



Investment Prospectus



Severn & Wye
NATURE



Who we are

Severn & Wye Nature is an alliance of environmental groups working across the Severn, Wye and Warwickshire Avon River catchments – a nationally significant landscape that's in crisis.

The alliance includes 9 Wildlife Trusts, The National Trust, RSPB, Woodland Trust, Severn Rivers Trust, WWT and the Heart of England Forest. Our alliance was established in response to the environment crisis. It's a vehicle for new approaches to nature recovery.

The partnership lets us work at bigger scale – creating schemes that run over county boundaries or link England and Wales.

By thinking bigger, we can make it easier for government, impact investors and business to back ambitious schemes that make a difference. We're developing projects where helping nature also delivers for the people who live, work in or visit our landscapes, improves the water systems and strengthens the farmers who manage the land.

Where we work

We are working for nature recovery at the heart of England and Wales, along nationally important river systems.

The Severn and its tributaries shape the heart of the British landscape. The longest river in the UK, its tributaries cross 2 countries and 8 counties. Its catchment serves a vast population, with 12.5m people living within 20 minutes of its boundary.

It's a landscape for people, with Birmingham on our boundary, Bristol to the south and Coventry, Stratford, Telford and Gloucester inside the catchment.

It's a landscape that connects, linking peaty mountains in Wales, flat floodplains and rolling limestone hills. It's a place filled with potential, with nature at its core.

A landscape of national importance

16,500km

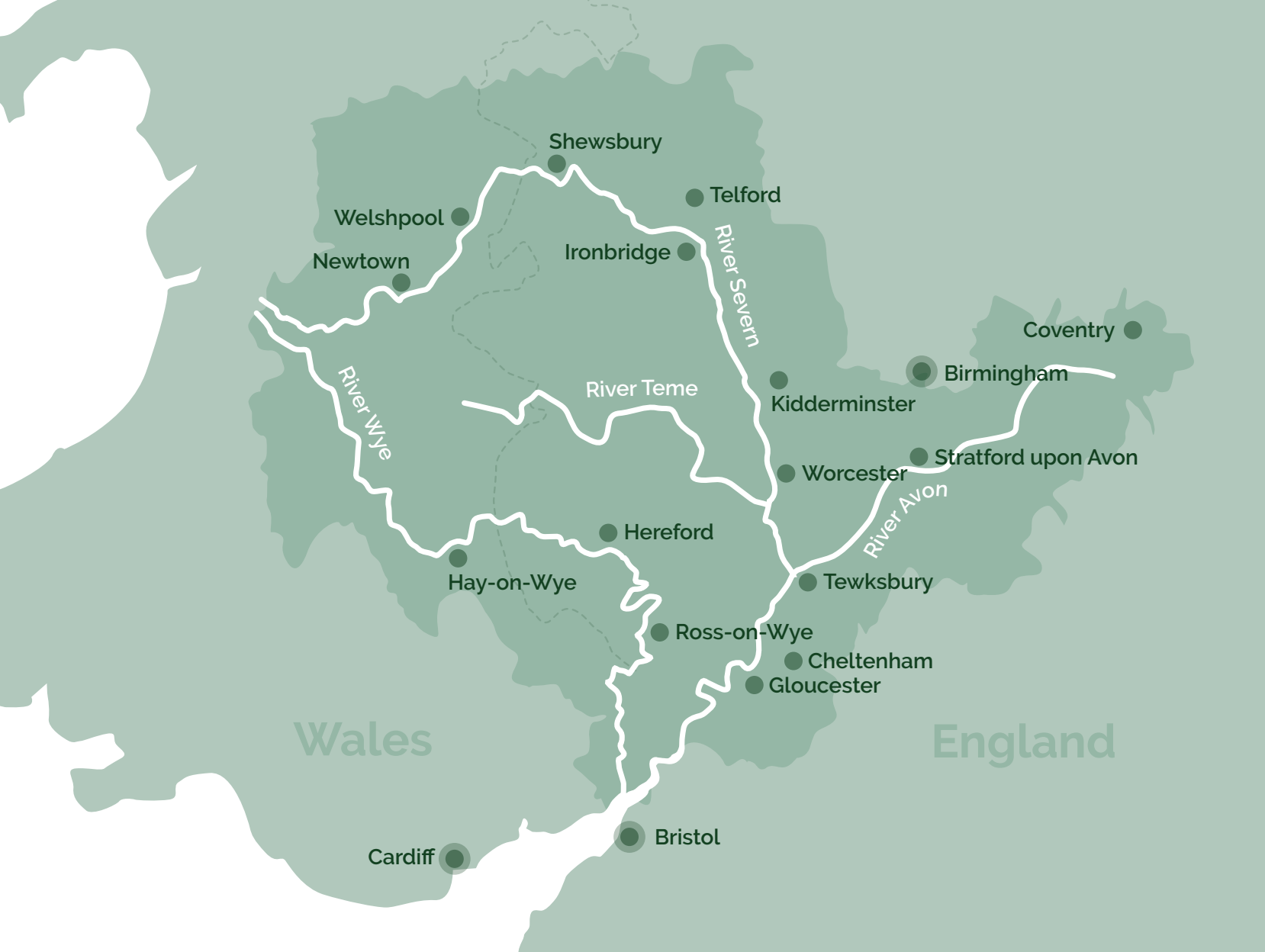
of rivers meander through our landscape, offering significant potential for nature's recovery

