MONITORING OF THE PAR RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES

The monitoring group operates under the citizen science scheme run by the Westcountry Rivers Trust. Comments, opinions and errors in this report are those of the author(s) only.

JANUARY 2026

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A. OUR JANUARY 2026 FINDINGS AT A GLANCE (SEE SECTIONS C TO I FOR FULL PICTURE)

1. Data

We sampled at 15 locations between 14th and 23rd January 2026. The **red** highlighting shows results of concern.

CRITERIA	UPPER PAR (UPSTREAM OF CONFLUENCE WITH BOKIDDICK STREAM NEAR BLACK HILL CAR PARK) 4 TESTING LOCATIONS	LOWER PAR (FROM CONFLUENCE WITH BOKIDDICK STREAM TO SEA) 3 TESTING LOCATIONS	TRIBUTARIES OF UPPER PAR (EXCLUDING TRESKILLING STREAM THIS MONTH) 6 TESTING LOCATIONS	TRIBUTARIES OF LOWER PAR (POLMEAR & TYWARDREATH STREAMS) 2 TESTING LOCATIONS
TEMPERATURE ˚ CELSIUS (SHOULD NOT EXCEED 18˚ CELSIUS)	Mean 9.17 Median 9.25 Min 8.9 Max 9.3	Mean 8.6 Median 8.7 Min 8.3 Max 8.8	Mean 8.68 Median 9 Min 7.8 Max 9.1	Mean 10.95 Median 10.95 Min 9.5 Max 12.4
TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS PPM (SHOULD NOT EXCEED 300 PPM)	Mean 73 Median 65 Min 53 Max 109	Mean 106.66 Median 97 Min 96 Max 127	Mean 74.66 Median 76 Min 40 Max 128	Mean 141 Median 141 Min 125 Max 157
TURBIDITY (SHOULD BE <12 ON SECCHI TUBE. FOR AVERAGING ANY READING <12 IS COUNTED AS 0)	Mean 27.5 Median 25 Min 0 Max 60	Mean 0 Median 0 Min 0 Max 0	Mean 2.33 Median 0 Min 0 Max 14	Mean 0 Median 0 Min 0 Max 0
PHOSPHATES PPB (SHOULD NOT EXCEED 100 PPB)	Mean 100 Median 50 Min 0 Max **300**	Mean **233.33** Median **200** Min **200** Max **300**	Mean 0 Median 0 Min 0 Max 0	Mean **150** Median **150** Min 100 Max **200**
NITRATES (SHOULD NOT EXCEED 50 PPM)	Mean 0 Median 0 Min 0 Max 0 (3 sites)	Mean 0 Median 0 Min 0 Max 0 (1 site)	Mean 0 Median 0 Min 0 Max 0	Mean 0 Median 0 Min 0 Max 0
RIVERFLY SCORE (TRIGGER LEVEL AT LRM SHOULD BE ≥ 6)	Riverfly surveys will resume in the Spring.			
KEY WILDLIFE (WRT KEY SPECIES ONLY* – FOR FULL LIST SEE SECTION I)			Beaver lake.	
INVASIVE PLANTS				

***The WRT monitoring forms highlight: Water Vole; Heron; Dipper; Otter (live sighting); Kingfisher; Dragonflies/Damselflies; Mink; Grey Wagtail; Fish; 'Other' . Beavers aren't stipulated but could, for example, be considered a key species under 'Other'. It is in this latter category that indirect evidence of otters, such as spraint, is included.**

2. Key points

(a) Positive signs

(i) High water levels limited the presence of phosphate, although it was still present (and was a concerning 200 PPB at Polmear).

(ii) A Fry Index Survey (see Points of Concern (iii)) reported signs that action undertaken by WRT across the catchment is 'supporting improved habitat condition and stabilising juvenile [fish] recruitment'. The action taken by WRT in 2024 and 2025 has included:

Shade management
Tree hinging (laying, folding or pleaching trees into a watercourse)
Gravel augmentation,
Flow attenuation
Sediment management

It is hoped that barriers to fish migration can be removed.

The Tywardreath Stream has been 'identified as a key nursery habitat supporting glass eel recruitment and transition to elvers'.

Tributaries, including the Treskilling and Carbis Streams 'play a disproportionately important role in supporting trout recruitment'.

(b) Points of concern

(i) Flooding took place in various locations, with at least one property in Bridges being affected on 27th January. The main river has been heavily modified, which means that high rainfall causes river levels to rise rapidly. The climate crisis will lead to more periods of heavy rainfall (and storms) in future, so this problem will recur. (See **Section B RAINFALL, RIVER LEVELS AND FLOW.)** High winds during Storm Goretti may also have had a negative effect on bankside trees.

(ii) Sewage pollution continued through the operation of storm overflows.

(iii) The results of a Westcountry Rivers Trust electro-fishing survey conducted in the summer of 2025 with funding from the Environment Agency Water Environment Improvement Fund, was published this month (*Fry Index Survey River Par* by Hannah Parvin, Mia Bryant and Leona Sutton). The results showed that considerable work will be needed to increase the population of trout, while no salmon have been officially recorded since 2013. As noted above, certain tributaries were important in supporting trout recruitment but 'the main River Par and several smaller tributaries exhibit lower recruitment, reflecting the influence of fine sediment inputs, altered flow regimes, and reduced habitat complexity.' The Par Improvement Programme provides the necessary strategy for improvement; hopefully it will be backed with the necessary funding.

(c) Areas for further research

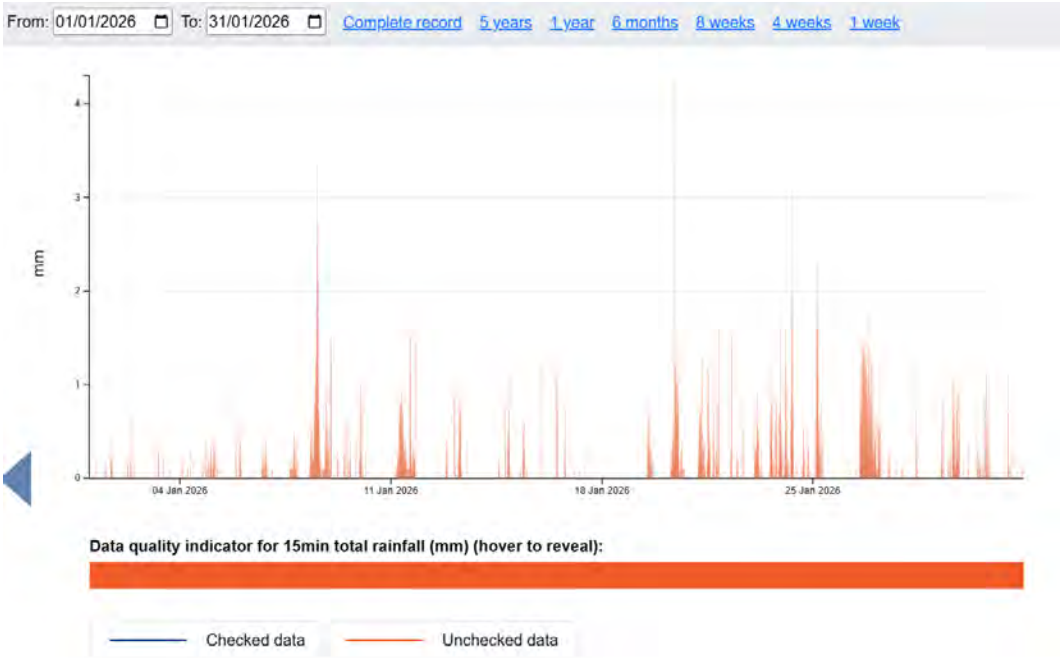
(i) The operation and fitness of purpose of SWW's St Austell North STW at Luxulyan needs intensive scrutiny.

(ii) Other sources of potential pollution, including private sewerage facilities.

