



RIVERS & FRESHWATER

NEED HELP!

Less than a sixth of England's rivers are healthy while 13% of freshwater species could become extinct. You can help by thinking global and acting local.

IN NUMBERS

1% Freshwater ecosystems take up less than **1% of the Earth's surface** and support **10% of the world's species**.

70% Human activity has caused the **loss of up to 70% of the world's natural wetlands** since 1900.

18,000 Over **half the world's species of fish are found in freshwater ecosystems**, that's an amazing **18,000 species**.

86% A staggering **86% of rivers in England are not considered healthy**.

DEADLY 3

Habitat destruction, pollution and water use are the top 3 challenges for our rivers.

WATER DOWN THE DRAIN!

We take more than we need from our rivers. Over a third of the water is wasted through leaks and losses in treatment or in the home.



TAKE ACTION!

You can find out the needs of your local river and volunteer your time and skills to help freshwater wildlife. catchmentbasedapproach.org You can also keep saving water and look for new tips at waterwise.org.uk/save-water

THE HIDDEN COST

Water is used to create everything we consume. These are the global averages for...



One person's daily food: **5,000 litres** (ranging from **1,500** to **10,000 litres** depending where you live and what you eat)



One cup of black coffee: **132 litres**



1kg of rice: **2,497 litres**



1kg of beef: **15,415 litres**



One cotton shirt: **2,495 litres**

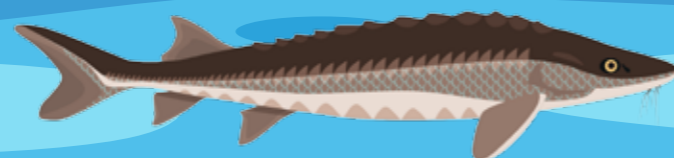
DID YOU KNOW?

Most of the world's chalk streams are found in England. They're home to amazing creatures like otters, kingfishers and salmon.



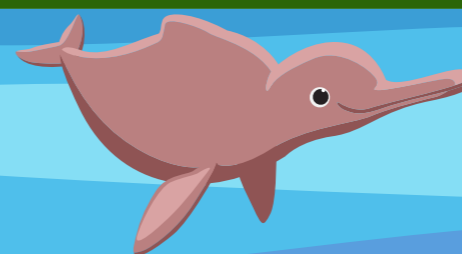
STURGEON

The fish that lived with the dinosaurs is an occasional visitor to England. But this species is now endangered.



RIVER DOLPHINS

River dolphins in Asia and South America are a sign a river is in good health. But many river dolphins are threatened by habitat destruction, development and illegal fishing.



WATER SUCCESS!

Over 50 lakes in China have been reconnected to the Yangtze River - improving the quality and amount of fish in the water. A win win for wildlife and local communities.

RIVERS NEED OUR HELP!

There are lots of ways you can help to reduce your water use through A Million Hands. Ask your leader to find out more.