awareness of the Agency. Improved working relationship with Local Authority.
Milestones	The installation of interpretation points on the River Severn at Ironbridge.	Wrekin Council, West Midlands Arts	£5,000	1994 - 1996	Raised awareness of the River for educational purpose.
Worcester Cycleway	The extension of a riverside cycleway which is part of the Worcestershire Cycleway and the production of a guide to the cycleway.	Hereford and Worcester CC	£15,000	1994 - 1996	Extra Kms of cycleway Guide to Worcester Cycleway.
Moorings at Ellesmere	The installation of a mooring for a wheeley boat at Ellesmere and a contribution for the provision of a boat	Shropshire County Council Handicapped Anglers Trust	£6,000	1994 - 1996	A mooring for a Wheeley Boat. Boat for Handicapped Anglers Trust
Chelmarsh Nature Reserve	Management of a neglected wetland habitat to encourage breeding Snipe and other waders.	South Staffordshire Water Company, Shropshire Wildlife Trust	£29,000	1994 - 1996	Better breeding environment for Snipe and other waders.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Severn Way	Completion of the Severn Way Footpath to Newtown (Powys). Completion of a promotion and marketing strategy for the whole route from source to sea Feasibility study for extending the route between Newtown and Llanidloes.	Shropshire, Powys, Hereford and Worcestershire Councils, and Countryside Commission	£13,800	1994 - 1996	Promotion and marketing strategy. Footpath along the Severn Way.
Severn/ Vyrnwy Wading Birds	Determination of the numbers of breeding wading birds in the Severn Vyrnwy confluence and the possibility of their extinction.	Shropshire Wildlife Trust, English Nature Countryside Commission.	£3,000	1994 - 1996	Information on the impact of agricultural improvements on the Curlew and Lapwing within the area.
H2000 Worcestershire Water Focus Millennium Project	Umbrella for 15/20 Specific Environmental Enhancement Projects	Hereford and Worcester County Council Worcester City Council and other development groups	5 man days for stewardship	1995 - 2000	Promotion of the Agency. Good relationships with Community.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Environmental appraisal of development proposals in English Marches	Environmental panel which advises GO-WM on environmental credentials of development proposals submitted for Eurofund support under objective 5B	GO-WM MAFF H&W CC Forestry Authority Shropshire Marches Partnership English Nature Shropshire CC Countryside Commission Shropshire Wildlife Trust Herefordshire Nature Trust English Heritage	10 man days per annum for stewardship	1994 - 1999	Suitable environmental development projects supported
River Teme - Black Poplars	Study into the physical state and the DNA of indigenous Bl Poplars. The genetic base of these trees is rare and can be affected by propagation through "cuttings" or the hybridisation of seeds. Only 2600 such trees exist in England of which 150 are female. This work supports the UK's Biodiversity policy.	Forestry Commission Shropshire County council Shropshire Wildlife Trust, Bees and Trees	£20,000	1994 - 1996	Information on the status of this rare species of tree.
Severn Valley Wetlands Project	The creation of a wetland nature reserve at Newtown Sewage Works	Severn Trent Water, Montgomery Wildlife Trust	£51,400	1994 - 1996	A wetland nature reserve.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Wilden Marsh	The improvement of the wetland for conservation included fencing and removal of willow scrub	Worcester Nature Conservation Trust	£5,000	1994 - 1996	The long term management of the site by the Worcester Nature Conservation Trust. Improved conservation site.
Grimley Cultural Landscape Project	The pollarding and coppicing of overgrown trees around medieval fish ponds.	Worcestershire Wildlife Trust English Heritage Hereford and Worcester County Council	£7,800	1994 - 1996	Improved wildlife habitat. Protection of an SMR site.
Homer Lake and Castle Pools	Installation of fishing pegs	Wrekin District Council			Better fishing facilities for persons with physical disability.
Stour Valley - Bumble Hole	The installation of fishing platforms for persons with physical disability to a controlled wildlife habitat. Improvement to a controlled wildlife habitat.	Dudley and Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	£8,000	1994 - 1996	The Local Authority will manage this site in the longer term.
Upton Warren River Salwarpe	Project involved the construction of subsidence ponds, fen and inland salt marshes to improve habitat for breeding wading birds.	Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, NRA.			Better management of river catchment plain. Better facilities for educational visits. A Boardwalk.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Production of "Red Tape Guide"	This project involved the collation in single format of all the recent regulations and recommendations for good business practice. It also informed SMEs of how they should apply and secure licenses and authorisations for prescribed processes.	Shropshire CC, Shrewsbury and Atcham BC, The Business Community/Clubs Business Link, DTI and NRA.	2 man days per annum	1996 onwards	Manual to inform small and medium sized businesses on the rules and regulations pertaining to them.
Training Pollution Control for Fire Service	The NRA (Environment Agency) provided pollution control equipment and trained the Fire Service in its use to improve response times in emergencies.	NRA (Agency) and Local Fire Services.	Core Business	Ongoing	Improved response to pollution emergencies.
Reducing Water Abstraction from over-pumped aquifers (AMP3 joint initiative)	NRA (Environment Agency) to secure agreement for Water companies to invert its works which will enable reduced rates of groundwater abstraction in areas which need flow restoration in depleted intercourses or protection of groundwater - supported conservation sites.	Water companies: (Severn Trent Water and South Staffs Water) Landowners	20 man days per annum plus capital from water companies	1996 - 2005	Restored streamflows, pools, SSSIs and associated wildlife habitats.

