

Appendix A – Glossary and Acronyms

<p><b>Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)</b></p>	<p>Areas designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 as being of high scenic quality. Development in AONBs is controlled by Local Planning Authorities and is generally afforded a higher level of control than surrounding areas. AONBs are also subject to ‘management plans’ for the purpose of enhancing natural beauty.</p>
<p><b>Aquifer</b></p>	<p>A permeable geological stratum or formation that is capable of both storing and transmitting water in significant amounts.</p>
<p><b>Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)</b></p>	<p>An agreed plan for any habitat or species, arising from the UN Biodiversity Convention, that forms part of the UK’s commitment to biodiversity. BAPs are statutory documents.</p>
<p><b>Birds Directive</b></p>	<p>European Community Directive (79/409/EEC) on the conservation of wild birds, which provided for Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Statutory protection for SPAs is given under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (1994).</p>
<p><b>Candidate Special Area for Conservation (cSAC)</b></p>	<p>An internationally important site for habitats and/or species, designated as required under the EC Habitats Directive. A cSAC is a candidate site, but is afforded the same status as if it were confirmed. SACs are protected for their internationally important habitat and non-bird species. They also receive SSSI designation under The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000; and The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).</p>
<p><b>Capital Plan</b></p>	<p>The Environment Agency’s short, medium and long-term programme for capital engineering schemes (including flood defences) over the next 3 – 10 years.</p>
<p><b>Catchment</b></p>	<p>The area drained by a particular river. A surface water catchment is the area defined by the highest boundary between two catchments whilst a groundwater catchment is the area that contributes to the groundwater component of the river flow.</p>

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<b>Catchment Abstraction Management Plans (CAMS)</b>	Environment Agency documents outlining the availability and pressures on water resources in a catchment.
<b>Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP)</b>	A catchment-wide strategic planning framework for the integrated management of flood risks to people and the developed and natural environment in a sustainable manner.
<b>Catchment Policies</b>	The outputs of the CFMP, which are the stated policies for flood risk management within a defined flood risk area.
<b>Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH)</b>	The national research centre responsible for developing understanding on ecology and hydrology and related issues. Formerly the Institute of Hydrology, CEH is funded by the National Environmental Research Council (NERC).
<b>Communication Plan</b>	The plan setting out the CFMP consultation programme, as well as specific arrangements for internal (Environment Agency) and external consultation.
<b>Conservation Areas</b>	These are areas, usually in towns and villages, where the character of buildings and other public spaces is of “special architectural or historical interest”. Such areas are defined by the Local Planning Authorities and are afforded different development controls to open countryside and built up areas not under this definition.
<b>Consultation Group</b>	A group of consultees representative of the stakeholders with an interest in the development of CFMP and its final policies.
<b>Countryside Character Areas</b>	Non-statutory sub-divisions of England, as defined under the Countryside Agency’s Countryside Character Initiative. There are 159 Character Areas in England, each with a broadly cohesive countryside character and specific ecological and landscape issues.
<b>Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000</b>	Primary legislation which came into force on 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2001 and provides additional protection and management procedures for nature conservation sites and landscape designations. Also introduces provisions for access to the countryside.
<b>Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)</b>	A charity dedicated to the protection and enhancement of rural England. In terms of natural environment, planning, transport, farming and food, rural economies and the quality, character and diversity of the countryside.
<b>Critical Ordinary Watercourses (COWs)</b>	Stretches of non-main watercourse that have been defined as critical in terms of flood risk management through consultation between the Environment Agency and Local Authorities.
<b>DEFRA</b>	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

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<b>Defra High Level Targets</b>	High-level targets prepared by the then Ministry of Agriculture Food and Fisheries (now Defra) to facilitate the delivery of its flood and coastal defence aims and objectives. The targets have been in operation since November 1990. Programmes included the development of Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) and Water Level Management Plans (WLMPs).
<b>Defra PAG3 document</b>	Defra's Project Appraisal Guidance (PAG) documents set out the criteria which determine whether or not a scheme is eligible for grant aid. PAG 3 relates to economic appraisal (based on cost of the scheme verses the damages that the scheme will avoid). The other PAG documents are: Overview Strategic Planning and the Appraisal and Approaches to Risk Environmental Appraisal.
<b>DG5 register</b>	Register held by water companies on the location of properties at risk of sewage flooding problems.
<b>Digital Elevation Model (DEM)</b>	A dataset representing the topography of an area, usually in the form of an electronic map, A DEM includes ground cover and structures, such as buildings, or man made structures and vegetation.
<b>Digital Terrain Model (DTM)</b>	A dataset representing the bare earth topography of an area, usually in the form of an electronic map, A DTM is processed to remove all ground cover and structures, such as buildings, or man made structures and vegetation.
<b>DTLR</b>	Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions; The department responsible for developing and implementing planning policies. Now replaced by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.
<b>Environment Agency</b>	Non-departmental public body responsible for the delivery of government policy relating to the environment and flood risk management in England and Wales.
<b>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</b>	The process by which the likely impacts of a project or development upon the environment are identified and assessed to determine their significance. EIA are statutory for many developments likely to have an adverse environmental impact, and for any plan affecting a European designated site for conservation.
<b>Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA)</b>	Governed by Defra and offer incentives to encourage farmers to adopt agricultural practices which would safeguard and enhance parts of the country of particularly high landscape, wildlife or historic value.
<b>Flood Defence</b>	A structure (or series of structures) reduce or eliminate the risk of flooding from rivers or the sea.

