Working with nature to support nature –

New Forest Catchment Partnership

Ian Barker
New Forest National Park Authority

New Forest Catchment Partnership

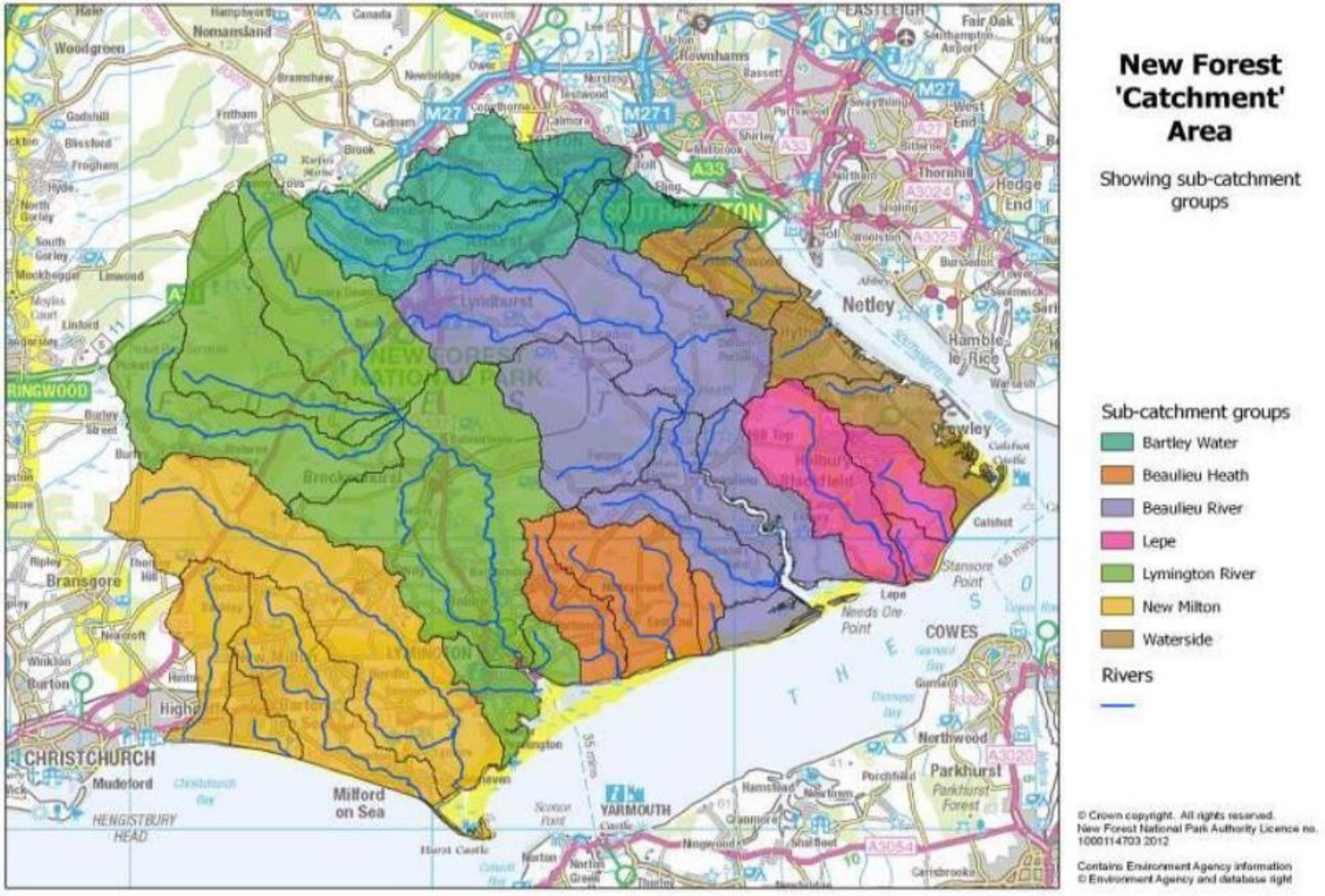

Figure 1 - New Forest catchment boundary and groups

New Forest Catchment Partnership

Freshwater Habitats Trust

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THE wildlife TRUSTS
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

VERDERERS NEW FOREST 1877

Catchment Based Approach
Partnerships for Action

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Catchment Based Approach
Partnerships for Action