PARTNERSHIP IN ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

LOWER SEVERN

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Water Resources Management in Gloucestershire	Gloucester rivers and groundwater provide drinking water for over 1 million people. This project is directed at residents to raise awareness about the necessity to manage the water supply and to prevent low flows in the Severn estuary. Low flows can impose stress on salmon during their migration from the estuary into the river.	Gloucestershire County Council, Sumerfield Trust, 3 District Councils. Global Action Plan	£6,000	1996 Ongoing	Sustainable river management. Improved fish numbers in the river. Better use of a scarce resource water. Reduced impact of drought conditions.
Hewell Grange	To return water to a 10 hectare ornamental lake in the grounds of Hewell Grange - focal point of Repton's original landscape design. £1.9m bid made to Millennium fund to restore the lake to its former condition.	Prison Governor, Hereford and Worcester Gardens Trust, English Nature, Hereford and Worcester County Council, NRA	£9,000	1995 Ongoing	Failed bid but investigations carried out by NRA Water Resources demonstrated a way in which additional water could be returned to the lake.
Ryeford Sawmill	The repair and refurbishment of an old sluice gate structure on the River Frome at Stonehouse.	Stroudwater Canal Company, NRA	£2,500	1995	Repaired and refurbished old sluice gate structure where Stroudwater Canal is close to the River Frome.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Bittell Reservoirs	Recurring Blue Green algae blooms are causing nuisance to anglers and sailors. The project involved the collection of information on the nutrient, nitrogen and phosphorus status of the reservoirs and their inflows.	Local landowners, farmers, industrialists, leisure groups, reps form B/Waterway, English Nature, Local Councils. Bittell Reservoirs Action Plan Committee.	1 man year Cost of Sampling	1995 - 1996	The information will be used to run a model - Protech - which has been adopted by the Toxic and Persistent Substances Centre in Peterborough - to predict the nutrient and algae dynamics in the reservoirs which will help them formulate management plans for their control.
Water Environment Centre at Malvern	A substantial timber structure which is integrated into the landscape by earth shaping and planting. It houses educational display material, pond dippings platforms and other sampling equipment. Reedbed and other planting has been carried out.	Three Counties Showground organisers, Hereford and Worcester County Council and NRA (Agency).	£25,000	1994 - 1996	Raised awareness of public, local teachers and school children about the environment.
Hereford and Worcester Council	Initial study of water resources viability for restoration	Canal Trust Birmingham University Agency	£1,500	Start 5/96	Information will be used to plan canal restoration on a social environmental and commercial basis.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Stoneleigh Royal Agricultural Society of England	<p>The construction of a simulated river channel with pools, riffles and conservation pool. Water recirculates around the system by means of underground pipework and flows down the channel.</p> <p>The channel is sinuous and the banks varied, with ferns and prolific marginal vegetation alongside unimproved grassland with wild flowers.</p>	Royal Agricultural Society of England, the Otter Project, Flyghts Pumps, Forest Products, Yarningdale Nurseries, Hereford and Worcester County Council, Landline.	£60,000	1995 - 1996	Practical method to demonstrate aspects of river management, such as traditional management of timber coppicing, pollarding and spicing. Raised awareness of the interdependence of land and water.
Parish Pride	Competition between parishes to select the best environmental project involving the community. Winner was a conservation pool in Holme Lancey - excavated with guidance and help by the village school children.	Parishes of Hereford and Worcester County Councils NRA (Agency).	Prize money and 5 man days	Annual event	Conservation projects in different parishes.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Environmental Best Practice for Business Project - Stratford.	<p>Multi-disciplined project concerning all aspects of the environment as a business issue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waste minimisation - Energy efficiency and management. Waste disposal/recycling - Site clean ups - Risk management and legal awareness - Business Opportunity Protection 	<p>Stratford DC, Warwickshire County Council, British Waterways, Severn Trent, Coventry and Warwickshire Business Park, Tidy Britain Group organised by South Warwickshire Environmental Business Link.</p>	£600	1996 Ongoing	<p>Financial and environmental benefits to participating businesses.</p> <p>Raised awareness with the local businesses of environmental issues</p> <p>Establishment of a local Waste Register and recycling scheme.</p>