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<b>Flood Estimation Handbook (FEH)</b>	Flood Estimation Handbook provides the current methodologies for estimation of flood flows for the UK.
<b>Floodplain</b>	Any area of land over which water flows or is stored during a flood event or would flow but for the presence of flood defences.
<b>Flood Risk</b>	The level of flood risk is the product of the frequency or likelihood of the flood events and their consequences (such as loss, damage, harm, distress and disruption).
<b>Flood Map</b>	First published in September, the Flood Map is the public face map of flood likelihood. Based on Flood Zones map and including defences and areas benefiting from protection of defences.
<b>Flood Risk Management</b>	The activity of modifying the frequency or consequences of flooding to an appropriate level, and monitoring to ensure that flood risks remain at the proposed level.
<b>Flood Risk Management Measures</b>	Interventions that modify flooding and flood risk either through changing the frequency of flooding, or by changing the extent and consequences of flooding, or by reducing the vulnerability of those exposed to flood risks.
<b>Fluvial</b>	Pertaining to a watercourse (river or stream).
<b>Flood Zones</b>	Flood maps produced to support implementation of PPG25
<b>Geographical Information System (GIS)</b>	A GIS is a computer-based system for capturing, storing, checking, integrating, manipulating, analysing and displaying data that are spatially referenced.
<b>Geomorphology</b>	The physical processes that create sediment erosion and deposition and which define the shape of a river and its floodplain.
<b>General Quality Assessments</b>	The General Quality Assessment scheme is used to classify river quality. Biological and chemical assessments can be made of the changes in quality over time and of the varying quality at different locations in England and Wales.
<b>Groundwater</b>	Water occurring below ground in certain geological formations
<b>Habitat Action Plan (HAP)</b>	Take into account National Priorities in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and use knowledge and experience of local experts to devise action plan for conserving and enhancing designated natural habitats. Related to Habitat Action Plan.

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<b>Habitats Directive</b>	The EC Directive (92/43/EEC) establishing a system of protection for certain fauna, flora and habitats deemed to be of European conservation importance. The 24 Articles of the Directive include a range of measures for the conservation of features in the landscape that are important for wildlife and for the protection of species listed in the Annexes. The Directive provides for the designation and protection of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). These SACs, with Special Protection Areas (SPAs), classified under the Birds Directive, are known as the Natura 2000 network.
<b>Historic Monuments</b>	English Heritage (EH) is the national body responsible for identifying and protecting historic buildings by recommending the most important of them for “listing”. In England the prime sources of information are the Sites and Monuments Records (SMR) and the National Monuments Record (NMR).
<b>Hydrological Model</b>	A method of estimating the flow in a river arising from a given amount of rainfall falling into the catchment. Models typically account for factors such as catchment area, topography, soils, geology and land use.
<b>Inception Report</b>	Provides a detailed description of the work undertaken during the CFMP Inception phase. This includes a summary of catchment data collection and preliminary understanding of the main issues to be considered for effective flood risk management during subsequent phases of the CFMP process.
<b>Indicative Flood Maps (IFMs)</b>	Maps developed by the Agency the estimated extent of the floodplain with a 1% risk of fluvial flooding and or 0.5% risk of tidal inundation. Defended areas are also shown. These maps are sometimes referred to as Section 105 maps, or Flood Risk Maps.
<b>Indicative Standard of Protection</b>	The range of level of protection to be considered for flood defences, based upon the use of the land being protected. They do not represent any entitlement to protection or minimum level to be achieved.
<b>Internal Drainage Board (IDB)</b>	Internal Drainage Boards are autonomous public bodies under the direct control of the board members, set up to improve farmland and funded by a local levy.
<b>Institute of Hydrology (IOH)</b>	Currently known as Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (see CEH).
<b>Land Use</b>	The use to which an area of land is put (e.g. residential, agriculture, forestry, etc.). The term Land Use is used in many contexts and is controlled by the town and country planning system.

