# National Water Vole Database and Mapping Project

PART 2: PROJECT MAPS for period 2008 – 2017

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This document is Part 2 of the National Water Vole Database & Mapping Project 2008-2017 and comprises the Guide to Using the Distribution and Alert Maps, followed by the maps themselves.

This document and maps should be read in conjunction with Part 1 of the National Water Vole Database & Mapping Project 2008-2017.

## 2. GUIDE TO THE USE OF THE DISTRIBUTION AND ALERT MAPS

The following tables explain the uses and limitations of the project maps:

Table 1: GB Water vole distribution maps: quick guide

Table 2: UK American Mink distribution maps: quick guide

Table 3: Water vole alert maps: quick guide

Table 4: Water vole local key area maps: quick guide

 Table 5: Water vole regional key area maps: quick guide

#### Table 1: GB Water vole distribution maps: quick guide

| Error! Reference source not found.              |      |  |                   |  |   |
|---|------|--|-------------------|--|---|
| Map title                                       | Page | Resolution   | Display<br>format | Uses   | Caution   |
| GB- Water vole presence all records (1700-2017) | 8    | Derived<br>from<br>records ≥<br>100m<br>resolution | Dots              | For:<br>-providing overview of distribution across<br>UK since records began<br>-helping to plan further survey/ research<br>at national level.  | Does not:<br>-purport to capture all areas historically<br>or currently occupied by water voles<br>( to an extent reflects recorder effort)<br>-indicate abundance<br>-show status over time. |
| GB- Water vole presence all records (1700-2017) | 9    | Derived<br>from<br>records ≥<br>1km<br>resolution  | 10km<br>squares   | For:<br>-providing overview of distribution across<br>UK since records began<br>-reporting against UK BAP targets<br>-helping to plan further survey/ research<br>at national level.   | Does not:<br>-purport to capture all areas historically<br>or currently occupied by water voles (to<br>an extent reflects recorder effort)<br>-indicate abundance<br>-show status over time.  |
| GB- Water vole presence (2008-2017)             | 10   | Derived<br>from<br>records ≥<br>100m<br>resolution | Dots              | For:<br>-providing overview of distribution across<br>UK over the last 5 years<br>-helping to plan further survey/ research<br>at national level.                                      | Does not:<br>-purport to capture all areas historically<br>or currently occupied by water voles<br>( to an extent reflects recorder effort)<br>-indicate abundance<br>-show status over time. |
| GB - Water vole presence (2008-2017)            | 11   | Derived<br>from<br>records ≥<br>1km<br>resolution  | 10km<br>squares   | For:<br>-providing overview of distribution across<br>UK over the last 5 years<br>-reporting against UK BAP targets<br>-helping to plan further survey/ research<br>at national level. | Does not:<br>-purport to capture all areas historically<br>or currently occupied by water voles (to<br>an extent reflects recorder effort)<br>-indicate abundance<br>-show status over time.  |
| GB - Water vole absence all records (2008-2017) | 12   | Derived<br>from<br>records ≥<br>100m               | Dots              | For:<br>-indicating where absence recorded during survey.  | <b>Does not:</b><br>-indicate areas where water voles have<br>been absent historically or are<br>currently absent.  |
| GB - Water vole absence (2008-2017)             | 13   | Derived<br>from<br>records ≥<br>100m               | Dots              | For:<br>- indicating where absence recorded<br>during survey.  | <b>Does not:</b><br>-indicate areas where water voles have<br>been absent historically or are<br>currently absent.  |

| Error! Reference source not found.                      |      |  |                   |   |   |
|---|------|--|-------------------|---|---|
| Map title   | Page | Resolution                                     | Display<br>format | Uses  | Caution   |
| GB - American mink presence all records (1700-2017)     | 15   | Derived from<br>records ≥<br>100m              | Dots              | For:<br>-providing overview of distribution<br>across UK since records began<br>-helping to plan further survey /<br>research at national level.    | <b>Does not:</b><br>-separate mink survey records from<br>mink trapping records. Mink 'presence'<br>may in some cases represent an animal<br>that has been 'removed' from the<br>population.  |
| GB - American mink presence all records (1700-<br>2017) | 16   | Derived from<br>records ≥<br>1km<br>resolution | 10km<br>squares   | For:<br>-providing overview of distribution<br>across UK since records began<br>-helping to plan further survey /<br>research at national level.    | <b>Does not:</b><br>-separate mink survey records from<br>mink trapping records. Mink 'presence'<br>may in some cases represent an animal<br>that has been 'removed' from the<br>population.  |
| GB - American mink presence (2008-2017)                 | 17   | Derived from<br>records ≥<br>100m              | Dots              | For:<br>-providing overview of distribution<br>across UK over the last five years<br>-helping to plan further survey/<br>research at national level | <b>Does not:</b><br>-separate mink survey records from<br>mink trapping records. Mink 'presence'<br>may in some cases represent an animal<br>that has been 'removed' from the<br>population.  |
| GB - American mink presence (2008-2017)                 | 18   | Derived from<br>records ≥<br>1km<br>resolution | 10km<br>squares   | For:<br>-providing overview of distribution<br>across UK<br>-helping to plan further survey /<br>research at national level                         | <b>Does not:</b><br>- separate mink survey records from<br>mink trapping records. Mink 'presence'<br>may in some cases represent an animal<br>that has been 'removed' from the<br>population. |
| GB - American mink absence (2008-2017)                  | 19   | Derived from<br>records ≥<br>100m              | Dots              | For:<br>- indicating where absence recorded<br>during survey.   | <b>Does not:</b><br>- indicate areas where mink have been<br>absent historically or are currently<br>absent.  |
| GB - American mink absence (2008-2017)                  | 20   | Derived from<br>records ≥<br>100m              | Dots              | For:<br>- indicating where absence recorded<br>during survey.   | <b>Does not:</b><br>- indicate areas where mink have been<br>absent historically or are currently<br>absent   |

#### Table 3: Water vole alert maps: quick guide

| Water Vole Alert Maps                 |      |   |   |  |
|---------------------------------------|------|---|---|--|
| Map title                             | Page | Data displayed  | Uses  | Caution  |
| South West RBD Water Vole Alert Map   | 22   | Derivedfromrecords≥100m   | For:<br>-identifying at least some of the   | These maps do not:-conferanystatutoryornon-statutory   |
| South East RBD Water Vole Alert Map   | 25   | with buffers added.<br>with buffers added.<br>potentially suitable habitat within<br>water vole dispersal distance of<br>populations recorded over the last<br>five years<br>-alerting users to potential<br>presence of water voles<br>-assisting with the collation of<br>data for agri-environment<br>schemes<br>-alerting organisations that<br>undertake regular maintenance<br>tasks to the potential presence of<br>water voles<br>-planning future water vole survey<br>and monitoring. | water vole dispersal distance of  | designation<br>-provide a precise boundary defining<br>presence/absence of water voles and/or their<br>habitat e.g. the 0.5 wide buffer along occupied<br>watercourses will not always capture the extent  |
| Wales Water Vole Alert Map            | 28   |   | five years<br>-alerting users to potential  |  |
| Severn RBD Water Vole Alert Map       | 31   |   | of adjacent suitable habitat.<br>-identify other potentially suitable habitat into<br>which populations may move in the future                                      |  |
| Thames RBD Water Vole Alert Map       | 34   |   | schemes<br>-alerting organisations that<br>undertake regular maintenance<br>tasks to the potential presence of<br>water voles<br>-planning future water vole survey | -remove the need to consider other<br>mapping/imagery to assess habitat suitability<br>-remove the need to undertake new surveys<br>prior to determining<br>development/engineering/habitat works. Sub<br>populations can disappear from sites and/or re<br>appear from one survey season to the next.<br>Populations may also move in response to<br>relatively small changes in habitat quality. |
| Anglian RBD Water Vole Alert Map      | 37   |   |   |  |
| Dee RBD Water Vole Alert Map          | 40   |   |   |  |
| North West RBD Water Vole Alert Map   | 43   |   |   |  |
| Humber RBD Water Vole Alert Map       | 46   | -   |   | SCOTLAND:<br>There has been a limited update to the alert<br>maps for Scotland with new records arising  |
| Solway Tweed RBD Water Vole Alert Map | 49   |   |   | from the PTES National Water Vole<br>Monitoring Programme only.  |
| Northumbria RBD Water Vole Alert Map  | 52   |   |   |  |
| Scotland Water Vole Alert Map         | 55   | -   |   |  |

## Table 4: Water vole local key area maps: quick guide

| Water Vole Local Key Area Maps               | _    |  |  |   |
|--|------|--|--|---|
| Map title                                    | Page | Data displayed                                 | Uses   | Caution   |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: South West RBD   | 23   | Alert areas over 6km <sup>2</sup> derived from | <ul> <li>derived from ≥ 100m</li> <li>indicating areas ≥ 6 km<sup>2</sup> that are likely to support larger populations/clusters of populations that have a greater chance of persisting long term</li> <li>encouraging protection and/or sensitive management of potentially suitable habitat within and adjacent to sites where water voles recorded in the last ten years</li> <li>assisting with designation of local wildlife sites</li> <li>targeting survey and monitoring efforts</li> <li>targeting habitat enhancement and creation works</li> </ul> | These maps do not:<br>-confer any statutory or non statutory designation<br>-provide a precise boundary defining<br>presence/absence of water voles and/or their<br>habitat (as outlined in Table 5)<br>-identify other potentially suitable habitat into<br>which populations may move in the future<br>-remove the need to consider other<br>mapping/imagery to assess habitat suitability<br>-remove the need to undertake new surveys prior<br>to determining development/engineering/habitat<br>works. Sub populations can disappear from sites<br>and/or re appear from one survey season to the<br>next. Populations may move in response to small<br>changes in habitat quality.<br>-show smaller populations, which may decline<br>due to stochastic events.<br>-highlight small colonies or small clusters, which<br>are highly unlikely to persist without positive<br>intervention. In some areas these small |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: South East RBD   | 26   | records $\geq$ 100m with buffers added         |  |   |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: Wales            | 29   |  |  |   |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: Severn RBD       | 32   |  |  |   |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: Thames RBD       | 35   |  |  |   |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: Anglian RBD      | 38   |  |  |   |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: Dee RBD          | 41   |  |  |   |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: North West       | 44   |  |  |   |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: Humber RBD       | 47   | agri environment scheme<br>applications        | colonies may be essential in aiding recover<br>of populations and may also regarded<br>locally important.  |   |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: Solway Tweed RBD | 50   |  |  | SCOTLAND:<br>There has been a limited update to the alert<br>maps for Scotland with new records arising<br>from the PTES National Water Vole<br>Monitoring Programme only.  |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: Northumbria RBD  | 53   |  |  |   |
| Water Vole Local Key Areas: Scotland         | 56   |  |  |   |

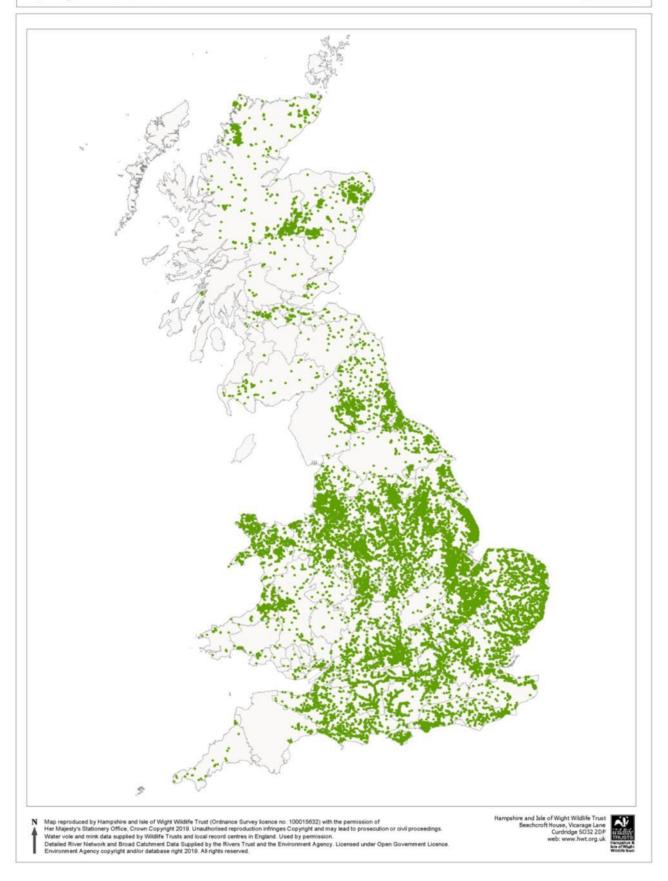
## Table 5: Water vole regional key area maps: quick guide

| Water Vole Regional Key Area Maps               | Daga | Dete diaplayed                                       |  | Coution  |
|---|------|--|--|--|
| Map title                                       | Page | Data displayed                                       | Uses   | Caution  |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: South West RBD   | 24   | Alert areas over 35km <sup>2</sup> derived from      | For:<br>-indicating areas $\geq$ 35 km <sup>2</sup> where  | These maps do not:<br>-confer any statutory or non statutory designation   |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: South East RBD   | 27   | records ≥ 100m<br>with buffers added                 | survive the impacts of stochastic<br>events and to persist > 40 years.<br>-prioritising long term strategic<br>policy initiatives<br>-facilitating collaborative working<br>-prioritising resource allocation<br>-targeting mink control efforts at<br>regional level<br>-assisting with designation of<br>statutory and non-statutory sites<br>-targeting survey and monitoring<br>efforts at regional level<br>-targeting habitat works at<br>regional level<br>-encouraging protection and/or<br>sensitive management of<br>potentially suitable habitat within<br>and adjacent to occupied water<br>vole sites | -provide a precise boundary defining the<br>presence or absence of water voles and/or their<br>habitat (as outlined in Table 5)<br>-identify other potentially suitable habitat into<br>which populations may move in the future<br>-remove the need to consider other<br>mapping/imagery to assess habitat suitability<br>-remove the need to undertake new surveys prior<br>to determining development/engineering/habitat<br>works<br>-show smaller populations, which may decline<br>due to stochastic events,<br>-highlight small colonies or small clusters, which<br>are highly unlikely to persist without positive<br>intervention. <i>In some areas these small</i><br><i>colonies may be essential in aiding recovery</i><br><i>of populations. They may represent all or</i><br><i>most of the remaining populations in the area</i><br><i>and may also be regarded as regionally</i><br><i>important.</i> |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: Wales            | 30   |  |  |  |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: Severn RBD       | 33   |  |  |  |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: Thames RBD       | 36   |  |  |  |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: Anglian RBD      | 39   |  |  |  |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: Dee RBD          | 42   |  |  |  |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: North West       | 45   |  |  |  |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: Humber RBD       | 48   |  |  |  |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: Solway Tweed RBD | 51   |  | -assisting with the development of agri environment scheme applications  |  |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: Northumbria RBD  | 54   | 1  |  |  |
| Water Vole Regional Key Areas: Scotland         | 57   | 1  |  |  |
| Great Britain Water Vole Regional Key Areas     | 58   | Derived from records $\geq$ 100m with buffers added. | Strategic overview of water vole regional key areas.   | Cautions as above.   |