PARTNERSHIP IN ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

UPPER TRENT

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Clinical Waste	Promotion of best practice in the management of clinical waste.	West Midland Waste Regulation and West Midlands Regional Health Authority.	Internal Revenue cost	Ongoing	Increased awareness of problems of clinical waste disposal.
West Midlands Waste Minimisation - Regional Scheme lead from Walsall Office	Commenced in 1994 £200k project to promote best practice with regard to waste management, launched by Ed Gallagher.	NRA (Agency) ETSU, BOC Foundation for the Environment, S.T.W.	£200,000	1994 Ongoing	Reduced waste in the waste stream. Increased profits to businesses.
Yardley Brook	Removal of an old concrete channel to form a natural watercourse over a 200 metre stretch	Birmingham City Council NRA	£13,000	1995	Improved habitat and visual appearance of the brook.
Project Kingfisher - Bobbs Mill Lake	Creation of a small pool to improve habitat and act as a silt end pollution trap before water reaches lake.	Birmingham City Council NRA			Improved habitat. A small pool.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Stone Canoe Course	The planting of trees and general site improvements to an old canoe slalom course.	Stone Town Council Staffordshire Borough Council British Canoe Club NRA			Refurbished old canoe slalom course.
Old River Dove	The de-silting of an ox-bow lake which is designated as an SSI to maintain its conservation importance.	Burton Mutual Angling Society NRA	£40,000	1994 1996	Improved value of site as a fishery. Maintenance of conservation site.
Wilton Area	Tree planting and landscaping.	Groundwork Trust Local landowners NRA			Improved local habitat and amenity value.
Trees on the Trent	3 separate tree planting schemes between Hereford and Wychnor	Local landowners NRA			Improved local habitat and amenity value of the River Trent.
Goscote Valley	In the Cartbridge Lane area habitat and amenity improvements were carried out.	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council NRA	£19,000	1994 - 1996	Improved habitat and amenity value.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Sea Life in the City	<p>£50,000 contribution from the Agency to the new Sea Life Exhibition Centre in Birmingham.</p> <p>A working model of a river system with actual water flowing from an upland source down through a small town. A reservoir supplies water to a town for domestic use, shows use of water in a power station as a coolant and management of water in the reservoir as rainfall increases level.</p>	BCC - Vardon Enterprises..	£50,000	1994 1995	Raised awareness of the Agency with the general public. Publicity materials for school children have been developed as part of the exhibition.
Brueton Park	The completion of landscape works and tree planting	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council			Improved habitat and amenity value of the site.
North Eastern Derbyshire Air Quality Inventory	<p>This project is an assessment of Air Quality in the area. Its model releases both inside and outside the study area to predict impact. It also includes an assessment to the local river system - (River Rother) and the impact IPC processes have on the river quality. The Project was accepted by the DOE as a Demonstration Air Quality Management Zone who have provided funding to extend the project to obtain further data on PMIOs and SO₂.</p>	Chesterfield, North East Derbyshire, Bolsover District Councils.			<p>Data base of air quality in the West Midlands region.</p> <p>The Agency to sit on Steering Group for Project Extension work.</p> <p>Demonstration Air Quality Management Zone. Impact of IPC processes on river quality assessed.</p>

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Local Agenda 21 - Birmingham	Outreach approach through the development of an Environmental Forum Sub Committee and liaison with local groups. Local Agenda 21 Ward Pack developed circulated to all resident groups to inform the local community of how and why they should get involved in the process.	Local universities, unions, Friends of the Earth, Urban Wildlife Trust, BCC, Midlands Environmental Network, Chamber of Commerce, Midlands Environmental Business Club.	Internal Revenue Cost	1994 - 1995	Consensus to an environmental strategy for Birmingham, which will underpin all structural planning proposals, Agreed policies on: Energy management Waste minimisation Environmental awareness Environmental economics.
Advice and Seminars on Waste Regulation	The formation of business partnerships and membership of Committees to demonstrate commitment to good practice in waste management.	Environmental Management Panels, Fire Service, British Standard Institute, West Midlands Waste Regulation (Walsall M.B.C).	Internal Revenue Cost	1995	Raised awareness of waste regulation. More informed operators.