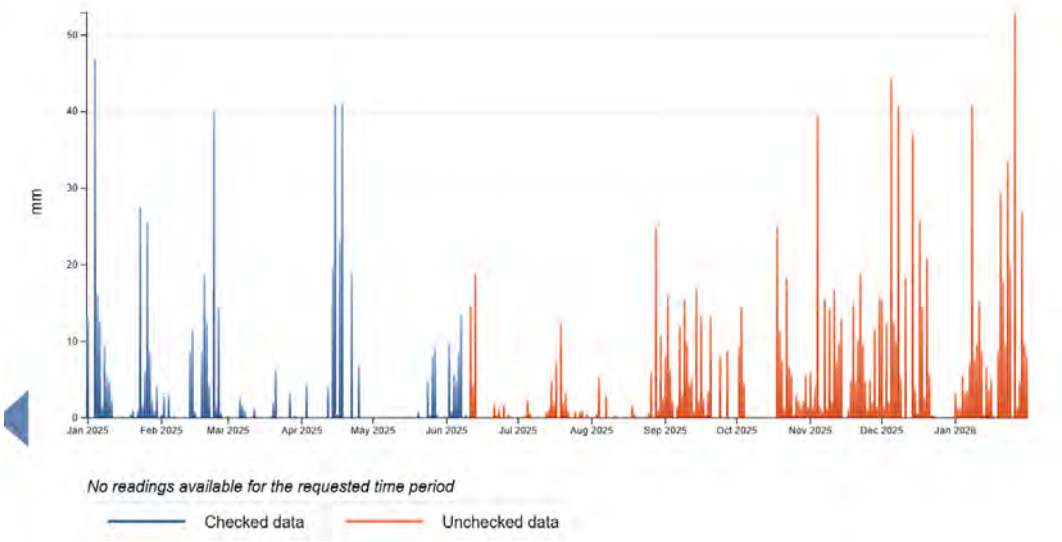
B. RAINFALL, RIVER LEVELS AND FLOW

1. Rainfall at Luxulyan (https://environment.data.gov.uk/hydrology/station/14aadf3c-3d4d-44b3-b26b-cf705827d00e_377323)

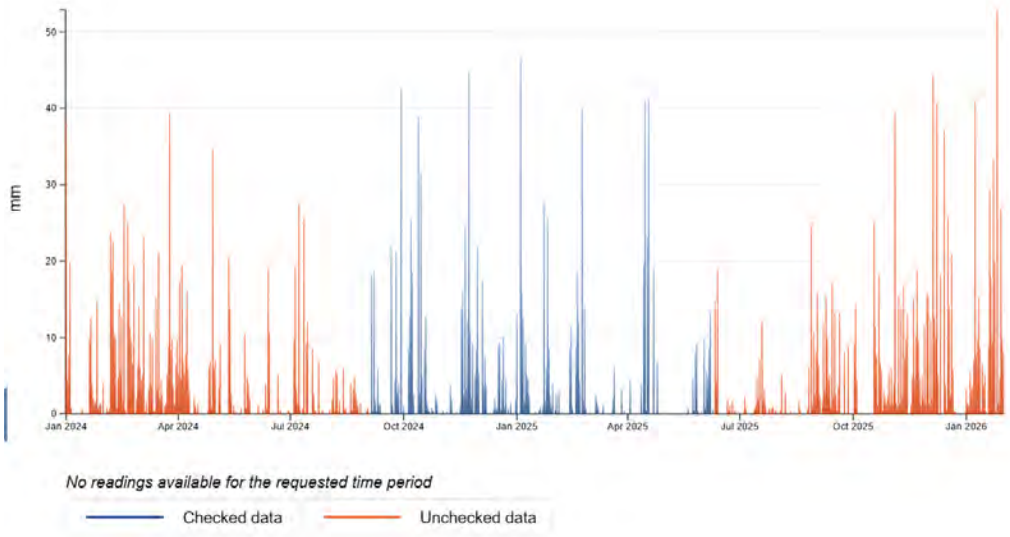
(a) January 2026



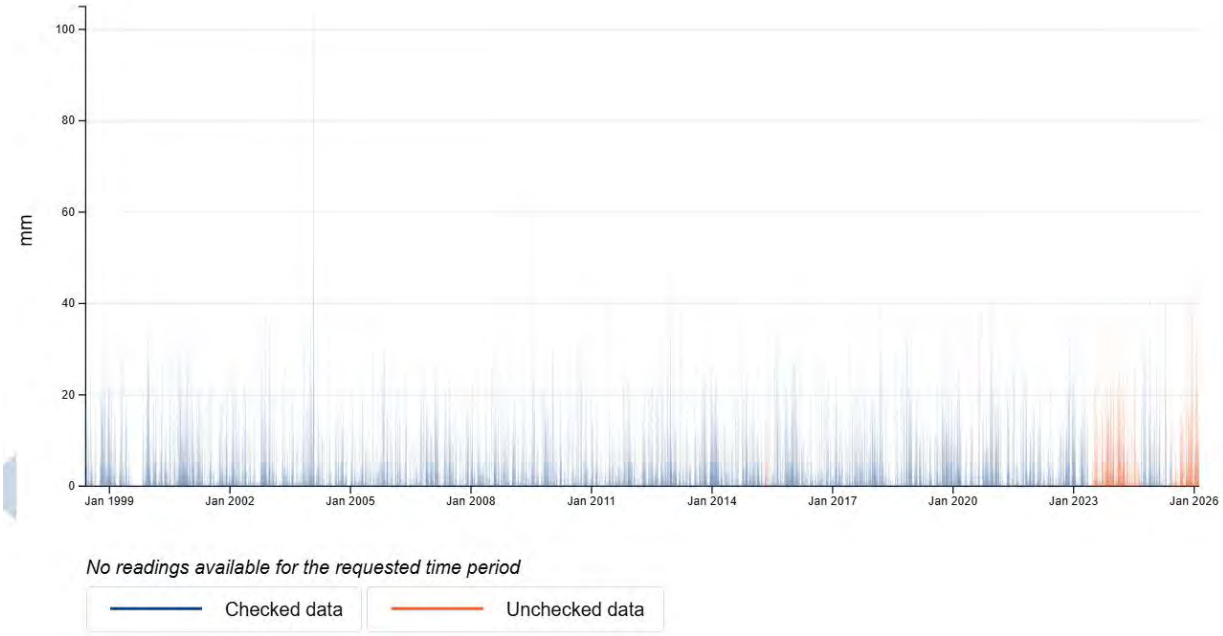
(b) From 1st January 2025 until 31st January 2026:



(c) From 1st January 2024 until 31st January 2026:

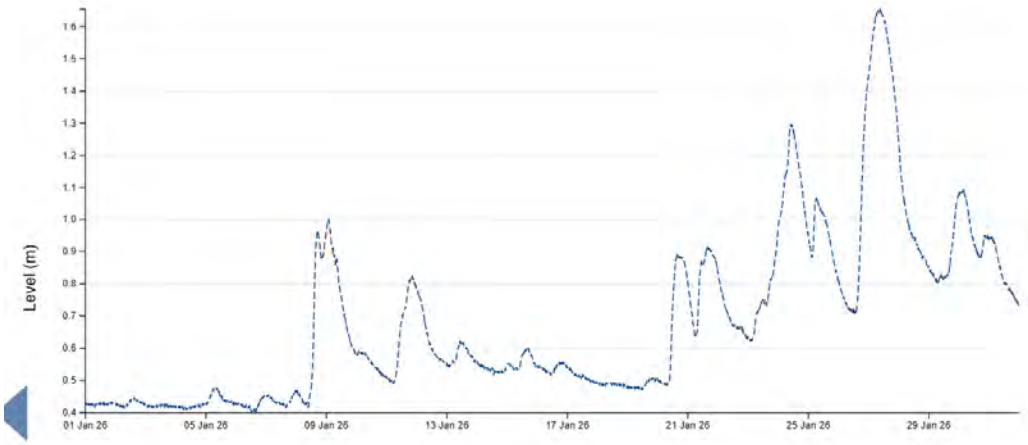


(d) Complete record:

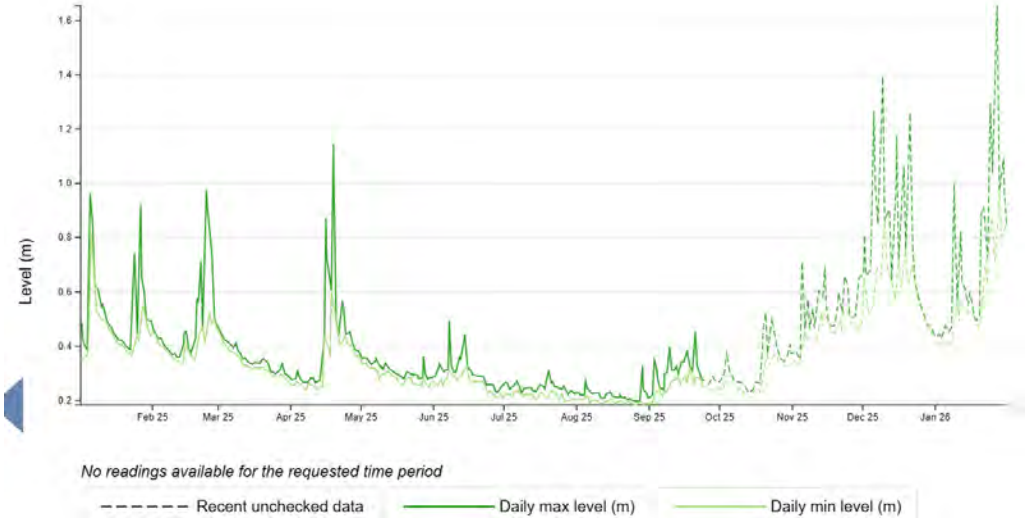


2. Par River levels at Luxulyan preceding and during surveys. Source: https://environment.data.gov.uk/hydrology/station/14aadf3c-3d4d-44b3-b26b-cf705827d00e

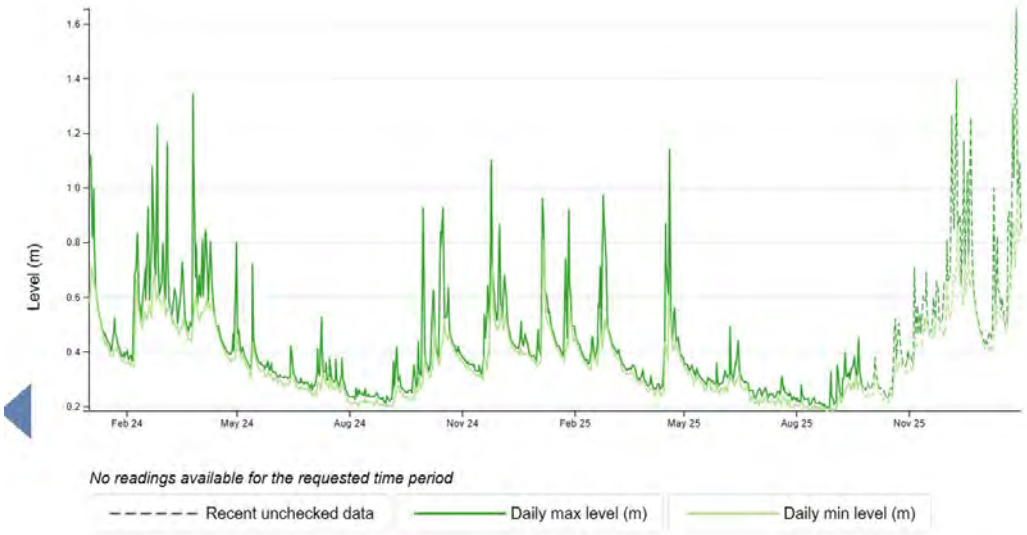
(a) January 2026



(b) From 1st January 2025 until 31st January 2026:



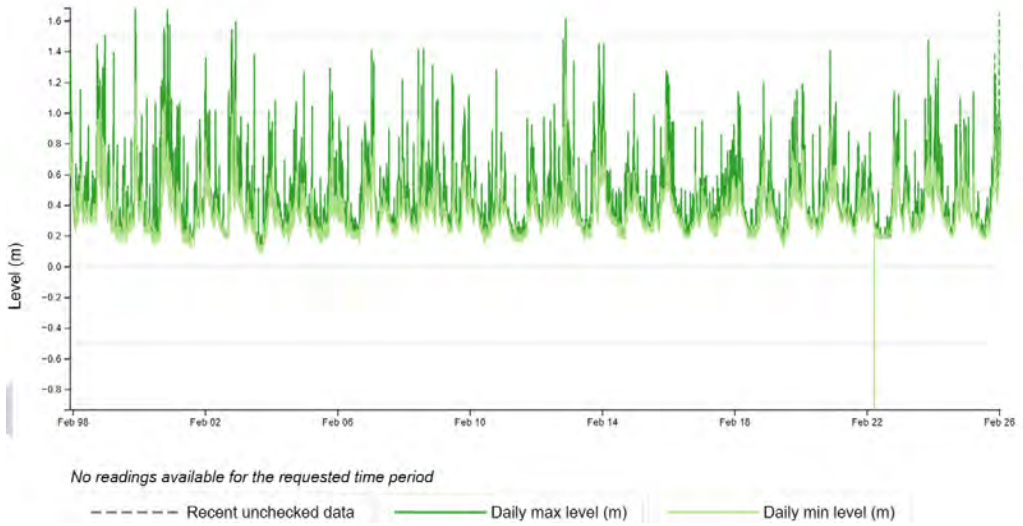
(c) From 1st January 2024 until 31st January 2026:



(c) How levels at Luxulyan could affect nearby areas:

1.80m	Property flooding is possible above this level. One or more flood warnings may be issued
1.68m	Water reaches the highest level recorded at this measuring station (recorded on 19 December 1999)
1.40m	Low lying land flooding is possible above this level. One or more flood alerts may be issued
	This is the top of the normal range

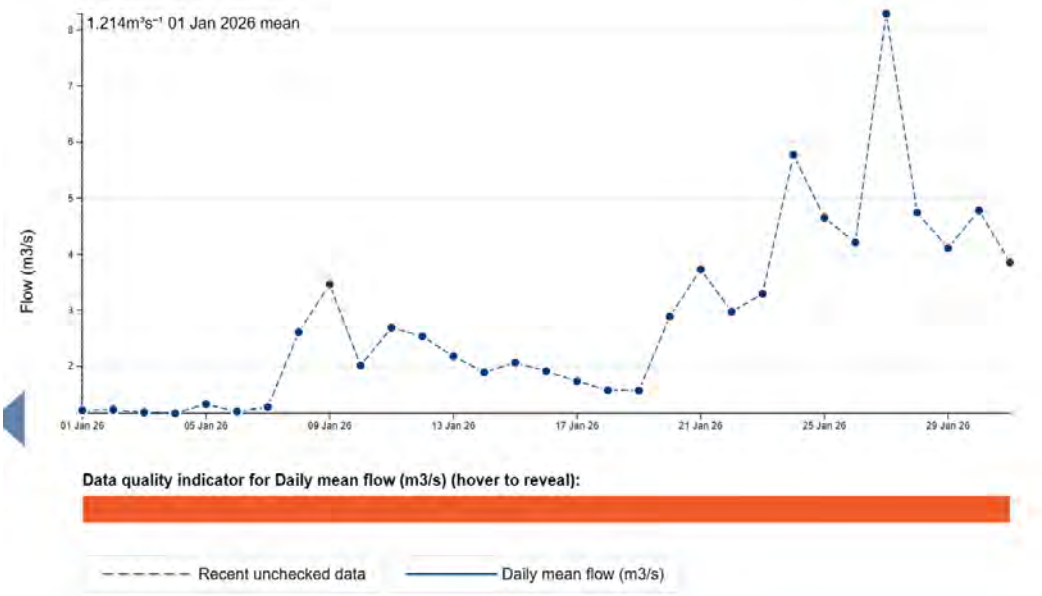
(d) Complete record of river levels at Luxulyan. Refer to level descriptions in previous section.