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<b>Land Management</b>	A scheme, plan or other project deliberately using particular practices to affect the character, quality or value of an area. <i>Land Management</i> is subject to UK legislation and may require authorisation from a competent authority (e.g. English Nature) or, where it results in a change in <i>Land Use</i> , may require planning permission.
<b>Landscape Character Areas (LCAs)</b>	Landscape Character areas are developed by the Countryside Agency under the Countryside Character Initiative, and have a strong social, historical and cultural element. The Countryside Character Initiative is a programme of information and advice on the character of the English countryside. It includes systematic descriptions of the features and characteristics that make the landscape, and guidance documents on how to undertake Landscape Character Assessment.
<b>Landscape Character Assessment</b>	Is a systematic descriptions of the features and characteristics that make the landscape, and guidance documents on how to undertake Landscape Character Assessment.
<b>LiDAR</b>	Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) is an airborne mapping technique, using lasers to measure the ground / surface elevation.
<b>Listed Buildings</b>	English Heritage is the national body responsible for identifying and protecting historic buildings and for compiling registers of 'listed' historic buildings. There are three grades of listed buildings: Grade I buildings are those of exceptional interest; Grade II* buildings are particularly important buildings of more than special interest; and Grade II buildings are of special interest, warranting every effort to preserve them. Other Authorities (including the Environment Agency) have a duty to regard the importance of these buildings.
<b>Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)</b>	A local agenda (produced by the local authority) with plans and targets to protect and enhance biodiversity and achieve sustainable development.

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<p><b>Local Development Documents</b></p>	<p>These are statutory plans providing information used to decide planning applications for land use development. The system currently consists of Local Development Plans (produced by District Councils and Unitary Authorities) and Structure Plans (produced by County Councils and Metropolitan Councils). The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 replaces these documents with Regional Spatial Strategies (e.g. for south east England) and Local Development Frameworks.</p>
<p><b>Local Environment Agency Plan (LEAP)</b></p>	<p>An Agency non-statutory plan based on the river basin (or sub-catchments or groups of smaller catchments) providing environmental baseline information and actions/objectives for that river basin (these replace the then National Rivers Authority's Catchment Management Plans).</p>
<p><b>Local Nature Reserve (LNR)</b></p>	<p>Local Nature Reserves are designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 by Local Authorities (which must have some legal control over the site) in consultation with English Nature for their locally important wildlife or geological features. They are generally intended for education and amenity in addition to conservation.</p>
<p><b>Main River</b></p>	<p>Watercourses defined on a 'Main River Map' designated by Defra. The Environment Agency has permissive powers to carry out flood defence works, maintenance and operational activities for Main Rivers only. Responsibility for maintenance however rests with the riparian owner (the land owner)</p>
<p><b>Major Incident Plan</b></p>	<p>A plan which describes the multi-agency response arrangements for dealing with major floods, occurring in exceptional circumstances, in locations with significant populations and where special measures are deemed necessary.</p>
<p><b>Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)</b></p>	<p>The place on the shore where spring high tides reach on average over a period of time. It can often be recognised by the upper line of debris on the beach.</p>
<p><b>Modelling and Decision Support Framework (MDSF)</b></p>	<p>A GIS based decision support tool developed specifically to assist the CFMP process through automation of parts of the analysis.</p>
<p><b>National Flood Risk Assessment (NaFra)</b></p>	<p>Broad scale assessment of Flood Risk in England and Wales, produced using GIS techniques by the Environment Agency in 2004.</p>
<p><b>National Flood and Coastal Defence Database (NFCDD)</b></p>	<p>The development of the National Flood and Coastal Defence Database (NFCDD) is a requirement under the DEFRA High Level Targets for flood and coastal defence operating authorities.</p>

