

24 HOUR EMERGENCY HOTLINE

NRA EMERGENCY HOTLINE

0800 80 70 60

24 hour free emergency telephone line
LINES OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK, 24 HOURS A DAY
to report pollution, poaching, flooding and wildlife in distress

Help the
NATIONAL RIVERS AUTHORITY
to protect the
water environment



Your NRA Southern Region Contact is:



DATE:

3 - AUG 1994

Southern Region

Regional Office

Southern Region
Guildbourne House Chatsworth Road
Worthing West Sussex BN11 1LD
Tel. (0903) 820692

June 1994

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NRA Southern

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A Guide to NRA Services



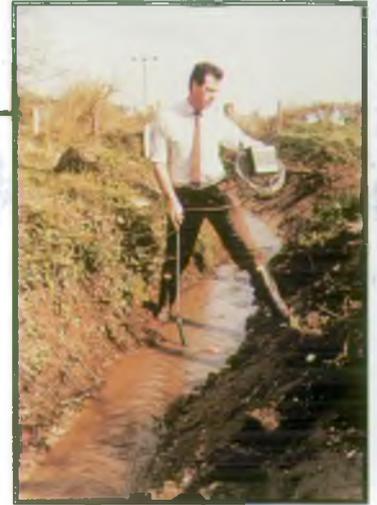
NRA

National Rivers Authority
Southern Region



NRA

- Europe's strongest environmental protection agency, the National Rivers Authority (NRA) is working to improve the water environment and protect people and property from flooding by rivers and the sea.
- An independent public body set up in 1989, the NRA is responsible for pollution control, water resources, flood defence, fisheries, recreation, conservation and navigation across England and Wales.
- NRA Southern Region – which covers Kent, Sussex, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight – is one of eight in the country. Its regional office at Worthing looks after policy and planning issues. Head offices are in Bristol and London.
- NRA Southern Region covers an area the size of 11,000 square kilometres with a resident population of 4.6 million.
- Six hundred people work in NRA Southern Region helping to protect and improve the water environment.
- New area offices help the NRA keep in close contact with local communities. County offices are in Kent (based at Maidstone), Sussex (Worthing) and Hampshire/Isle of Wight (Winchester).
- Rivers and their surrounding areas are designated into river catchments to ensure NRA staff work together to protect the water environment. Southern Region has 13 catchments.



FLOOD DEFENCE

- Providing protection from flooding is vital in Southern Region with some 800kms of coastline facing the North Sea and English Channel. The NRA directly maintains 143kms of sea defences in low lying coastal areas. Flood defence teams work in all weathers maintaining sea walls, shingle beaches and tidal barriers.
- The NRA also looks after 2,648kms of main river. We investigate flood risk locations for new flood relief schemes such as by-pass channels, flood banks or dams to delay and control floodwater. Teams keep rivers flowing by dredging, controlling weeds, grass cutting and removing debris.
- We also provide a flood warning service. Using latest technology such as satellite and weather radar, we monitor rainfall and river levels, issuing warnings to police when flooding is likely, who then inform local authorities and the public.
- We authorise land drainage consents and advise planning authorities on whether planning applications could lead to flooding problems.
- A new sea wall has been built at Pennington, Hampshire and a flood relief scheme at Brockenhurst completed. Sussex has new sea defence schemes at Elmer near Bognor Regis, Pevensy Bay, Felpham and Selsey. In Kent, the NRA operates the Dartford Creek Barrier and the Leigh Barrier which protects Tonbridge.

Two reservoirs are maintained as part of the Ashford flood defence scheme and a sea wall has been built at St Mary's Bay, Dymchurch.



FISHERIES

- The Region is renowned for top quality salmon, trout and coarse fisheries. We conserve and develop fish stocks for the future by carefully managing rivers and watercourses.
- The Rivers Test & Itchen in Hampshire are famous for their trout and salmon and notable runs of sea trout are found in major rivers draining to the English Channel. Rivers in the Weald of Kent and Sussex are well stocked with many types of coarse fish.
- NRA rod and net licences, net limitation orders and byelaws controlling fishing methods and seasons help to protect fish stocks. Other practical methods include building fish passes, removing obstructions and improving spawning gravels.
- Anyone who goes freshwater fishing *must* have an NRA rod licence, available at all post offices. Anglers caught fishing illegally or poaching face prosecution by the NRA.
- A fish pass has been designed and built at Allbrook on the River Itchen in Hampshire and some 600,000 salmon restocked in the Test and Itchen.
- In Kent, two experimental fish weirs have been built on a tributary of the Edenbrook and a fisheries management plan for the Kentish Stour completed following survey work.