## 3. GB WATER VOLE DISTRIBUTION MAPS

**Great Britain: Water Vole Presence** All Records Jan 1700 - Dec 2017 94,474 presence records





## wildlife TRUSTS

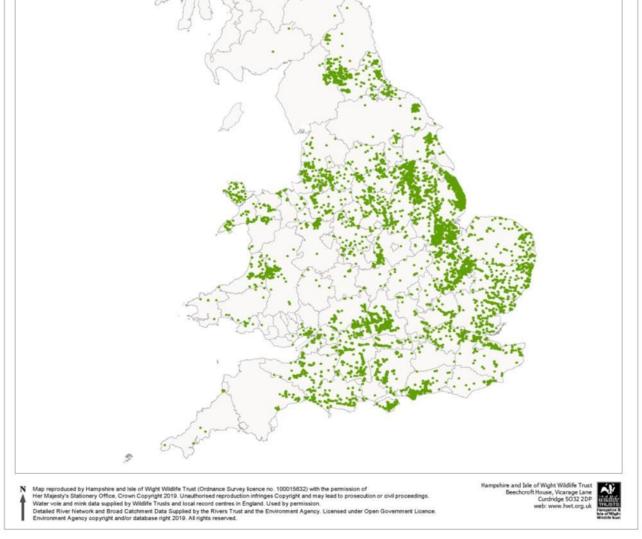
#### Great Britain: Water Vole Presence

All Records Jan 1700 - Dec 2017

1,598 occupied 10km grid squares

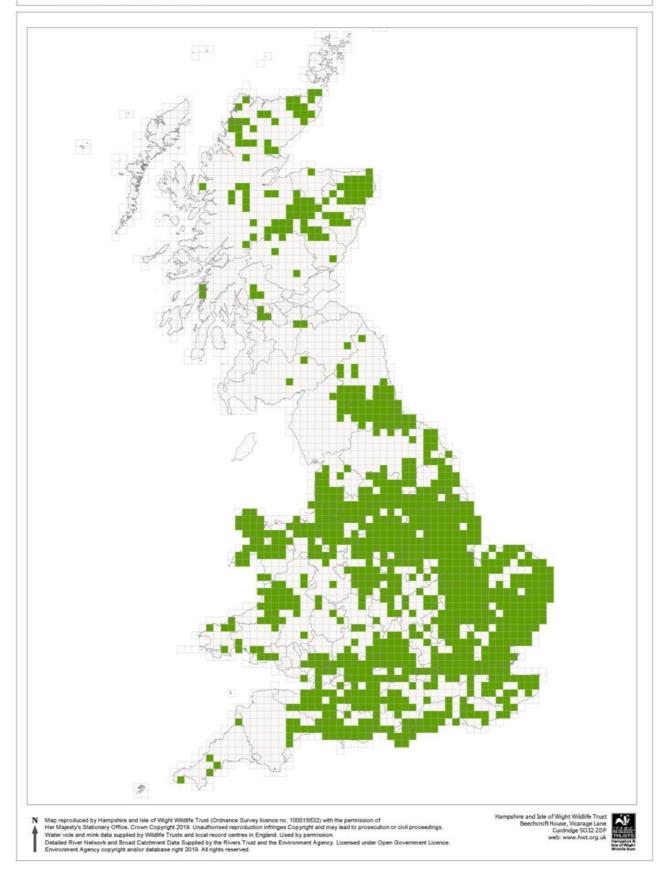


Great Britain: Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017 49,203 presence records



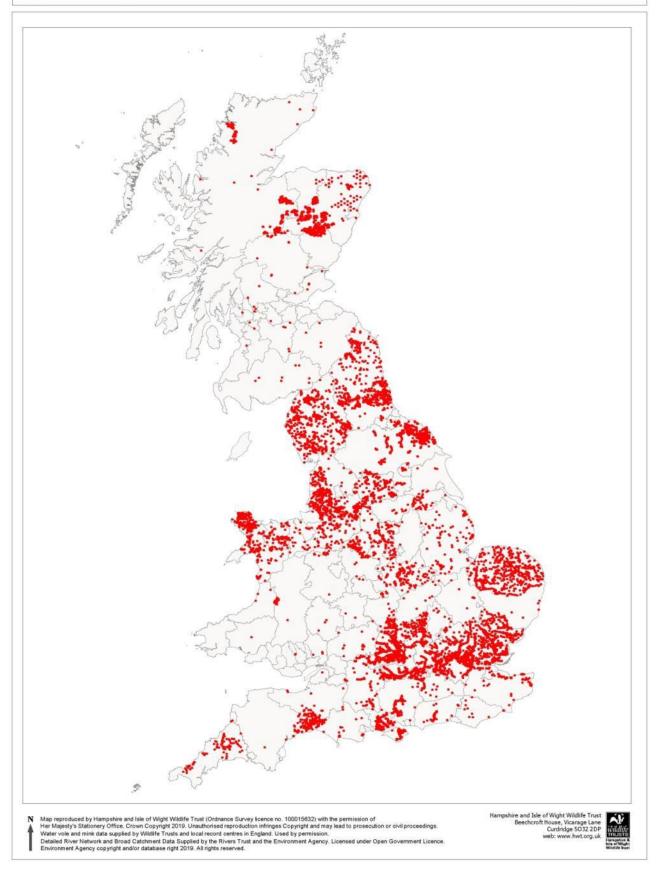
Great Britain: Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017 995 occupied 10km grid squares



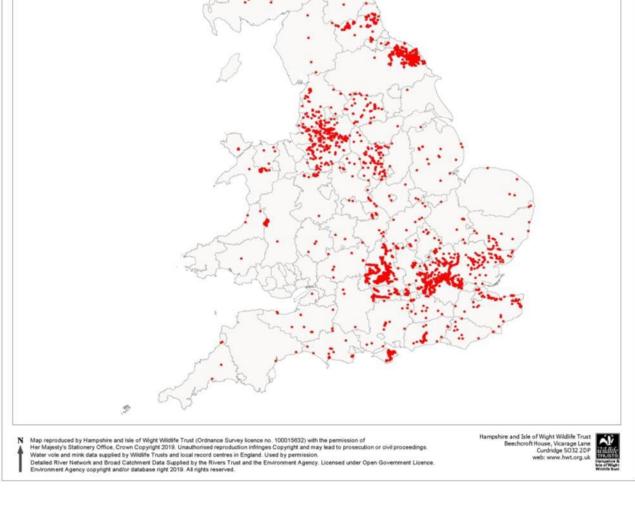


**Great Britain: Water Vole Absence** All Records Jan 1700 - Dec 2017 16,089 absence records





Great Britain: Water Vole Absence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017 5,817 absence records



## 4. GB AMERICAN MINK DISTRIBUTION MAPS

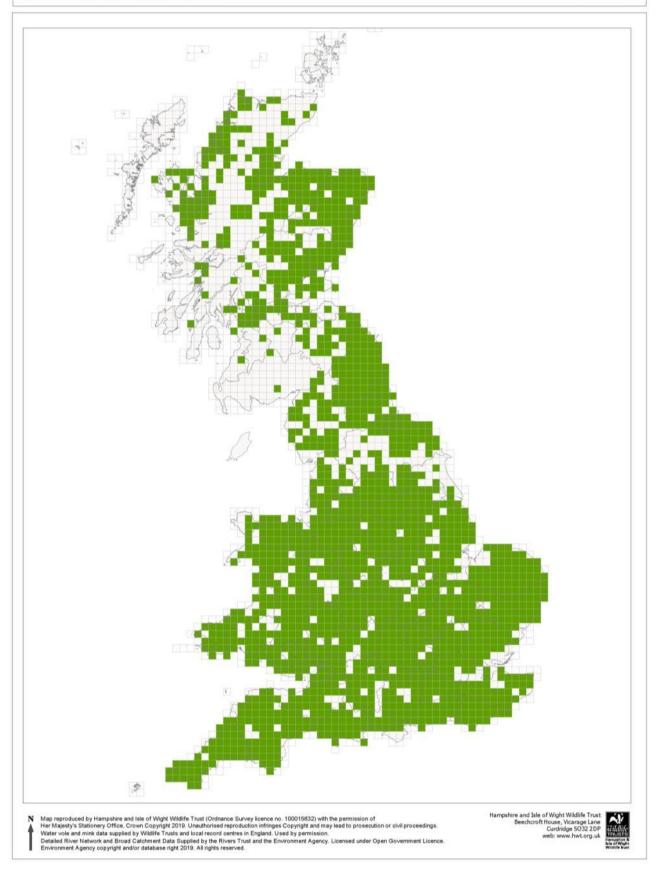
Great Britain: American Mink Presence All Records Jan 1700 - Dec 2017 18,456 presence records





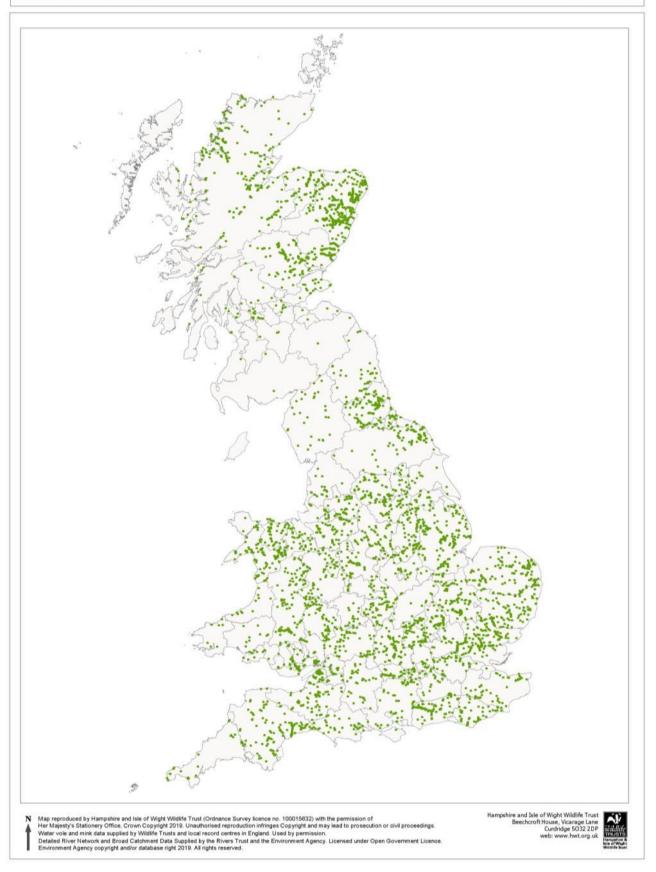
#### **Great Britain: American Mink Presence** All Records Jan 1700 - Dec 2017 1,688 occupied 10km grid squares





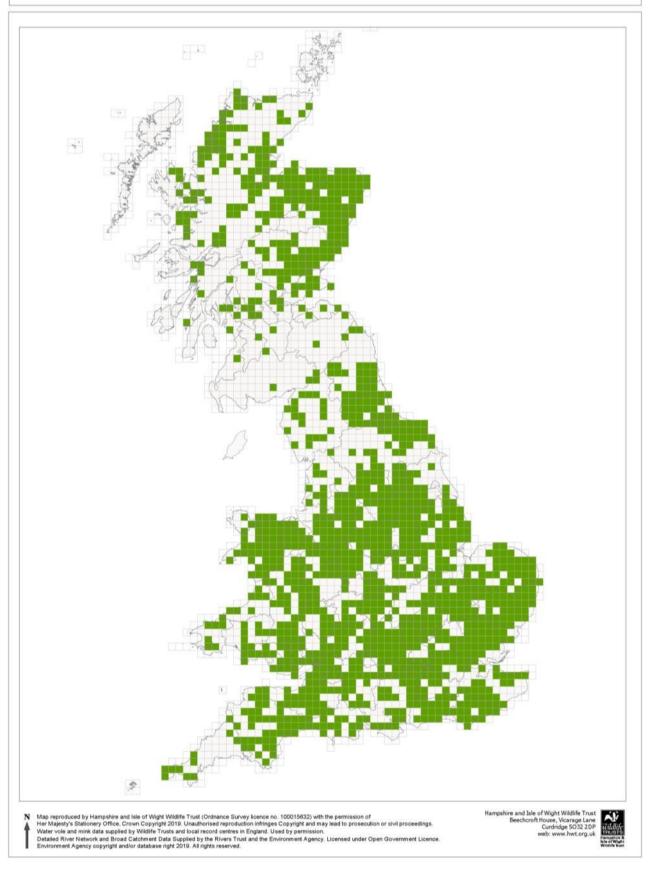
Great Britain: American Mink Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017 6,438 presence records





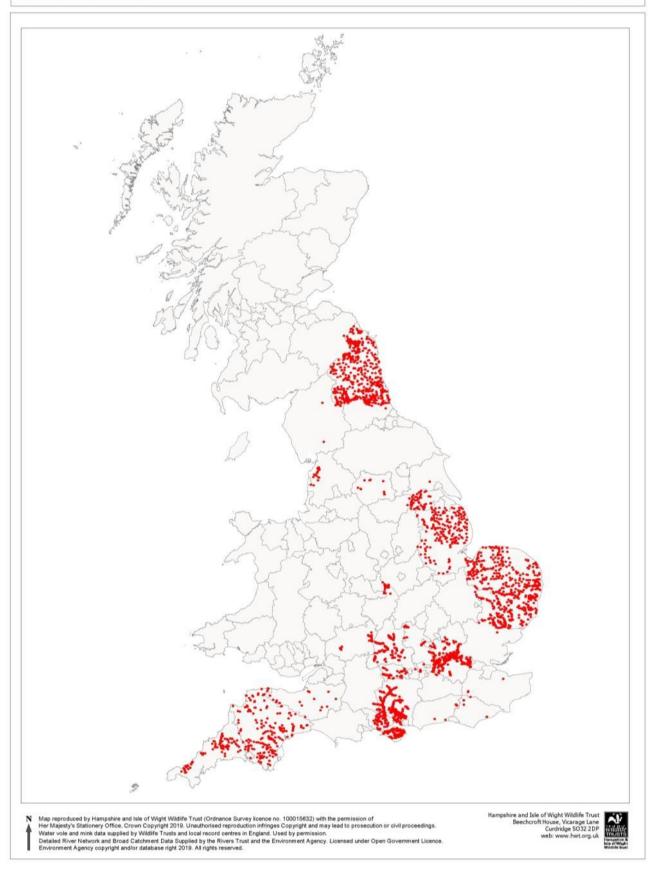
**Great Britain: American Mink Presence** Jan 2008 - Dec 2017 1,265 occupied 10km grid squares