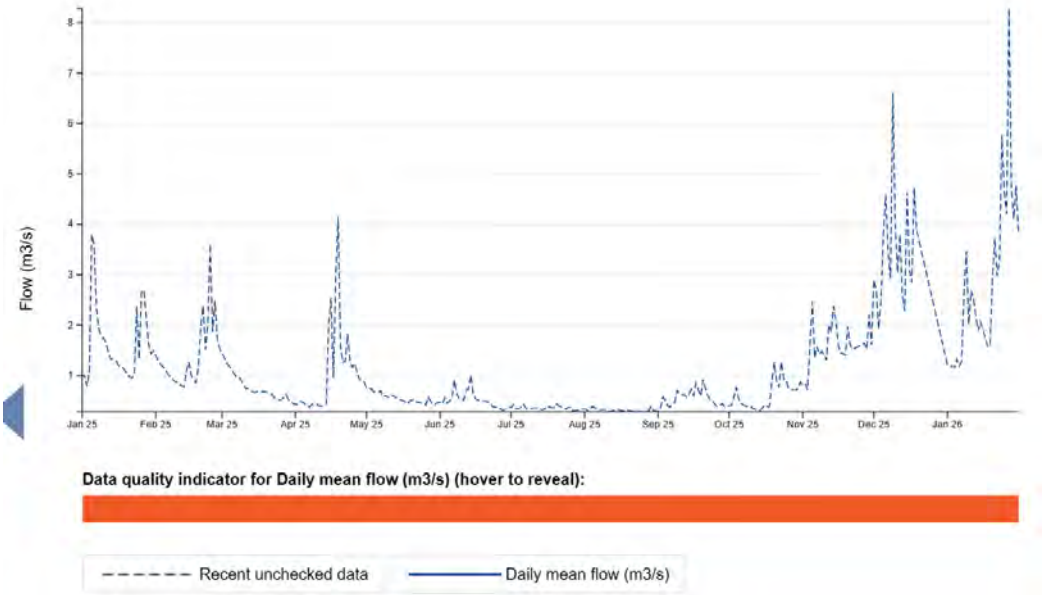
3. RIVER FLOW AT LUXULYAN (Daily Mean Flow in M3/s – cubic metres per second):

Source: https://environment.data.gov.uk/hydrology/station/d58ffa6f-8f0d-4626-b7a1-23de1774b470

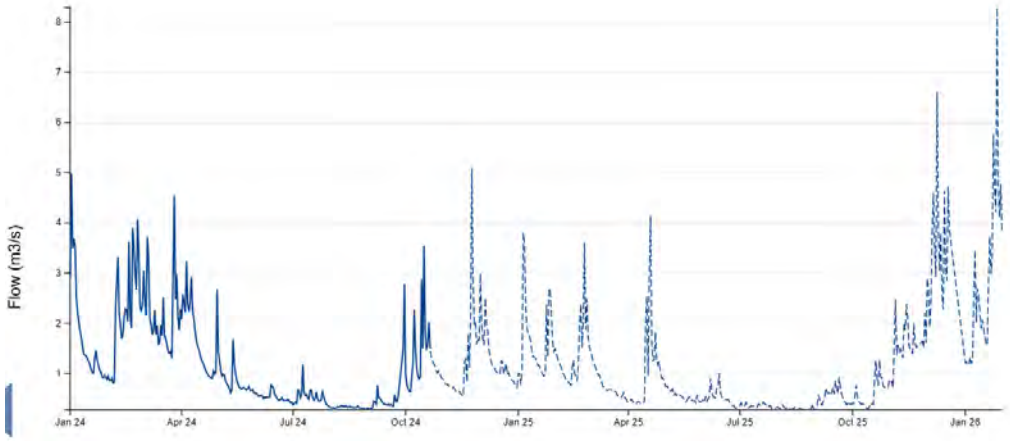
(a) January 2026



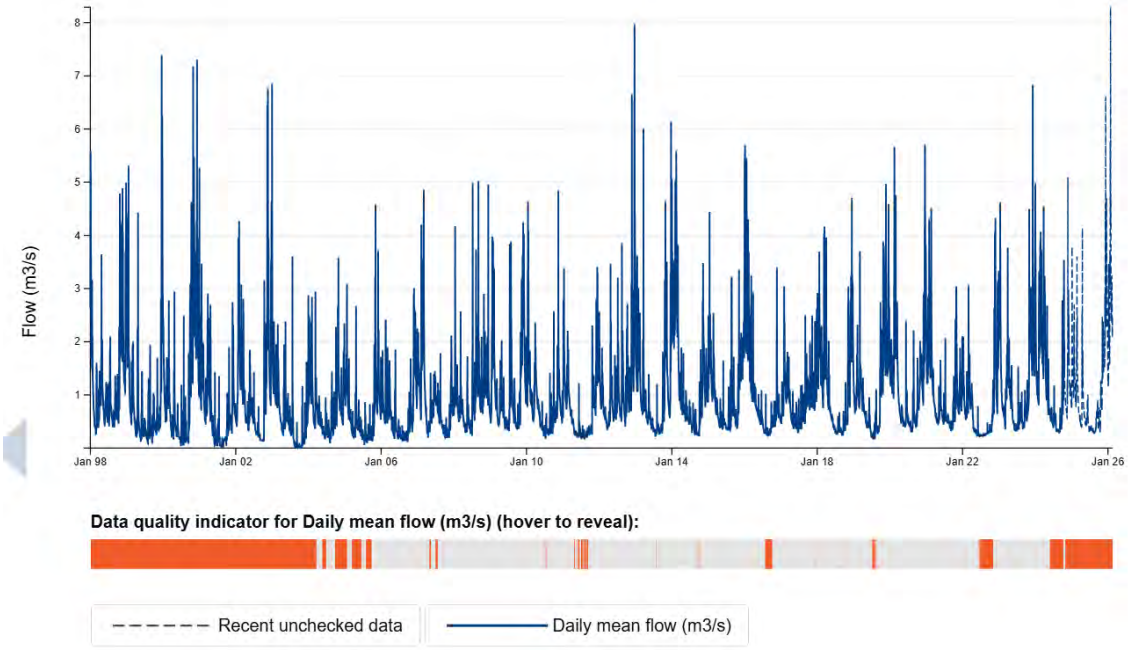
(b) From 1st January 2025 until 31st January 2026:



(c) From 1st January 2024 until 31st January 2026:

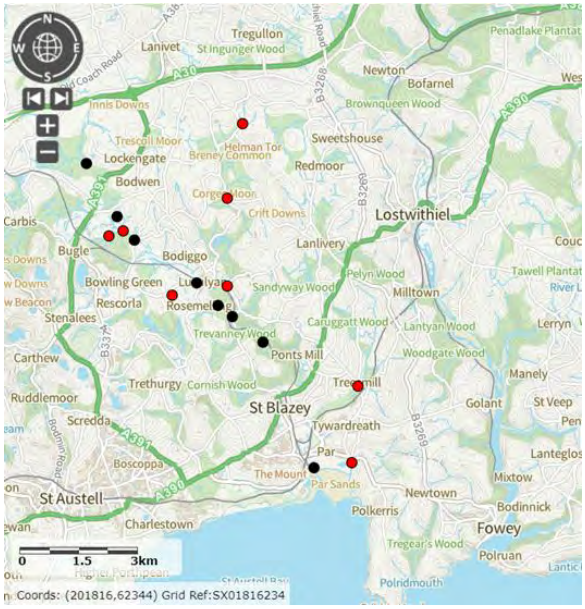


(d) Complete record:



C. JANUARY 2026 MONITORING POINTS

This month monitoring occurred at 15 locations. (Flooding of a road and path made it impossible to get to Criggan Moors, so the dot north-west of Lockengate should be ignored.) The monitoring points along the main Par River are shown in black. Those in red are on tributaries.



Source: https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx

LOCATION	PAR/TRIBUTARY	DATE/TIME	TYPE OF CHECK	MONITORED BY
Criggan Moors, Par River, SX 01882 61133	**PAR**	n/a	n/a	n/a
South of Minorca Lane, Par River, SX02668 59747	**PAR**	22/1/2026 10:15	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Roger Smith
Near Forkandles Farm, Molinnis Stream, SX 02460 59271	**SECONDARY TRIBUTARY (OF CARBIS STREAM)**	22/1/2026 10:55	CSI sample & Cartographer record.	Roger Smith
Carbis Stream SX 02834 59401	**TRIBUTARY**	22/1/2026 10:00	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Roger Smith
Lavrean, Par River SX 03134 59164	**PAR**	21/1/2026 11:45	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Roger Smith
Treskilling, Treskilling Stream, SX 04107 57726	**TRIBUTARY**	21/1/2026 11:00	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Roger Smith
Luxulyan allotments, Par River, SX 04732 58045	**PAR**	21/1/2026 10:46	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Roger Smith
Cam Bridges, Par River, SX 05292 57454	**PAR**	14/1/2026 13:30	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Joan Farmer
Trebell Green, Bokiddick Stream SX 0551960226	**TRIBUTARY**	23/1/2026 11:40	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Roger Smith
Corgee Moor, Bokiddick Stream SX 0593462167	**TRIBUTARY**	23/1/2026 10:55	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Roger Smith
Gatty's Bridge, Bokiddick Stream SX 05531 57953	**TRIBUTARY**	14/1/2026 16:10	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Joan Farmer
Treffry Viaduct, Par River, SX 05650 57179	**PAR**	14/1/2026 15:35	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Joan Farmer
Lady Rashleigh Mine, Par River, SX 06451 56509	**PAR**	14/1/2026 14:30	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Joan Farmer, Veronica Jones
Treesmill, Tywardreath Stream, SX 08873 55385	**TRIBUTARY**	18/1/2026 14:30	CSI sampling. Cartographer record. Riverfly.	Brian Harrisson
Par Beach slipway, SX 0776 53261	**PAR**	14/1/2026 10:15	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Brian Harrisson
Polmear Stream, Ship Inn SX 08749 53417	**TRIBUTARY**	14/1/2026 10:55	CSI sampling. Cartographer record.	Simon Tagney

D. THIS MONTH IN PICTURES

1. Minorca Lane on 27th January. The road runs from bottom right. The river runs from right to left beyond the gates. The road bridge was under water, the road was impassable.

2. At the junction of the Carbis Stream (right) and Par River, there were footprints on the bank which bore a similarity to those of an otter but it was impossible to be sure.

3. A healthy bankside habitat is essential for biodiversity but on some streams, such as the Molinnis Stream near Bugle, restoration will be a considerable challenge.

4. After the confluence of the Carbis Stream (right) and the Molinnis Stream (left) the water flows through culverts, making it difficult for fish movement. The arrangement also allows litter to collect.

5. Looking upstream at the culverts carrying the Molinnis and Carbis Streams. Westcountry Rivers Trust has carried out extensive vegetation clearance and hopes to remove the culverts.

6. This appears to be part of the SWW Molinnis storm overflow. While it does not spill into the river as often as St Austell North there is often a smell of sewage in the vicinity.

7. Storm Goretti brought down a huge tree near the beaver lake at Helman Tor. The mesh around the base was placed there to protect it from being nibbled by the resident beavers.

8. Heavy rain led to flooding at Bridges in Luxulyan on 27th January. This is looking north-west from the road at Bridges, with the river in the foreground. The STW is a little upstream to the left.