- Sussex fisheries team carried out 45 fish transfer operations for angling clubs in 1993/4, stocking watercourses with an extra 78,000 fish. On the Pevensy Levels, fish surveys have formed the basis of a management plan.

CONSERVATION, RECREATION, NAVIGATION

- Conservation work involves paying special attention to local landscapes, amenities and habitats in rivers and watercourses. Nature conservation areas are created in new river schemes wherever possible.
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest include the whole of Hampshire's Test Valley, while Sussex and Kent have a large proportion of the country's wetlands. The north Kent marshes are Britain's most important site for breeding wading birds.
- We survey wildlife on the river so that engineering and other initiatives can be planned with conservation in mind.
- The NRA also supports education and conservation in collaboration with other agencies, as in the River Medway and Darent Conservation Projects in Kent.
- Southern is one of only three NRA regions with a navigation role. In north Kent, the NRA ensures the Medway Navigation can be enjoyed by boat owners, anglers, ramblers and the public. And in the historic Port of Rye, East Sussex owned and managed by the NRA, the Harbour Master provides a 24-hour pilot service.
- In Sussex, a 125km river corridor conservation survey of the River Arun is complete, while otters have been returned to the wild at a secret Hampshire location. A five-year management plan for the Harbour of Rye has been produced.



REGIONAL CONTACTS

Guildbourne House Chatsworth Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 1LD Tel. (0903) 820692 Fax. (0903) 821832

Staff at Regional Office, Worthing deal with *strategic and policy issues* covering Water Quality, Water Resources, Flood Defence, Fisheries, Recreation, Conservation and Navigation. Other departments include Technical Services, Business Services, Corporate Planning, Personnel and Public Relations.

Regional General Manager Kevin Whiteman
Regional Technical Manager Malcolm West
Regional Business Services Manager Peter Quarmby
Regional Personnel Manager Vic Smith
Regional Public Relations Manager Liz Cook
Regional Direct Works Manager John Donaldson
Regional Scientist Dr Jim Wharfe
Regional Water Resources Manager Peter Herbertson
Regional Environmental Quality Manager Bob Edmunds
**Regional Fisheries, Recreation, Conservation
& Navigation Manager** Dr Tony Owen

Regional Flood Defence Manager David Martin
Regional Operational Services Manager Tim Kermode
Regional Solicitor Martin Davies
Principal Emergencies Officer Ken Allen
Regional Admin Manager Bob Leng
Regional Planning Manager Paul Batty
Regional Financial Services Manager John Spendlove
Regional Information Systems Manager Peter Stafford
Regional Estates Surveyor Chris Gerry
Regional Procurement Manager Steve Price

AREA CONTACTS

Area and district offices handle *operational activities at a local level*, including Catchment Planning, Flood Defence, Water Resources, Water Quality, Fisheries, Recreation, Conservation and Navigation.

HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT AREA

Sarum Court Sarum Road Winchester
Hampshire SO22 5DP
Tel. (0962) 713267 Fax. (0962) 841573

Area Manager Mike Beard
Area Environmental Quality Manager Ray Fisher
Area Water Resources Manager Rod Murchie
**Area Fisheries, Recreation, Conservation
& Navigation Manager** Robin Crawshaw
Area Flood Defence Manager Ron Chilcott
Area Planning Liaison Manager Phil Hailey
Area Business Services Officer Glen Orman

District Offices

Isle of Wight (Newport)

Tel. (0983) 822986 or 822984 Fax. (0983) 822985

Romsey Tel. (0794) 512211 Fax. (0794) 518296

SUSSEX AREA

Rivers House 3 Liverpool Gardens Worthing
West Sussex BN11 1TF
Tel. (0903) 215835 Fax. (0903) 215884

