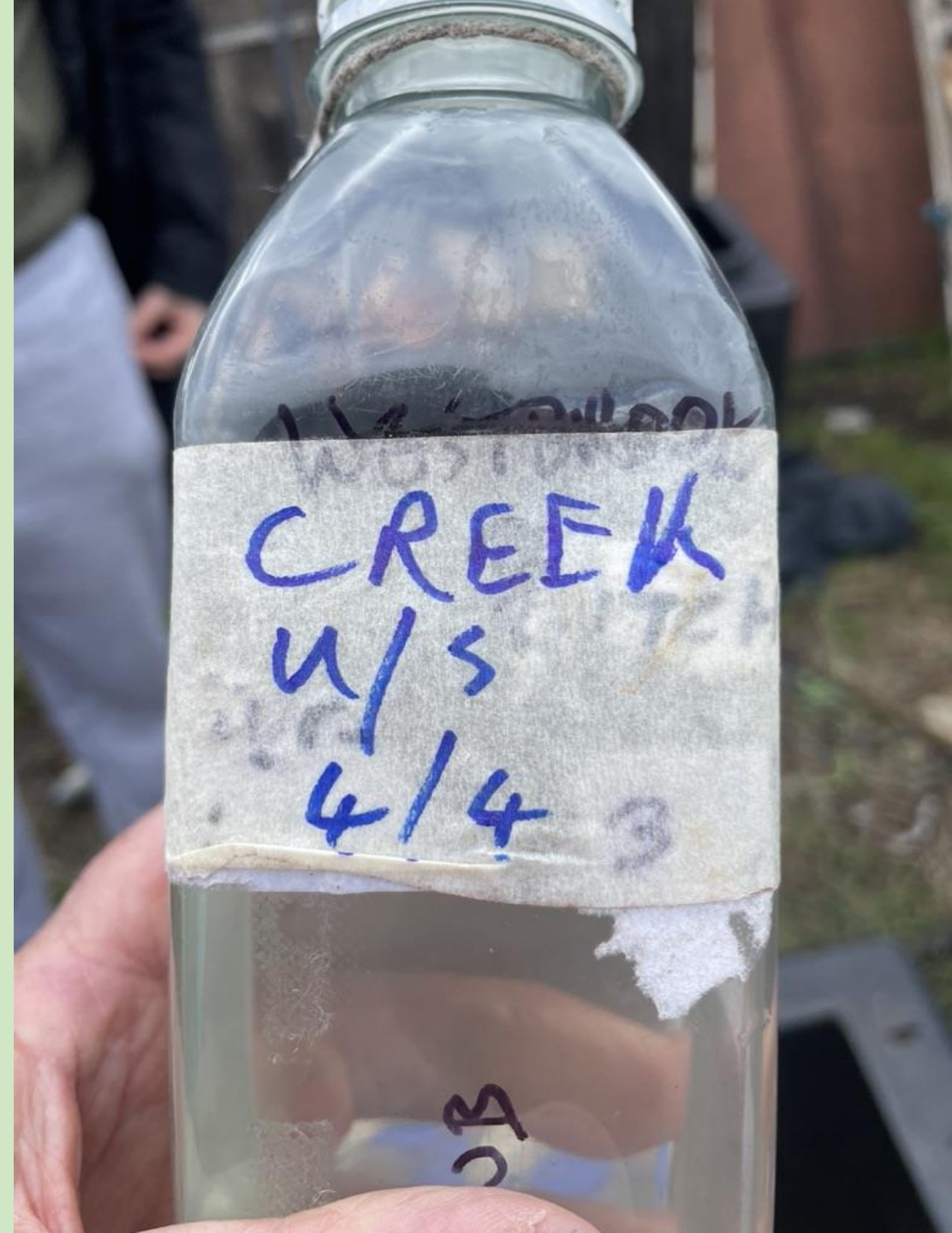


Favwat

Faversham and villages water quality testing

**Working with Faversham Creek Trust
Friends of the Westbrook and Stonebridge Pond
And
Collaborating with the Zoological Society of London**



The UK consistently ranks as one of the worst European countries for coastal water quality. Meanwhile, only 14% of our rivers warrant 'good' ecological status.

Surfers Against Sewage.

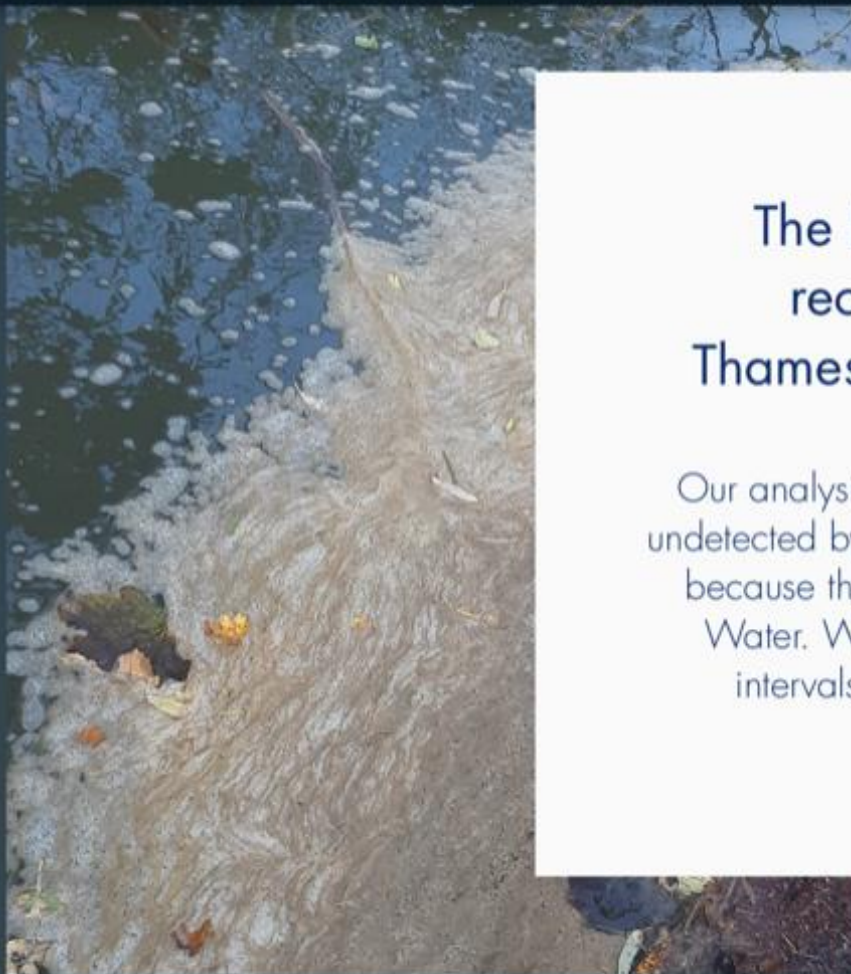
No single stretch of river in England or Northern Ireland is in good overall health, and just 14% reach good ecological health.