12.6m

people live within 20 miles of the river catchments, and millions rely on its water

20,000

farmers and small-holders shape and manage the land for future generations



The challenge and our aims

Once a mosaic of rich, diverse habitats, the Severn, Warwickshire Avon and Wye are facing unprecedented pressures.

There is huge potential to reinstate a robust, healthy and natural landscape alongside these great rivers, if we take collaborative action now. By working collaboratively, we can deliver ambitious restoration programmes across a large landscape – linking together nature, farming and finance for positive change.

Our aims are:

Adapt

and build resilience to the impact of flooding on local communities and improve water quality by introducing more wetlands, woodlands and floodplains meadows.

Develop

new relationships with businesses to meet their environmental goals, build farmer success and support nature recovery.

Enhance

biodiversity by creating nature corridors that connect our habitats, and restoring precious, nature-friendly landscapes.

Increase

public access to these areas of outstanding beauty and nature. With cities like Telford, Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Gloucester close to our rivers, we have a valuable opportunity to connect people with nature.

Strategic context - The climate and nature crisis

Business have long been expected to act on climate change and to understand their climate risk.

This is becoming increasing so for nature - especially since the signing of the 'Paris agreement' for nature - the Kunming-Montreal global biodiversity in 2022. It committed the UK to restore and manage at least 30% of degraded ecosystems by 2030.

Delivering sustainability commitments, as well as adapting to climate change and managing nature depletion is increasingly important for many businesses. Investors and stakeholders are expecting businesses to take action, and regulation from government is increasing.

Working with us gives you an opportunity to support climate resilience and nature recovery and demonstrate to your stakeholders that you are complying with and contributing to important legislation, strategies and targets.

By working at landscape-scale, we can help you strategically reduce nature-related risks and deliver high-impact outcomes for local communities, business and nature.



Our vision for the future

By 2050 the Severn Basin will be a landscape where nature and thriving communities depend on each other. Nature will be part of daily life, visible, valued, and cared for by the people who call this place home.

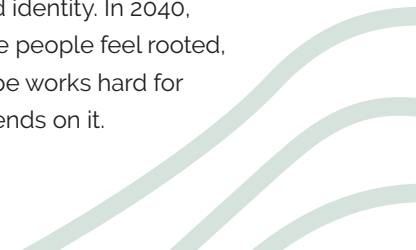
Farms will be resilient to climate change, growing diverse crops and livestock using practices that build soil health, store carbon, and reduce flood risk. Hedgerows, flower-rich margins, and restored wetlands will support pollinators and natural pest control, keeping food production viable and profitable. Farmers and land managers will be fairly rewarded for the clean water, wildlife habitats, flood protection, and climate benefits their stewardship provides, creating stable livelihoods.

New and innovative funding mechanisms will attract long-term investment into nature-friendly farming, river restoration, and local food systems. These flows of funding will strengthen rural economies, support new skills and jobs, and help young people see a future for themselves in the basin. Towns and villages will benefit too, with stronger links between local producers and

local markets, healthier diets, and landscapes that invite people to spend time outdoors.