New Forest Catchment Partnership

- **Bring together stakeholders** to agree plans of action
- **Identify and protect the best clean water habitats** for wildlife.
- **Collect and use evidence** to manage, enhance, restore, protect or create new habitats for freshwater wildlife and prioritize actions
- **Carry out monitoring to assess the effectiveness** of measures and provide best practice case studies
- **Work in partnership** – within the New Forest, with cross-catchment partners, and with coastal initiatives to maximise gains for biodiversity

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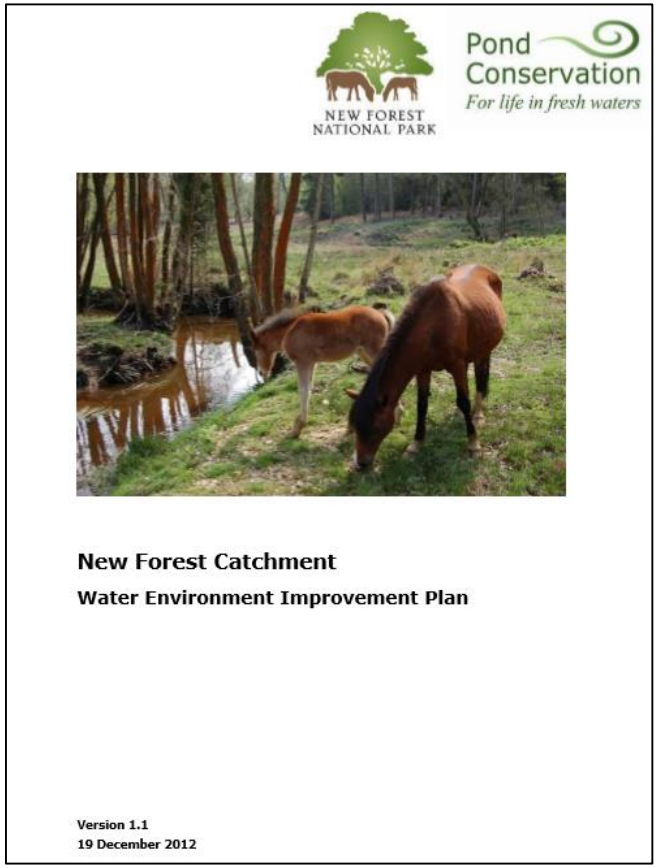

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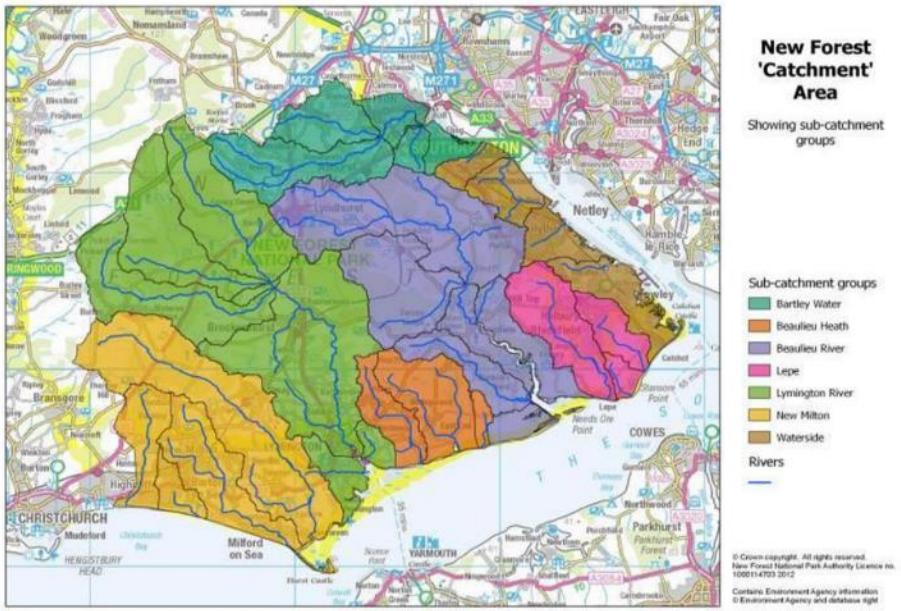