Rivers Trust.

In 2023, there were a total of
464,056 raw sewage discharges
into English rivers, waterways, and
seas, this averaged
1,271 sewage spills per day
Nearly 10,000 hours a day

Spills data published by the Environment Agency

Supplied by the water companies



The Environment Agency may record fewer than 3.5% of Thames Water's unpermitted spills*

Our analysis shows that many unpermitted spills go undetected by the Environment Agency. This is partially because they only request daily data from Thames Water. We request data recorded at 15 minute intervals - giving us a more detailed picture.



* Our analysis suggests there were 944 spills between 2010 & 2020 from Thames Water sites that breached permitted treatment standards. The Environment Agency records only list 33.

Faversham Creek Sewage Works



Faversham Creek Sewage Works outflow

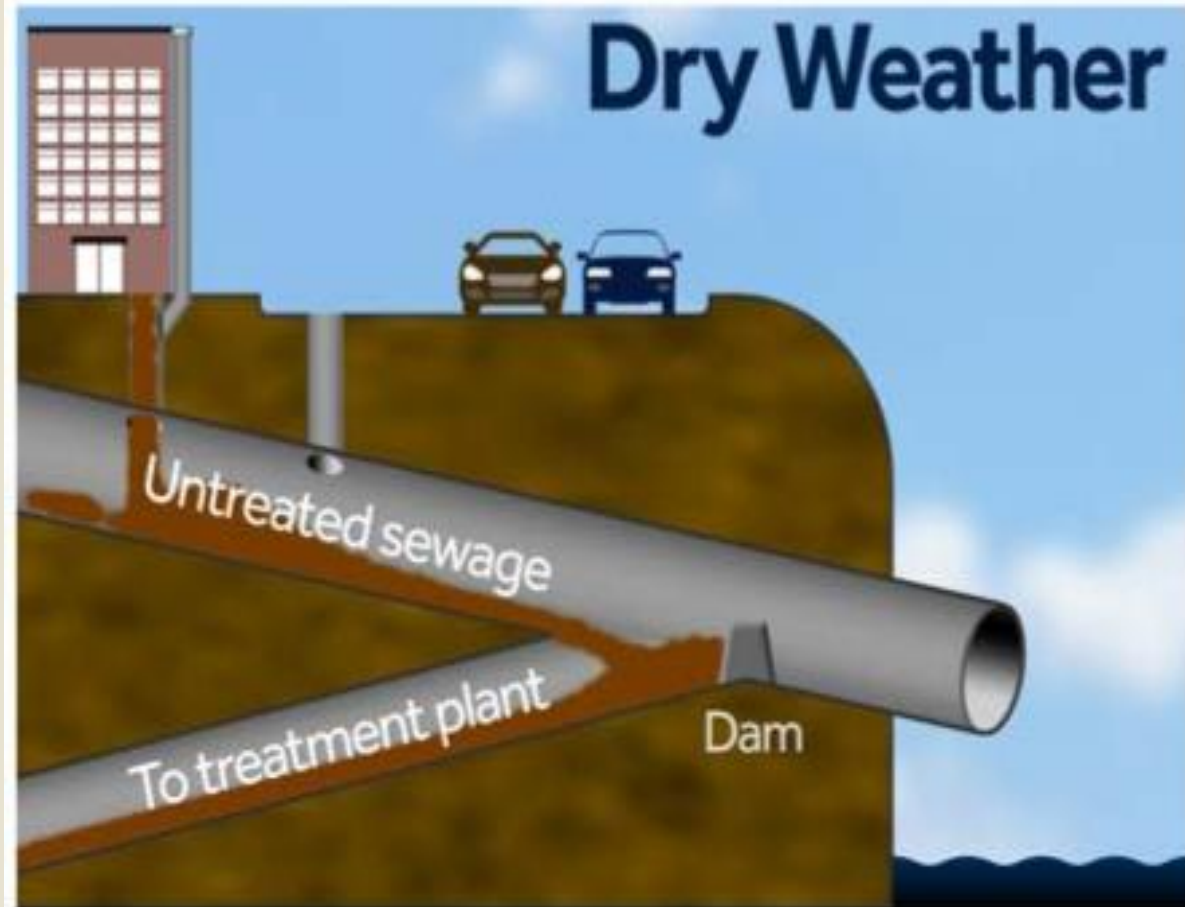


Combined sewer overflows - CSOs

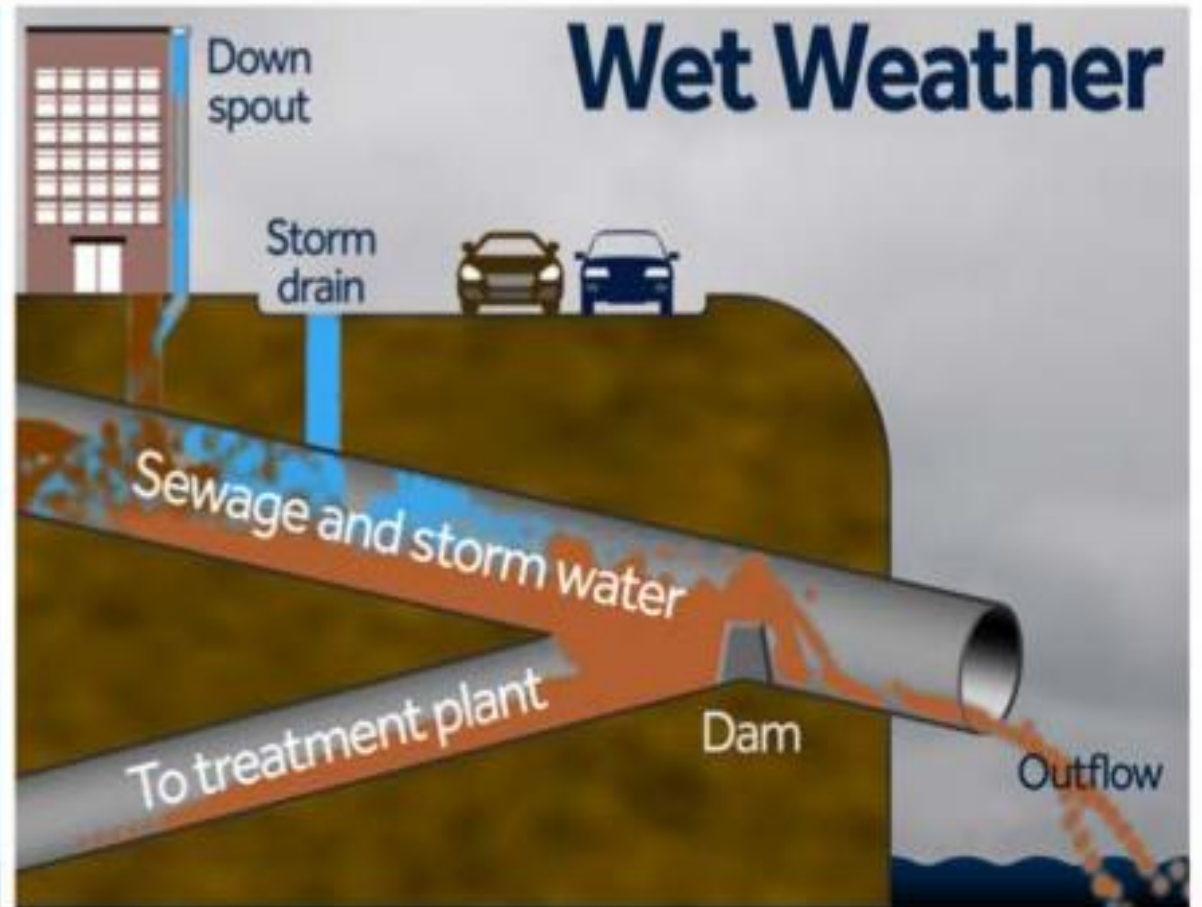
How Heavy Rain Causes Sewage Overflows

CLIMATE  CENTRAL

Dry Weather



Wet Weather



Environmental Information Request

Faversham dry weather flow permit is up to **290 cubic meters an hour**

Three Olympic swimming pools a day of partially treated sewage

We understand from an industry insider that when it rains the system is designed to cope for a time with **6 times dry flow:**

1,740 cubic meters an hour

This relies on the **storm tank** which has a **capacity of 2,080 cubic meters**

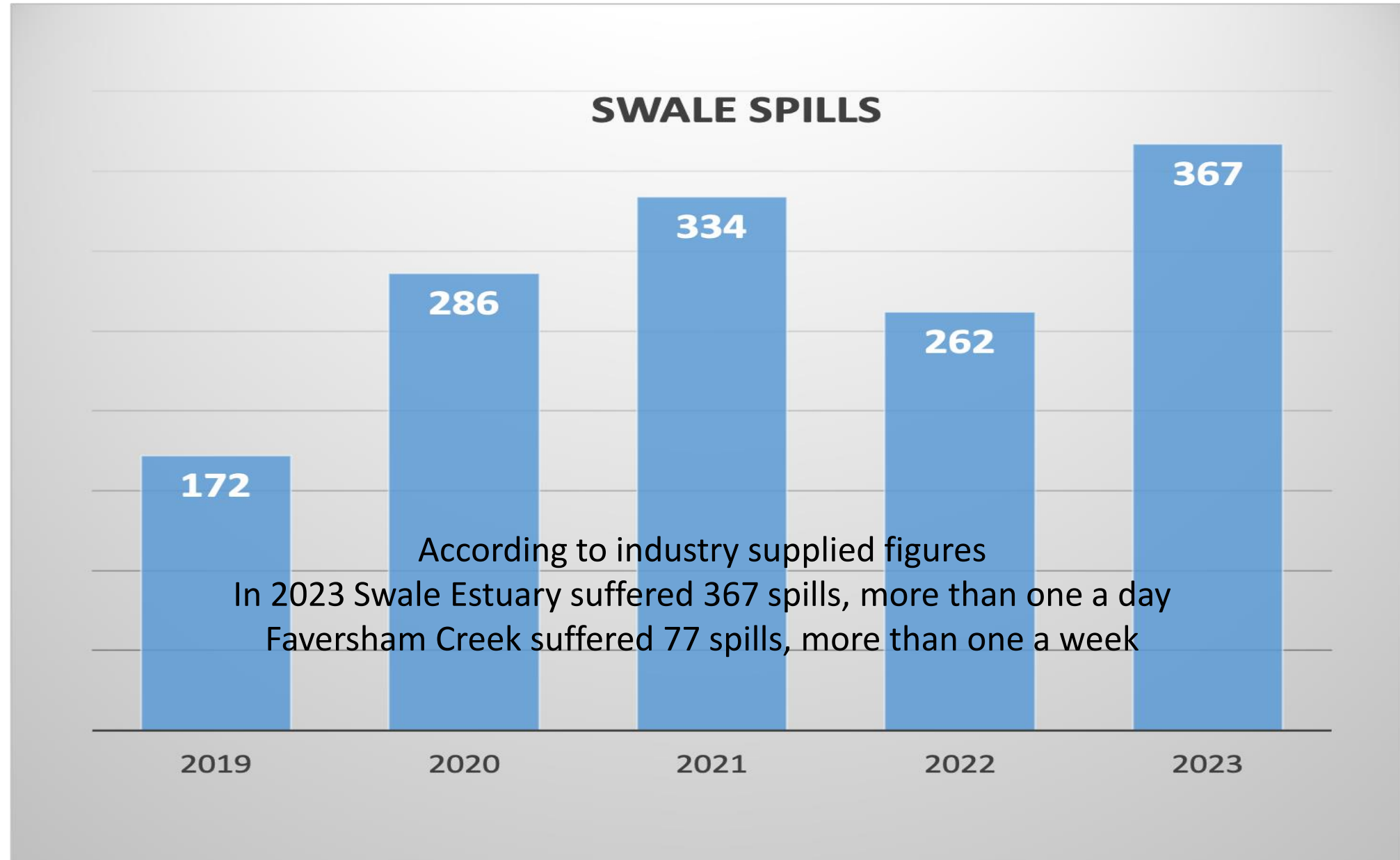
If the rain falls too hard or for too long the CSOs spill raw sewage