Nature-based solutions restore water movement and storage in the Severn Basin, reducing flood risk, mitigating drought and building resilience to our changing water patterns, all whilst improving water quality. Reconnected floodplains, wet woodlands, and restored peat and grasslands slow and store water, while cleaner rivers support recreation, fisheries, and wildlife.

The basin will be home to species that had been lost or pushed to the margins, including salmon, sea trout, lamprey, otters, water voles, kingfishers, sand martins, curlews, dragonflies, snipe, breeding waders, bumblebees, butterflies, farmland birds, and connected woodlands and hedgerows. Communities actively care for rivers, farms, and green spaces, recognising nature's importance for health, well-being, and identity. In 2040, the Severn Basin will be a place where people feel rooted, nature is recovering, and the landscape works hard for food, wildlife, and everyone who depends on it.



Our project vision:

1. Floodplain restoration
2. Thriving communities
3. Restored wetland
4. Wildlife habitats
5. Nature-positive farming
6. Resilient peatlands



How we will achieve this

We are developing a portfolio of programmes where corporate partners can support visible, high-impact nature recovery at landscape scale. There is the opportunity to invest in the partnership as a whole, but also to focus investment across several individual projects, giving the opportunity to align your investment with your business strategy whether that be flood alleviation, carbon storage, nature.

By coordinating projects across the basin, we can deliver large-scale nature recovery that supports climate resilience, improves water quality and restores biodiversity. A typical project involves working with landowners on the ground and supporting them to make interventions to tackle flood, nature or carbon. Many of the interventions support all three objectives.





Peatland & Headwaters Recovery

Restoring the basin's natural carbon and water stores

Upland peatlands regulate water flows and store significant amounts of carbon. Restoring degraded peatlands will improve water quality, reduce downstream flood risk and rebuild vital habitats. Building on work by partners including Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust, RSPB and the Marches Peat Partnership.



River & Floodplain Restoration

Reconnecting rivers with their landscapes

Across the basin there is major opportunity to restore rivers, reconnect floodplains and create wetlands that improve water quality and support wildlife. Delivering restoration at basin scale enables meaningful improvements in river health and flood resilience.



Urban Nature & DePave

Bringing nature recovery into towns and cities

Urban nature projects can reduce pollution entering rivers, improve flood resilience and increase access to green space. This programme will scale tree planting, sustainable drainage and depaving initiatives across basin communities.



Estuary & Coastal Habitat Restoration

Restoring coastal wetlands and estuary habitats

The Severn Estuary is one of the UK's most important wildlife sites. Restoring saltmarsh, mudflats and coastal wetlands will strengthen biodiversity, support migratory species and improve climate resilience.



Landscape-Scale Species Recovery **Supporting the return of iconic wildlife**

Restored rivers and wetlands create the conditions for species recovery. A coordinated programme will support the return of key species including the Eurasian beaver and European water vole, alongside priority wetland birds.



Nature-Positive Farming **Working with farmers to restore nature across productive landscapes**

Farmers manage much of the basin's land. A coordinated advisory and demonstration network will support the transition to farming approaches that improve soil health, water quality and biodiversity.

Our current investable programmes and project spotlights are on our website and are updated regularly. Some projects offer a blended finance model - with support coming from government or lottery funding in combination with business.

Benefits of working with us

Benefit from our existing landowner relationships and expertise for smooth project delivery.

- Access large scale nature schemes which meet business goals – learning by doing.
- Alignment with strong, trusted and well-known environmental brands in the UK.
- Partners bring unrivalled collective experience of working across the catchment, enabling genuinely place-based interventions supported by deep ecological expertise.
- Strong governance by a Board comprising of member organisations.

- Opportunity to develop compelling external and internal communications materials for social media, annual reporting.
- Opportunity to host staff away days, developing engagement and supporting your people attraction and retention.
- Opportunity to bring customers on site and showcase the interventions and work you are supporting.
- Opportunities to comply with your Board and Executive committee training requirements, either by bringing them to see the work on the ground, or the project team presenting as part of scheduled Board and Executive training sessions.

Get in touch at: contactus@severnandwyenature.com





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