9. Looking towards Luxulyan village from the Bridges Moor road. The river is in the foreground.

10. The river often surges near Cam Bridges and consequently this tree is gradually collapsing.

Photo: Joan Farmer

11. Flooding closed the road in Luxulyan Valley. The flooded road is on the left, the river is beyond to the right.

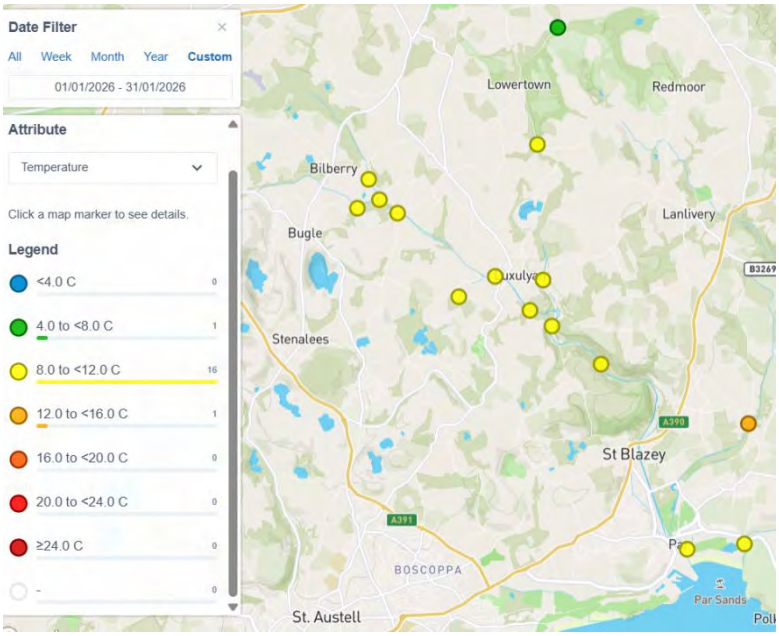
12. The flooded road and river near the Treffry Viaduct.

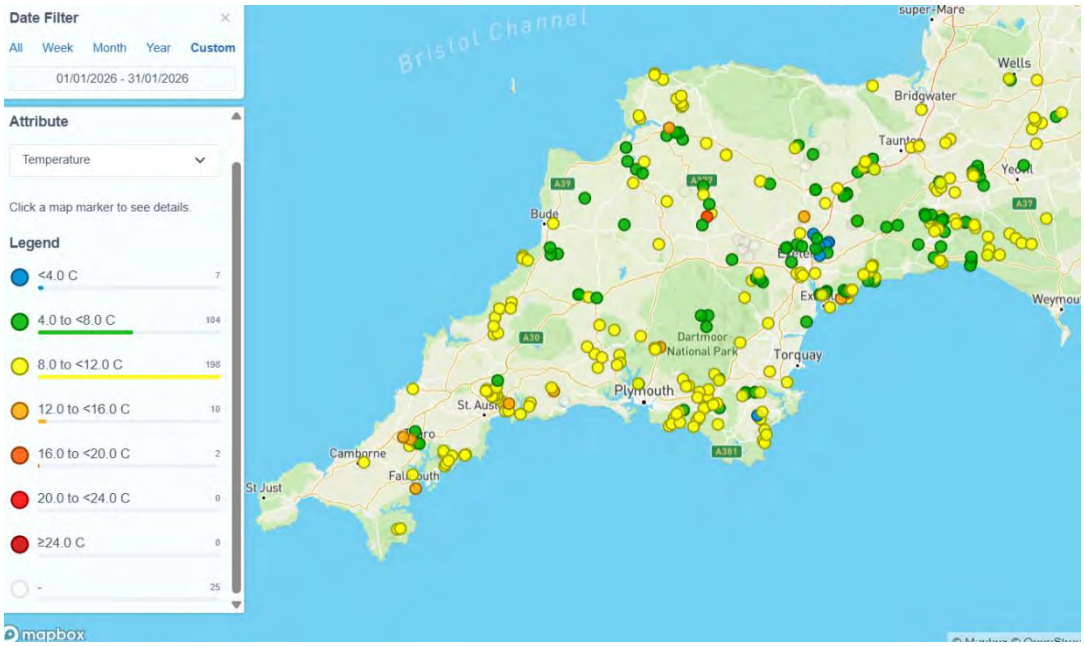
E. TEMPERATURE

1. This is the WRT's explanation of why this is monitored:

Temperature is a vital parameter within the river ecosystem. It controls many of the aquatic species life cycles. Temperature fluctuates with the seasons; however, you do get variation within that, particularly in small rivers and streams. Another important reason to measure temperature is to track the impact of our warming climate on our waterbodies.

Geographical comparison. Source: Cartographer.





Results January 2026

Results above the temperature at which fish and other organisms can function healthily will be shown in red. At present, 18 ˚Celsius is being used as the upper safe limit for fish and other creatures, although 20˚ Celsius has been suggested by WRT instead. The Yealm Estuary to Moor Project (YEM) in Devon considers that the upper safe level (USL) for temperature is 19.5 °C.

From December 2023 all readings have been taken with the new thermometer/TDS device. Previously, all Upper Par readings, except for Lady Rashleigh Mine, have been taken with the old device. There is a worrying discrepancy with the readings on the older devices.

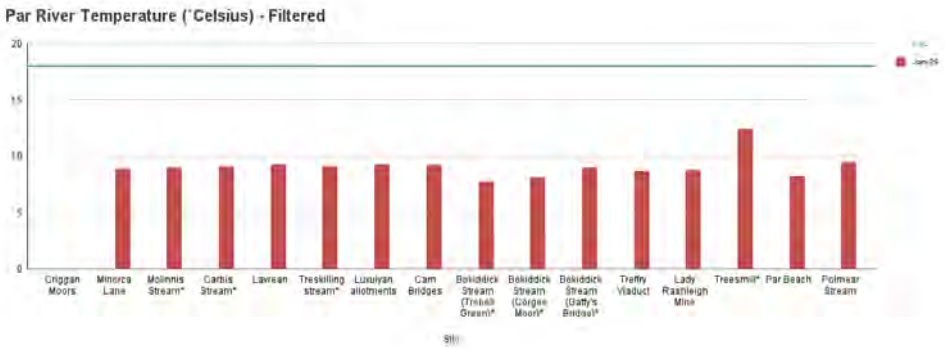
PAR RIVER/TRIBUTARY	LOCATION		Temperature ˚Celsius
Par	Criggan Moors, Par River, SX 01882 61133		**n/a**
Par	South of Minorca Lane, Par River, SX 02657 59788		**8.9**
Secondary tributary	Near Forkandles Farm, Molinnis Stream, SX 02460 59271		**9**
Tributary	Carbis Stream SX 02834 59401		**9.1**
Par	Lavrean, Par River SX 03134 59164		**9.3**
Tributary	Treskilling, Treskilling Stream, SX 04107 57726		**9.1**
Par	Luxulyan allotments, Par River, SX 04732 58045		**9.3**
Par	Cam Bridges, Par River, SX 05292 57454		**9.2**
Tributary	Trebell Green, Bokiddick Stream SX 0551960226		**7.8**
Tributary	Corgee Moor, Bokiddick Stream SX 0593462167		**8.1**
Tributary	Gatty's Bridge, Bokiddick Stream SX 05531 57953		**9**
Par	Treffry Viaduct, Par River, SX 05650 57179		**8.7**
Par	Lady Rashleigh Mine, Par River, SX 06451 56509		**8.8**
Tributary	Treesmill, Tywardreath Stream, SX 08873 55385		**12.4**
Par	Par Beach slipway, SX 0776 53261		**8.3**
Tributary	Polmear Stream, Ship Inn, SX 08749 53417		**9.5**

Colour coding:

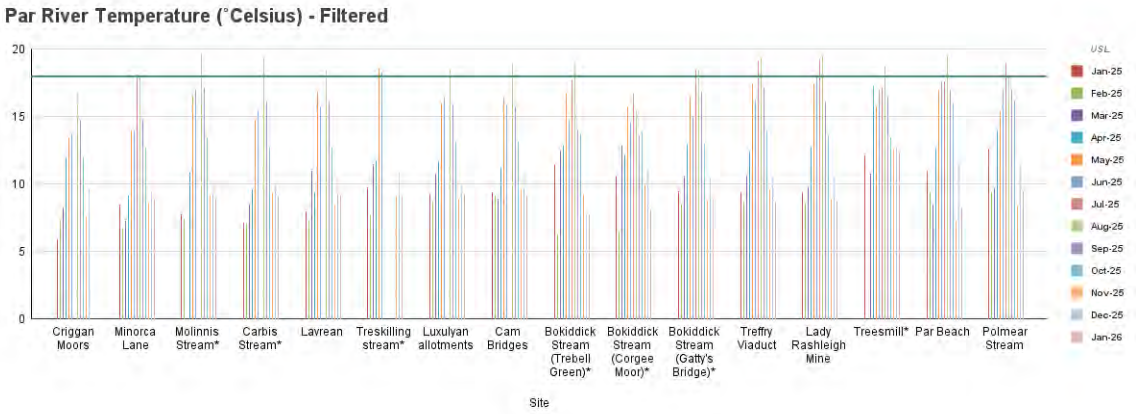
Upper Par	
Lower Par	
Bokiddick Stream	
Tributaries of Upper Par (China Clay-country streams)	
Tributaries of Lower Par	

3. Graphs

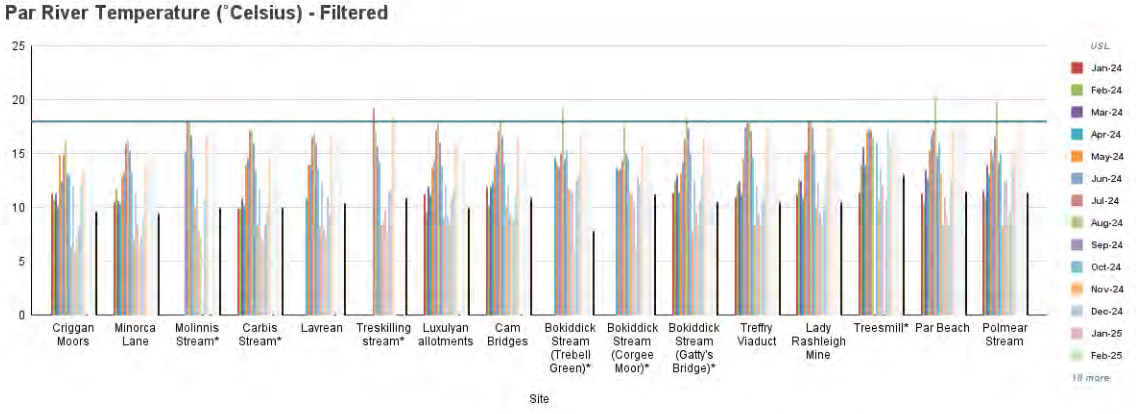
(a) This month:



(b) From 1st January 2025 until 31st January 2026:



(c) From 1st January 2024 until 31st January 2026:

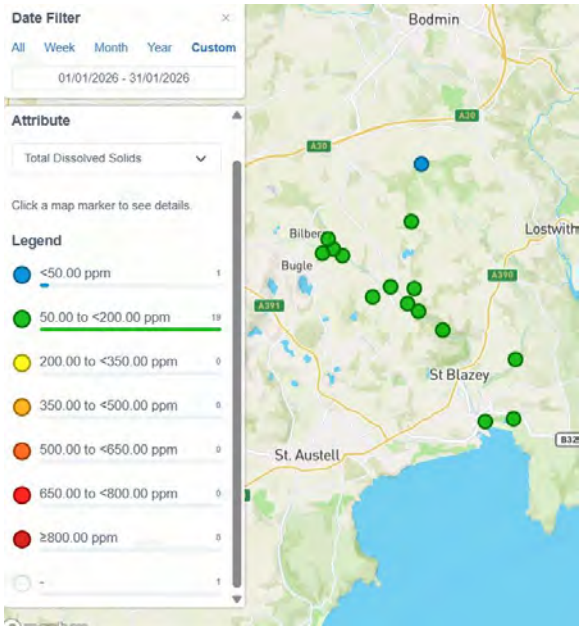


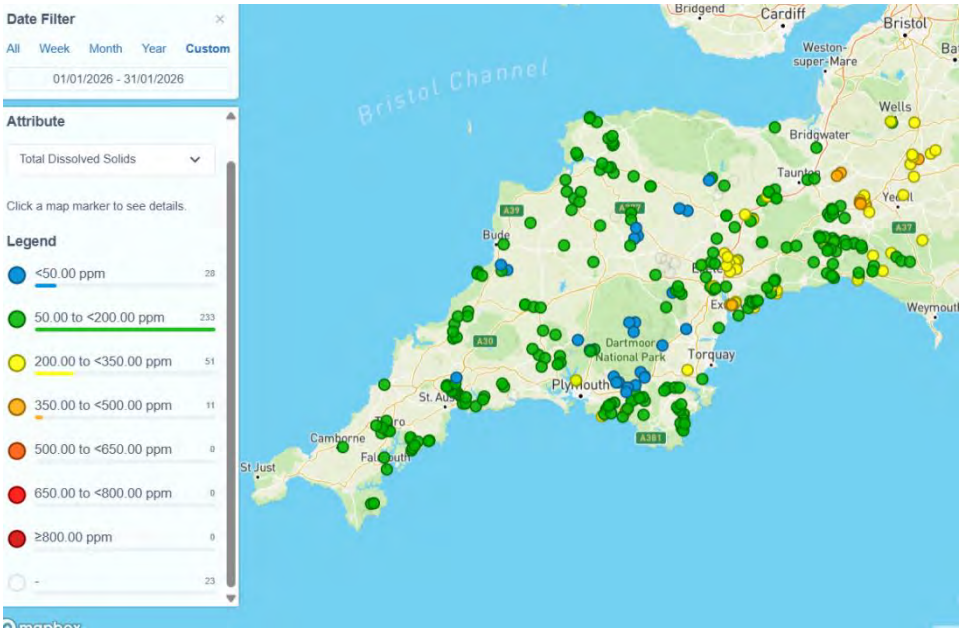
F. TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS

1. We measure these in ppm (parts per million). The Yealm Estuary to Moor Project (YEM) in Devon considers that the upper safe level (USL) for TDS is 300 PPM. This is the WRT's explanation:

Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) is directly related to the conductivity of the water. The more minerals, salts and metals that are dissolved in the water the more conductive it gets. Low levels of dissolved solids in waters such as those on Dartmoor near to the source of the river are a result of very low levels of input from the surrounding landscape. As the river runs down to the sea it collects material from many different inputs, some natural and some man-made such as farms, sewage plants, factories and residential areas. This typically increases the amount of solids dissolved in the water leading to a higher reading. Harmful pollution from things like sewage, slurry and factory discharge will usually elevate your TDS reading. However, some pollutants such as oil can lower conductivity; therefore it should be used as a general indicator of water quality not a specific measure of toxicity. Geology will influence the normal level of conductivity in a watercourse (e.g. Areas dominated by granite generally give a lower conductivity than those with limestone). Regular monitoring will allow the detection of changes in conductivity which can indicate pollution.

2. Geographical comparison. Source: Cartographer.





3. Results January 2026

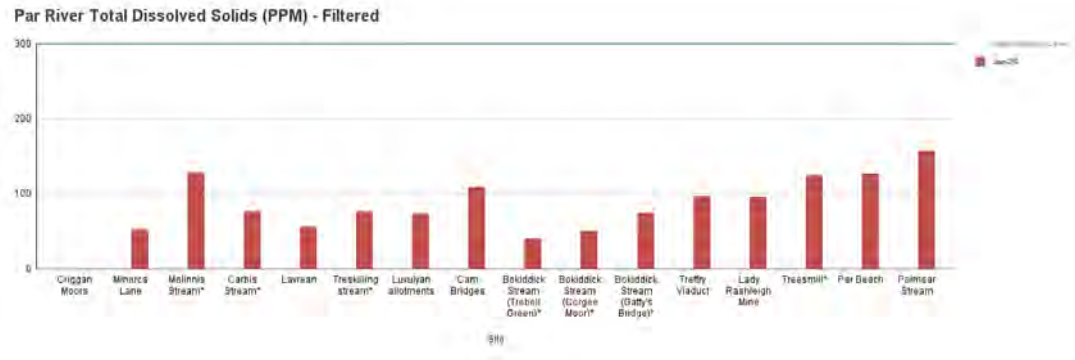
PAR RIVER/TRIBUTARY	LOCATION		Total Dissolved Solids PPM
Par	Criggan Moors, Par River, SX 01882 61133		
Par	South of Minorca Lane, Par River, SX 02657 59788		**53**
Secondary tributary	Near Forkandles Farm, Molinnis Stream, SX 02460 59271		**128**
Tributary	Carbis Stream SX 02834 59401		**77**
Par	Lavrean, Par River SX 03134 59164		**56**
Tributary	Treskilling, Treskilling Stream, SX 04107 57726		**77**
Par	Luxulyan allotments, Par River, SX 04732 58045		**74**
Par	Cam Bridges, Par River, SX 05292 57454		**109**
Tributary	Trebell Green, Bokiddick Stream SX 0551960226		**40**
Tributary	Corgee Moor, Bokiddick Stream SX 0593462167		**51**
Tributary	Gatty's Bridge, Bokiddick Stream SX 05531 57953		**75**
Par	Treffry Viaduct, Par River, SX 05650 57179		**97**
Par	Lady Rashleigh Mine, Par River, SX 06451 56509		**96**
Tributary	Treesmill, Tywardreath Stream, SX 08873 55385		**125**
Par	Par Beach slipway, SX 0776 53261		**127**
Tributary	Polmear Stream, Ship Inn, SX 08749 53417		**157**

Colour coding:

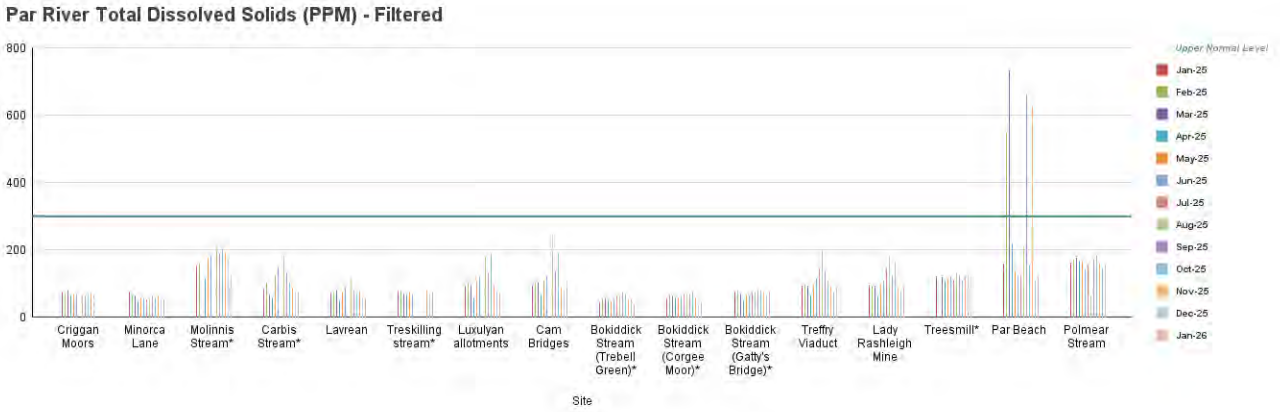
Upper Par	
Lower Par	
Bokiddick Stream	
Tributaries of Upper Par (China Clay-country streams)	
Tributaries of Lower Par	

3. Graphs

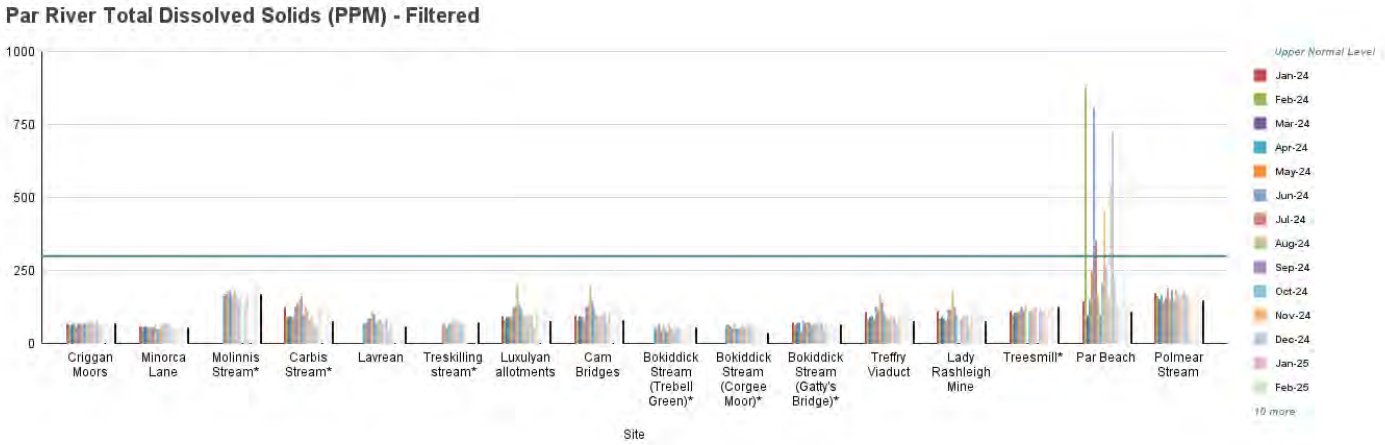
(a) This month:



(b) From 1st January 2025 until 31st January 2026:



(c) From 1st January 2024 until 31st January 2026:



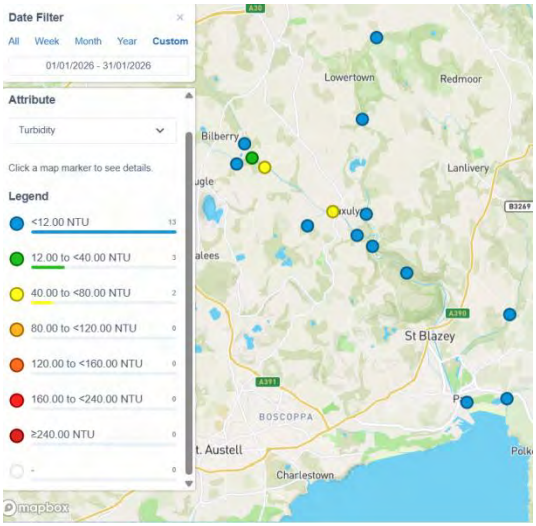
G. TURBIDITY

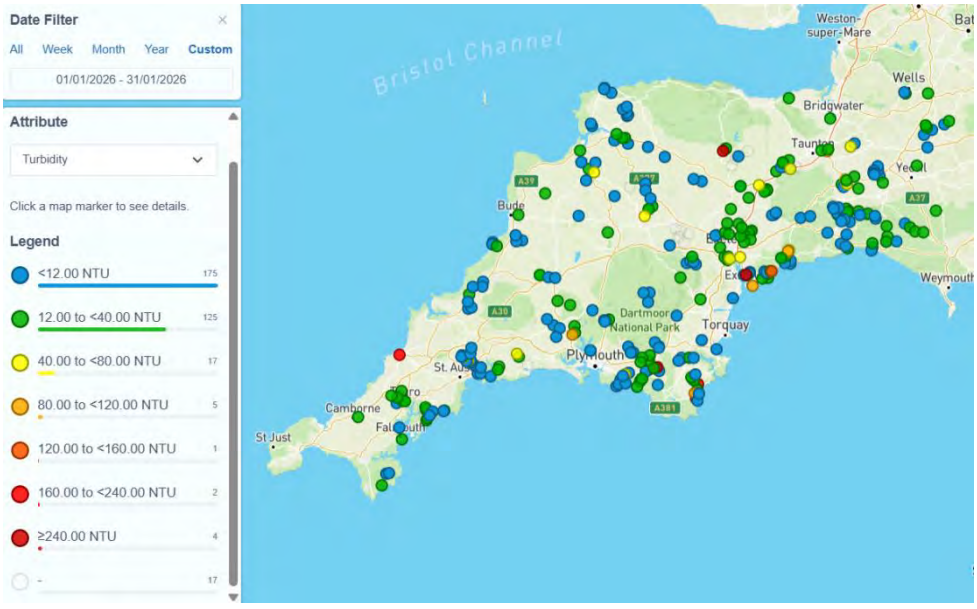
1. This is the WRT explanation of this measure:

Turbidity tube is a measure of the optical clarity of the water. The more suspended particles in the water the lower the clarity and the higher the turbidity. You will often find your waterbody gets more turbid after heavy rainfall due to soil running off the fields and sediment being mixed into the water column. This loss of topsoil is both a problem for farmer and river. It can often contain chemicals from the fertiliser and pesticides used on the land. An increase in sediment level on the substrate of the river can cause smothering of habitat by removing light and oxygen. Aquatic wildlife such as the less mobile invertebrates and fish eggs struggle to survive in low oxygen conditions and without light, plants are unable to grow. It is a good idea to sample your river after different weather conditions to understand how it responds to rainfall or drought.