Area Manager Peter Midgley
Area Environmental Quality Manager Richard Hammond
Area Water Resources Manager Simon Taylor
**Area Fisheries, Recreation, Conservation
& Navigation Manager** Ian Johnson
Area Flood Defence Manager Adrian Biggs
Area Planning Liaison Manager Alan Hopkins
Area Business Services Officer Claire White

District Offices

Chichester Tel. (0243) 786431 Fax. (0243) 780098

Pevensey Tel. (0323) 762691 Fax. (0323) 767499

KENT AREA

Millbrook House Mill Street East Malling
Kent ME19 6BU
Tel. (0732) 875587 Fax. (0732) 875057

Area Manager Dr Binny Buckley
Area Environmental Quality Manager Colin Buckle
Area Water Resources Manager Graham Warren
**Area Fisheries, Recreation, Conservation
& Navigation Manager** John Morgan
Area Flood Defence Manager Jeff Simmons
Area Planning Liaison Manager Alan Ferrell
Harbour of Rye Harbour Master Carl Bagwell
Area Business Services Officer Roger Lynn

District Offices

Canterbury Tel. (0227) 765061 Fax. (0227) 762981

Rye Tel. (0797) 223256 Fax. (0797) 226711

Harbour of Rye Tel. (0797) 225225 Fax. (0797) 227429

Tonbridge Tel. (0732) 838858 Fax. (0732) 838868

WATER QUALITY

- We guard rivers, estuaries, watercourses and the sea from pollution.
- We prevent pollution and protect groundwater, tackling incidents caused by waste from farms and other industries, and check water quality in samples taken from rivers and streams.
- Pollution sources are traced and we are on 24-hour standby to respond to emergencies.
- Anyone who wants to discharge waste water to the water environment must get NRA permission. Discharge consents set strict limits to prevent harm to animals and plants living in rivers.
- We visit farms to check that slurry and other farm waste is disposed of carefully, preventing pollution.
- Along the coastline, the NRA is responsible for offshore waters up to three miles out and tidal waters such as the Solent, Medway and Swale estuaries.
- In summer, we take samples from 67 bathing beaches to monitor whether seawater complies with EC standards.

- In Sussex, a project is underway to develop a water management plan for Amberley Wildbrooks. In Kent, catchment management plans have been produced for the River Medway. In Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight, water quality is monitored in the Solent and bathing beaches including Southsea, Lee on Solent, Sandown and Ryde.



WATER RESOURCES

- We balance the amount of water needed to protect rivers, lakes and underground reserves with the demands of industry and the public.
- Southern Region is one of the driest parts of the country – rainfall averages 780mm annually. Some 75% of our water for public supply comes from underground. The NRA monitors river flows, groundwater levels, rainfall and climate data to manage this precious resource.
- Wildlife can suffer if too much water is taken from our rivers. We regulate water abstraction by issuing licences.
- Advice is given to local authorities on planning applications to ensure a balance between

development and environmental needs.