This was happening far too often so Southern Water promised to increase capacity

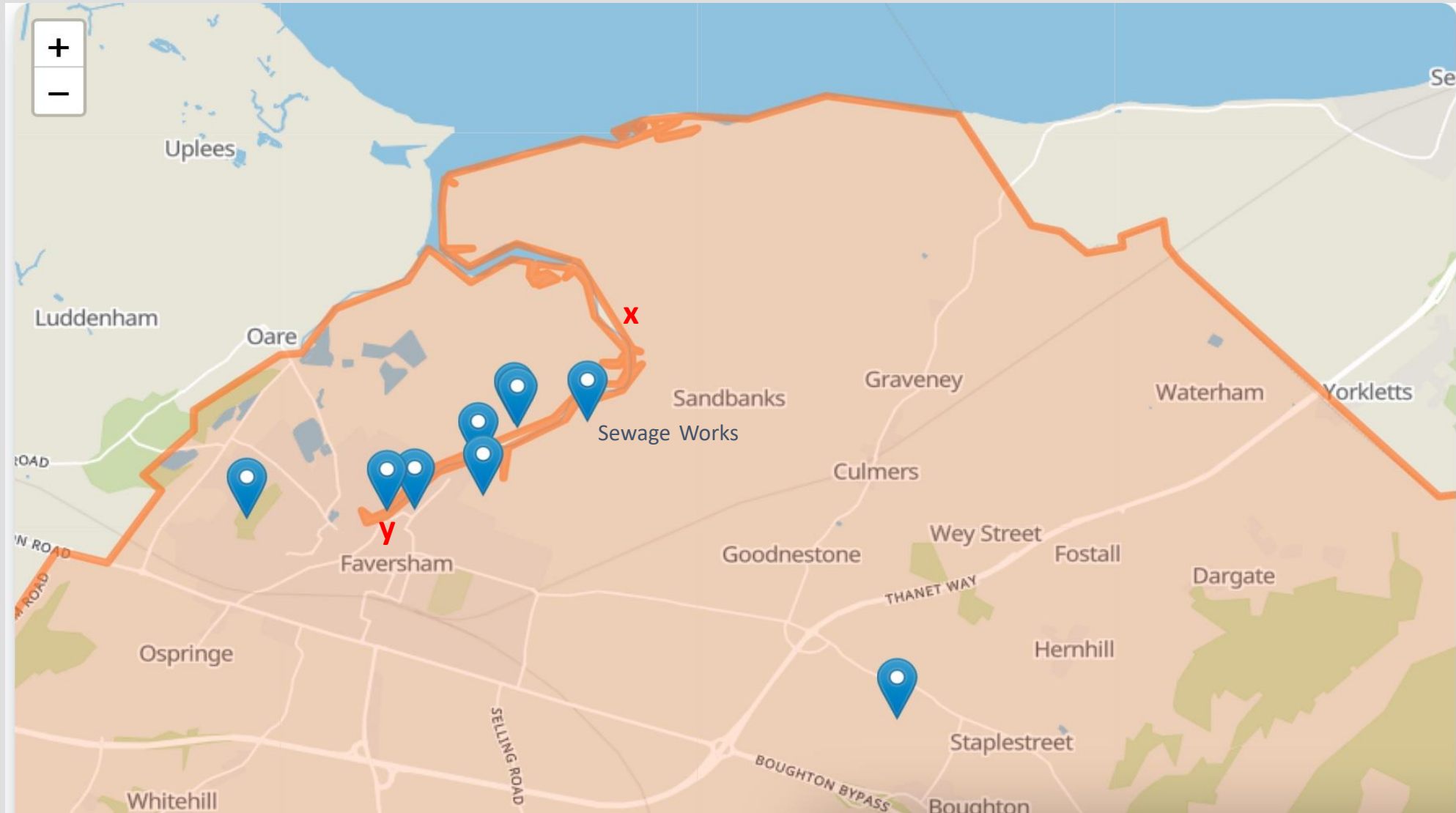
The **planned increase** in storm tank capacity is **200 cubic meters**, less than 10%

We calculate that at 6 times flow this **will add less than 15 minutes** before a spill

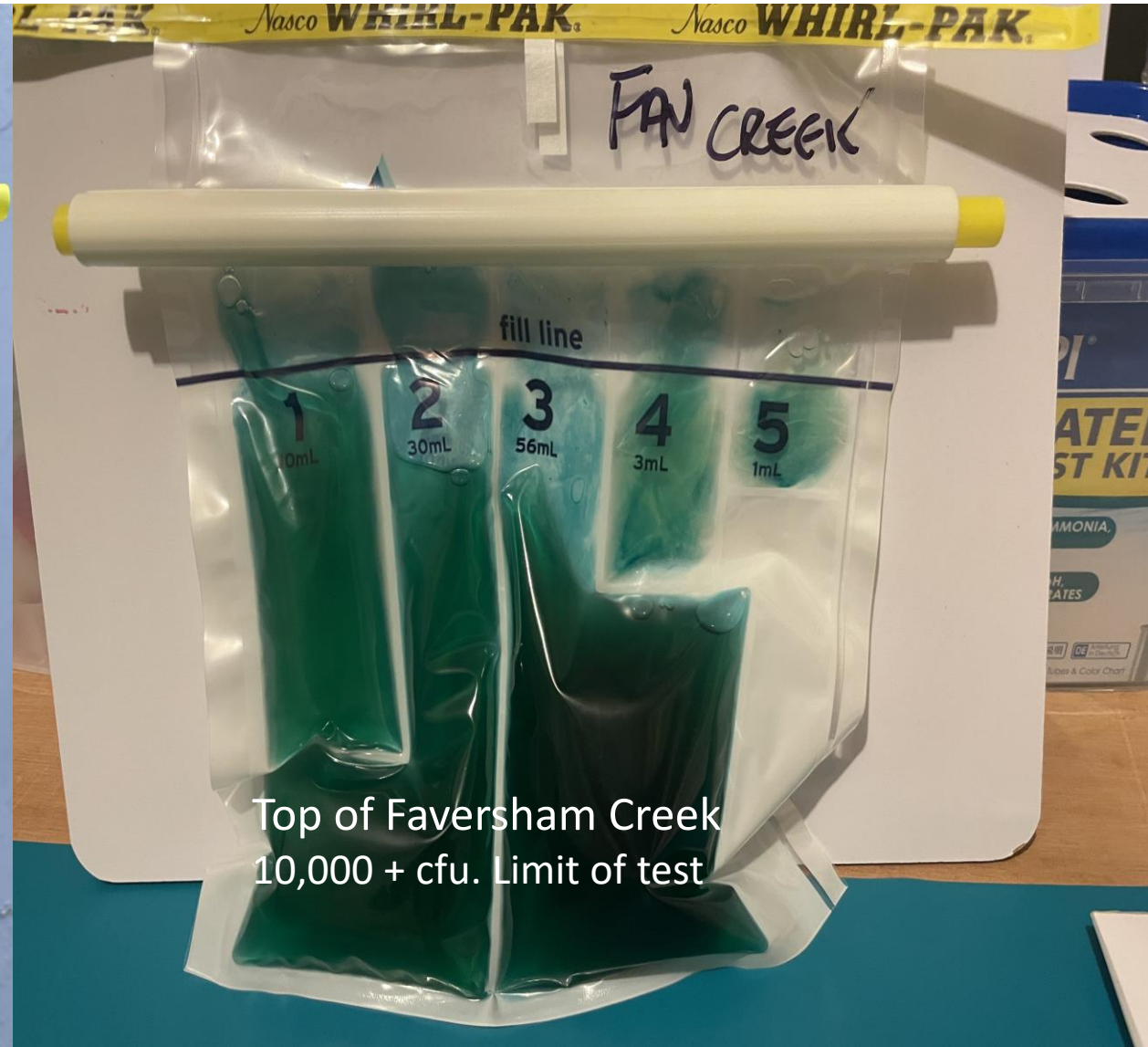
Number of spills into Swale estuary 2019-2023