The Yealm Estuary to Moor Project (YEM) in Devon considers that the upper safe level (USL) for turbidity is 75 NTU = 25 mg/l.

2. Geographical comparison. Source: Cartographer.





3. Results January 2026:

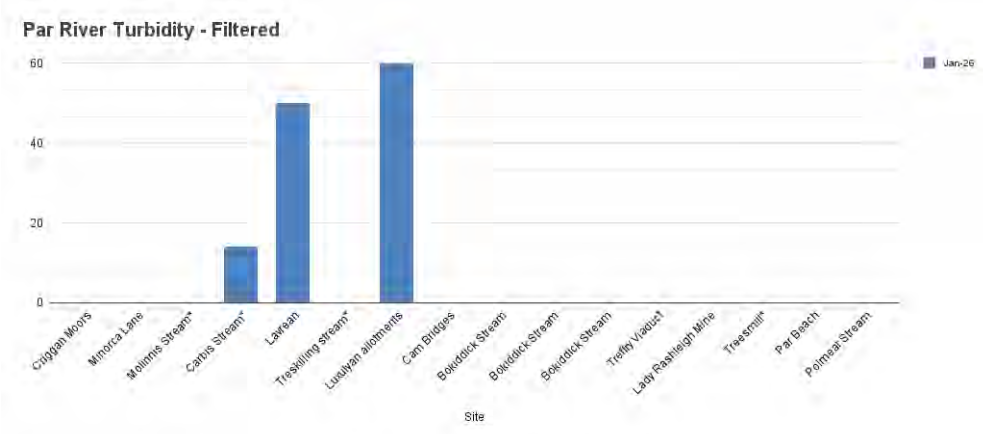
PAR RIVER/TRIBUTARY	LOCATION		Turbidity (NTU)
Par	Criggan Moors, Par River, SX 01882 61133		**n/a**
Par	South of Minorca Lane, Par River, SX 02657 59788		**<12**
Secondary tributary	Near Forkandles Farm, Molinnis Stream, SX 02460 59271		**<12**
Tributary	Carbis Stream SX 02834 59401		**14**
Par	Lavrean, Par River SX 03134 59164		**50**
Tributary	Treskilling, Treskilling Stream, SX 04107 57726		**<12**
Par	Luxulyan allotments, Par River, SX 04732 58045		**60**
Par	Cam Bridges, Par River, SX 05292 57454		**<12**
Tributary	Trebell Green, Bokiddick Stream SX 0551960226		**<12**
Tributary	Corgee Moor, Bokiddick Stream SX 0593462167		**<12**
Tributary	Gatty's Bridge, Bokiddick Stream SX 05531 57953		**<12**
Par	Treffry Viaduct, Par River, SX 05650 57179		**<12**
Par	Lady Rashleigh Mine, Par River, SX 06451 56509		**<12**
Tributary	Treesmill, Tywardreath Stream, SX 08873 55385		**<12**
Par	Par Beach slipway, SX 0776 53261		**<12**
Tributary	Polmear Stream, Ship Inn, SX 08749 53417		**<12**

Colour coding:

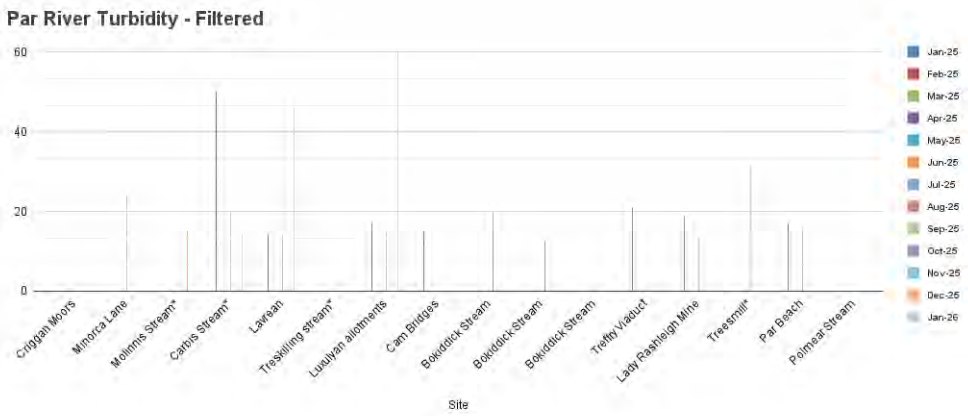
Upper Par	
Lower Par	
Bokiddick Stream	
Tributaries of Upper Par (China Clay-country streams)	
Tributaries of Lower Par	

4. Graphs

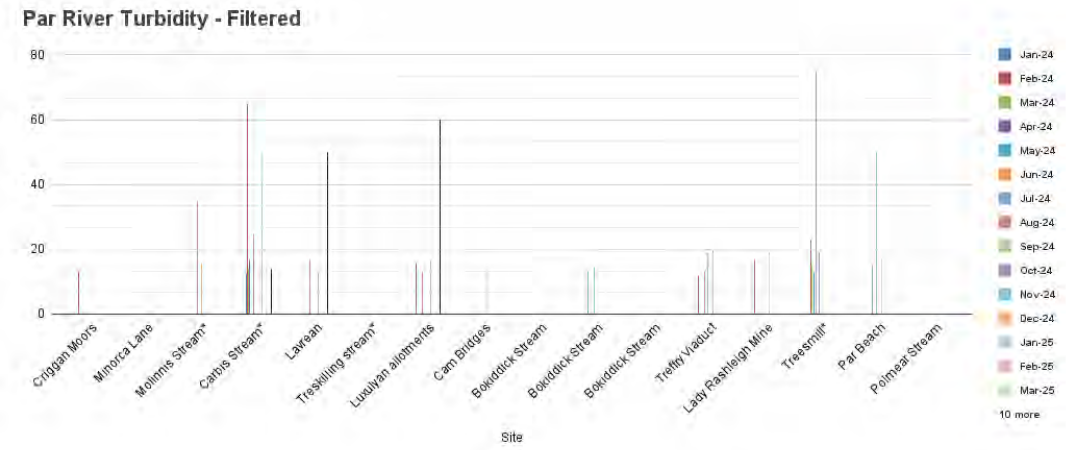
(a) This month:



(b) From 1st January 2025 until 31st January 2026:



(c) From 1st January 2024 until 31st January 2026:



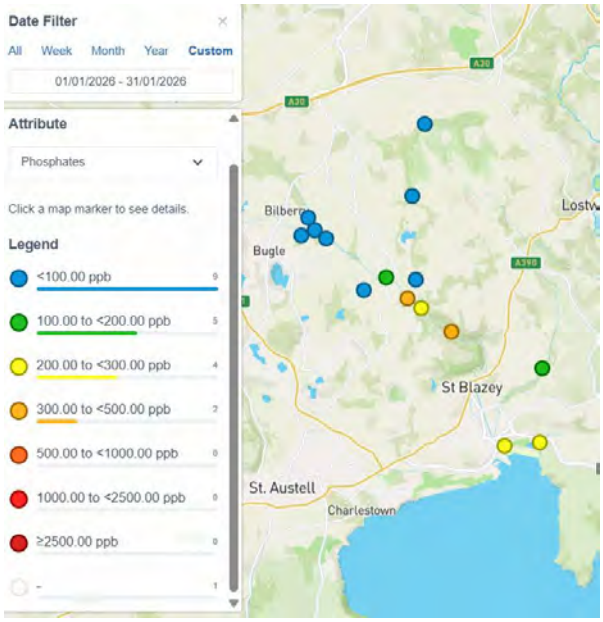
H. PHOSPHATES

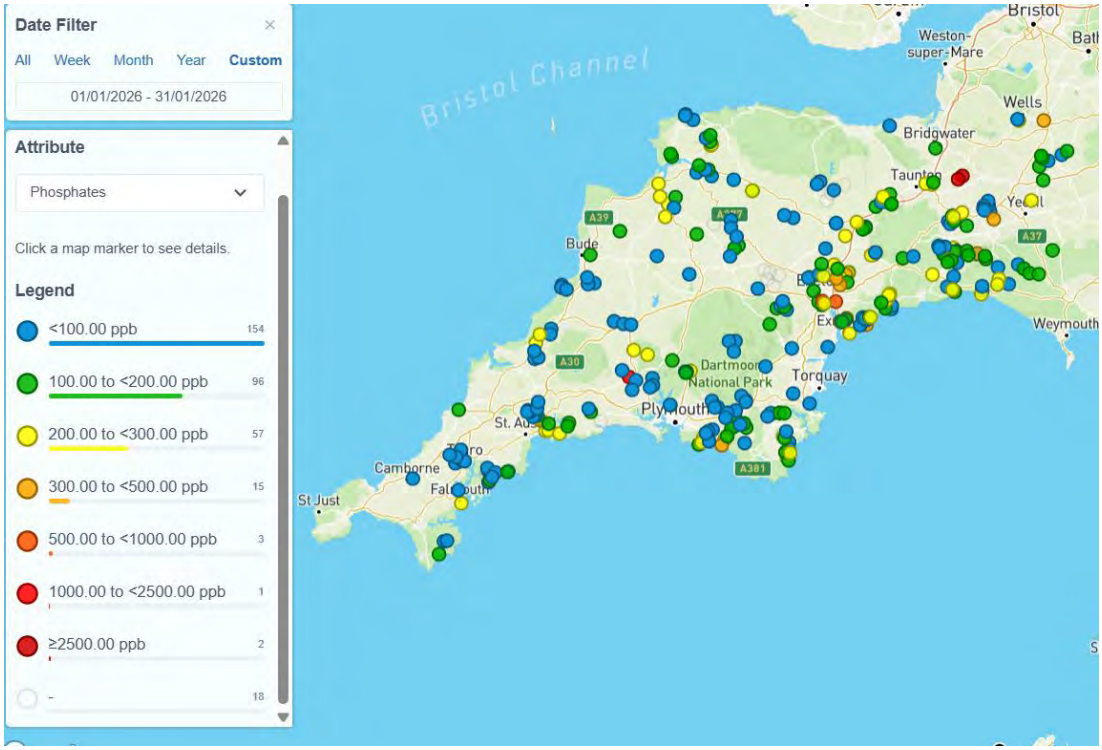
1. This is the WRT's explanation of this measure.

Phosphate occurs naturally within the river ecosystem, but in very low levels under 0.05 mg/l. Therefore, higher levels may indicate anthropogenic input. Phosphate is found in animal and human waste, cleaning chemicals, industrial runoff and fertiliser so this can be a good indicator of pollution. Having raised levels of phosphate can lead to increases in plant growth within the watercourse. This leads to a depletion of oxygen due to the plant's aerobic respiration during the night. Without oxygen aquatic species cannot survive and the river ecosystem collapses. (It is important to note that phosphate is taken up by plants. You may get a low reading but high plant growth, indicating eutrophication.) Ranges on phosphate diagnostic colour chart:

0 – 100 OK
200 – 300 HIGH
500 – 2500 – TOO HIGH

2. Geographical comparison. Source: Cartographer.





3. Results January 2026

Results in red show phosphate levels that are classified as 'High' (above the upper safe level). WRT advice is that this is 100 Parts per Billion (0.1 mg/l).

