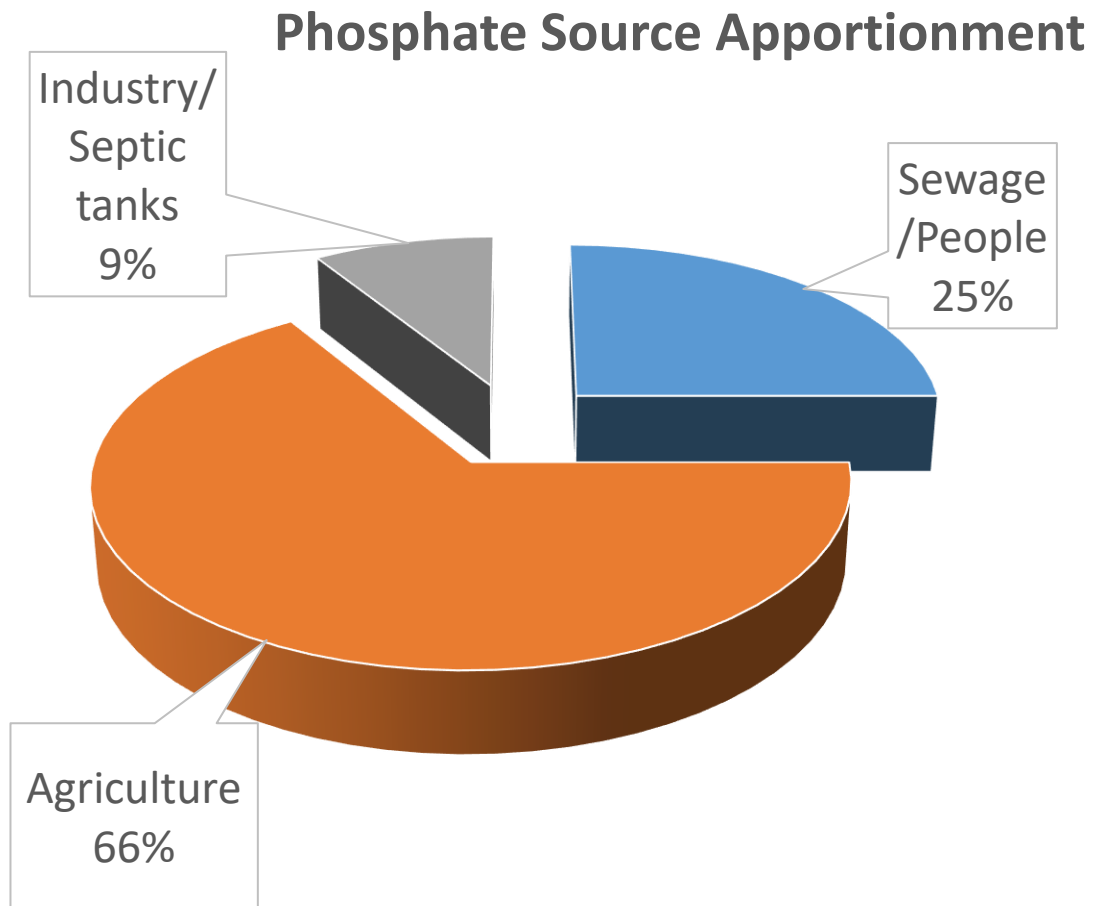


MGA Conference 24.

Does the Wye matter?



“Don’t P in the river...!”



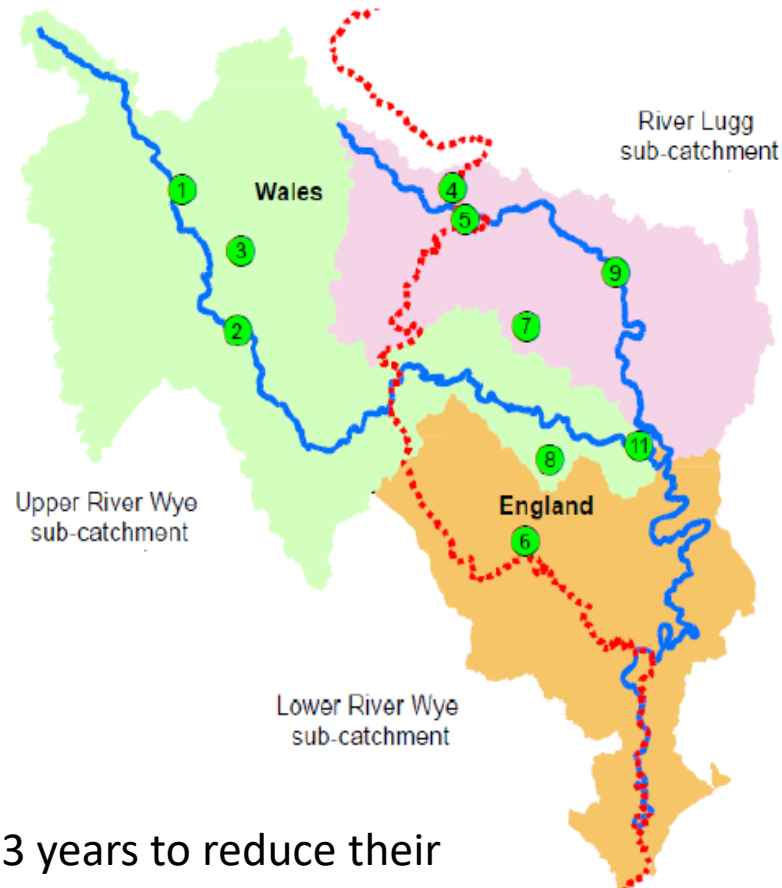
- Our rivers are under severe pressure. Political/environmental.
- Planning moratoriums mean the impact is significant economically.
- Our regulatory bodies have concluded that across the catchment 66% of these losses are now attributed to Agriculture