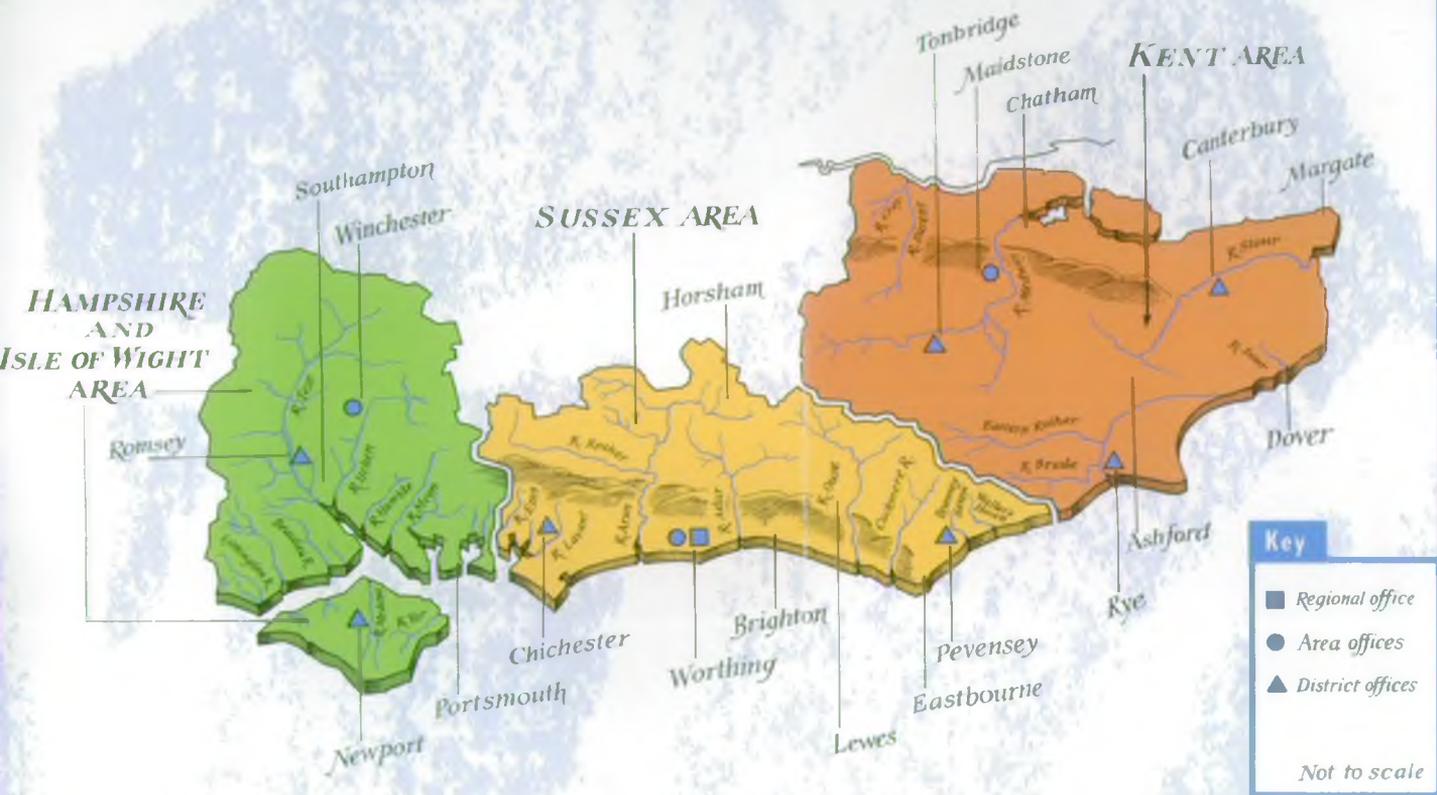
- Some spring fed streams have suffered low-flows because historic powers to protect them were not as robust as those available today. The Darent in Kent is

the country's worst affected low-flow river. A new £12 million NRA/Thames Water plan to improve flows and find alternative sources recently won Government approval.

- Other low-flow rivers in the region are: Little Stour (Kent), Meon, Hamble, Bourne Rivulet and Wallop Brook (Hampshire).
- In East Sussex, ultrasonic river flow gauges have been installed in the River Ouse, Barcombe and the Wallers Haven, Pevensey. In West Sussex, water resources in the chalk downland between Arundel and Chichester are being investigated. In Kent, 16 observation boreholes have been sunk to monitor river levels in the River Darent.



Southern Region



Southern Region Facts & Figures

Regional Area	10,979km ²
Resident Population.....	1991 estimate: 4.6m
.....	2001 estimate: 4.8m
.....	1991 holiday trips to Region: 10.5m
Main River responsibilities	2,648km
Sea Defence responsibilities	143km
(total coastline	800km)
Tidal Banks.....	411km
EC Designated Bathing Beaches	67
River Catchments	13
(Test, Itchen, West Hampshire, IoW, Meon, Arun, Adur/Ouse, Cuckmere, Eastern Rother, Medway, Darent, North Kent, Stour)	
Land Drainage Pumping Stations	90

River Gauges	147
Observation Boreholes	1,043
Rain Gauges	440
Climate Stations	6
Average Annual Rainfall	780mm
Water Abstraction Licences Issued	2,713
Water Discharge Consents	12,853
River Sites/Marine Water Quality Monitoring	933
Inland Navigation	55km
Locks – Medway	10
Eastern Rother	1
Regional Spending 94/5 (estimate)	£43.5m