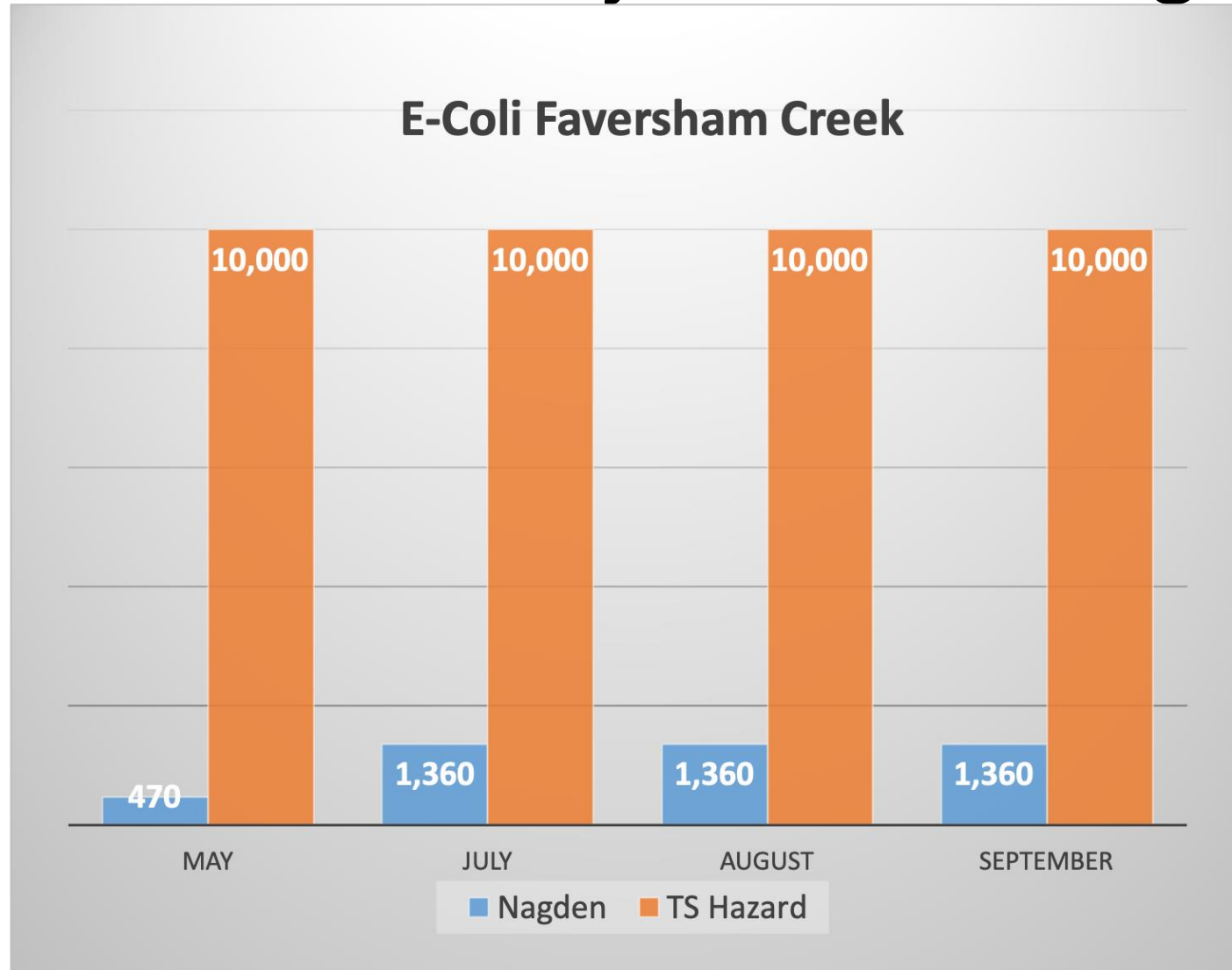
CSOs feeding into Faversham Creek.



Aquagenx Test Results for E.Coli



Aquagenx test results in cfu/100ml for E.coli in Faversham creek just before high tide



What does cfu/100ml mean?

There are some very public examples of levels of E.coli
If coastal bathing water measures more than 500 cfu it is designated 'poor quality'

When they postponed the triathlon in the Olympics in the Seine.
The level then was 1,000 cfu

When there was uproar at the boat race this year
when they were told not to throw the cox in the water
The level then was 2,869 cfu

The level at the top of Faversham Creek was greater than 10,000 cfu
- over the limit of what our test can measure.

This was on a rising tide from the Estuary carrying in 1,360 cfu
So the rest was added by the sewage works with a possible contribution
from the 'black water' of the residential boats