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<b>National Nature Reserve (NNR)</b>	National Nature Reserves are designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 or the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) primarily for nature conservation, but can also include sites with special geological or physical features. They were established to protect the most important areas of wildlife habitat and geological formations in Britain, and as places for scientific research. They are usually owned or leased by English Nature, or managed in accordance with a Nature Reserve Agreement with the landowner or occupier.
<b>National Parks</b>	The National Park Authority's duties and powers are derived from a number of Acts of Parliament and statements of Government Policy, most recently the Environment Act 1995. The Statutory purposes of National Parks, which the Park Authority has the duty to pursue, are: 1) to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area and 2) to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the area's special qualities by the public. National Park Authorities also have a duty to foster the economic and social well being of the communities within the Park.
<b>Natural Area (NA) Profiles</b>	Natural Areas are developed by English Nature, each area having a characteristic association of wildlife and natural features. There are 120 Natural Areas in England and each has a unique identity resulting from the interaction of wildlife, landforms, geology, land use and human impact.
<b>Non-Main River</b>	Non-main rivers are all watercourses not designated as Main River's (see above). The Local Authority has permissive powers to maintain but responsibilities to do so may rest with the riparian owner.
<b>Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM)</b>	ODPM's are responsible for local and regional government, housing, planning, fire, regeneration, social exclusion and neighbourhood renewal and aim to create prosperous, inclusive and sustainable communities for the 21st century.
<b>Planning Policy Guidance Note 25: Development and Flood Risk (PPG25)</b>	One of a series of Planning Policy Guidance notes (PPGs) issued by Office of Deputy Prime Minister to advise local planning authorities and developers. PPGs are not statutory, but planning authorities are obliged to consider them in preparing plans and review of applications
<b>Plans and Programs (PPs)</b>	As defined in the EU Water Framework Directive.
<b>Priority Action</b>	Urgent needs that require priority attention (e.g. urgent repairs or stand-alone improvements that should be addressed immediately and should not wait until the CFMP process has been completed).



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<b>Probability of Occurrence</b>	The probability of a flood event being met or exceeded in any one year (usually expressed as a return period – e.g. 1% (1 in 100 years)).
<b>Project Appraisal Guidance (PAG)</b>	Designed to provide an integrated suite of guidance on all aspects of project appraisal. This supersedes the Flood and Coastal Defence Project Appraisal Guidance Notes (PAGN) published by the former Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) in 1993.
<b>Project Board</b>	The Project Board oversees the production of the CFMP, and is comprised of key Agency staff together with staff from other operating authorities or major stakeholders, where appropriate.
<b>Proposed Special Protection Area (pSPA)</b>	A site of international importance for birds, designated as required by the EC Birds Directive. A pSPA is a proposed site, but is afforded the same status as if it were confirmed. SPAs are designated for their international importance as breeding, feeding and roosting habitat for bird species. The Government is required to consider the conservation of SPAs in all planning decisions. SPAs receive SSSI designation under The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 and The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).
<b>Ramsar Site</b>	Sites identified or meeting criteria set out in <i>The RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands of International Importance</i> . This definition has no legal status, but such sites are designated as SSSIs under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).
<b>Regional Planning Guidance (RPG)</b>	Planning Guidance issued by the Government Office for the region. RPGs are to be replaced by statutory Regional Spatial Strategies.
<b>Riparian</b>	Referring to the environments associated with a water body (including lakes, rivers and their floodplains).
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	Considerations of the risks inherent in a project, leading to the development of actions to control, mitigate or accept them.
<b>Risk Assessment for Strategic Planning (RASP)</b>	Aims to provide a framework for the consistent assessment of flood risk that takes account of the risk of both overtopping and breaching.
<b>River Basin Management Plan</b>	A plan to be produced under the Water Framework Directive by 2009.

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<b>River Quality Objective (RQO)</b>	A classification systems developed to monitor the Environment Agency's duty to achieve specific water quality standards set by the Secretary of State. Currently, RQOs are classified using a River Ecosystem (RE) Classification, which is based on a set of chemical water quality parameters defined within the EC Freshwater Fish Directive (78/659/EEC). RQOs have no specific legal basis.
<b>Scenario</b>	A possible future situation, which can influence either catchment flood processes or flood responses. Scenarios will usually comprise combinations of the following: urban development (both in the catchment and river corridor); change in land use and land management practice (including future environmental designations); or climate change.
<b>Scheduled Monuments, Scheduled Ancient Monuments</b>	Archaeological sites designated by English Heritage and afforded a high level of protection (including serious damage from deliberate flooding). The current legislation, the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, supports a formal system of Scheduled Monument Consent for any work affecting a designated monument.
<b>Section 105</b>	The Section of the Water Resources Act under which Flood Plain Mapping is carried out. Level A was the initial Section 105 modelling, whilst level B modelling has been undertaken to look at key areas in more detail.
<b>Shoreline Management Plan (SMP)</b>	Non-statutory plans to provide sustainable coastal defence policies (to prevent erosion by the sea and flooding of low-lying coastal land), and to set objectives for the future management of the shoreline. They are prepared by the Environment Agency or maritime local authorities, acting individually or as part of coastal defence groups.
<b>Site of National Conservation Importance (SNCI)</b>	SNCIs are designated at a local level through inclusion within local or unitary development plans for their regional or local conservation interest. They are usually adopted by Local Authorities for planning but have no statutory protection.
<b>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</b>	Sites notified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 for their flora, fauna, geological or physical features. Notification of a SSSI includes a list of operations that may be harmful to the special interest of the site. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) provides significantly enhanced protection for SSSIs. All cSACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites are designated as SSSIs.