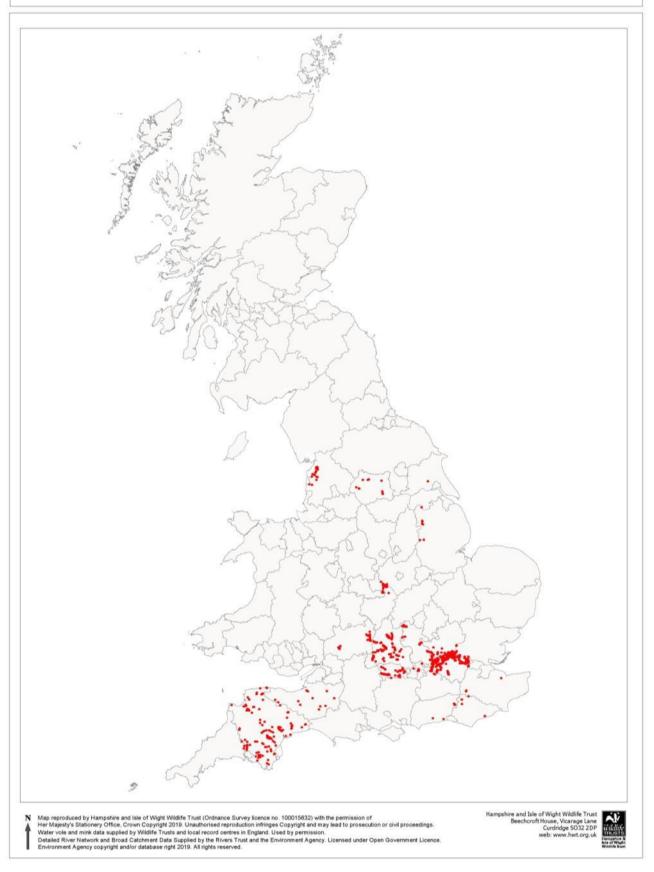
**Great Britain: American Mink Absence** All Records Jan 1700 - Dec 2017 6,637 absence records





Great Britain: American Mink Absence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017 2,231 absence records



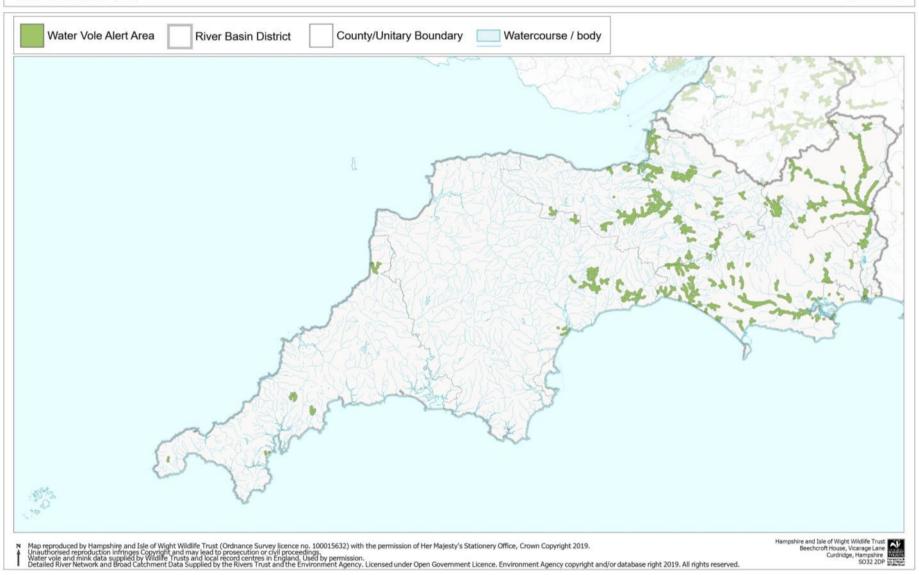


## 5. WATER VOLE ALERT & KEY AREA MAPS

#### Water Vole Alert Map: South West RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

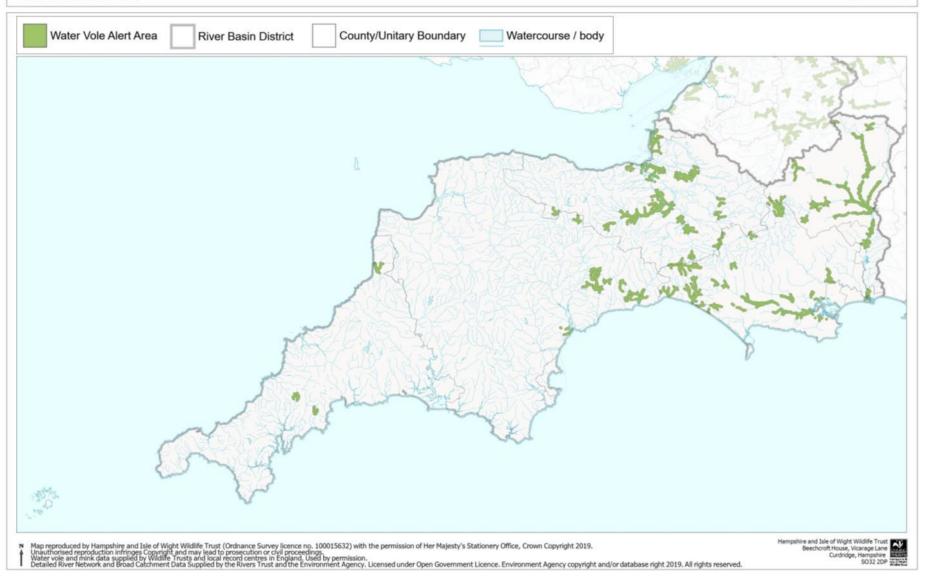
Scale 1:1,268,000 (A4)



Water Vole Local Key Areas (>6sq.km): South West RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

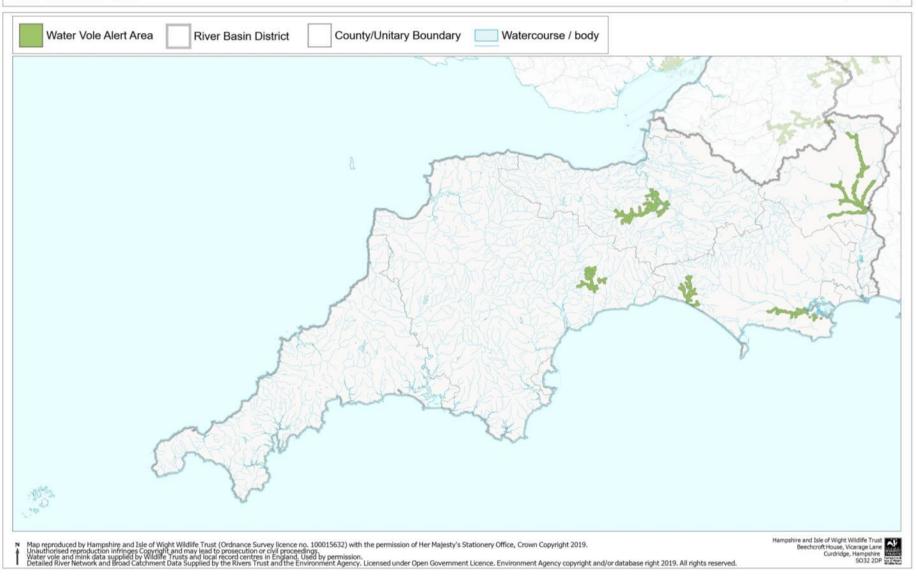
Scale 1:1,268,000 (A4)



Water Vole Regional Key Areas (>35sq.km): South West RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

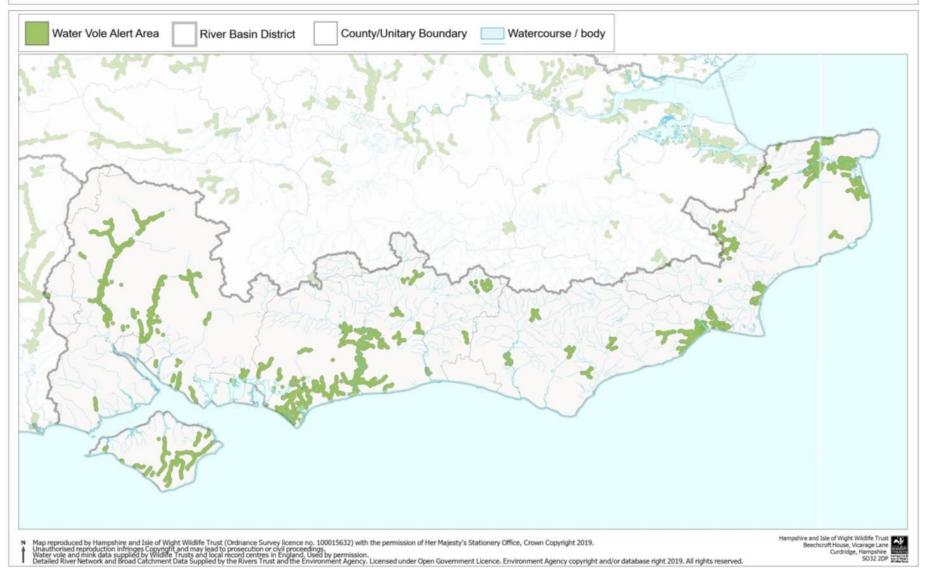
Scale 1:1,268,000 (A4)



#### Water Vole Alert Map: South East RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017 Scale 1:850,000 (A4)



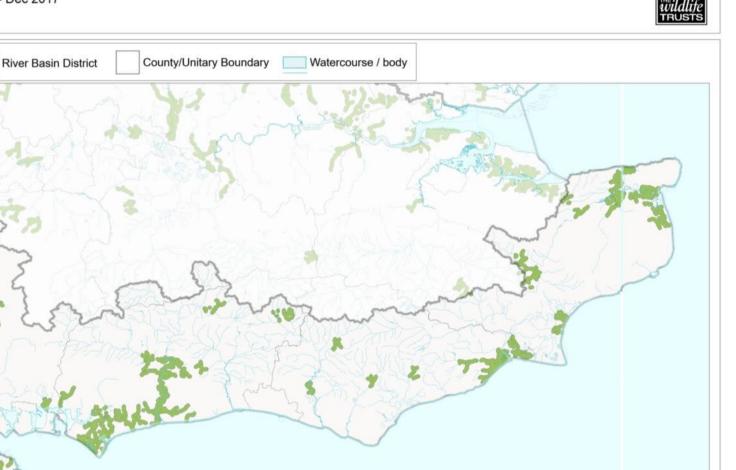


Water Vole Local Key Areas (>6sq.km): South East RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

Scale 1:850,000 (A4)

