

Parish Clerk: Adrian Prescott
1 Sea View
Crackington Haven
Cornwall
EX23 0LE

Our Ref: AM/2627

Re. Discolouration of the River Valency, Boscastle

Dear Adrian,

The Environment Agency have been made aware of concerns of local Boscastle Residents around discolouration in the River Valency.

Our local Hydrometry and Telemetry Team are working on a project to measure flow levels in the River Valency. To do this, the team are trialling a new experimental flow measuring device called Automatic Dilution Gauging Equipment, which has been developed by the Norwegian Hydrometry service. It works by injecting a tracer dye into the river, and then monitoring the concentration of the dye downstream. This will allow us to understand how much water is flowing through Boscastle across the full range of river levels. This has been impossible to achieve through manual measurements due to the rapidly changing nature of the river in rainfall events. Having automatically triggered equipment available on site means we can build up a more complete picture of the river's behaviour.

The dye involved is completely harmless, and is used by water companies around the world as a tracer. Please be assured that that the water is completely safe for recreational use.

Kind regards,

Bruce Newport
Area Environment Manager
Devon, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Area
Sir John Moore House, Victoria Square, Bodmin, Cornwall, PL31 1EB
Email: DCISenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk