

# We need your help!

- Tell us your stories and share images\* of drought and water-use by:

- Post:

Lindsey McEwen - DRY project  
Department of Geography and  
Environmental Management  
University of the West of England  
Frenchay Campus, Coldharbour Lane  
Bristol, UK, BS16 1QY

- Email:

DRY@uwe.ac.uk  
Or via the website:  
<http://dryproject.co.uk/our-uk-river-catchments/don/>

- Join in with discussions online via our forum: <http://dryproject.co.uk/forums/>

- Tweet your images and memories of past and current droughts, and local water-use on the River Don: @Project\_DRY

- Contact us if you would like to join our workshops to share your viewpoints about drought and water-use in the River Don area  
Tel: +44 (0)117 32 87024

- Take part in our questionnaire about domestic water-use:  
<http://dryproject.co.uk/about-the-project/community-water-survey/>

\*All materials will be returned.  
If possible, please send copies of images  
and original materials.

The images in this leaflet are printed  
courtesy of Jon Morris.

In this catchment our activity  
involves project team members from:



University of the  
West of England



Harper Adams  
University



Centre for  
Ecology & Hydrology  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



Loughborough  
University



The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

We are working closely with these external  
organisations to incorporate their expertise:



Experts in Business



Environment  
Agency



South Yorkshire  
Local Resilience Forum



Don Catchment Rivers Trust  
Working to protect and restore our rivers



DRY is a project funded by:



Arts & Humanities  
Research Council



Pioneering research  
and skills



SCIENCE OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT



bioscience for the future



E·S·R·C  
ECONOMIC  
& SOCIAL  
RESEARCH  
COUNCIL



## Drought Risk and You: River Don





# Drought in the UK - collecting your stories and experiences to inform future policy

## Drought Risk and You

Droughts and water shortage affect us all through impacts on the environment, agriculture, infrastructure, society and culture.

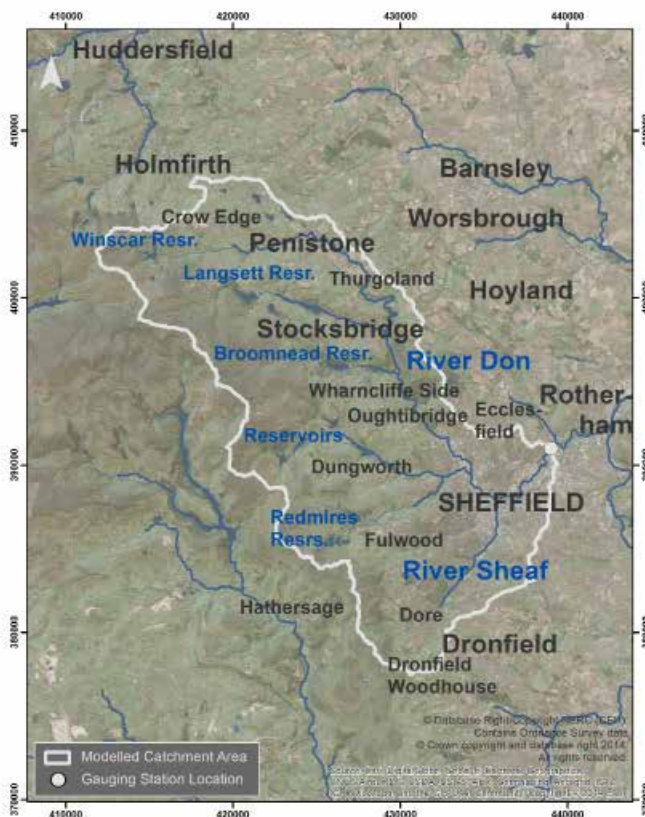
The **DRY Project** is looking at the impact of drought on seven river catchments in England, Wales and Scotland.

The project will encourage knowledge exchange among communities in the catchment and drought scientists. In a series of workshops, we will record the views of local people as they tell us their stories of drought and water-use.

We are working closely with local and external organisations in the Don river basin (more information on the back page of this flier) to design the research and incorporate their expertise.

### Did you know...?

- A drought is a natural event usually resulting from prolonged shortage of rainfall.
- Droughts differ in their severity and impacts due to duration, physical geography and human uses of land and water.
- The most memorable drought in the UK was in 1976; a result of a dry winter followed by one of the hottest and driest summers on record.
- Drought can sometimes increase the risk of subsequent flooding, such as when heavy rainfall occurs after a drought has killed vegetation or very dry soil is unable to soak up rainfall.



## Why the Don?

- Sheffield is one of the country's greenest, largest, and most diverse conurbations, both geographically and demographically.
- The Don flooded severely during the UK summer floods of 2007.
- The wider Yorkshire region has a unique reliance on reservoirs.
- The 1992 and 1995 drought stretched water supplies to settlements in the catchment.
- Lessons learned from drought episodes in the 1990s spurred investment in the water infrastructure of the Yorkshire region and the development of a water grid.

*"Human beings are storytelling animals and by introducing storytelling into discussions about drought and water-use, we bring fresh, previously unheard voices into the conversation"*

Michael Wilson (Loughborough University)

Do you have any experiences of drought?

Have you thought about planning for water efficiency in future?

Do you think drought, flooding and climate change are related?

How do you conserve water in your home and garden?

Has water scarcity impacted your business?

**We want to hear from you!**