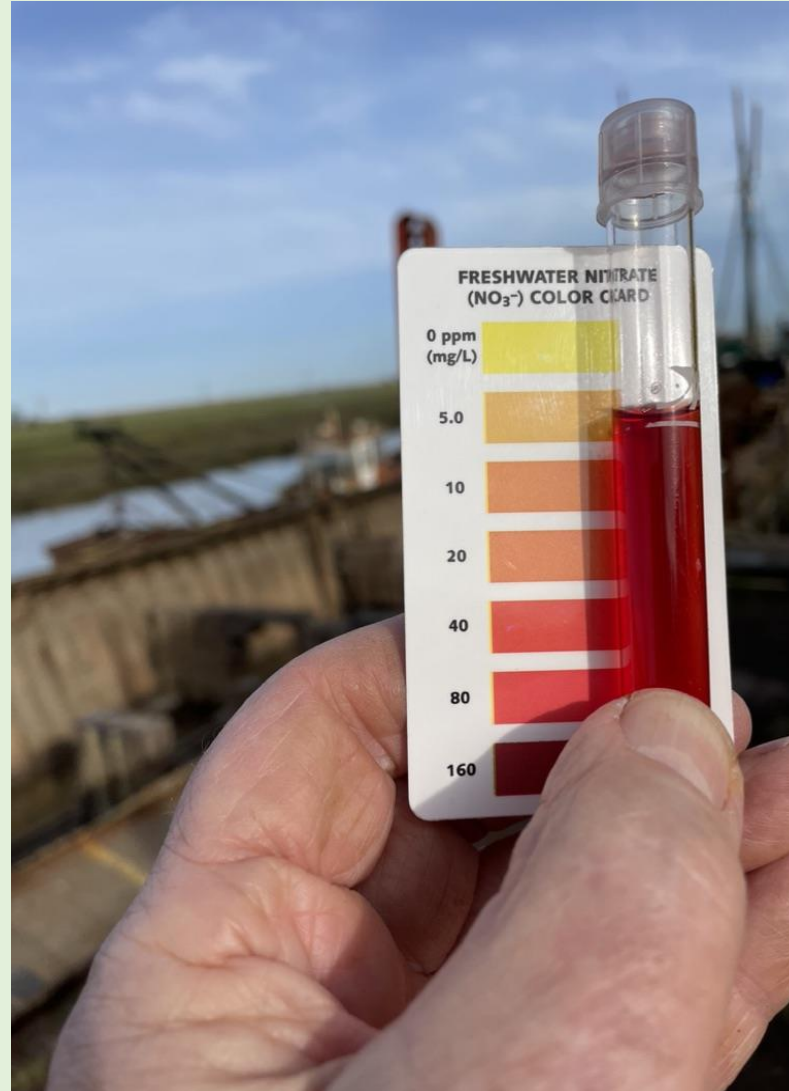


**FAVWAT TESTING
AT FAVERSHAM
SEWAGE WORKS
FOR
NITRATES
PHOSPHATES
& AMMONIA**

NITRATE



PHOSPHATE



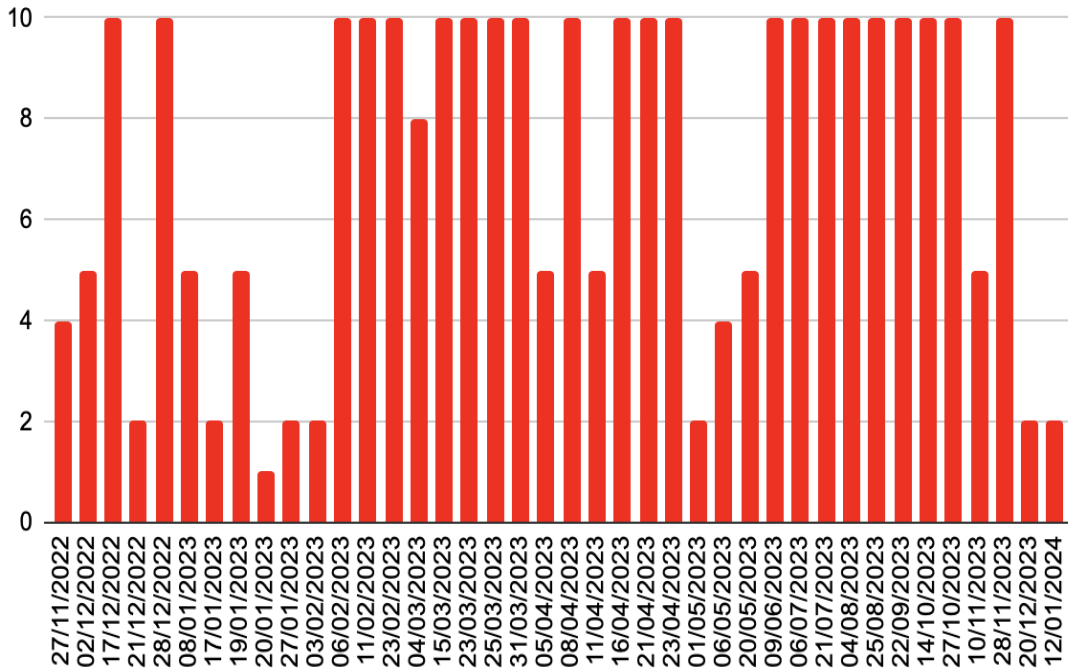
AMMONIA



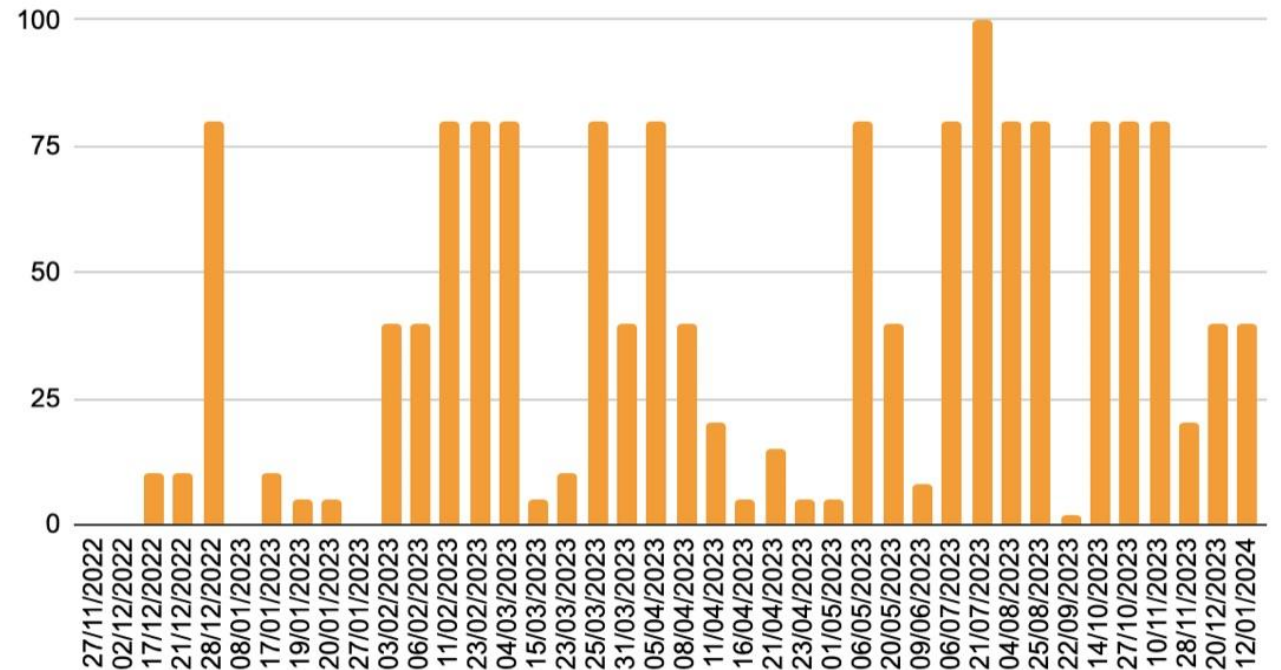
Phosphate and Nitrate in final effluent of Faversham Sewage Works