Figure 1 - New Forest catchment boundary and groups

- 300 Km^2 landscape including protected areas, forestry, farmland, parkland and urban environments
- Around 12 individual rivers and streams and their tributaries flowing into the Solent
- 2 notable lakes (>2Ha)
- Over 1,000 ponds
- Over 30 miles of coastal and estuarine habitats

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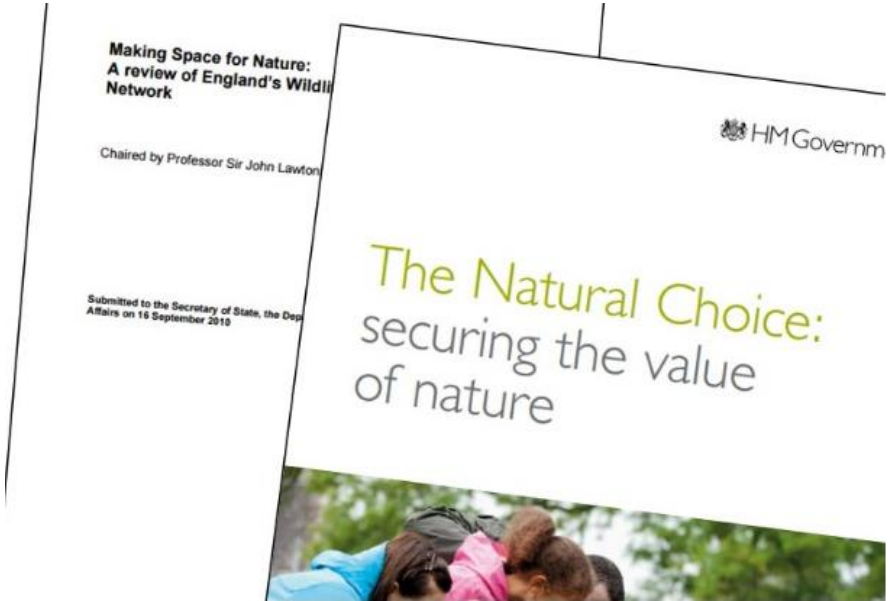
- An unrivalled opportunity to create a Wilder landscape and generate benefits for wildlife and people

- Risk of complacency - ‘Bigger, better and more connected’ – Making Space for Nature, Lawton review 2010



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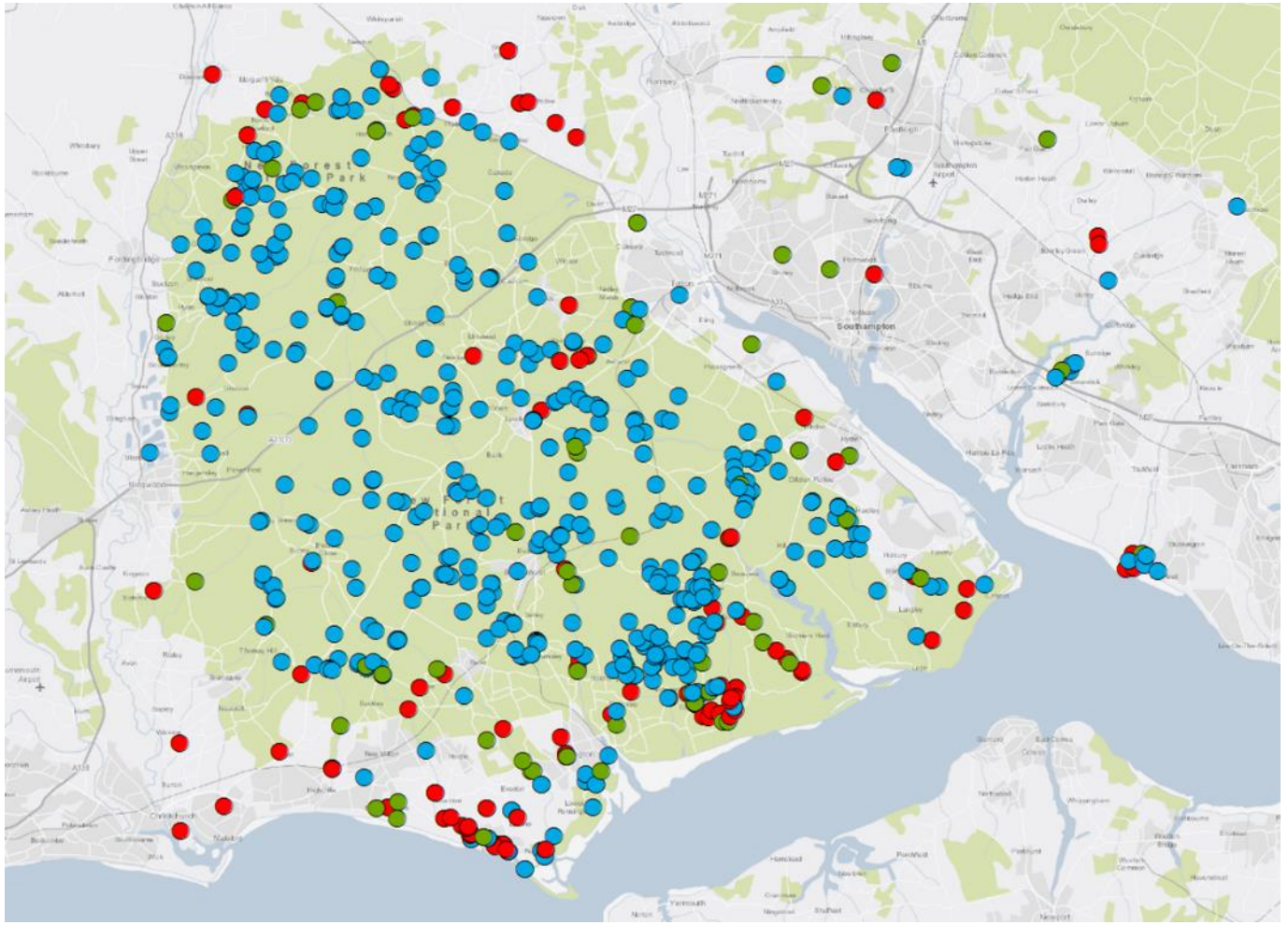
New Forest Water Blitz 2016