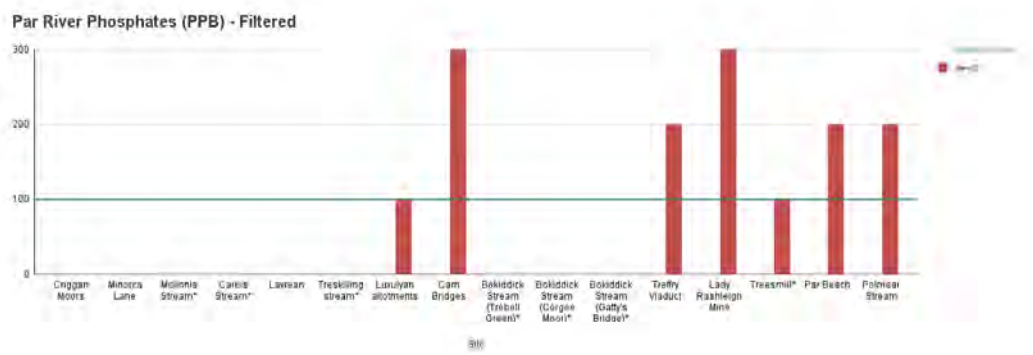
PAR RIVER/TRIBUTARY	LOCATION		Phosphates PPB
Par	Criggan Moors, Par River, SX 01882 61133		n/a
Par	South of Minorca Lane, Par River, SX 02657 59788		0
Secondary tributary	Near Forkandles Farm, Molinnis Stream, SX 02460 59271		0
Tributary	Carbis Stream SX 02834 59401		0
Par	Lavrean, Par River SX 03134 59164		0
Tributary	Treskilling, Treskilling Stream, SX 04107 57726		0
Par	Luxulyan allotments, Par River, SX 04732 58045		100
Par	Cam Bridges, Par River, SX 05292 57454		300
Tributary	Trebell Green, Bokiddick Stream SX 0551960226		0
Tributary	Corgee Moor, Bokiddick Stream SX 0593462167		0
Tributary	Gatty's Bridge, Bokiddick Stream SX 05531 57953		0
Par	Treffry Viaduct, Par River, SX 05650 57179		200
Par	Lady Rashleigh Mine, Par River, SX 06451 56509		300
Tributary	Treesmill, Tywardreath Stream, SX 08873 55385		100
Par	Par Beach slipway, SX 0776 53261		200
Tributary	Polmear Stream, Ship Inn, SX 08749 53417		200

Colour coding:

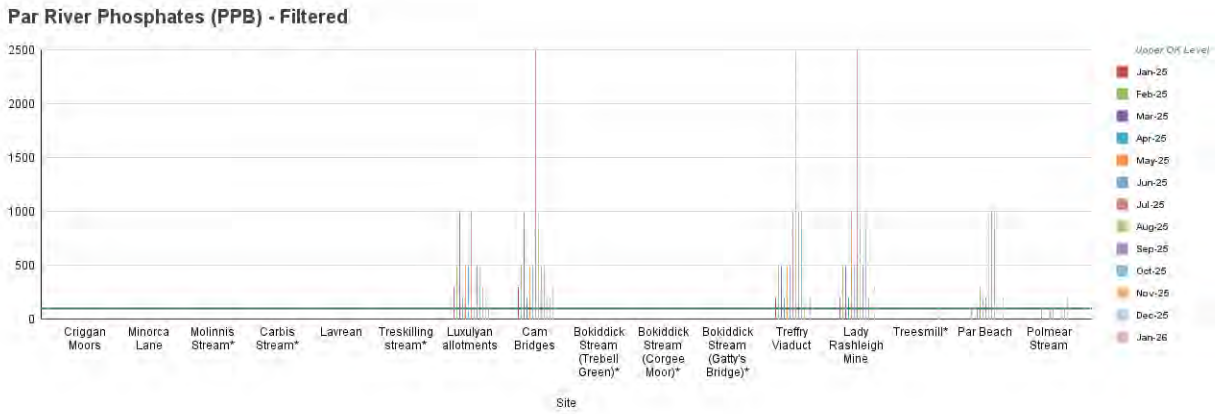
Upper Par	
Lower Par	
Bokiddick Stream	
Tributaries of Upper Par (China Clay-country streams)	
Tributaries of Lower Par	

4. Graphs

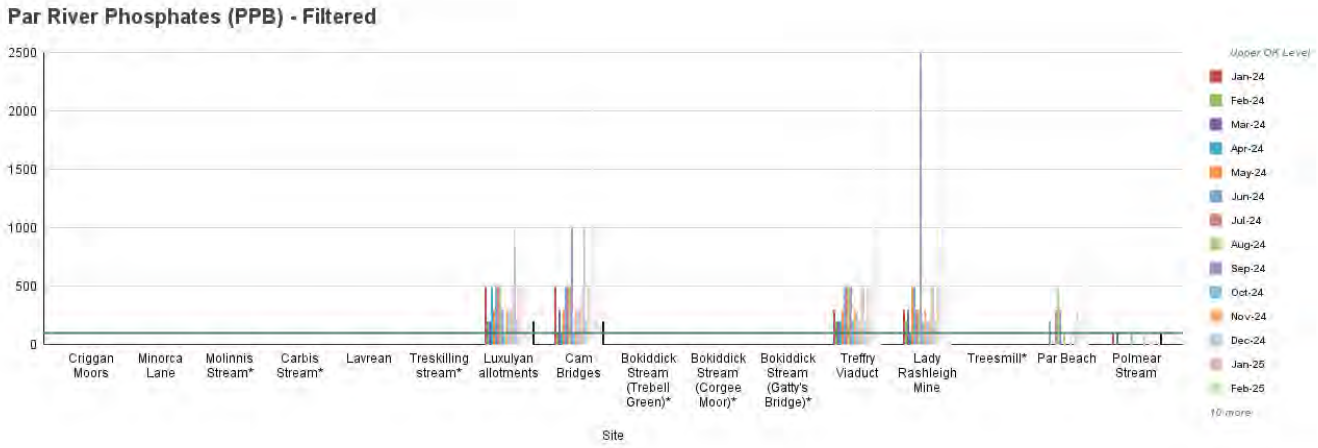
(a) This month:



(b) From 1st January 2025 until 31st January 2026:



(c) From 1st January 2024 until 31st January 2026:

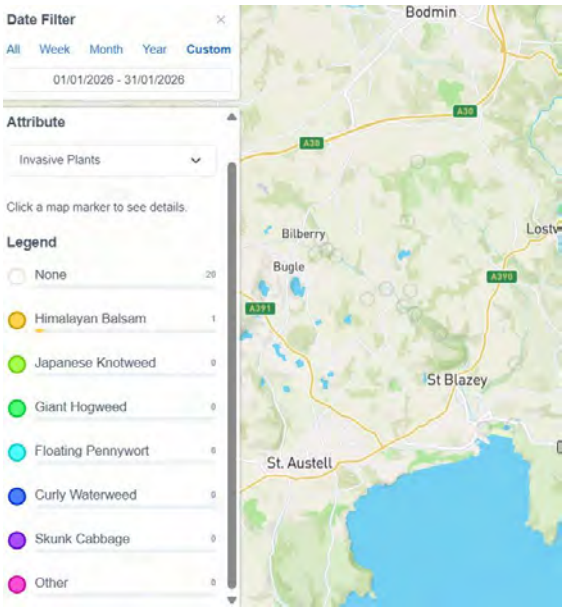


I. NITRATE

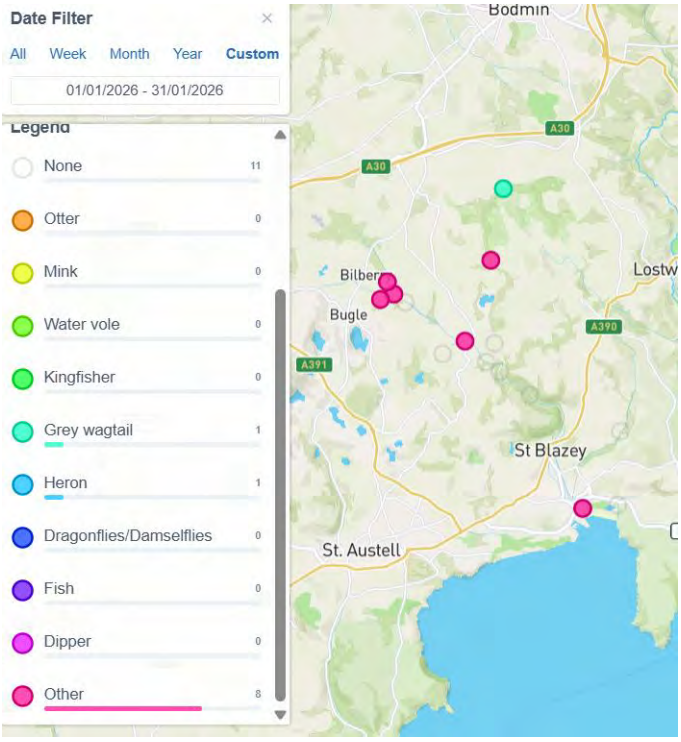
Nitrate testing was conducted at all sites except Cam Bridges, Gatty's, Treffry Viaduct, and Lady Rashleigh Mine. Readings were all 0 PPM. Graphs will be generated once more results are available.

J. WILDLIFE & INVASIVE PLANTS

1. Invasive Plants sightings at the monitoring points included:



2. Wildlife spotted:



Wildlife & Invasive Plants sightings at the monitoring points included:

LOCATION	WILDLIFE NOTED		INVASIVE PLANTS NOTED
Criggan Moors, SX 01882 61133	**n/a**		n/a
South of Minorca Lane, Par River, SX 02657 59788	**HEARD: Robin, Coal tit, Thrush, Nuthatch, Wren, Chaffinch, Jay, House Sparrow.**		
Forkandles Farm, Molinnis Stream, SX 02460 59271	**SEEN: Buzzards**		
Carbis Stream SX 02834 59401	**SEEN: Deer tracks** **HEARD: Nuthatch, Great Tit, Blue Tit, Robin, Chaffinch**		
Lavrean, Par River SX 03134 59164			
Treskilling, Treskilling Stream, SX 04107 57726			
Luxulyan allotments, Par River, SX 04732 58045	**HEARD: Robin, Nuthatch, Jackdaw, Goldfinch, Song Thrush, Blackbird, Treecreeper, Chaffinch**		
Cam Bridges, Par River, SX 05292 57454			
Trebell Green, Bokiddick Stream SX 0551960226	**SEEN: Beaver lake**		
Corgee Moor, Bokiddick Stream SX 0593462167	**HEARD: Robin, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Chaffinch, Jackdaw**		
Gatty's Bridge, Bokiddick Stream SX 05531 57953			
Treffry Viaduct, Par River, SX 05650 57179			
Lady Rashleigh Mine, Par River, SX 06451 56509			
Treesmill, Tywardreath Stream, SX 08873 55385			
Par Beach slipway, SX 0776 53261	**Duck, Dunlin, Moorhen**		
Polmear Stream, Ship Inn, SX 08749 53417			

The Merlin Bird ID app has been used to identify birdsong (https://merlin.allaboutbirds.org/) unless stated otherwise.

