



The South East Rivers Trust is leading a project to deliver a Natural Flood Management (NFM) project on the Medway Catchment, as part of the Medway Flood Action Plan. We are working in partnership with Kent County Council, Environment Agency and others to provide advice, and deliver on the ground changes to help reduce flood risk and improve the environment.

Flooding at Yalding



Leaky Woody Barrier and diversion channel Bedgebury



The project area focuses on the High and Low Weald areas which have notoriously heavy clay soils, and the main river channels have been deepened and straightened. The catchment is very 'flashy' and flooding events arise quickly. Our aim is to slow the flow through such measures as installing leaky wooden barriers in the headwater woodlands, diverting the flow into floodplains and other measures.

We have used local knowledge and SciMap modelling to identify the target sub-catchments of the Alder Stream and Hogg Stream as most promising for this approach. Work here will benefit the communities of Five Oak Green and Headcorn. We are also developing experimental sites with the Forestry Commission at Bedgebury Pinetum and with the National Trust at Sissinghurst Castle

How we're reducing the risk of flooding in the Medway catchment



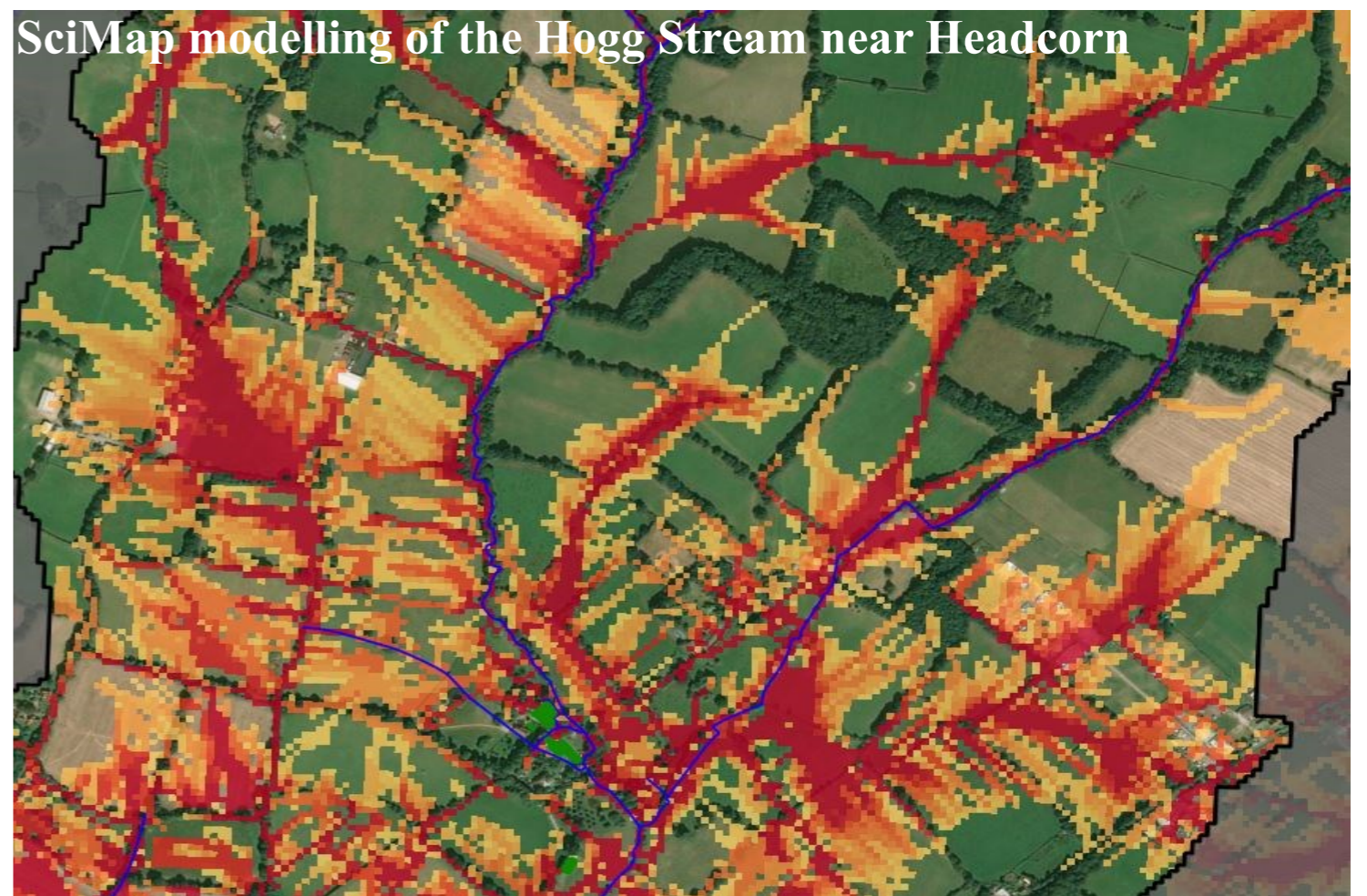
Full Action Plan
November 2017

Multiple Benefits

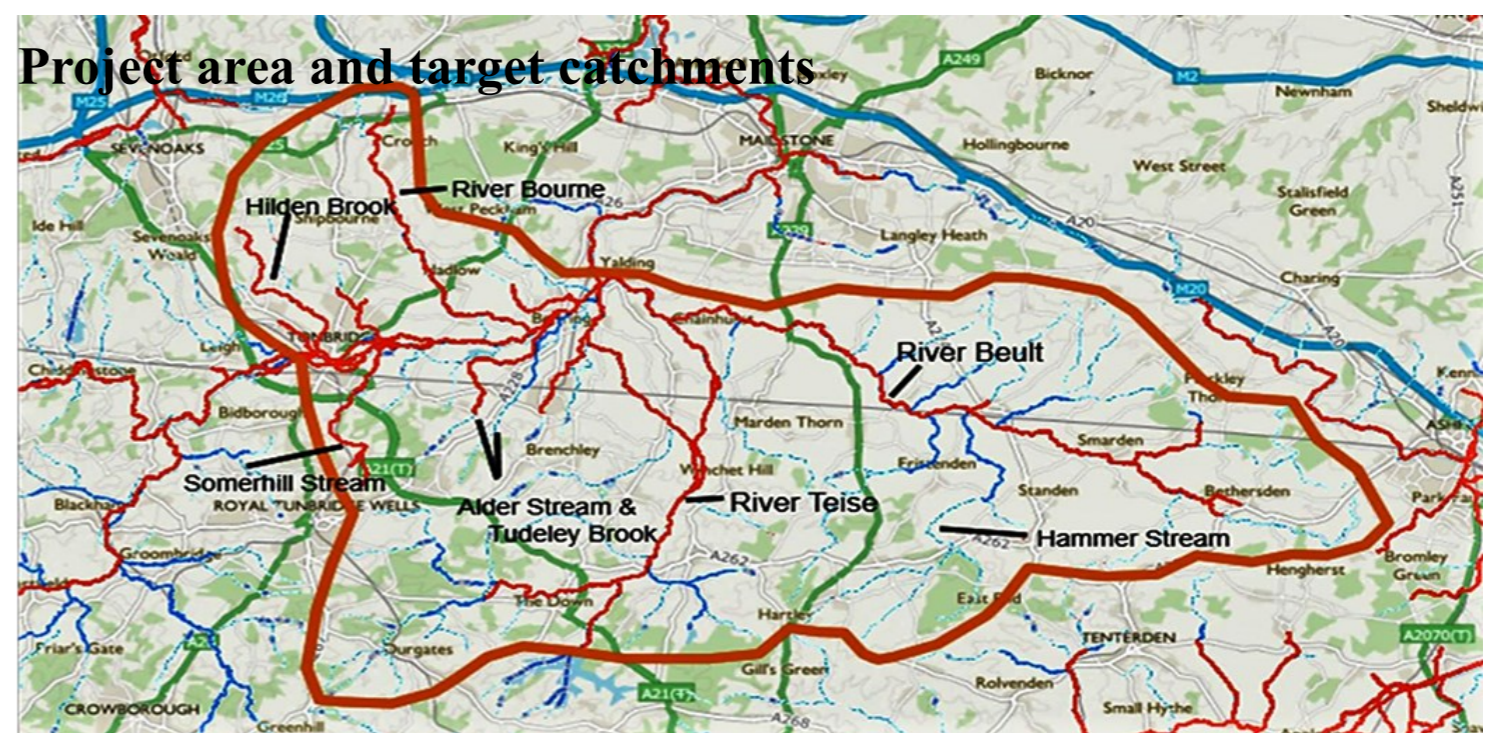
Natural Flood Management can not only help to reduce downstream flooding, but also has potential to provide:

- Landscape character improvement
- Additional or enhanced habitat for wildlife
- Better water quality by reducing soil or chemical run off
- Long term – more water availability in dry periods

SciMap modelling of the Hogg Stream near Headcorn



Project area and target catchments



Medway Natural Flood Management Partners include:

Environment Agency, Kent County Council, Joint Parish Flood Group, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Maidstone Borough Council, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Sevenoaks District Council, Natural England, Forestry Commission, Medway Internal Drainage Board, Southern Water, National Farmers Union, Country Land & Business Association, National Flood Forum.



Part of the
Medway Flood Partnership