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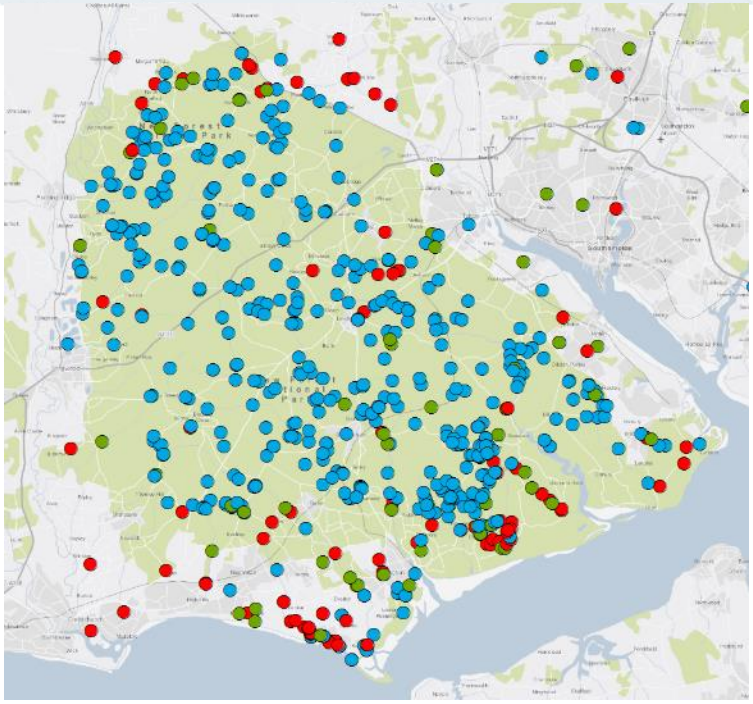