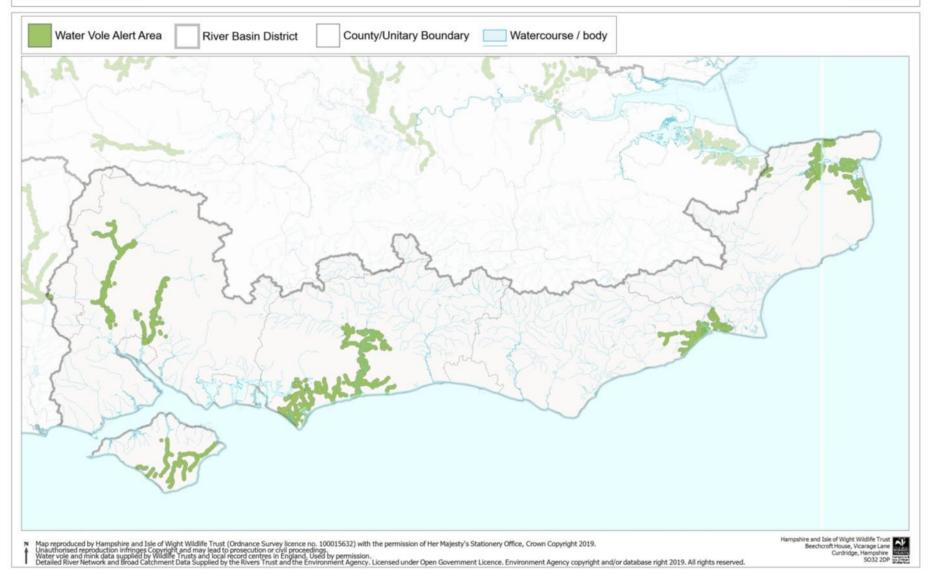
Water Vole Alert Area

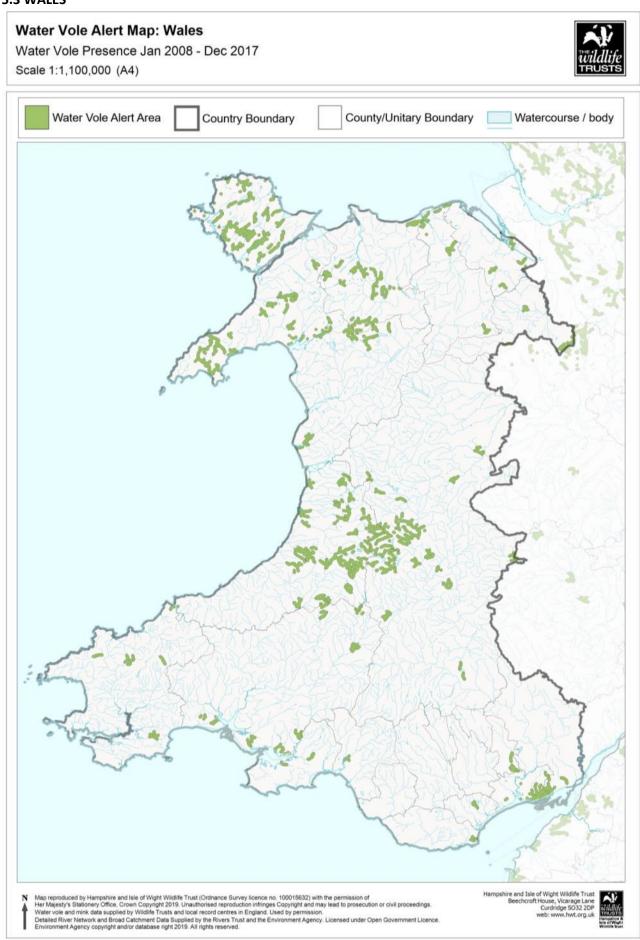


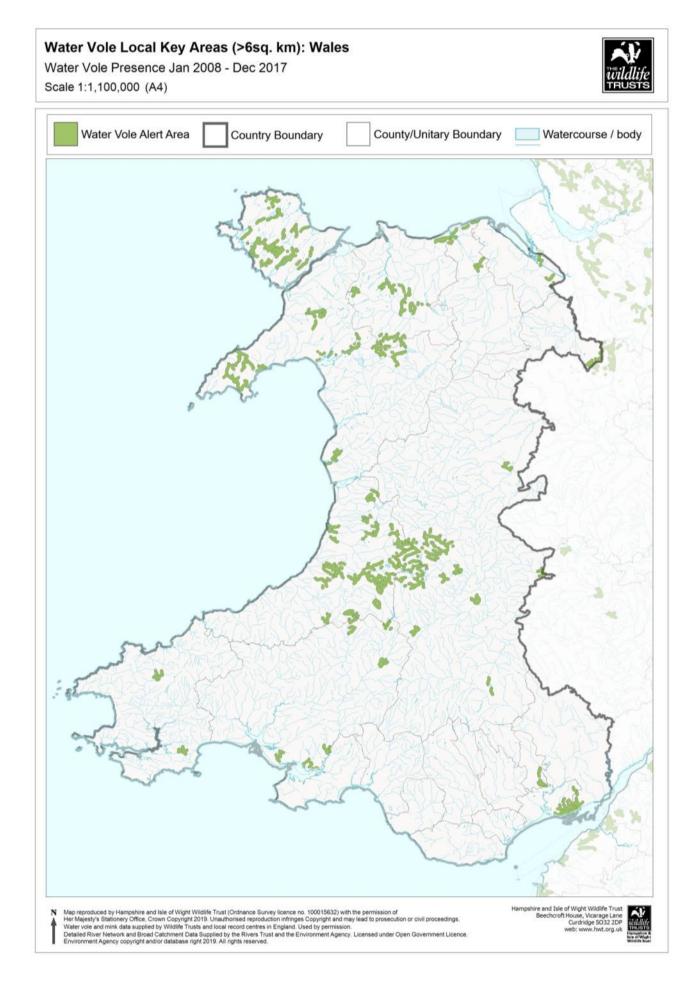
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 Water vole and mink data supplied by Wildlife Trusts and local record centres in England. Used by permission. Detailed River Network and Broad Catchment Data Supplied by the Rivers Trust and the Environment Agency. Licensed under Open Government Licence. Environment Agency copyright and/or database right 2019. All rights reserved. Water Vole Regional Key Areas (>35sq.km): South East RBD

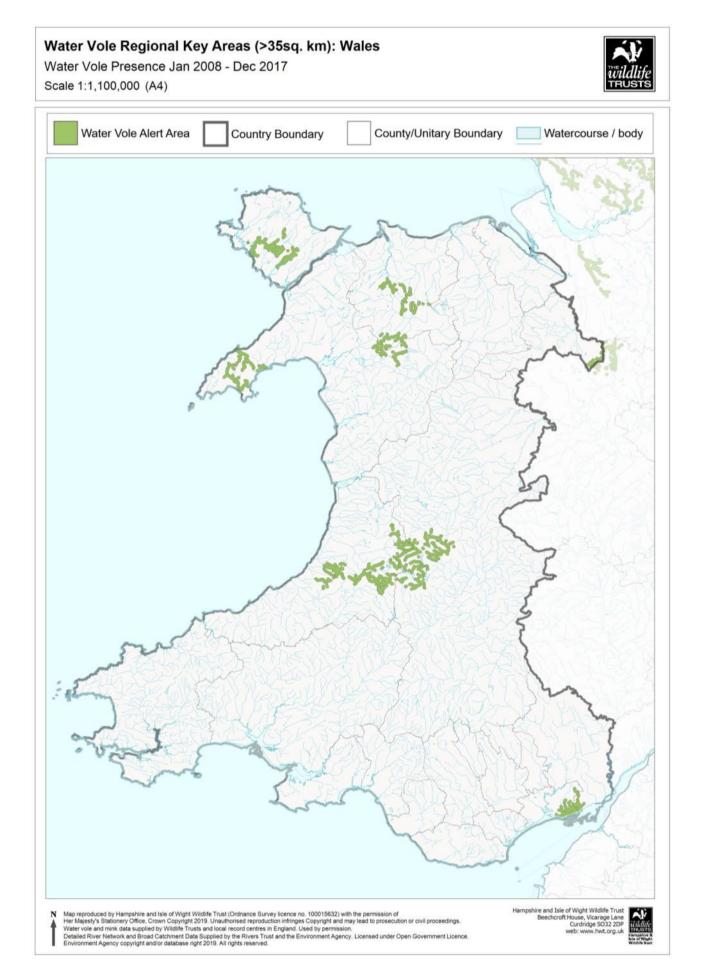
Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

Scale 1:850,000 (A4)







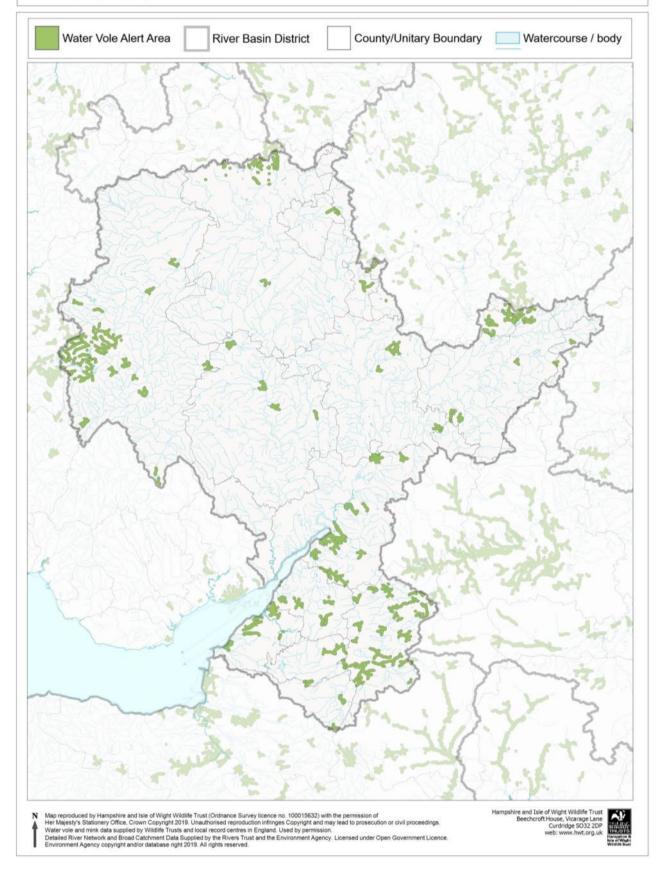


#### National Water Vole Database and Mapping Project, Part 2: Maps for period 2008-2017 5.4 SEVERN RIVER BASIN DISTRICT

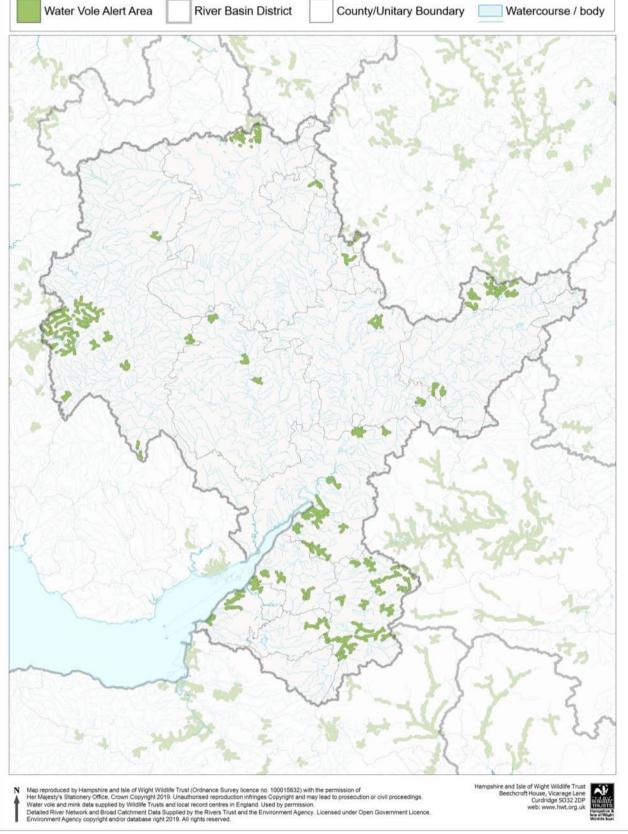
#### Water Vole Alert Map: Severn RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017 Scale 1:1,130,000 (A4)

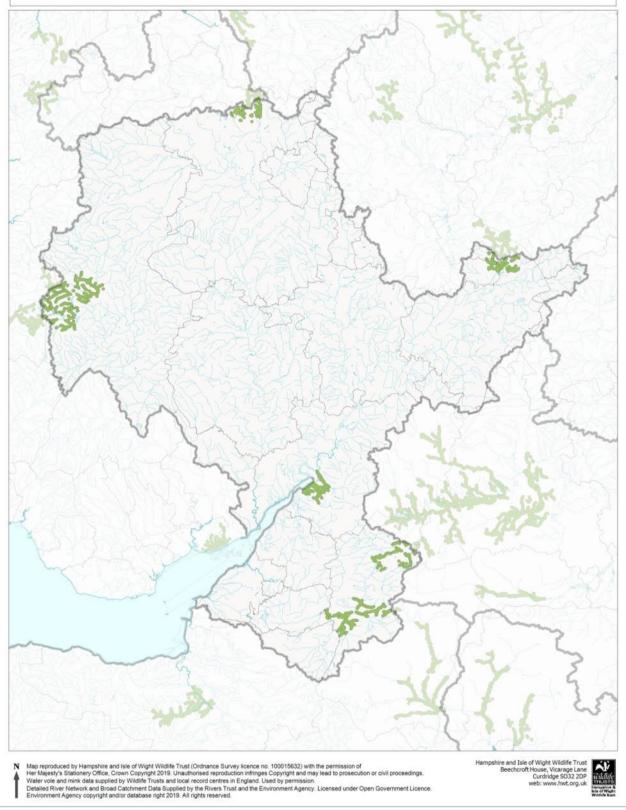










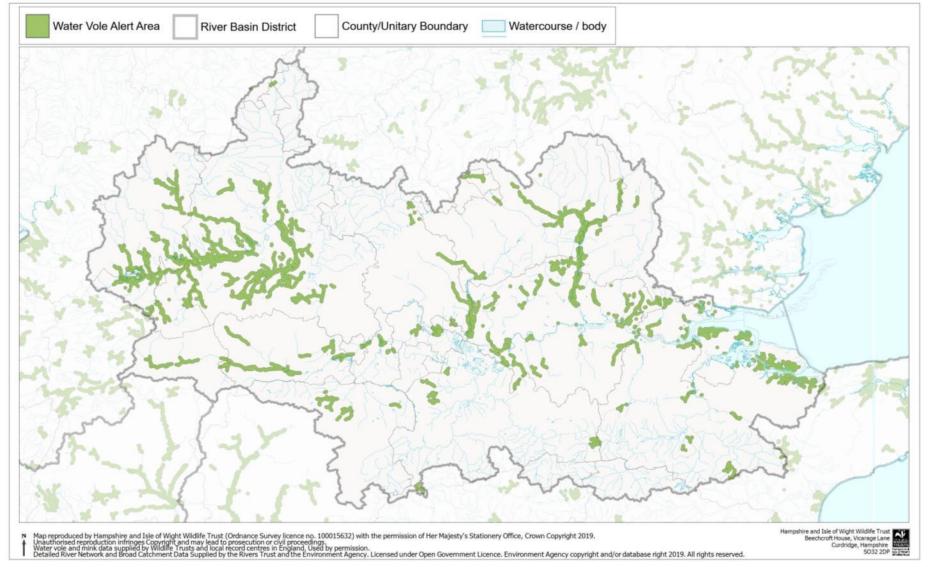


#### Water Vole Alert Map: Thames RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017





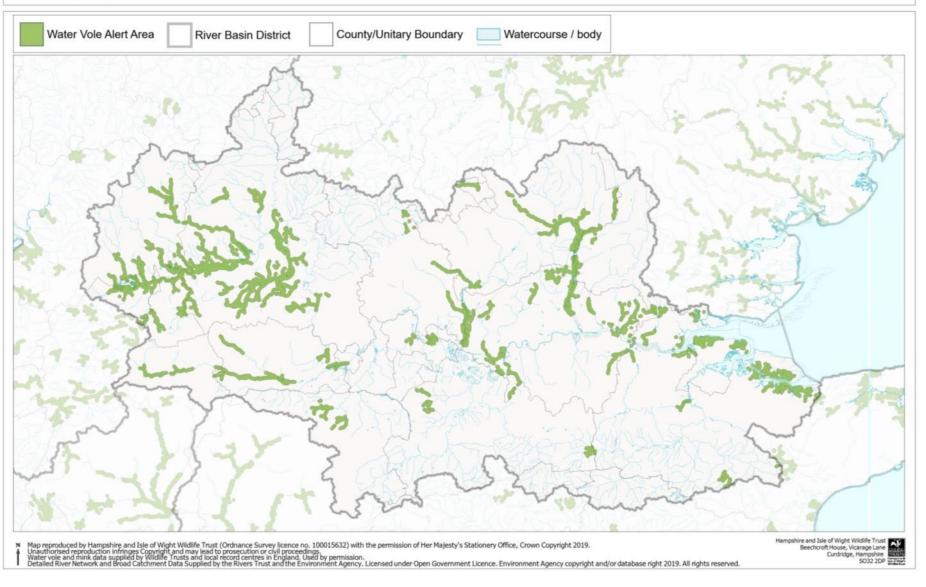


Water Vole Local Key Areas (>6sq.km): Thames RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

Scale 1:950,000 (A4)

