



WILD TROUT TRUST

**Drought, Deer and Dogs:**  
**An introduction to stresses upon**  
**Cambridgeshire chalkstreams**

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# The Wild Trout Trust

*"Inspiring and helping everyone to protect wild trout and their habitat."*



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# Drought: the lost River Granta

How bad has it had to get?

**29km of river lost!!**



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# Drought: flow augmentation

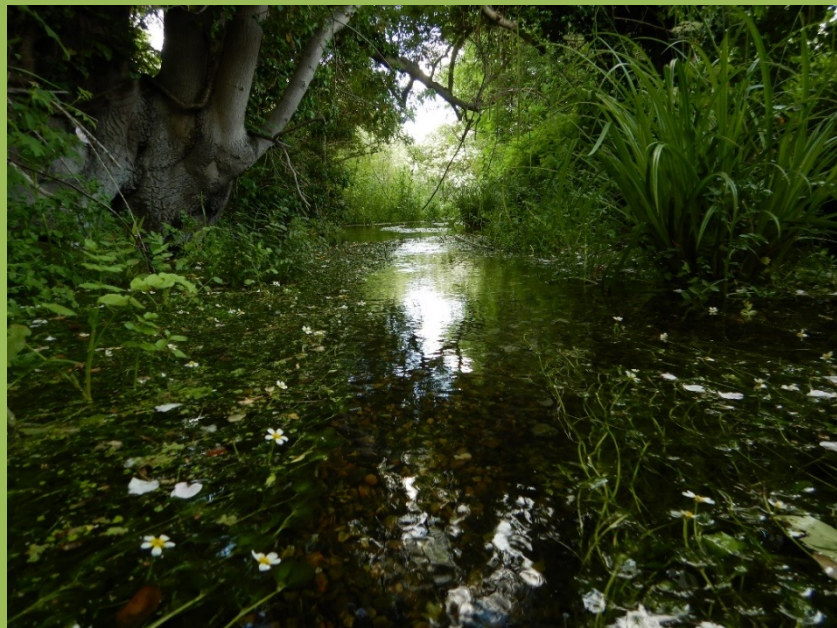
**20% of the water abstracted is used to keep the headwaters flowing!!**



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# Drought: do our rivers ever recover from the last one?



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# Drought: silted-up rivers



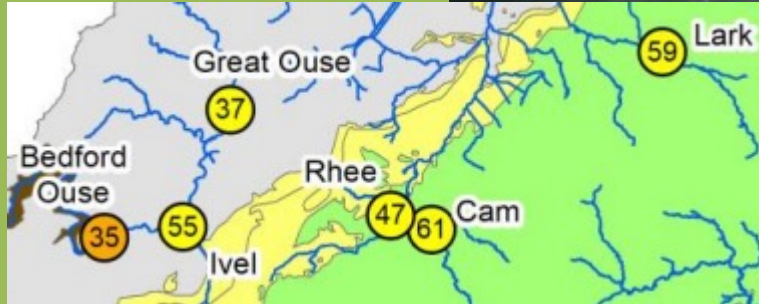
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# Drought: more barriers to fish movement

In “normal” flows this bridge on the Rhee is largely passable.

Will we see “normal” flow return?



# Drought: less habitat

~~The River Cam~~

The Cam Stream?

The Cam Brook?

The Cam Rivulet?

The Occasional Cam!!



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# Drought: fish under stress





# Deer: how many can our countryside support?



Deer eat a *lot* of vegetation



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# Deer: worse than cows?

## River Shep RSPB Fowlmere

At least 25  
crossings in ~800m

Or a crossing ~30m



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**Deer: worse  
than cows?**

**River Shep  
RSPB Fowlmere**



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**Deer: worse  
than cows?**

**River Shep  
RSPB Fowlmere**



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**Deer: worse  
than cows?**

**Hoffer Brook**



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# Dogs: not a river's best friend

## Byron's Pool fish pass channel





**Dogs: not a  
river's best  
friend**

**Byron's Pool  
fish pass  
channel**





# Dogs: not a river's best friend

## River Granta



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# Dogs: not a river's best friend

## River Granta



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# Dogs: not a river's best friend

River Mel





# What's the problem?

Aren't droughts natural?

Haven't deer always been around?

Haven't dogs always swum in rivers?





**But trout are survivors if  
we give them a chance!**

