



## **Adur River Recovery - initial public consultation Have your say about your river!**

The Adur River Recovery Project aims to improve the health of the river by creating and enhancing wetlands and restoring habitats. Benefits include improved water quality, reduced impact of flooding and increasing the river's resilience to climate change.

The initiative is one of only 22 landscape recovery projects in the country. It brings together the Knepp Wildland Foundation and partners (Adur District Council, Horsham District Council, Ouse & Adur Rivers Trust, Sussex Wildlife Trust and Wilder Horsham District), with local landowners and the local community. Together we want to create and realise a collective vision for the Adur that benefits nature and people.

To inform this, we want to hear from local people who use, visit or live near the River Adur about how they get there, what they like about it, whether they've noticed any changes, and more. This survey has 26 questions and should take around 10 minutes to complete. It closes on **10th August 2023**.

**Data privacy**

The [Knepp Wildland Foundation](https://www.kneppwildlandfoundation.org/) is committed to ensuring your privacy is protected. The information you give us will be treated as confidential, anonymised in our research and stored and processed in accordance with our privacy policy. It will be deleted after 3 years. We may share aggregated and anonymised data publicly to provide local perspectives on the River Adur. If you have any questions about your data privacy, please contact us at **[AdurRiverRecovery@knepp.co.uk](mailto:AdurRiverRecovery@knepp.co.uk)**

*In this first section, we'd like to understand how you access the river, what you do there and what you value about it.*

\* 1. How do you normally travel to the River Adur?  
(Tick any that apply)

- ☐ Walk
- ☐ Drive
- ☐ Public transport
- ☐ Cycle
- ☐ Other (please specify)

\* 2. Please tell us your postcode. This will help us understand how far people travel to get there.

\* 3. Where do you access the Adur River from?  
(Tick any places that apply.)

- ☐ Ashurst
- ☐ Bramber
- ☐ Cockoo's Corner
- ☐ Henfield
- ☐ Horsham
- ☐ Partridge Green
- ☐ Shermanbury
- ☐ Shoreham Estuary
- ☐ Small Dole
- ☐ Other (please specify)

\* 4. Once you've travelled to the Adur, do you find it easy to access the river and surrounding area?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Sometimes

5. Can you tell us a little more about your answer to the question above?

\* 6. How often do you visit the river?

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ At least weekly
- ☐ At least monthly
- ☐ A few times a year
- ☐ Less than once a year

\* 7. What activities do you do at the river? (Tick any that apply.)

- ☐ Walking
- ☐ Walking a dog
- ☐ Running
- ☐ Cycling
- ☐ Fishing
- ☐ Boating or sailing
- ☐ Paddle sports (e.g. kayaking, paddle-boarding, rowing etc.)
- ☐ Wind sports (e.g. windsurfing, windsurf foiling etc.)
- ☐ Wildlife watching
- ☐ Relaxing or socialising

☐ Volunteering (e.g. litter picking, citizen science)

☐ Other (please specify)

8. What do you most like or value about the River Adur? We'd love to hear why you visit it.

\* 9. Thinking again about what you like or value about the river, please tick any of the below statements that you agree with.

☐ I find it beautiful

☐ I find it relaxing

☐ I like being in nature/watching wildlife

☐ I like being on or near water

☐ It's good for my mental health

☐ It's good for my physical health

☐ It's a good place to do the activities I like

☐ It's the only local place to do the activities I like

☐ It's easy to get around

☐ It's convenient

☐ I don't agree with any of the above statements

*We'd now would like to know a little bit about what you think about the condition of the river and whether you've seen any changes over time.*

\* 10. What do you think the current overall condition of the River Adur is?

☐ Very good

☐ Good

☐ Moderate

☐ Poor

☐ Very poor

☐ Don't know

11. Can you tell us a little about why you think this?

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

\* 12. How long have you been visiting the River Adur?

☐ Less than a year

☐ Between 1 year and 5 years

☐ Between 5 years and 10 years

☐ Between 10 years and 40 years

☐ More than 40 years

13. Have you noticed any changes in that time?  
Please tell us a bit about them and let us know if you think they are good or bad.

\* 14. Since you've been visiting the Adur, have you seen an increase in, a decrease in or no difference to, the following factors?

|                                                              | Increase              | Decrease              | Stayed the same       | Don't know            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Litter                                                       | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Algae                                                        | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Wildlife                                                     | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Water quality                                                | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Flooding                                                     | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| People                                                       | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Dogs                                                         | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Recreational usage                                           | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Sedimentation<br>(particles in the water or on the riverbed) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Drought                                                      | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

\* 15. What do you think are the biggest pressures facing the health of the River Adur? Please re-order the below pressures from greatest threat (top) to smallest threat (bottom). Click on the statements to drag them up or down, or use the

up and down buttons to the right of each statement.

-  Climate change (increased storms, temperature changes, increased drought)  
-  Climate change (sea level change)  
-  Pollution (industrial and household including sewage)  
-  Pollution from plastics  
-  Urban development (new housing etc in urban areas, or on the edge urban areas)  
-  Rural development (new housing etc away from existing settlements)  
-  Too many people visiting/using the river  
-  Farming including agricultural run-off  
-  Non-native plant or animal species  
-  Man made modifications to the river such as weir structures, embankments, bridge crossings etc.  

16. Thinking back to question 15 and the pressure you think is greatest, can you tell us briefly why this concerns you?

17. Are there any improvements related to the river that you would like to see put in place?

18. Imagine its twenty years from now and the river is thriving. What's changed? Can you describe what you might see or do?

\* 19. If it meant a healthier river, which of the following actions might you take?

- ☐ Reducing my water consumption at home
- ☐ Not putting any Fat, Oil or Grease down my kitchen sink
- ☐ Making sure my car isn't leaking oil into road drains
- ☐ Volunteering with a group to litter pick
- ☐ Volunteering to record and report sightings of wildlife on the river
- ☐ Volunteering to record and report the presence of non-native species on the river

☐ Reducing the points where I access the River for recreation

☐ Using sustainable transport/active travel to get the river

☐ Other (please specify)

*We'd now like to ask a couple of questions to find out more about you. This helps us understand who uses the Adur and whether there are any groups we're not hearing from. You don't have to answer any of these questions if you don't want to.*

20. Are you a member of any conservation groups or charities (either as a paid member or as a volunteer?) Tick any that apply.

☐ Sussex Wildlife Trust

☐ National Trust

☐ Ouse & Adur River Trust

☐ Shoreham District Ornithological Society

☐ Greening Steyning

☐ Henfield 2030

☐ Wilder Horsham District

☐ Other (please specify)

21. Which age bracket you're in?

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18-30
- ☐ 31-45
- ☐ 46-60
- ☐ 61-75
- ☐ 76+
- ☐ Prefer not to say

22. What gender do you identify with?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Prefer not to say

23. What is your ethnicity?

- ☐ White
- ☐ Black, Black British, Caribbean or African
- ☐ Asian or British Asian
- ☐ Arab or British Arab
- ☐ Mixed or multiple ethnic groups

☐ Other

☐ Prefer not to say

24. Do you consider yourself to have a disability (physical or mental)? Knowing your disability status helps us understand if the river is accessible and benefits people with disability.

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Prefer not to say

*And finally, the last two questions are about staying involved in the project. Thank you so much for your time so far.*

25. The views and observations of local people are vital to this project and there maybe other questions or surveys we'd like to send you. **If you're happy to be contacted about the Adur River Recovery project, please provide your email address below:**

26. If you're passionate about the health of the Adur River and/or the communities that use it, and would like to hear more about becoming an ambassador for the project, please tick this box (and make sure you provide your email address above):

☐ Yes I am interested in becoming an ambassador for the River Adur Recovery project

Done

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