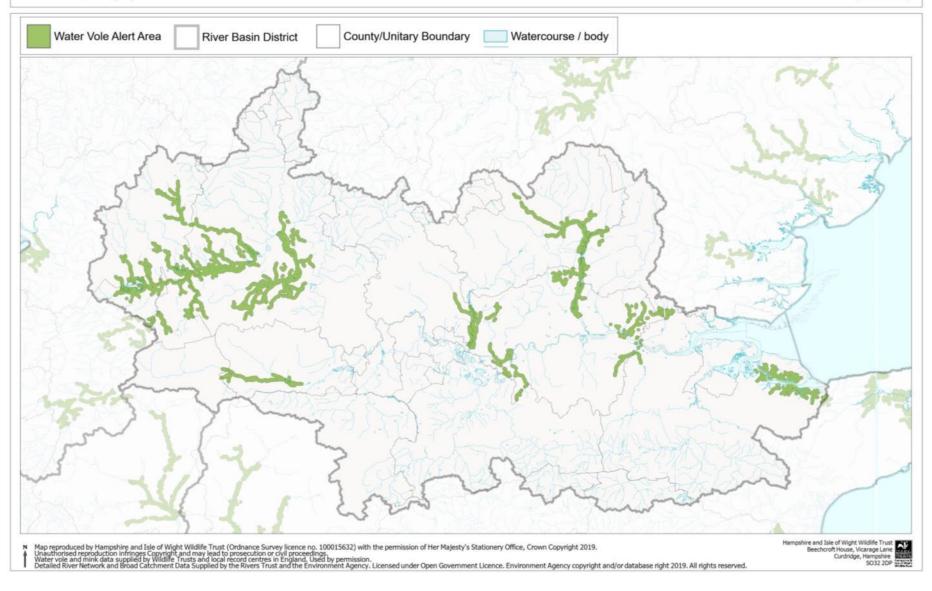




Water Vole Regional Key Areas (>35sq.km): Thames RBD

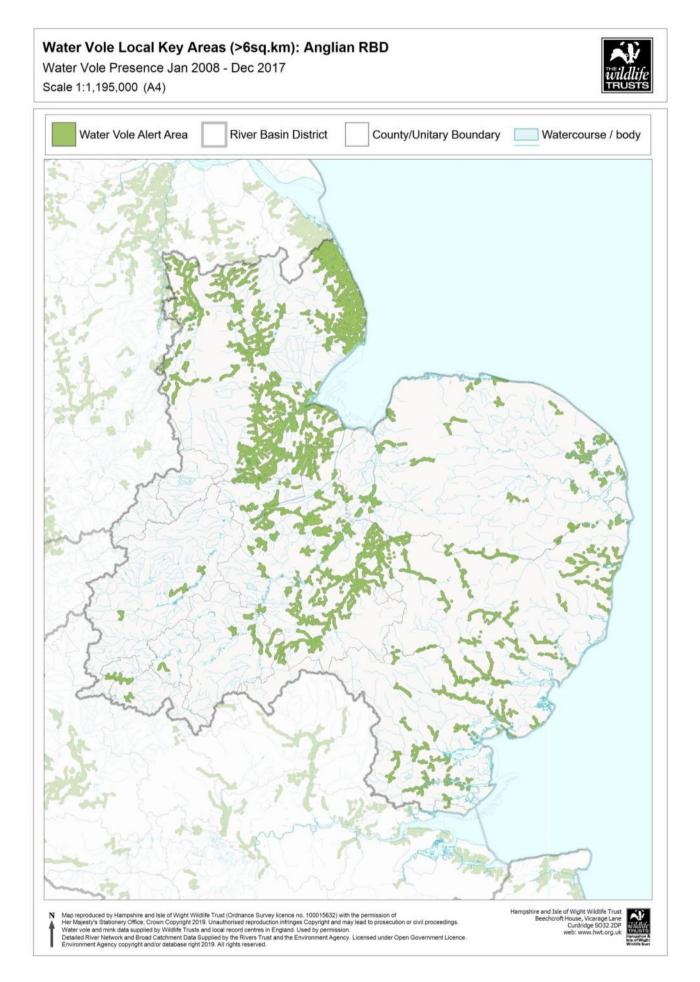
Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

Scale 1:950,000 (A4)



#### National Water Vole Database and Mapping Project, Part 2: Maps for period 2008-2017 5.6 ANGLIAN RIVER BASIN DISTRICT



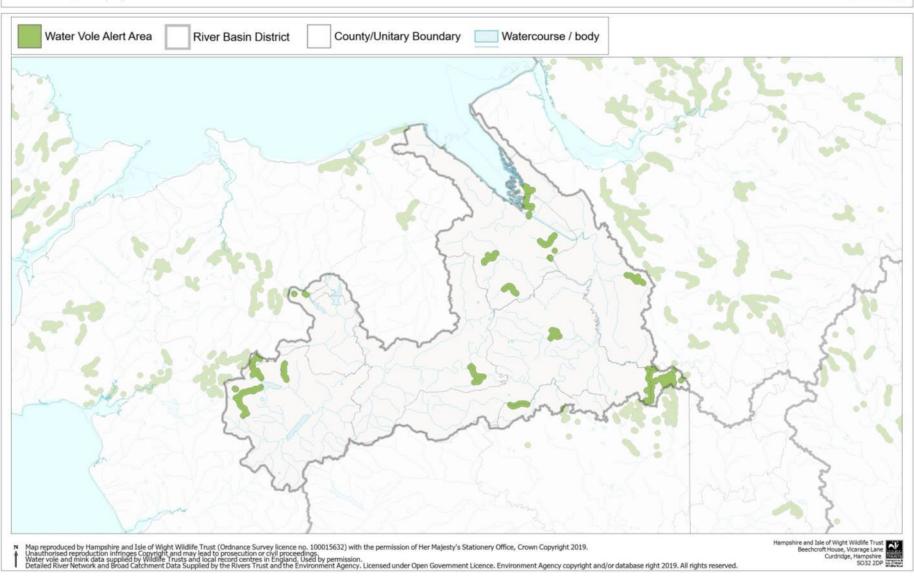




#### Water Vole Alert Map: Dee RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

Scale 1:550,000 (A4)



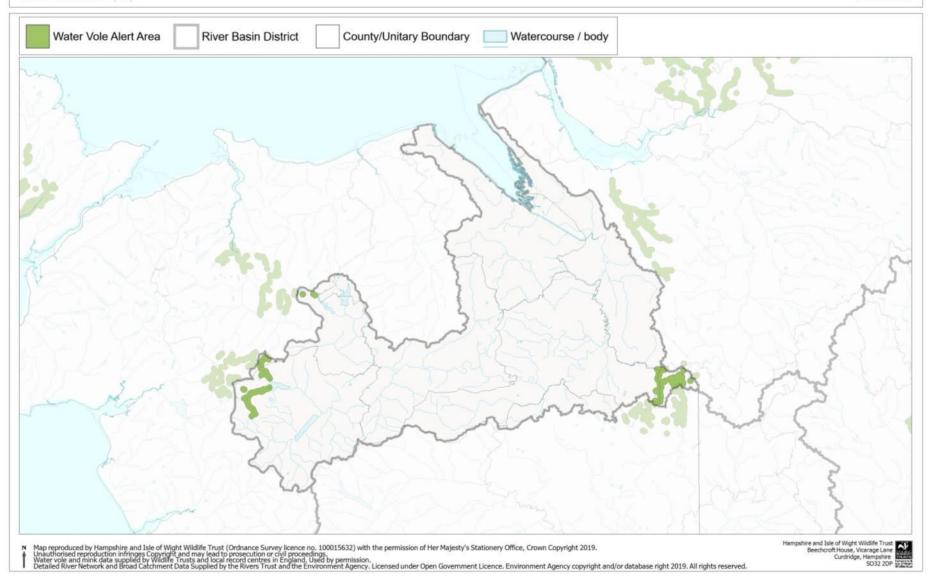
# Water Vole Local Key Areas (>6sq.km): Dee RBD Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017 Scale 1:550,000 (A4) Water Vole Alert Area **River Basin District** County/Unitary Boundary Watercourse / body

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## Water Vole Regional Key Areas (>35sq.km): Dee RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

Scale 1:550,000 (A4)

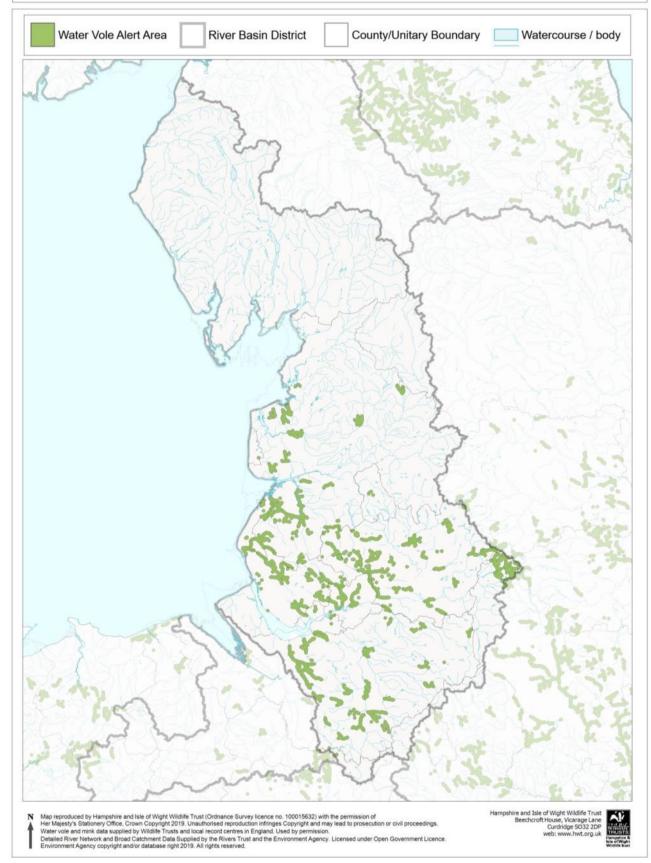


#### **5.8 NORTH WEST RIVER BASIN DISTRICT**

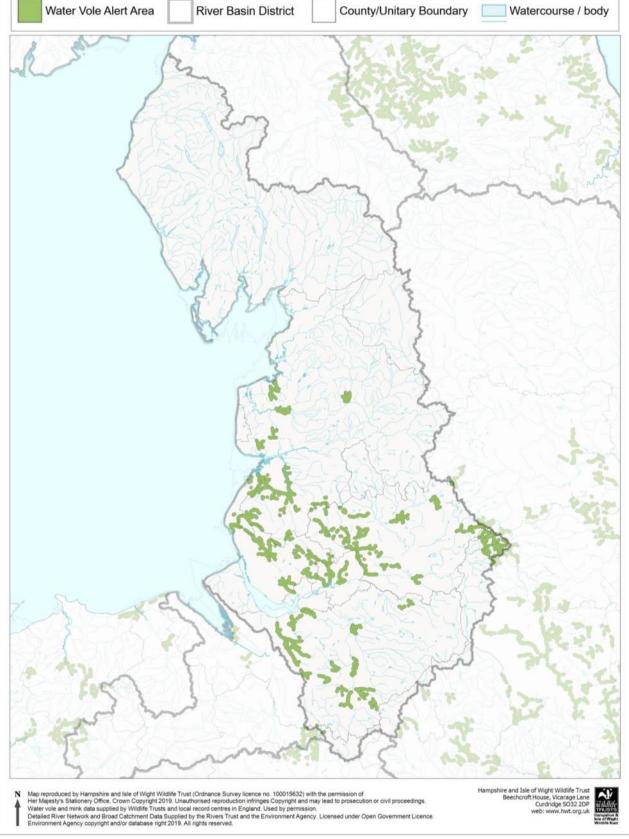
 Water Vole Alert Map: North West RBD

 Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

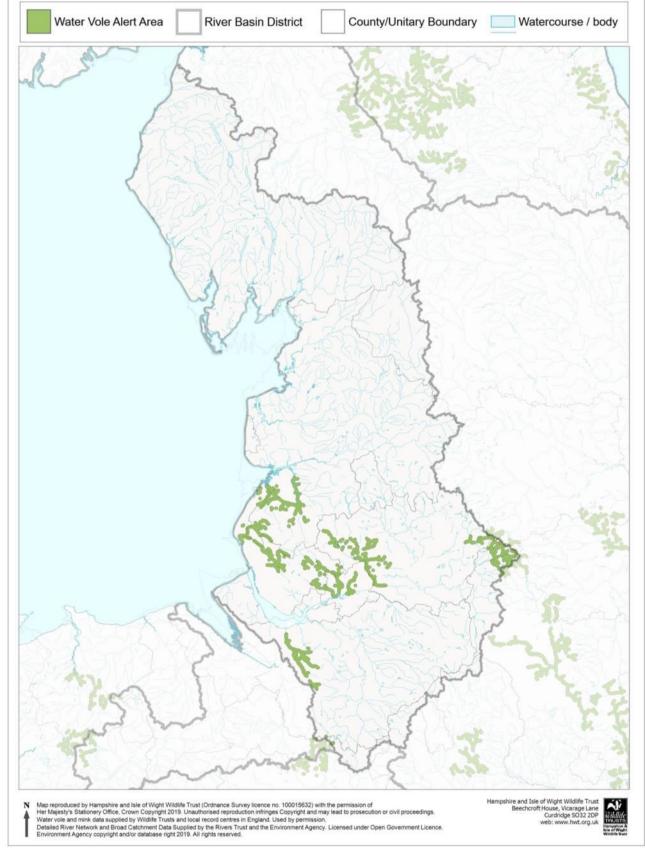
 Scale 1:1,000,000 (A4)