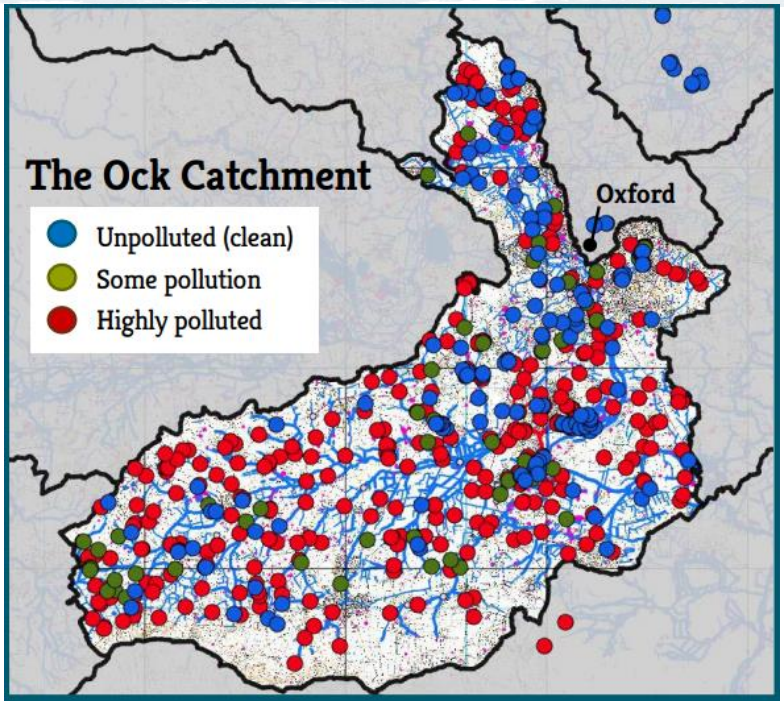

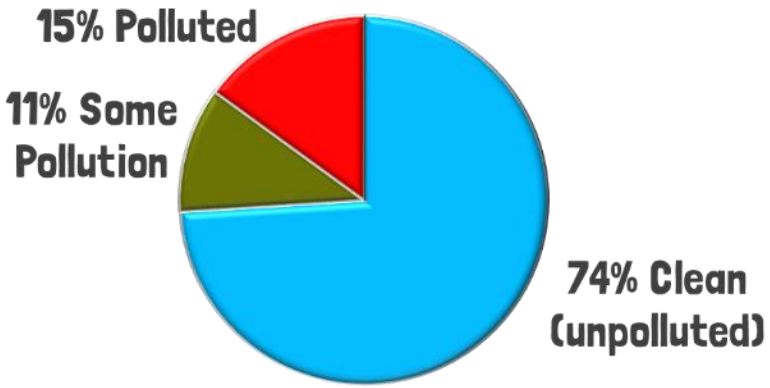

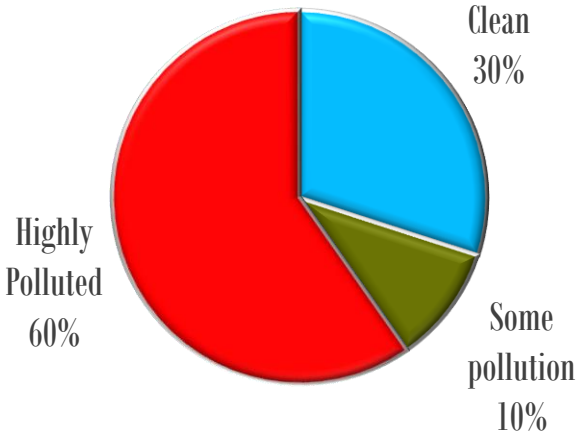

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‘**Wilder for Water**’ – What has been happening? Key themes:

1. Protect (and improve) the best
2. Building out
3. Building the Partnership

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1. Protect the Best

- Catchment Plan review
- River Basin Management Plan review
- Wetland Restoration Strategy

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2. Building out

New Forest Land Advice Service and Catchment Sensitive Farming

Briggs Roto System © Briggs Irrigation.

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2. Building out

Supporting different scales of wetland restorations to promote natural processes

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3. Building the Partnership – (Evidence base, best practice examples to encourage engagement and action)

A) Collective experience and expertise – Hatchet Pond
B) Walkovers – Bartley Water
C) Sub-groups – Agriculture, Mitigation Measures (fish passage etc), Defra body Flood group)

Photos courtesy of Dominic Longley

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3. Building the Partnership 2020– watch this space!

- Clean water camping
- Action tracker
- Living Waters – celebrating achievements

heritage lottery fund
LOTTERY FUNDED

Our Past, Our Future
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3. Building the Partnership 2020– watch this space!

- Water News – please sign up via website

Thank you

Ian Barker
New Forest National Park Authority