

# River Clun Recovery Project, 2015 - 2019

Partnership Project between Landowners, Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership, Environment Agency, Woodland Trust and Natural England.

## 2 Freshwater Pearl Mussel Recovery Sites created

through riparian habitat improvement and reintroduction of boulders to enhance the variety and quality of the substrate, and create new in-channel micro habitat.

## 17 sustainable livestock watering systems installed

e.g. Solar powered submersible pumps supplying clean water to drinking troughs.

## Businesses supported

- ◆ 39 farm businesses
- ◆ 11 local contractors
- ◆ 22 suppliers, of which 80% are local businesses

## 8 sediment traps and attenuation measures,

such as French drains, installed to intercept surface runoff to reduce soil erosion.

**£257,800 spent locally, using local contractors and suppliers,** improving farm infrastructure, natural capital and environmental resilience. Boosted by £23,250 cash or in kind contributions from farmers and landowners.

## 16 sections of eroding riverbank protected, totalling 221m,

by installing soft revetment of live willow stakes infilled with small woody material and brash.

## 13 farm gateways restored

through regrading and resurfacing with stone or concrete sleepers.

*"The planting positions have all worked well."* Farm manager, regarding tree planting for attenuation (of overland runoff) adjacent to a tributary of the River Clun.

## 13,300 trees planted by groups of volunteers and local contractors,

mainly along banks of rivers and streams to enhance riparian habitat. Some planted in-field or field corners, to intercept overland flow and surface runoff, and reduce soil loss by erosion.

## 15 watercourse crossings upgraded.

Through the installation of small culverts, or regrading and resurfaced approaches using stone and concrete sleepers.

## 17.7 km of riparian woodland habitat created or restored

through the coppicing of vulnerable bankside Alders and fencing wide buffer strips to encourage natural regeneration of bankside vegetation.

*"Thank you so much for the incredible fence, gate and railings that your contractor has erected. It all looks fantastic, very high quality work and materials."*

Landowner of holding adjacent to main river Clun.

**3,080 hours of Volunteer Involvement** generating £44,000 worth of kind contribution.

## New lease of life

17 over mature or neglected crack willows were pollarded.

## Surveys

- ◆ 3 Highway Drainage Surveys and GIS Reports
- ◆ Clun Fords Survey and GIS Report. 90 Fords.
- ◆ 1 Clun Catchment Crayfish Survey

## 1.7 km of farm tracks restored,

through regrading the slope and resurfacing with fresh stone and installing additional cross drains or grips.