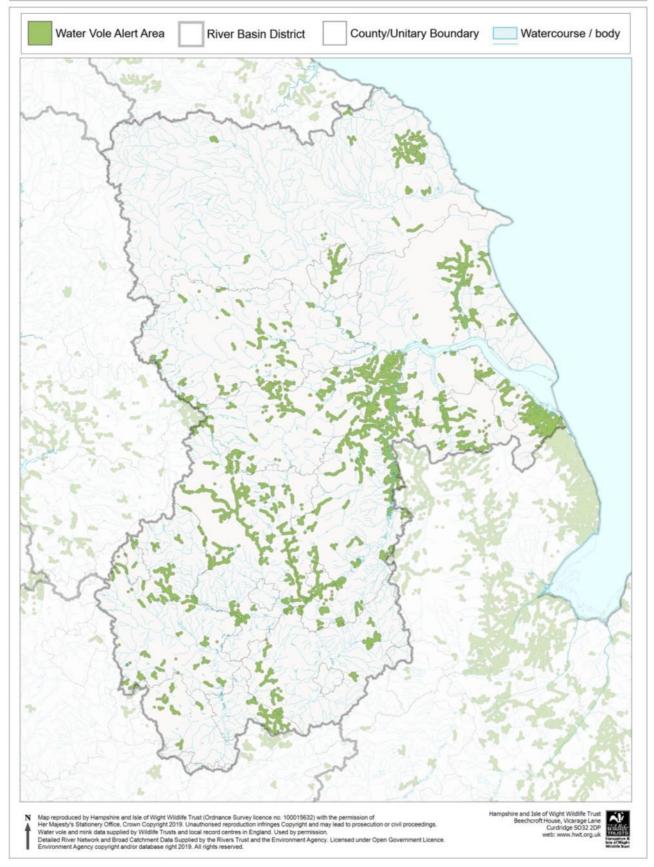


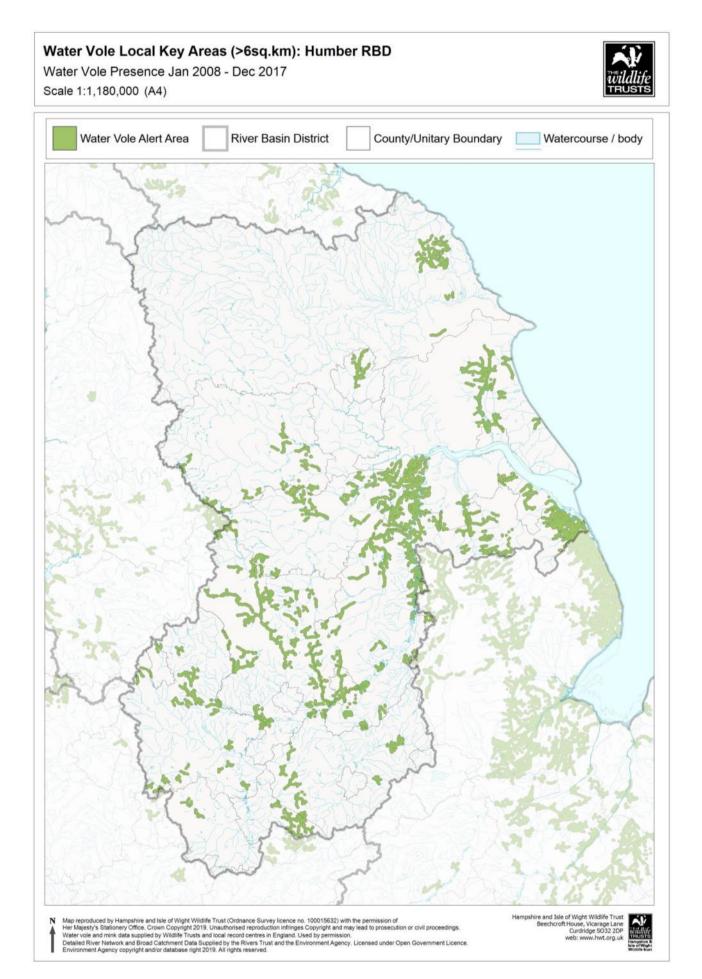




#### 5.9 HUMBER RIVER BASIN DISTRICT





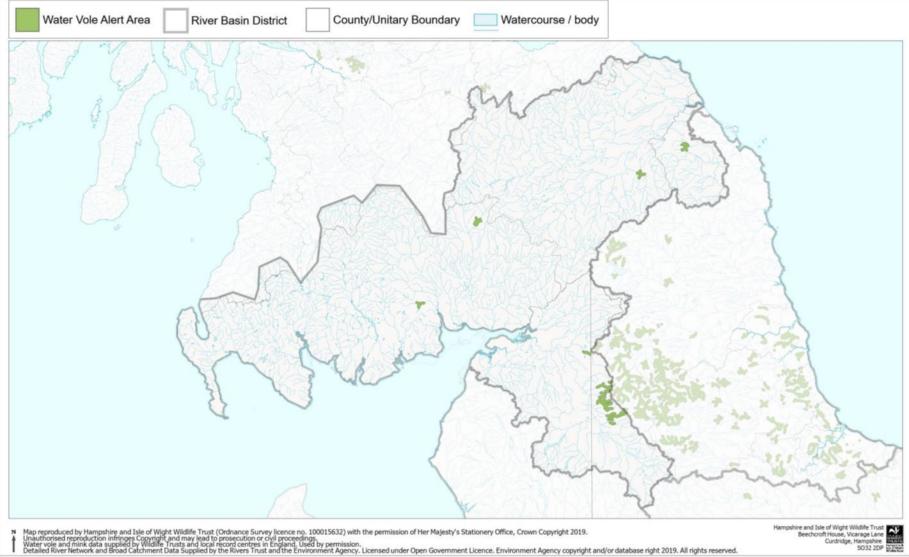




#### Water Vole Alert Map: Solway Tweed RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

Scale 1:1,250,000 (A4)



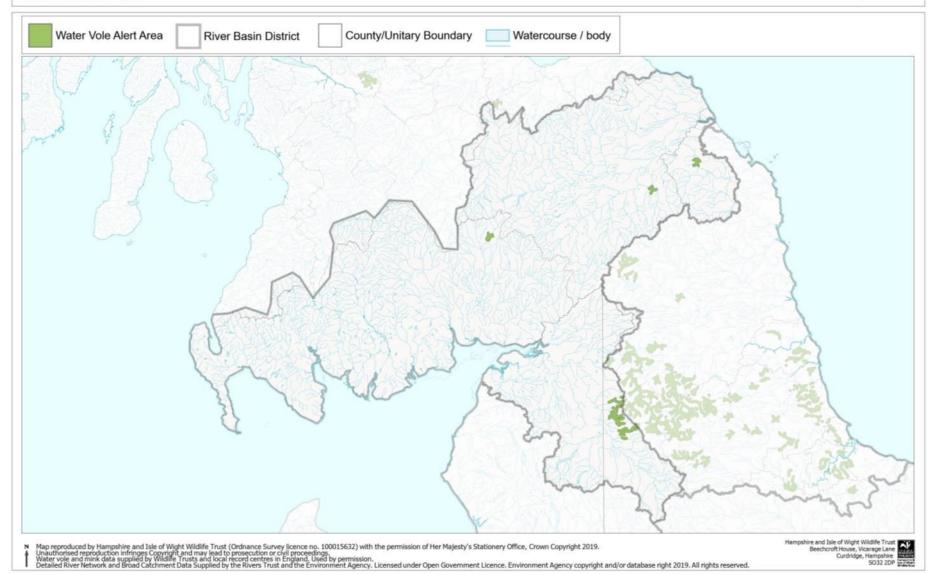


Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

#### Water Vole Local Key Areas (>6sq.km): Solway Tweed RBD

Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

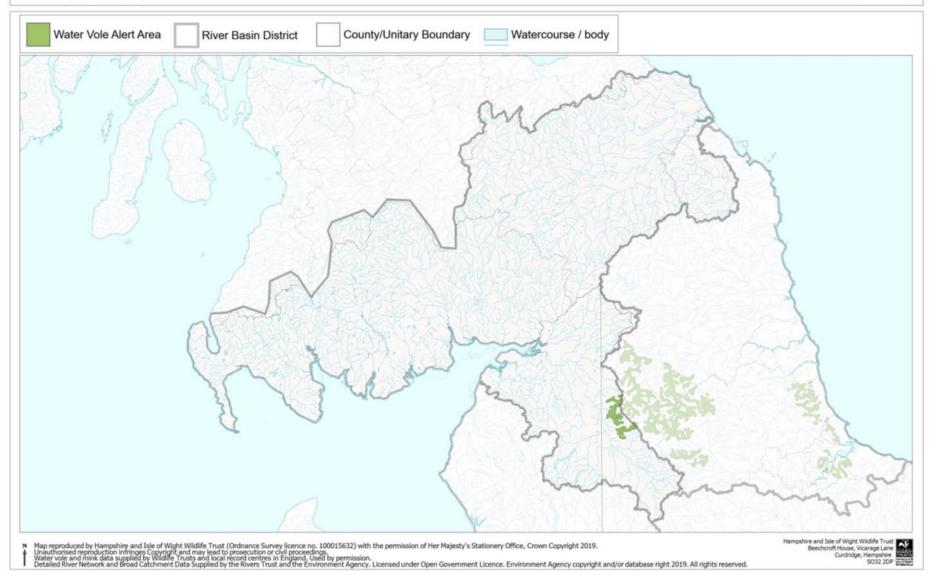
Scale 1:1,250,000 (A4)



Water Vole Regional Key Areas (>35sq.km): Solway Tweed RBD

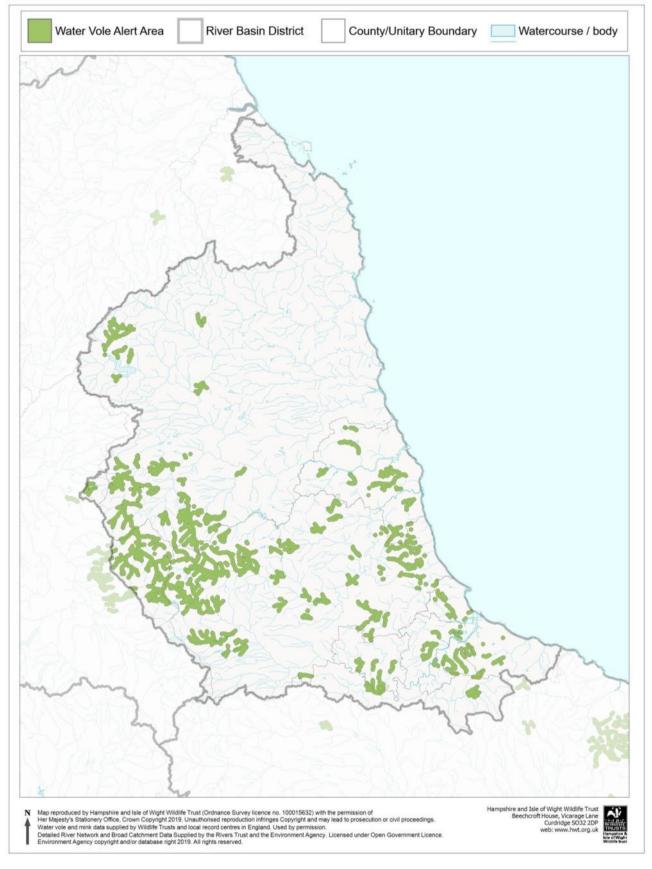
Water Vole Presence Jan 2008 - Dec 2017

Scale 1:1,250,000 (A4)

