

SOUTH CUMBRIA RIVERS TRUST

Developing new methodologies for phosphorus removal to address diffuse pollution in rural settings, with a focus on Windermere.

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Cumbria Lakes Forum

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Windermere

- Water quality has been declining
- Windermere is a priority for SCRT (and other local organisations as recognised by the recent launch of the Love Windermere Partnership.
- The lake is classed as meso-eutrophic, with phosphorus being the main nutrient of focus. Windermere was previously classed as an oligotrophic glacial water body.
- Main inputs include a combination of WwTW, septic tanks & agriculture
- UU have undertaken work to improve the WwTW, further opportunities lie with septic tanks and agriculture
- Long-term approach to restoration is required (30+ years)
- Potential estimated £122million loss from water quality deterioration

Non-mains Working Group



Developing a working plan for non-mains drainage as part of Love Windermere partnership

Lake District Foundation, National Trust, United Utilities, Environment Agency, South Cumbria Rivers Trust

People/ Communities, Mechanics, Regulation, Environment, Investment

Close links with land management, comms and sustainable finance groups of Love Windermere

De- centralised Systems



Estimates for say septic tanks account for 9-30% of the P input into Windermere.

Approx. 1900 'septic tanks' in the catchment

Many systems are out-dated and not maintained or now support different population needs.

Trailing new technologies and innovative ways of tackling increased nutrients.

Once developed the technology can then be used in other situations

Reedbed Restoration

CaST Project – Funding from United Utilities

- Restoring 800sq.m of reedbed at selected sites around Windermere
- Engage with communities about reedbeds



Reedbed Restoration

Restoration & Creation

- Planting reed plug plants
- Coppicing
- Pegging
- Cuttings



THANK YOU

Any Questions?

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