PARTNERSHIP IN ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

LOWER TRENT

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
"Wake Up" Project	In 1995 a detailed study of all the materials being disposed of by the construction industry at landfill sites was started. The quantification of materials within construction site skips will highlight areas where materials are being treated as disposable waste without investigating its potential for recycling or reuse.	Nottingham Trent University, DOE, Waste Regulation, Nottingham County Council (NCC).	NCC Provided £2,500 "Gift in Kind"	Phases 1 and 2 June 95 to Nov 95	Quantification of the components of the waste stream that could be reused or recycled. The establishment of a networked construction industry leaders. The establishment of a potential database/register of usable waste products.
Corridors in the Countryside	Support for a Project Officer to produce strategies for the Rivers Leem, Trent and part of Fairham Brook and the production of leaflets, signposts, finials, exhibition boards, a slide package, banners and waymakers.	Nottingham City Gedling Borough and Ashfield District Councils, Nottingham Wildlife Trust, Countryside Commission NRA	£4,800 (25% of Total)	95/96	The production of a PR package for the project.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Scalford Brook	The diversion of the river and the reveting of the river banks with willow spiling.	Milton Borough Council (MBC) and NRA	Total Cost £12,600 (£3,500 - MBC)	95/96	Reinstatement of footpath in a country park.
River Soar near Sutton Bonington	The provision of a small footbridge and picnic tables on a site adjacent to the River Soar.	Sutton Bonington Parish Council NRA	£2,500	95/96	A small footbridge. Picnic tables.
Abbey Lake Leicester	Feasibility exercise to dredge a small ornamental lake in Abbey Park, Leicester to create a Vrindavin Garden.	Leicester City Council	Internal Revenue Cost	95/96	Feasibility study for the first Vrindavin Garden in the country.
Sustainable Development in Leicestershire	Series of projects: - Wind turbine development - Self-build housing - Return and refill systems/ directory - Domestic waste reduction programme.	CIRIA national site group, LCC, the voluntary sector	Internal Revenue Cost	1994 - 1996	More informed community directly involved in sustainable development. Reuse/better management of scarce resources.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY PARTNERS	FUNDING	DATES	OUTCOMES
Demonstration Project - Drainage Area Improvement Strategy	To demonstrate the practical application of the Urban Pollution Management Procedure. Involved planning data collection, model development and solution evaluation of a possible upgrading option relative to the intermittent discharge standards. Project was very successful.	Foundation for Water Research, Urban Pollution Management Groups, Severn Trent Water, NRA. Finance contributed nationally £5K manpower support.	Manpower Support	Ongoing	Urban Pollution Management Manual. Raised awareness of practical solutions. Increased confidence in the use of modelling tools for drainage areas planning strategies.
Leicestershire Waste Minimisation Initiative	Commenced in 1994 with a budget of £100k aimed to encourage businesses to evaluate the quantities and types of waste they were producing and to assess whether or not it could be reduced, reused or recycled.	Leicestershire County Council, NRA, Severn Trent, DTI, Leicestershire TEC, BOC Foundation for the Environment.	£12,000 £12,000	1994 1995	Reduced waste in the waste stream. Increased profits for business.

INDEX OF ABBREVIATIONS

BC	Borough Council
BCC	Birmingham City Council
BOC	British Oxygen Corporation
CC	County Council
CIRIA	Construction Industry Research and Information Association
CMP	Catchment Management Plan
DC	District Council
DOE	Department of the Environment
DTI	Department of Trade and Industry
ETSU	Energy Technology Support Unit
GOWM	Government Office of the West Midlands
H&W	Hereford & Worcester
HM	Her Majesty's
LAs	Local Authorities
LCC	Leicester County Council
LEAPs	Local Environment Agency Plans
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
MBC	Metropolitan Borough Council
NRA	National Rivers Authority
SSSI	Site of Scientific Special Interest
STW	Severn Trent Water
TEC	Training and Enterprise Council
UK	United Kingdom