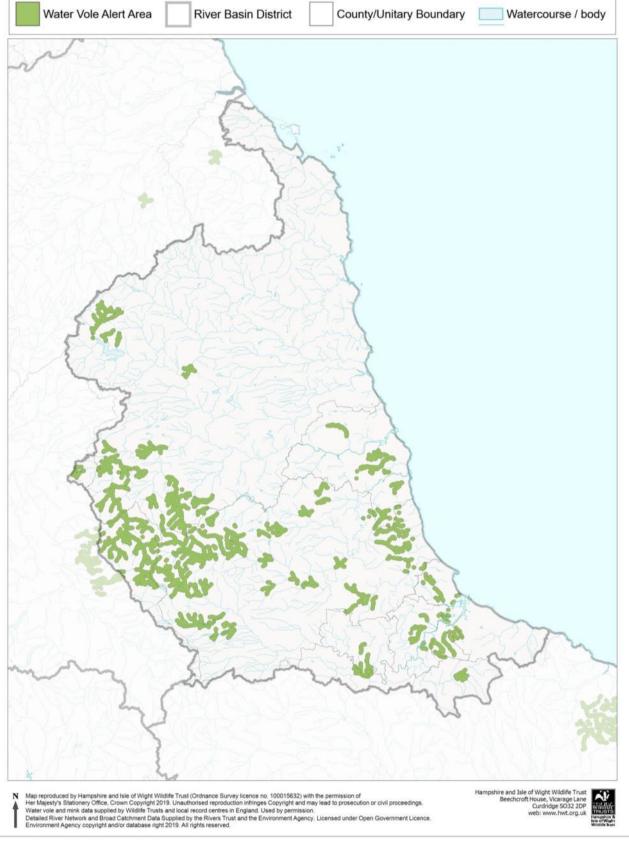


#### 5.11 NORTHUMBRIA RIVER BASIN DISTRICT

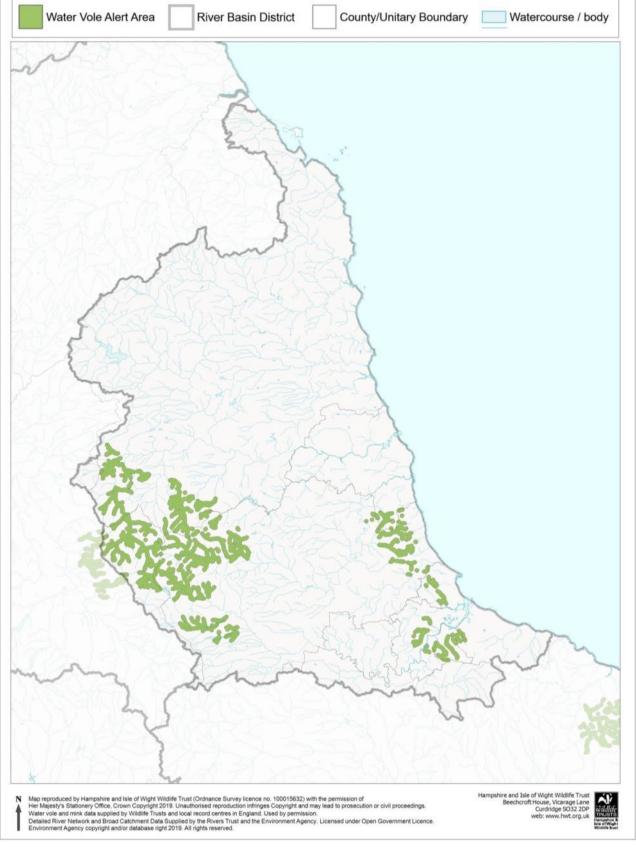






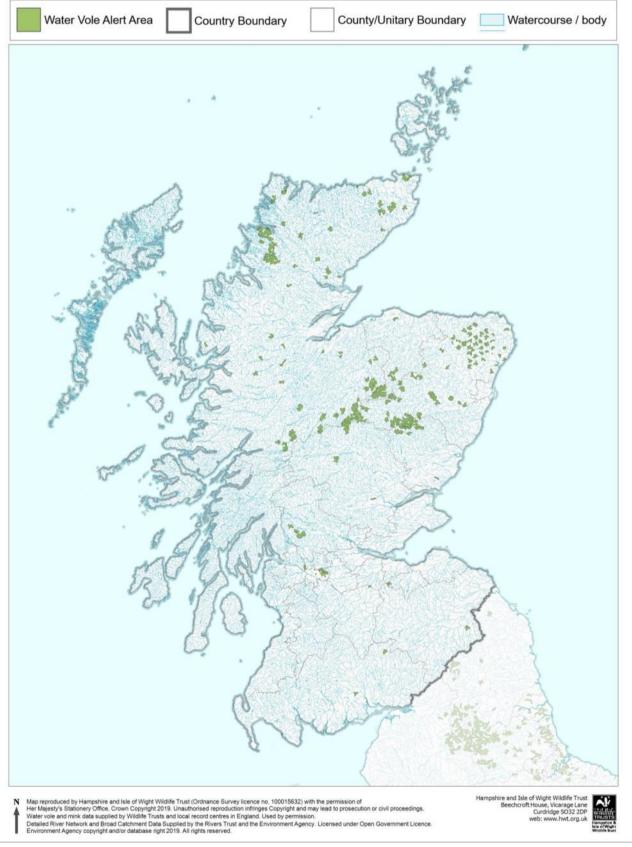




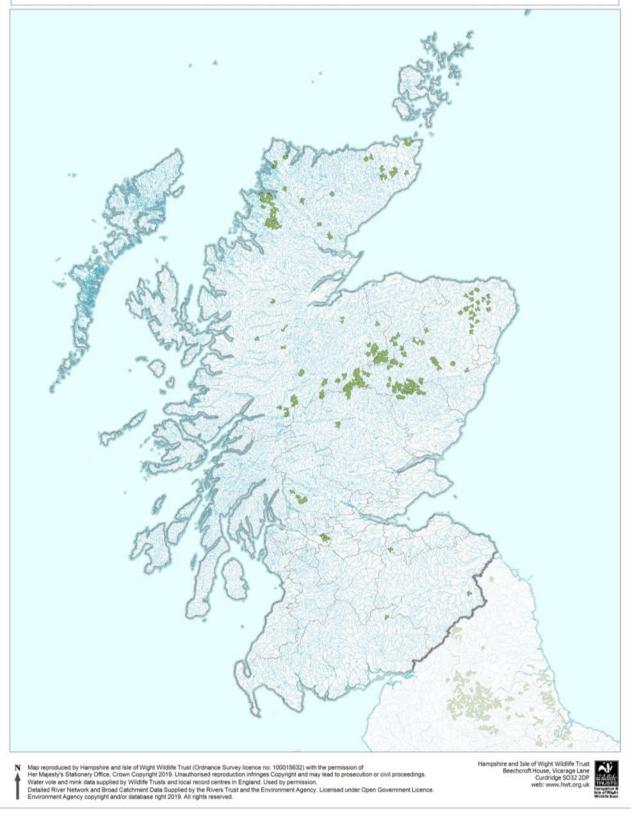


#### 5.12 SCOTLAND

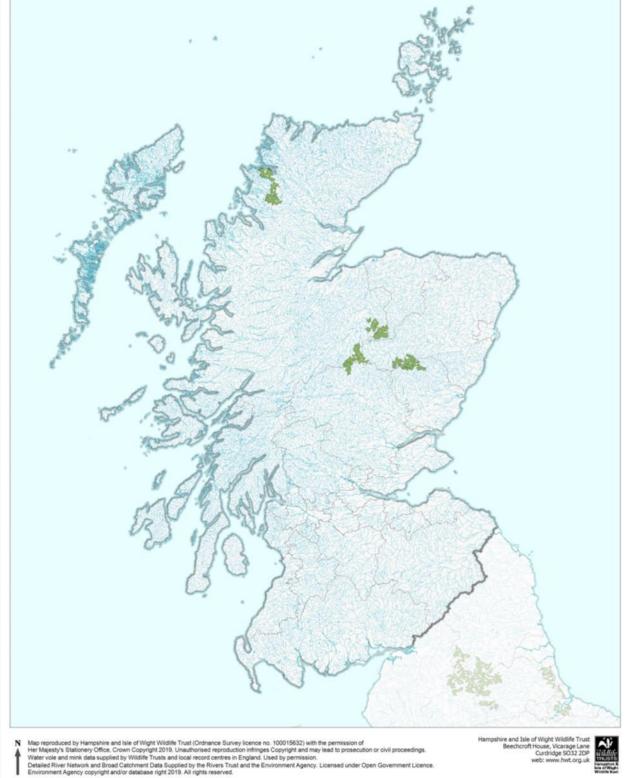










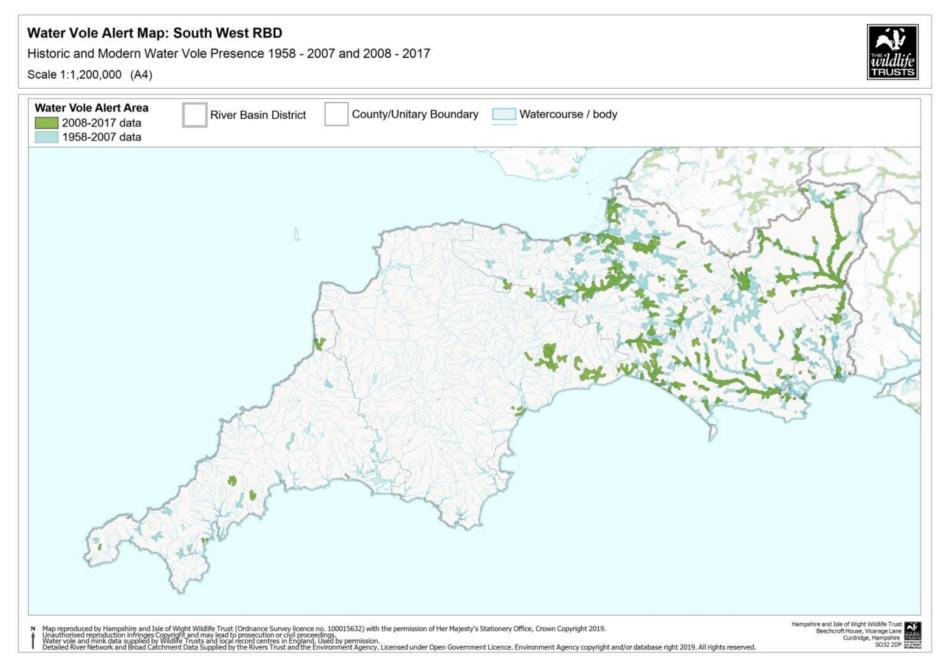


#### 5.13 GREAT BRITAIN WATER VOLE REGIONAL KEY AREAS MAP



National Water Vole Database and Mapping Project, Part 2: Maps for period 2008-2017

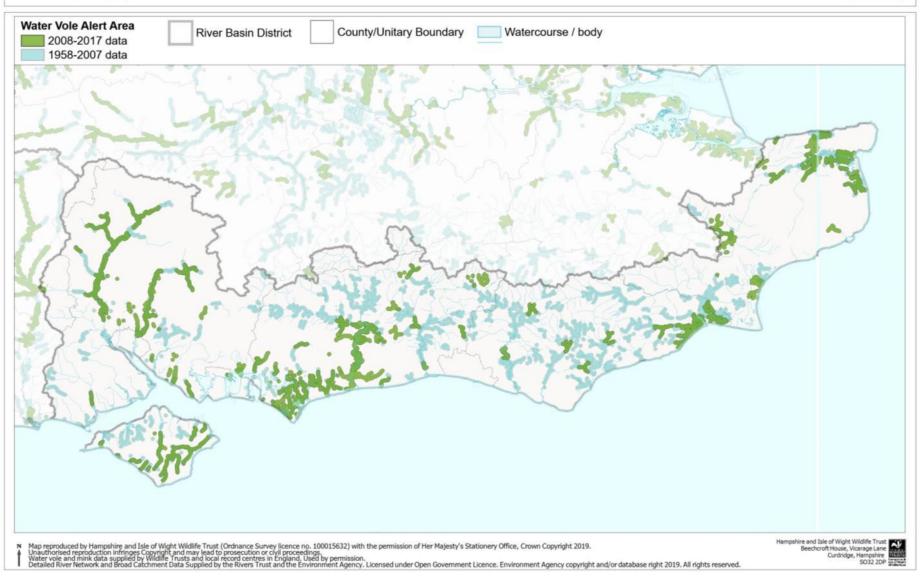
# 6. HISTORIC DATA WATER VOLE ALERT MAPS

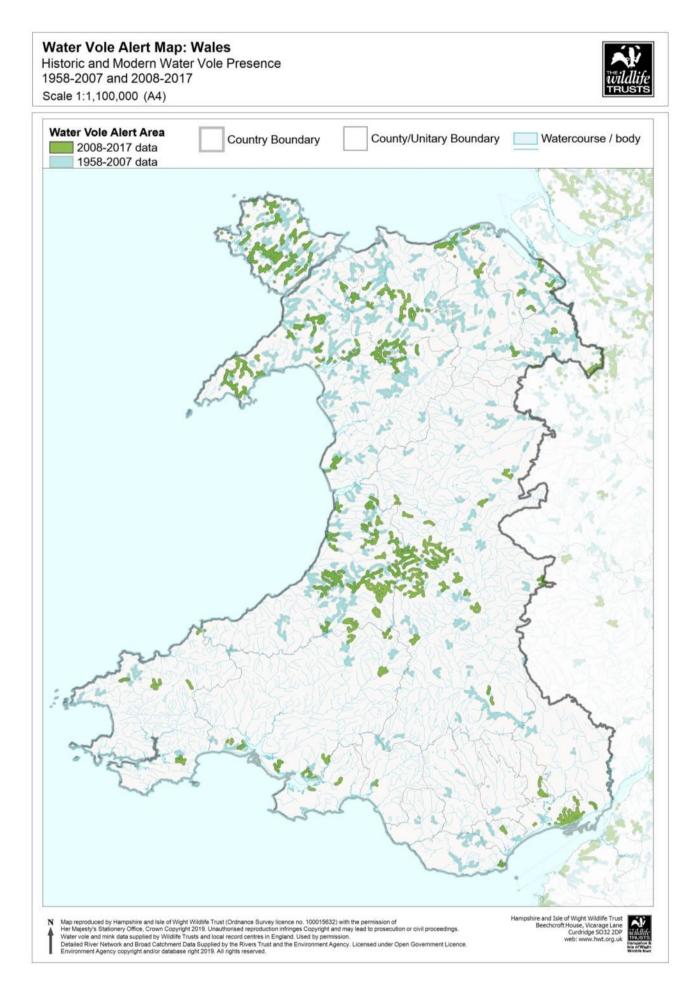


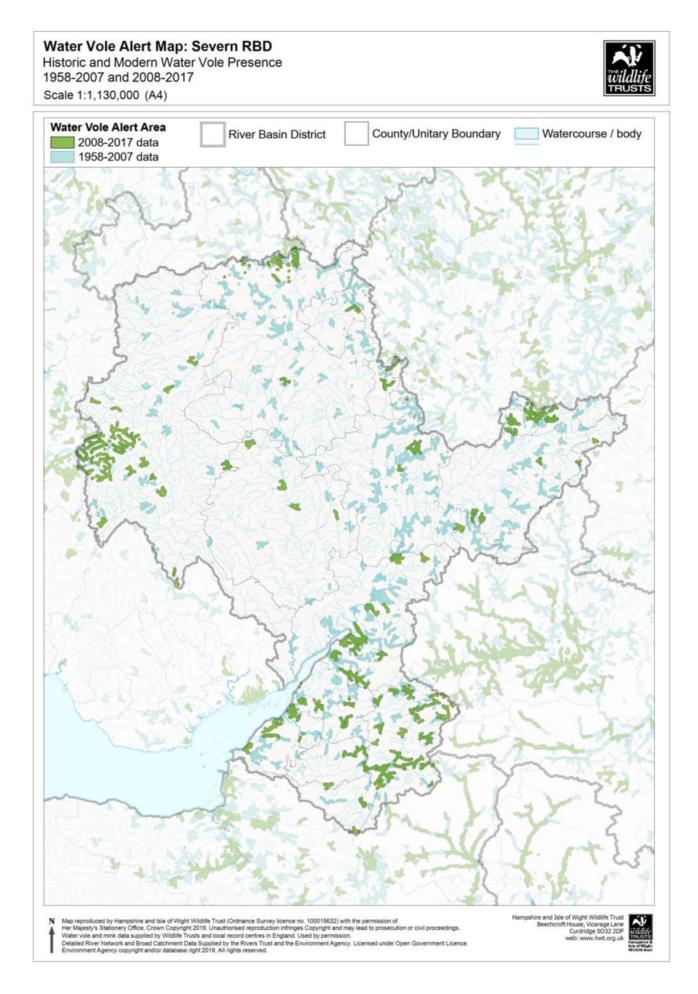
#### Water Vole Alert Map: South East RBD

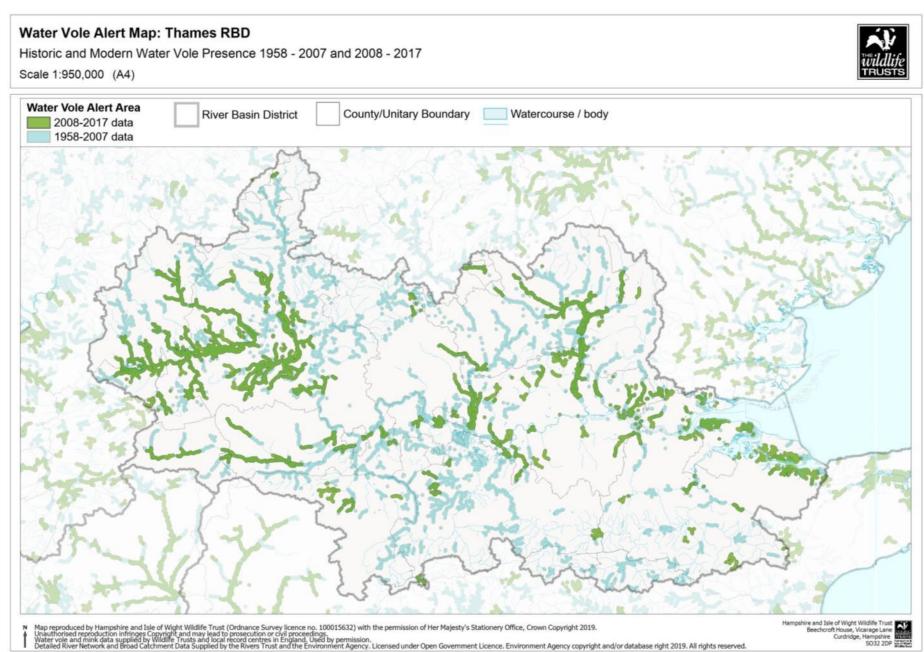
Historic and Modern Water Vole Presence 1958 - 2007 and 2008 - 2017 Scale 1:850,000 (A4)