Reducing their contribution...

Investment in major STWs

87% of sewage goes to works with P treatment

- 1 Rhayader
- 2 Builth Wells
- 3 Llandrindod Wells
- 4 Norton
- 5 Presteigne
- 6 Pontrilas
- 7 Weobley
- 8 Kingstone and Madeley
- 9 Leominster
- 10 Eign
- 11 Rotherwas



£50m of investment in next 3 years to reduce their P contributions by a further 10%.

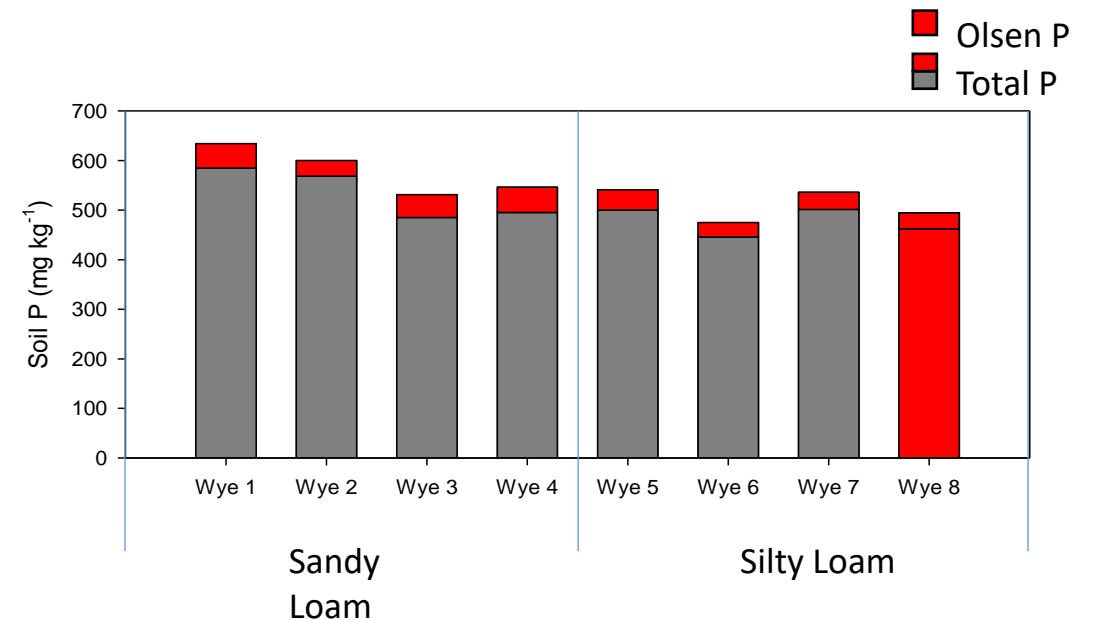
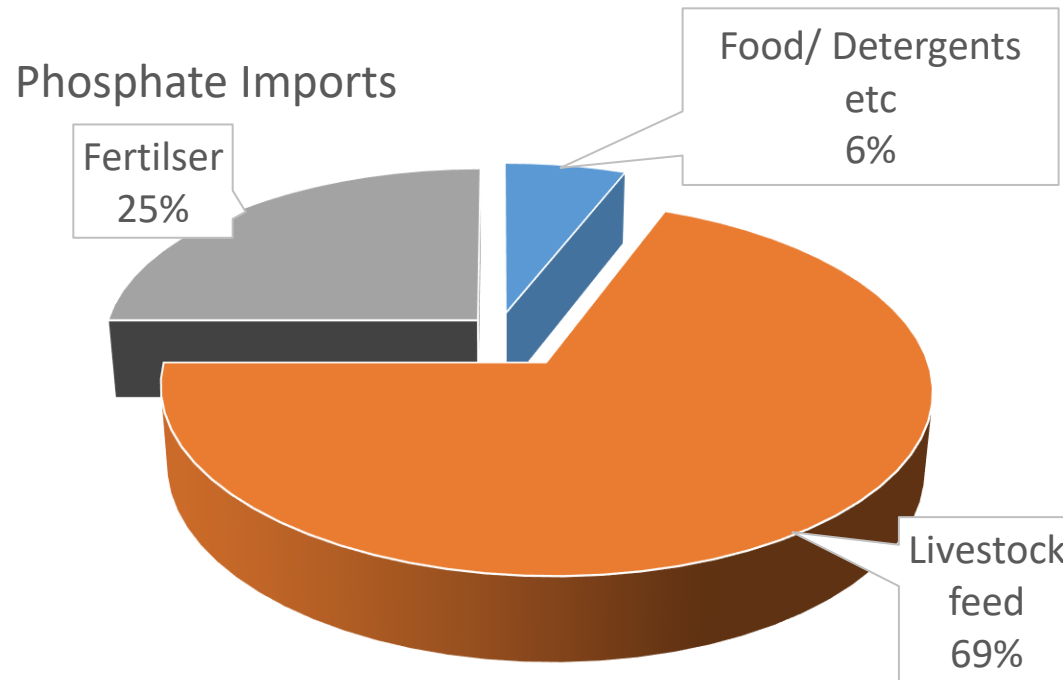
Investment in minor STWs