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<b>Special Area for Conservation (SAC)</b>	An internationally important site for habitats and/or species, designated as required under the EC Habitats Directive. A cSAC is a candidate site, but is afforded the same status as if it were confirmed. SACs are protected for their internationally important habitat and non-bird species. They also receive SSSI designation under The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000; and The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).
<b>Special Protection Area (SPA)</b>	A site of international importance for birds, designated as required by the EC Birds Directive. A pSPA is a proposed site, but is afforded the same status as if it were confirmed. SPAs are designated for their international importance as breeding, feeding and roosting habitat for bird species. The Government is required to consider the conservation of SPAs in all planning decisions. SPAs receive SSSI designation under The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 and The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).
<b>Species Action Plan (SAP)</b>	Take into account National Priorities in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and use knowledge and experience of local experts to devise action plan for conserving and enhancing designated species. Related to Habitat Action Plan.
<b>Source Protection Zone (SPZ)</b>	Groundwater source such as wells, boreholes and springs used for public drinking water supply.
<b>Standard of Protection</b>	The level of protection afforded by flood defences, based on maximum restrained flows and levels.
<b>Strategy Plan</b>	A long-term (usually 50 years or more) documented plan for river or coastal management, including all necessary work to meet defined flood and coastal defence objectives for the target area. A Strategy Plan is more detailed and usually covers a smaller area than a CFMP.
<b>Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)</b>	A higher-level equivalent to the EIA, designed to assess the environmental impacts and contribution towards sustainability of plans and programmes. SEAs were established by an EC Directive (2001/42/EC) and are implemented by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.
<b>Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)</b>	A broad scale assessment of flood risk carried out by a unitary authority or district council.

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<b>Structure Plan</b>	A statutory plan comprising part of the Development Plan, prepared by County Councils or a combination of unitary authorities, containing strategic policies that cover key planning issues over the area and provide a framework for local planning, including Unitary Development Plans (UDPs). To be replaced under the new planning system with Local Development Frameworks (which comprise all sub-regional plans).
<b>Sub catchment (SC)</b>	Either a smaller catchment within a larger one (i.e. the area drained by a tributary of the main catchment), or an area of the catchment identified for the purpose of improving the CFMP process.
<b>Surface Water</b>	Any water body not being groundwater (e.g. rivers, estuaries, ponds, etc.) as well as temporary waters resulting from flooding, urban run-off, etc.
<b>Sustainability</b>	A broad concept dealing with the social, economic and environmental impacts of human activities. Its aims are to achieve an efficient, effective solution to development which does not have undue costs or impacts in the present or the future. As an operational objective in planning and development it involves, <i>inter alia</i> , taking account of future changes. There is no comprehensive statutory definition of <i>sustainability</i> , although it is a duty of many Government bodies (including the Environment Agency).
<b>Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs)</b>	A sequence of management practices and control structures designed to minimise the impact of surface water on flood risk and the environment. Techniques include the use of porous materials and soak-away systems to increase the time taken for water enter the river network.
<b>Telemetry</b>	The means by which a data signal is transferred to a remote control centre by the telephone network.

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<b>Unitary Development Plan (UDP)</b>	A statutory plan produced by unitary authorities, comprising part of the Development Plan and written in two parts: Part I – a written statement which contains the authority’s general policies for their area; Part II – both a written statement and an ordnance plan, describing the policies in detail and illustrating them on a geographical basis. A UDP replaces Local Plans within unitary authorities.
<b>Water Framework Directive (WFD)</b>	European Community Directive (2000/60/EC) on integrated river basin management. The WFD sets out environmental objectives for water status based on: ecological and chemical parameters; common monitoring and assessment strategies; arrangements for river basin administration and planning; and a programme of measures in order to meet the objectives.
<b>Water Level Management Plan (WLMP)</b>	A programme designed to control the level and distribution of surface and groundwater in a designated area (usually for a SSSI or other Conservation site).
<b>Wildlife and Countryside Act</b>	The principal legislative mechanism for the protection of wildlife in Great Britain. The designation of protected species is also provided for.