Faversham Sewage Works does not provide tertiary treatment for nitrates or phosphates
Results for phosphate levels are at or above limits for discharge into a sensitive environment protected against Eutrophication

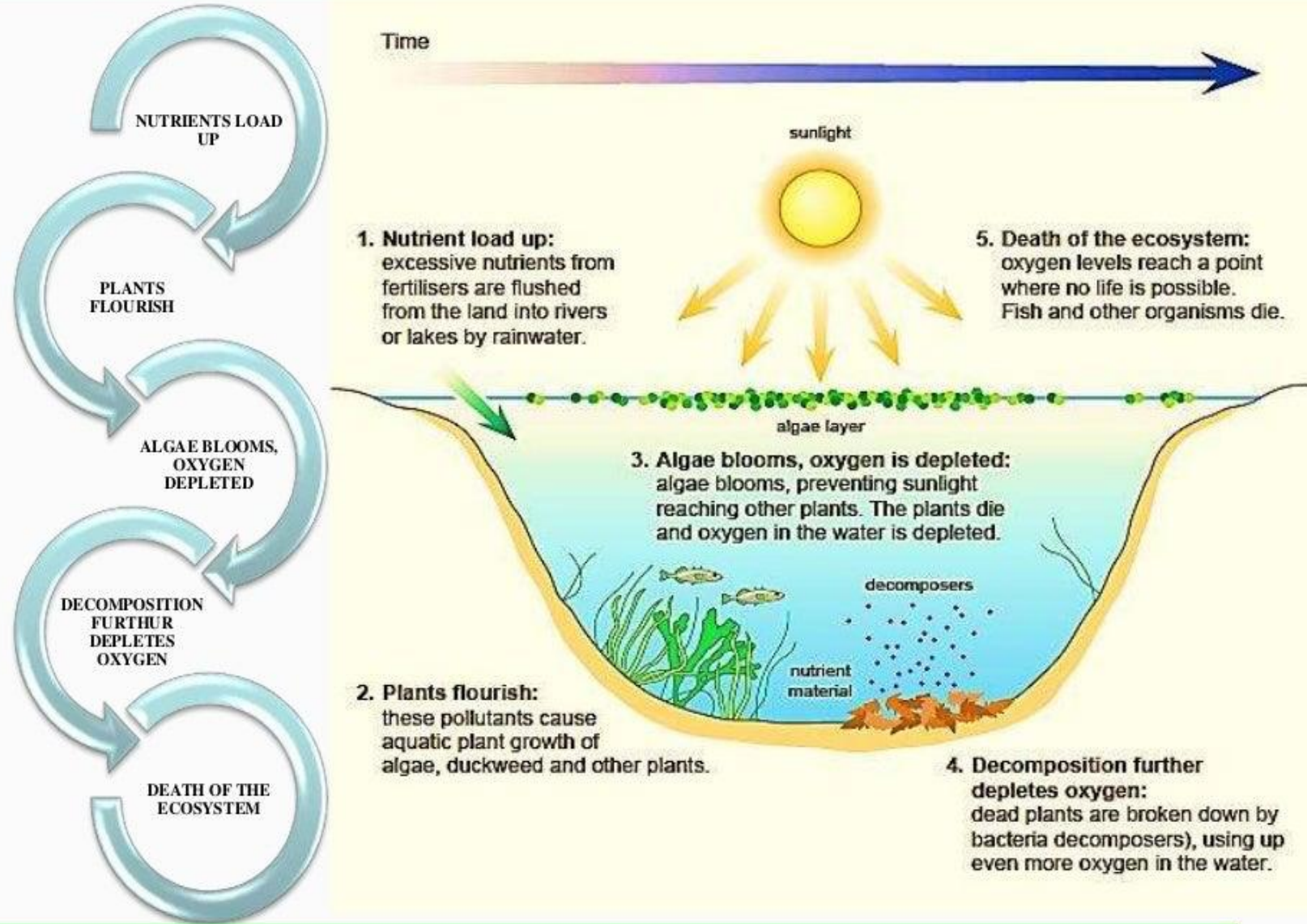
Phosphate



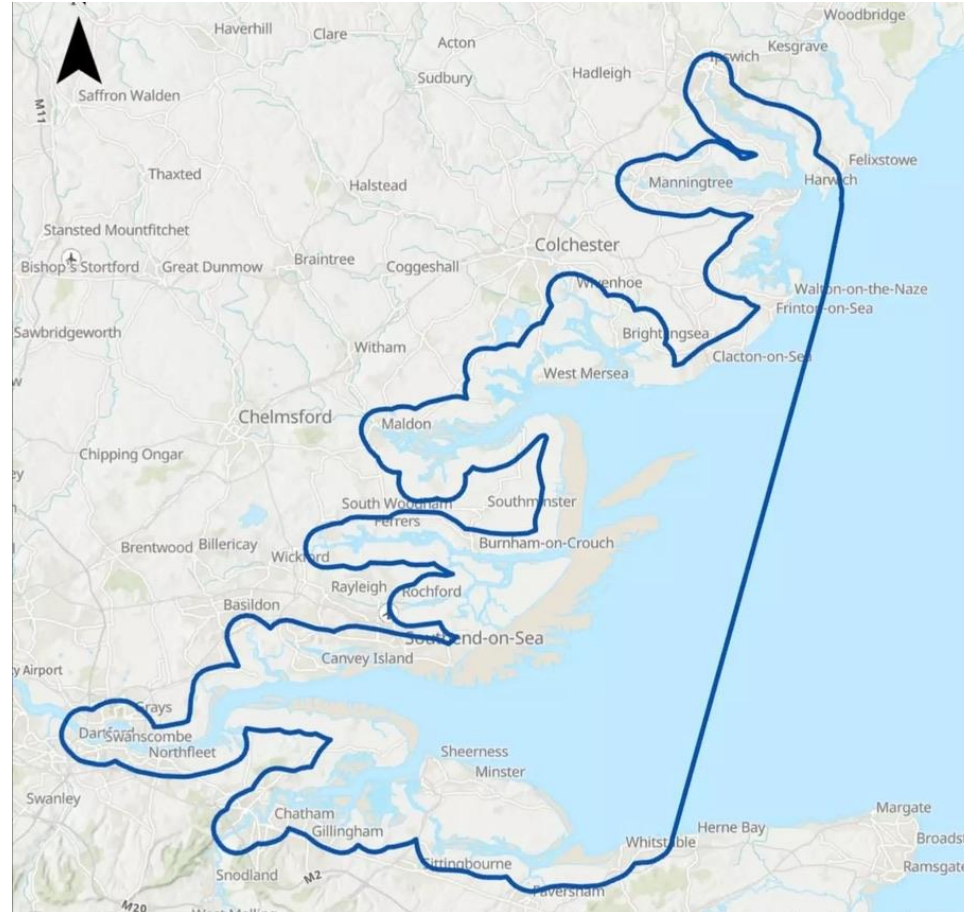
Nitrate



Eutrophication Process in 5 Stages



Zoological Society of London Restoring the Thamescape



Seagrass beds in the Swale & Medway 2022



Government map of sea grass potential in the Swale

ArcGIS My Map Open in Map Viewer Modify Map Sign In

Details Basemap Print Measure Faversham, Kent, England, GBR

About Content Legend

Contents

- Seagrass Potential
- Topographic

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Esri, Intermap, NASA, NGA, USGS, Esri UK, Esri, HERE, Garmin, Foursquare, GeoTechnologies, Inc, M...

Why are we picking seagrass seeds?

Intertidal seagrass beds within the Medway Swale Estuaries are predominantly composed of the dwarf seagrass species, *Zostera noltei*, however the larger *Zostera marina* seagrass can also be found. One restoration technique includes the collection of seagrass seeds which can then be planted at different sites to increase extent and seagrass cover.