Colour coding:

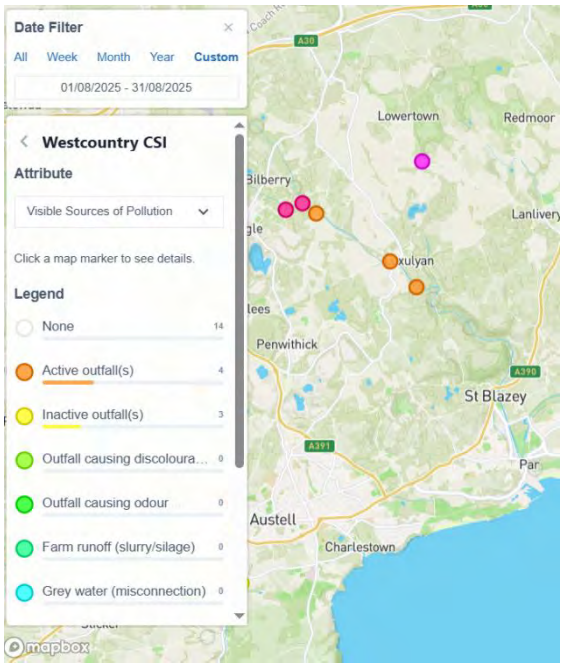
Upper Par	
Lower Par	
Bokiddick Stream	
Tributaries of Upper Par (China Clay-country streams)	
Tributaries of Lower Par	

K. ARMI RIVERFLY SURVEYS ON LOWER PAR RIVER AND TYWARDREATH STREAM

These will resume in the spring.

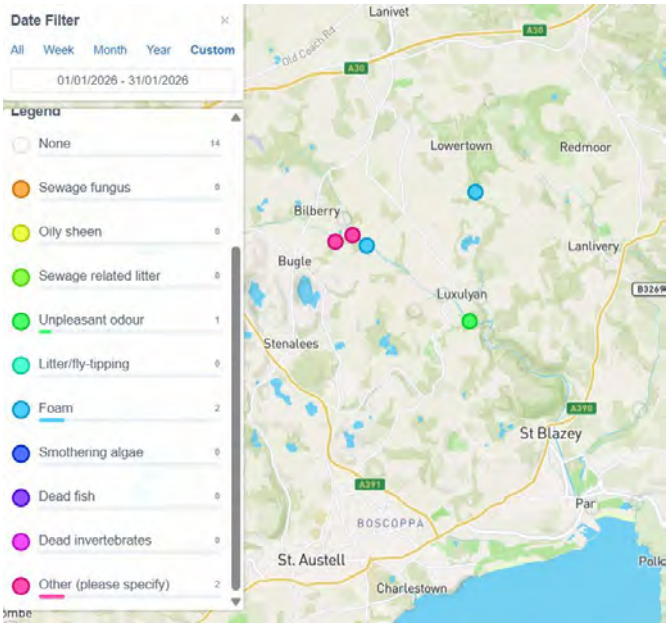
L. POLLUTION SOURCES AND EVIDENCE

1. Visible sources of pollution (source: Cartographer)



2. Evidence of recent pollution:

This relates to pollution that is visible; filtered sewage was spilled into the Molinnis and Carbis Streams, and the Par River (see section 3 below), but this is not shown on the map.



LOCATION		EVIDENCE OF RECENT POLLUTION
Criggan Moors, SX 01882 61133		n/a
South of Minorca Lane, Par River, SX 02657 59788		
Forkandles Farm, Molinnis Stream, SX 02460 59271		Foam
Carbis Stream SX 02834 59401		Grey water
Lavrean, Par River SX 03134 59164		Foam
Treskilling, Treskilling Stream, SX 04107 57726		
Luxulyan allotments, Par River, SX 04732 58045		Filtered sewage (?)
Cam Bridges, Par River, SX 05292 57454		Foam, smell, phosphate, filtered sewage (?)
Trebell Green, Bokiddick Stream SX 0551960226		None
Corgee Moor, Bokiddick Stream SX 0593462167		Foam
Gatty's Bridge, Bokiddick Stream SX 05531 57953		None
Treffry Viaduct, Par River, SX 05650 57179		Phosphate, filtered sewage (?)
Lady Rashleigh Mine, Par River, SX 06451 56509		Phosphate, filtered sewage (?)
Treesmill, Tywardreath Stream, SX 08873 55385		None
Par Beach slipway, SX 0776 53261		Phosphate, filtered sewage (?)
Polmear Stream, Ship Inn, SX 08749 53417		Phosphate

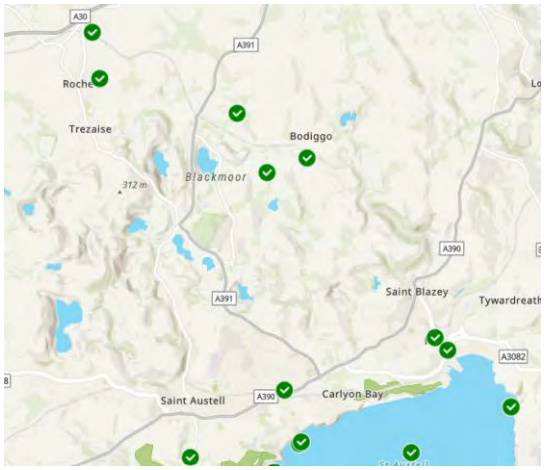
N.B. Although not noticeable at our monitoring points, there is a persistent smell of sewage in the vicinity of the Molinnis CSO even when there have been no reported discharges.

Colour coding:

Upper Par	
Lower Par	
Bokiddick Stream	
Tributaries of Upper Par (China Clay-country streams)	
Tributaries of Lower Par	

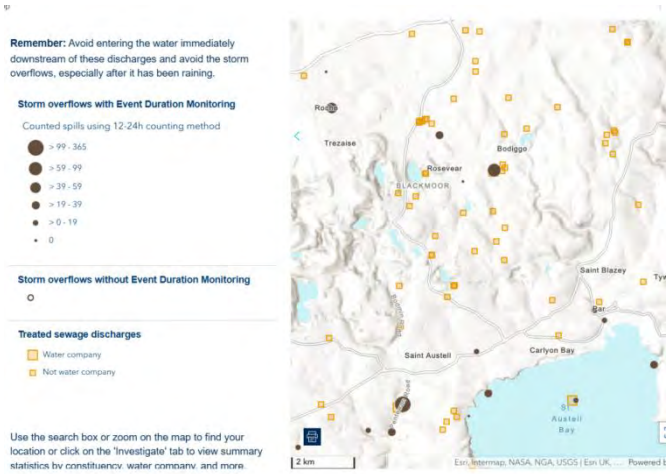
3. South West Water Storm Overflows

The Rivers Trust's sewage map (https://www.sewagemap.co.uk/) gives live information about discharges of sewage into rivers and the sea by water companies. (This is also provided by South West Water's WaterFit Live site: https://www.southwestwater.co.uk/storm-overflow-map).



This screenshot is for illustrative purposes only. Not all of the locations are in the Par River catchment.

It should be noted that there are also numerous private sewerage arrangements in the area but information about possible contamination of watercourses from these has not been found. The following screenshot shows the different facilities in the area (source: https://theriverstrust.org/key-issues/sewage-in-rivers)



(b) South West Water Storm Overflows in the Par River Catchment (updated December 2025):

The main overflows are (from source to sea along the catchment). The identification numbers have been updated:

Roche storm overflow (SBB01035)
Molinnis storm overflow, Bugle (SBB00794)

Rescorla storm overflow, Luxulyan (SBB01022)
Luxulyan sewage treatment works settled storm overflow, St Austell (SBB0119)
Tredenham Close storm overflow, Par (SBB1273)
Par No2 pumping station overflow, Par (SBB01273)

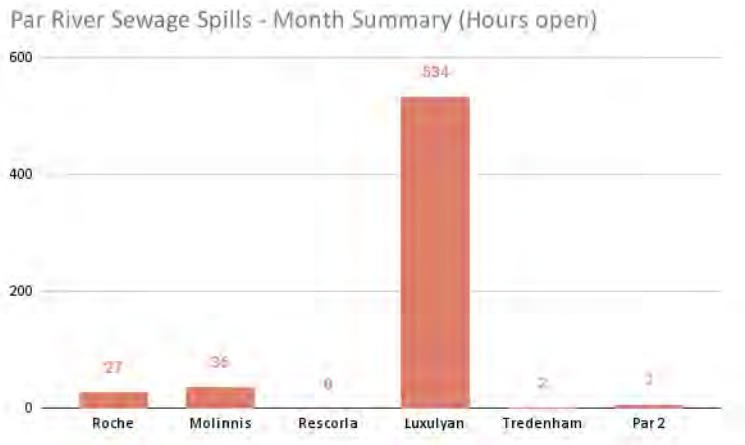
This information has been taken from the *Surfers Against Sewage* discharge website: https://datahq.sas.org.uk/sewage-data-hq/ and The Rivers Trust's site: https://theriverstrust.org/sewage-map .

(c) Graphs:

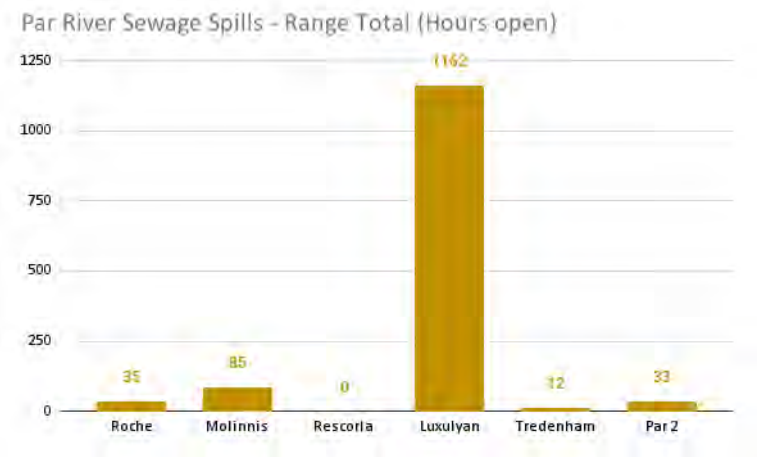
Data has been taken from https://datahq.sas.org.uk/sewage-data-hq/.

Any errors are the fault of the compiler of this report. All figures are rounded down, so a spill of 1 hour 59 minutes would be recorded as 1 hour. Results are indicative, not definitive.

(i) January 2026:



(ii) December 2025 until January 2026:



M. HOW TO REPORT RIVER POLLUTION

HOW TO REPORT RIVER POLLUTION

River pollution can now be reported **online** to the Environment Agency at: https://www.gov.uk/report-water-pollution .

Use this service to report water pollution in:

- rivers or the sea
- lakes or reservoirs
- canals
- smaller streams or watercourses (for example, a brook or culvert)

Water pollution can include:

- sewage
- waste, spills or leaks from farms
- waste, spills or leaks from factories or other industry
- spills or leaks from objects

If you're unable to use the online service, you can **call** the Environment Agency: Environment Agency incident hotline

Telephone: **0800 80 70 60**

24-hour service

N. OUR GROUP AND SUPPORTERS

Monitoring is part of the Citizen Science programme run by the West Country Rivers Trust (WCRT) and is carried out monthly by volunteers, including Joan Farmer; Veronica Jones; Roger Smith; Simon Tagney; Maggie Tagney; and Brian Harrisson. They have received training from Lydia Ashworth, Junior Evidence and Engagement Officer of the West Country Rivers Trust (https://wrt.org.uk/project/become-a-citizen-scientist/). Results are logged on the Cartographer website. The support and advice given by Ross Tonkin, Lloyd Paynter, David Edwards, Claire and Gary Phillips, Jenny Heskett, Nick Taylor, Jeremy Roberts, Mat Bateman, Colin Pringle, Matt Healey, Simon Browning, Lydia Deacon, Jack Middleton, Anna Seal, Anna Crane, Zoe Connelly, Jade Neville, Lauren Jasper, Callum Lewis, Gwen Maggs, Oscar Miller, Sasha Pinto and Jenny Tagney is greatly appreciated. The work carried out by the late Dave Burrell both in the field and in checking reports will not be forgotten. The interest and encouragement offered by Environment Agency officers, especially Lisa Best, Lisa Goodall, Layla Ousley, Jenny Davies, Leah Steward, Nicola Rogers, Peter Scobie, and Sally Turberville have been invaluable.

Report compiled by Roger Smith, 18th February 2026