13% of sewage goes to works without P treatment



WUF, Hfd Council & DCWW currently working to install integrated wetlands to polish final effluent from small rural sewage works

- Concluded we have **1400t** excess P every year in the Wye
- That our silty and sandy soils can leach phosphate at indices above 2
- That we need to test for Total P not just Olsen P and work to access that



REPHOKUS team have plotted 13000 soil tests from Cobb Agri customers in the Frome:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	Total
No	216	1479	4121	5258	1615	349	13038
%	2	11	32	40	12	3	100

These are just Olsen P – so lots of Total P hidden behind these figures too. Fair task

.

What is happening?

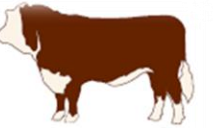
- Drain testing
- Soil testing
- NLT/ PLT tool
- Government science
- Litter burning and export
- P balances on farms
- EA increased visits, 230 so far this year. 4000 by 2025 based on FRFW



Action to reduce our Phosphate losses...

- ✓ Farmer engagement events
- ✓ Field trials running to establish how legacy Phosphate is behaving & how it can be accessed
- ✓ Avara have committed to deliver large scale interventions to remove/strip P from the manure in their supply chain (150,000t)
- ✓ The poultry manure compliance scheme with Gamber Logistics & Cobb Agri to improve application
- ✓ Tesco, M&S & Coop funding projects for their free range egg suppliers to reduce impact on water
- ✓ EA have doubled staff numbers in the Wye and are undertaking much higher number of inspections to reduce soil loss & poor/over application of nutrients

Farm
Herefordshire



Action to reduce our Phosphate losses...

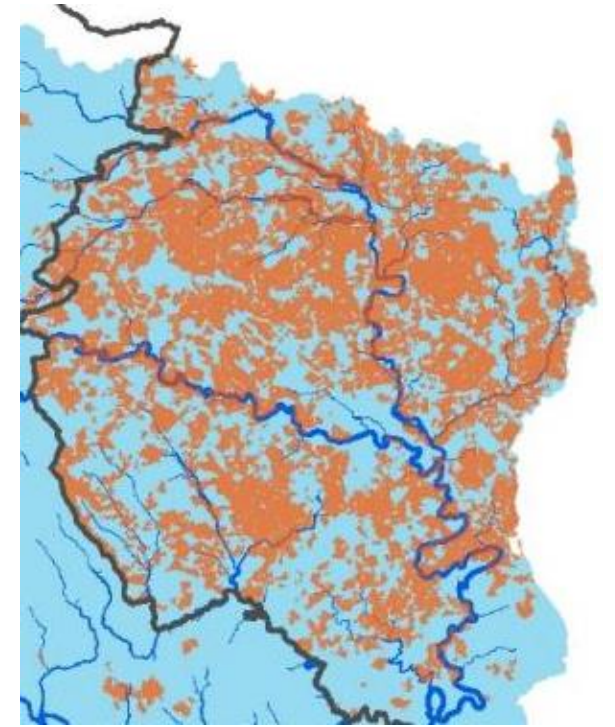
Lots of good work already delivered by farmers, primarily correcting point source losses

But what comes next is more challenging - correcting diffuse losses

- Farm in phosphate balance to avoid building levels
- Run down indices above 3
- Prevent soil loss at any scale at all costs
- Utilise systems like wetlands where nutrient losses need to be mitigated

Landscape recovery Scheme now in place based on initial 20 farms. (nov23)

Water Protection Zone if progress not made?



Farm
Herefordshire 

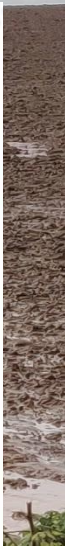
What can you do?



What can you do?



What can you do?



What can you do?



What can you do?





Thank you.

- Welcome to ask.....

- X. @loosecollie
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