Where are we picking seagrass seeds from?

The seagrass seed is being collected from the seagrass meadow at Seasalter, near Whitstable, on the Swale Estuary. The intertidal seagrass meadow at Seasalter has an impressive bed extent of more than 20 Hectares and is in healthy condition with large areas of 100% seagrass cover. It was therefore chosen as a donor site from which seeds can be collected, processed, and planted at other sites in the Medway Swale Estuary.



Seasalter seagrass extent 2022, Swale Estuary

Sea grass

Globally captures carbon up to 35 times faster than rain forest

Supports biodiversity:
provides nursery habitat for key species such as cod and plaice;
and for octopus, dogfish, seahorses and seals;
and a feeding ground for wildfowl

Protects coasts from erosion by damping impact of waves

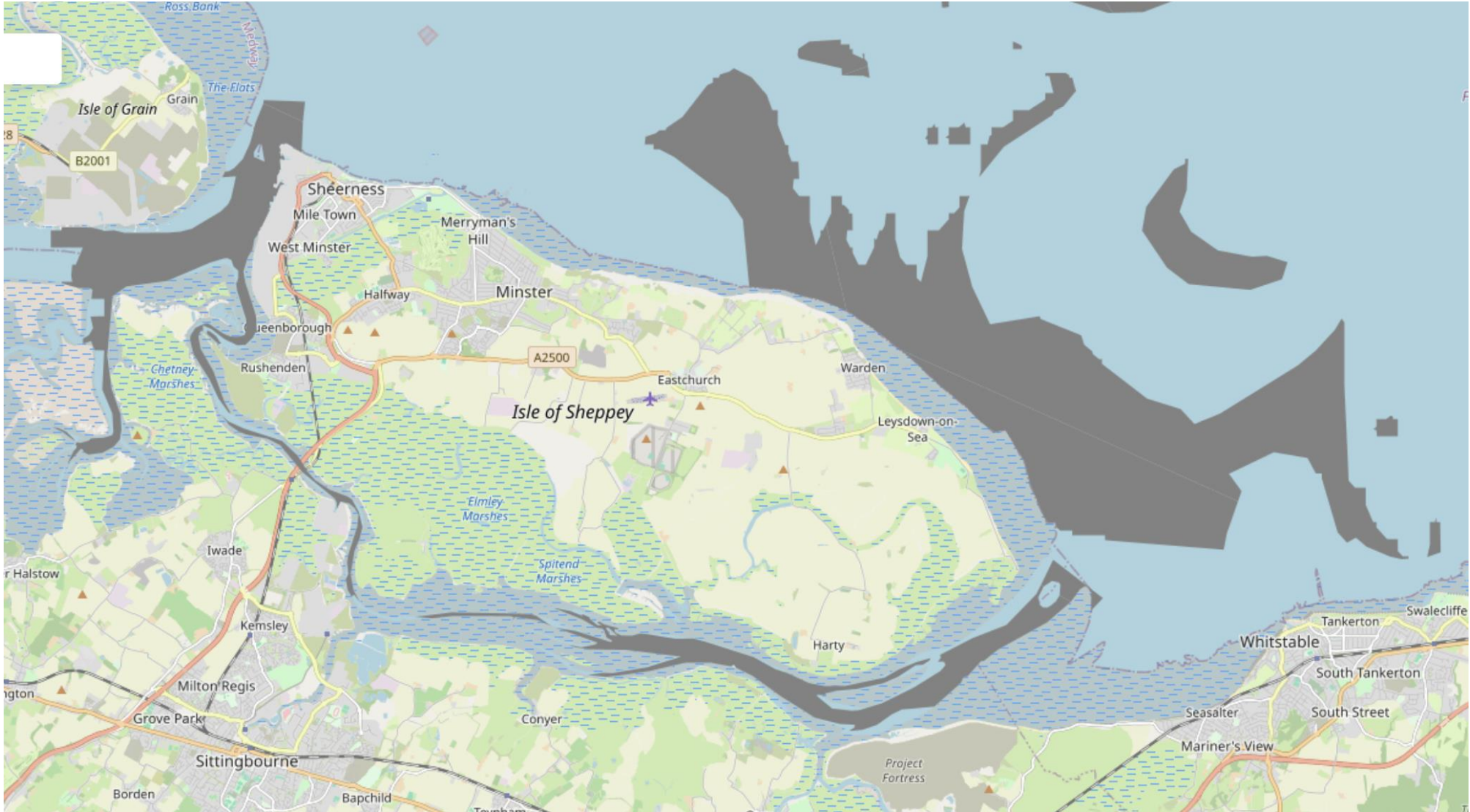
Once established removes pollutants



Collecting sea grass seeds at Seasalter



Map of potential native oyster bed restoration



Yesterday at the swing bridge