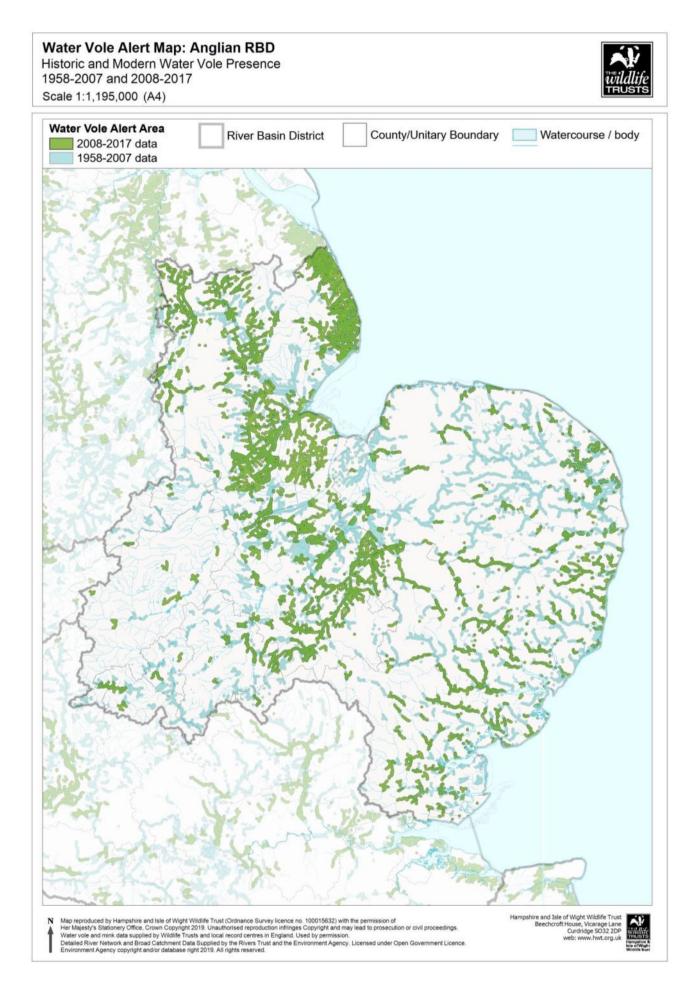


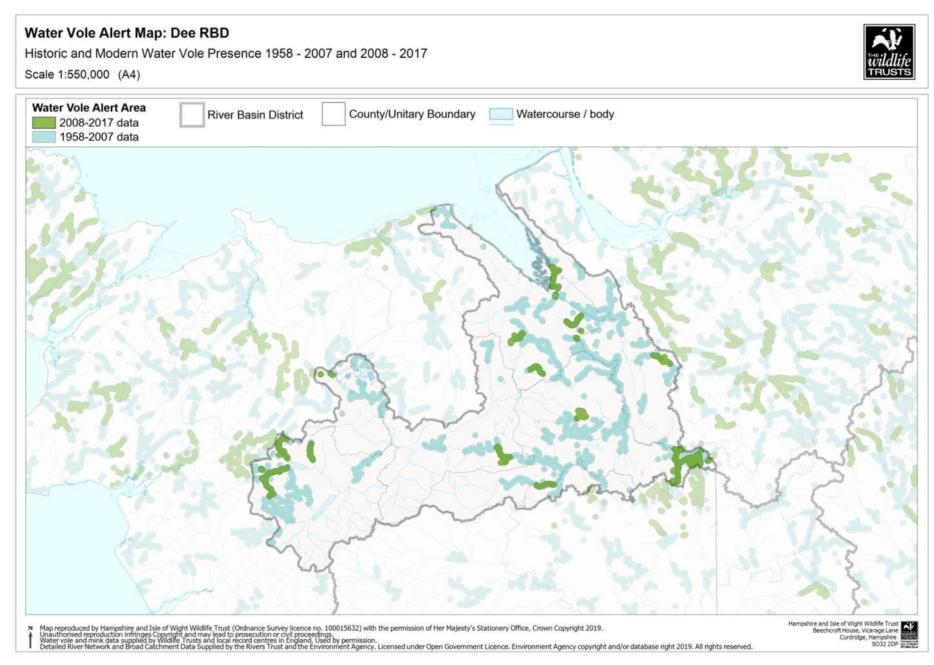


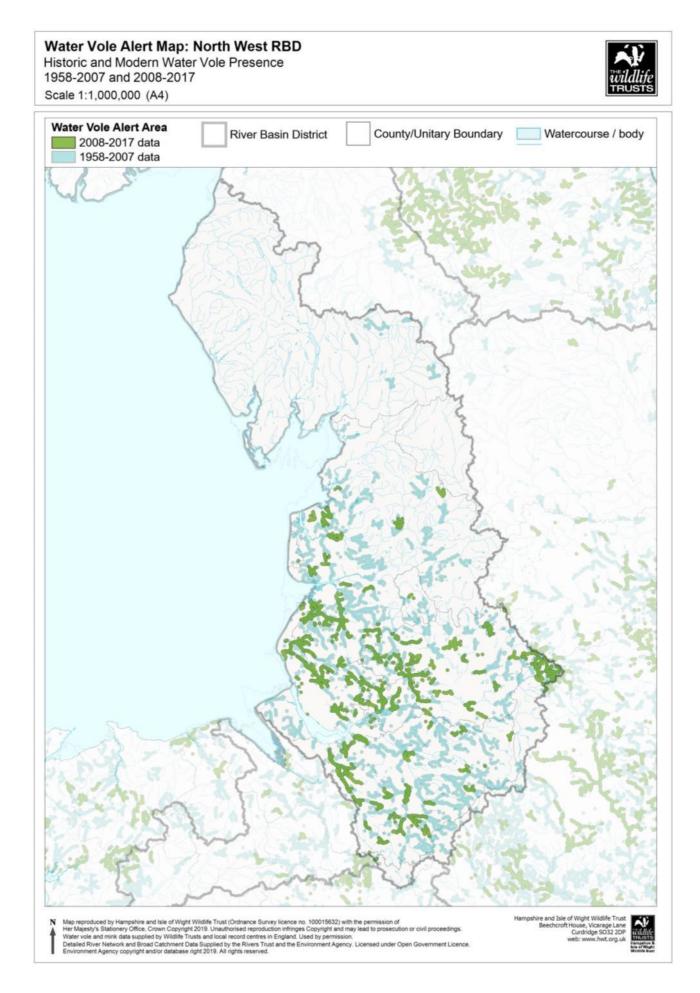


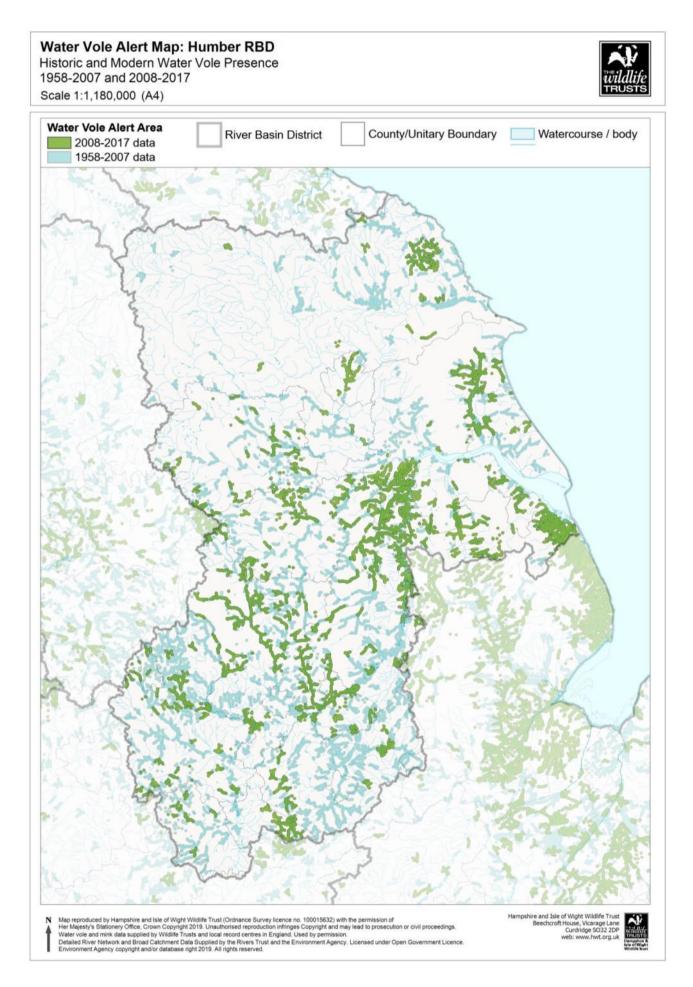








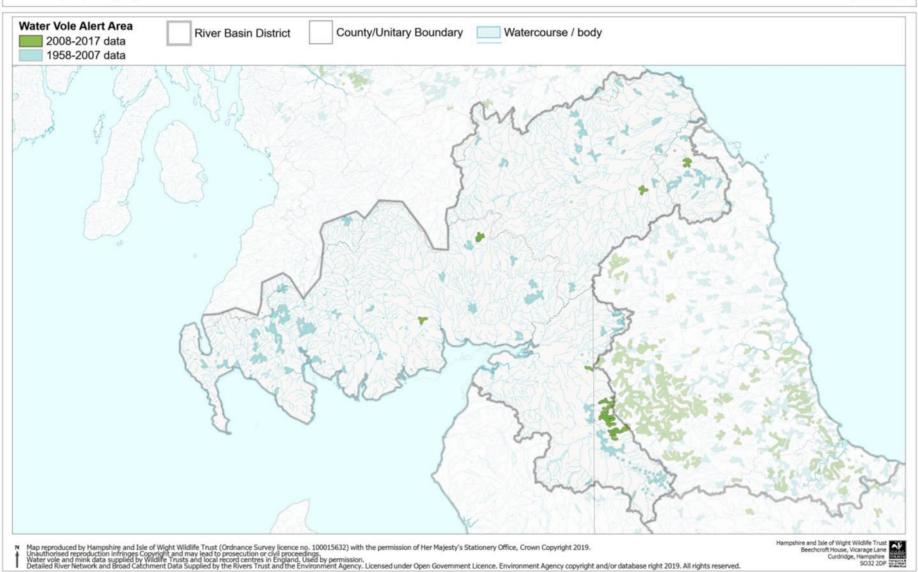


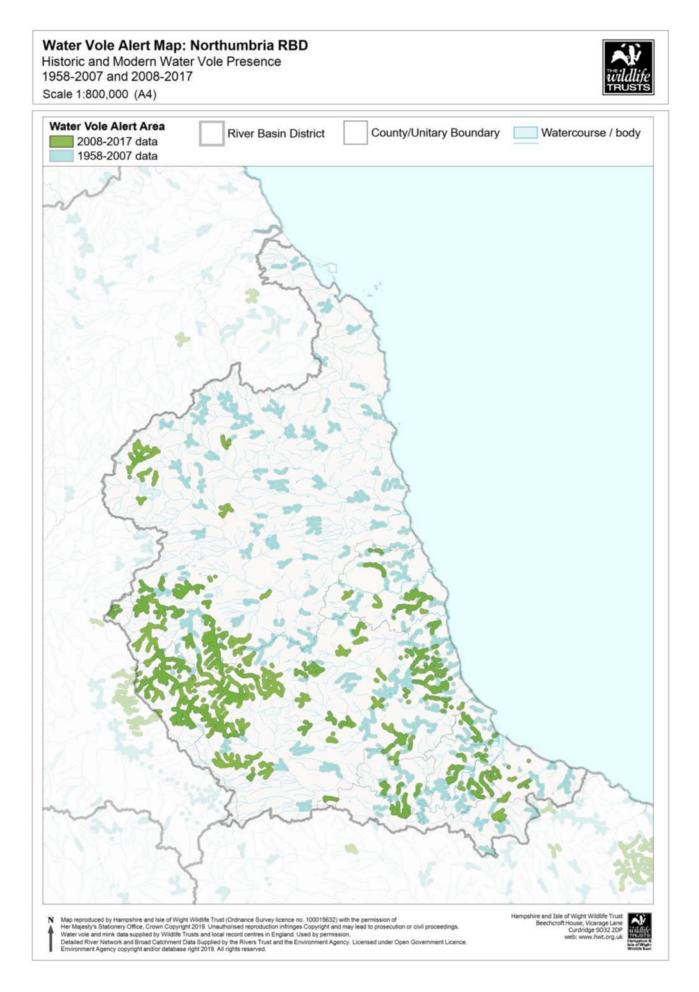


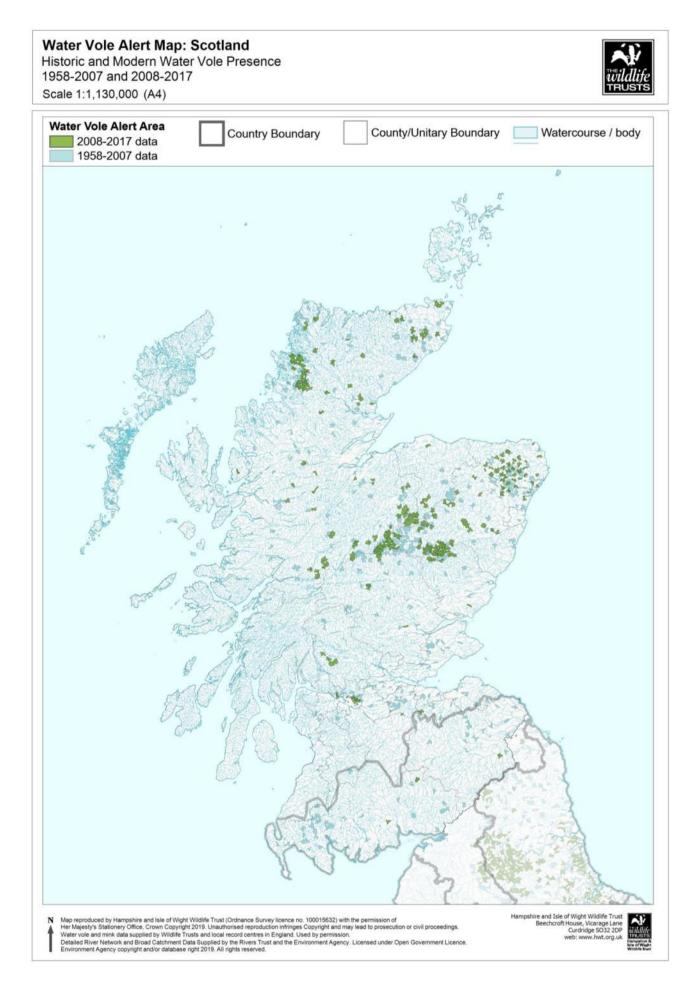
#### Water Vole Alert Map: Solway Tweed RBD

Historic and Modern Water Vole Presence 1958 - 2007 and 2008 - 2017

Scale 1:1,250,000 (A4)







# 7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## 8. PUBLICATION DETAILS

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