# The Wider Wylye Strategy 2021-2022 Review



# Bigger, and better connected habitats

Well connected, naturally functioning river and floodplain habitats not only benefit wildlife, they also help purify water, sequester carbon, and reduce flooding. Extensive, reach wide survey data collected in 2021/22 is being used to inform large scale habitat restoration and enhancement projects in partnership with local land and river managers.

### **Trees in rivers!**

Large woody debris, such as fallen tree limbs, are a key source of food for insects, and provide cover for fish. Our project team gave 400m of the Wylye near Steeple Langford a helping hand by adding locally sourced brash and tree limbs to the channel.



# **Tackling Invasive Non Native Species**

Non native plants and animals threaten our native wildlife. We've been working with volunteers to tackle non-native plants along 800m of the banks of the Wylye this year.



# **Getting communities involved**

Engaging local communities is at the heart of the Wider Wylye project. Whilst school education was hampered by covid, we were able to train 10 new volunteer riverfly monitors for the catchment as well as lead members of the local community on a guided river walk to learn about chalk streams and what makes the Wylye so special. More to come in 2022/23.

A partnership project, led by Wessex Rivers Trust and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and delivered alongside members of the Hampshire Avon Catchment Partnership, angling clubs, local farmers, and landowners. Kindly part funded by the Wessex Water Partners Programme.











