

We all have a part to play in looking after our becks, rivers, lakes and their surrounding habitats and as a land manager you can do much to make a difference to the quality of water.

South Cumbria Rivers Trust is working with farmers and managers across five catchment areas looking at ways in which positive changes can be made to how land is managed for healthier watercourses. These changes benefit farmers and their livestock as well as local communities and the surrounding environment. They will also help in compliance of the new *Farming Rules for Water 2018*. Carrying out improvements could enhance the capital value of your holding and increase opportunities for further grants in the future.

South Cumbria Rivers Trust can advise, plan, project manage and fund a variety of practical options for you, saving you time and money and making improvements for your livestock and the environment.

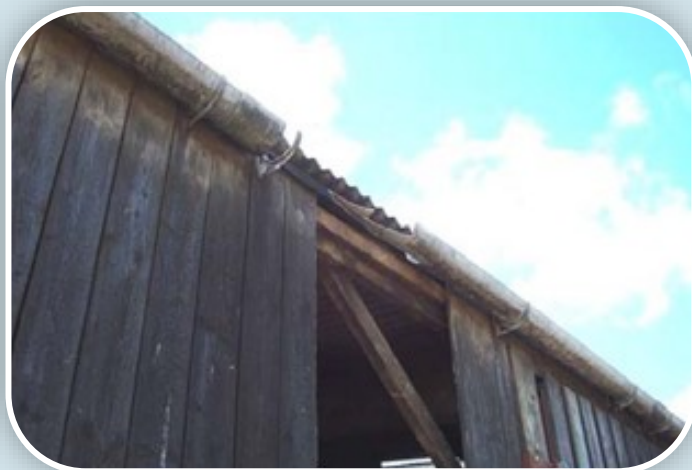
Wise Water Management - Reducing Water Loss and Clean Water Separation

Water is an essential and costly commodity, needed for drinking, washing and has many other uses depending on your farm. Wise water management can help you to sustain productivity, save money and protect local water courses and the wider environment.

South Cumbria Rivers Trust can fund improvements to help to reduce wastage, stop leaks and recycle water. This could be as simple as replacing guttering and downspouts, provide extra water butts and other water storage solutions. Some of these options can also help with helping to keep clean and dirty water separated, reducing the risk of contaminating watercourses. Poor dirty water management is one of the commonest sources of pollution so we want to work with you to reduce this risk.

Agricultural benefits

- Reducing water loss from leaks and recycling rain water can save money on mains water.
- Keeping rain water away from dirty water and yards can reduce disposal costs of dirty water.
- Fixing water leaks can help prevent soil damage and reduce adverse effects on livestock health.
- General good management of water can save handling time and costs.
- Good management of dirty water can reduce the risk of contamination and pollution incidents which will cost you money and reputation.



Environmental benefits

- Reduce risk of dirty water contaminating nearby watercourses.
- Repairing leaks can reduce soil runoff and erosion. This will lead to reduced amounts of sediment entering nearby watercourses.



Reducing water loss and clean water separation

South Cumbria Rivers Trust will

- Advise, plan and project manage the installation including any water course consent, planning permission and contractor liaison **for free**.

New guttering and downpipes to divert rainwater from the yard to be used elsewhere on the farm



Farming Rules for Water 2018

From April 2018 all farmers in England will need to follow some new rules to protect water quality. The rules will ensure that farmers use fertilisers efficiently and avoid water pollution through surface runoff and soil erosion, standardising good farm practices that many will already be performing.

There are eight new rules; five for managing fertilisers and manure and three for managing soil.

The Environment Agency will be responsible for managing compliance with these new rules and will be carrying out checks.

Catchment Sensitive Farming

Your local Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF) Officer can also give training and advice on practical solutions tailored to you and your farm.

The CSF Officer can talk to you about the availability of grants, business solutions that save money & time as well as the environmental benefits to making positive changes.

Here to Help You

South Cumbria Rivers Trust can discuss options and offer solutions that meet you and your needs as long as there are benefits to the watercourses on your land. Installations have, on other farms, saved the land manager/farmer time and money and improved conditions for livestock and the wider environment.

We can advise, plan, project manage and fund a variety of practical options for you, on a one-to-one basis so will look at any other bespoke options for farming improvements that impact positively on water quality. Together, we will review your current situation, identify potential opportunities and then develop an action plan.

More information sheets are available for:

- *De-culverting & beck re-naturalisation*
- *Fencing & gates*
- *Stream crossings and tracks*
- *Bank erosion and EWS (engineered wooden structures)*
- *Feeding and drinking area*



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The Farmer Network - www.thefarmernetwork.co.uk

National Farmers Union - www.nfuonline.com



Conserving Coniston & Crake is a 3 year HLF project with the aim of improving water quality, habitat and biodiversity in the catchment area, through conservation activities and community engagement. The project is supported by South Cumbria Rivers Trust, the Coniston & Crake Catchment Partnership and other partners - the National Trust and the Lake District National Park Authority.

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