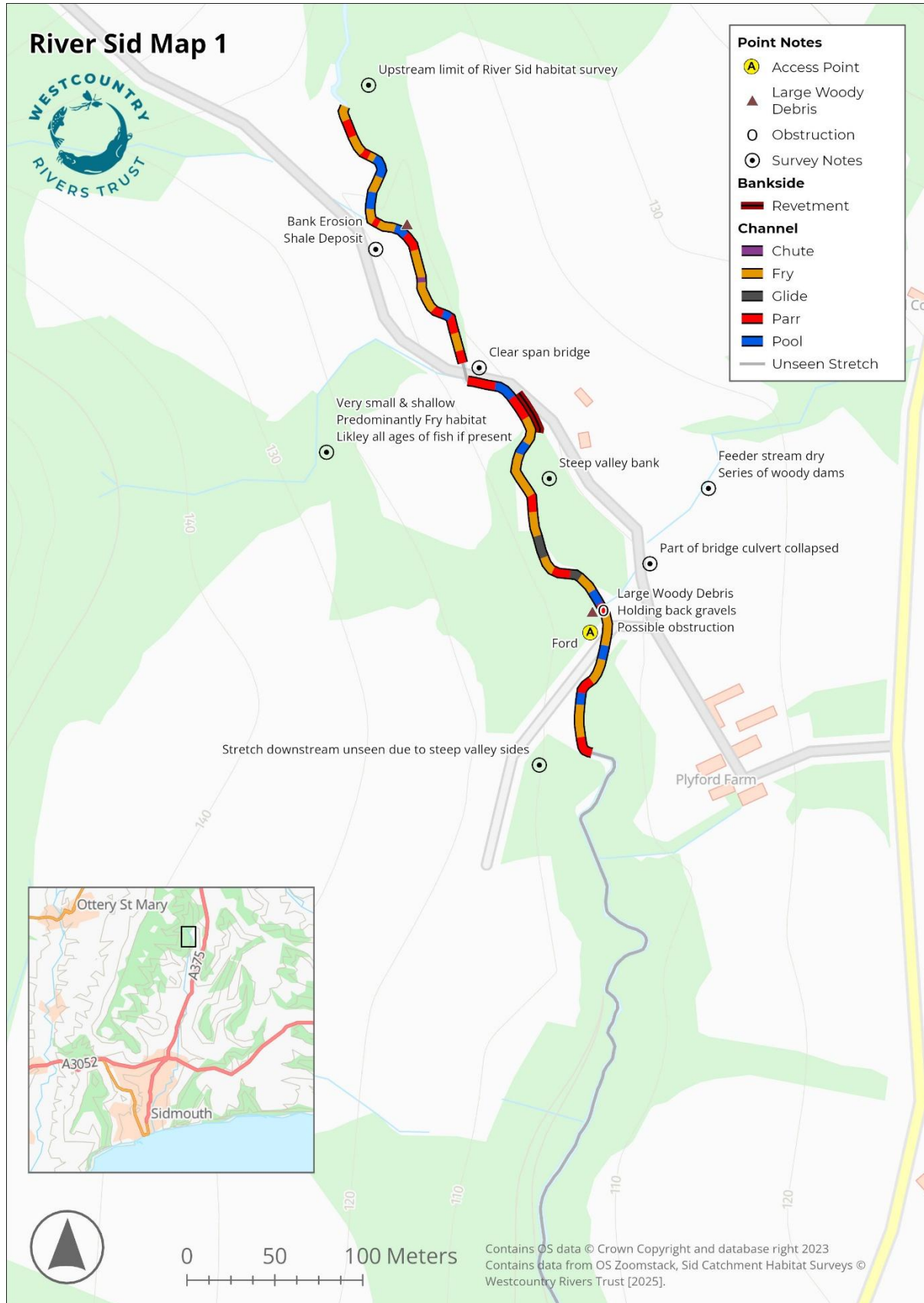
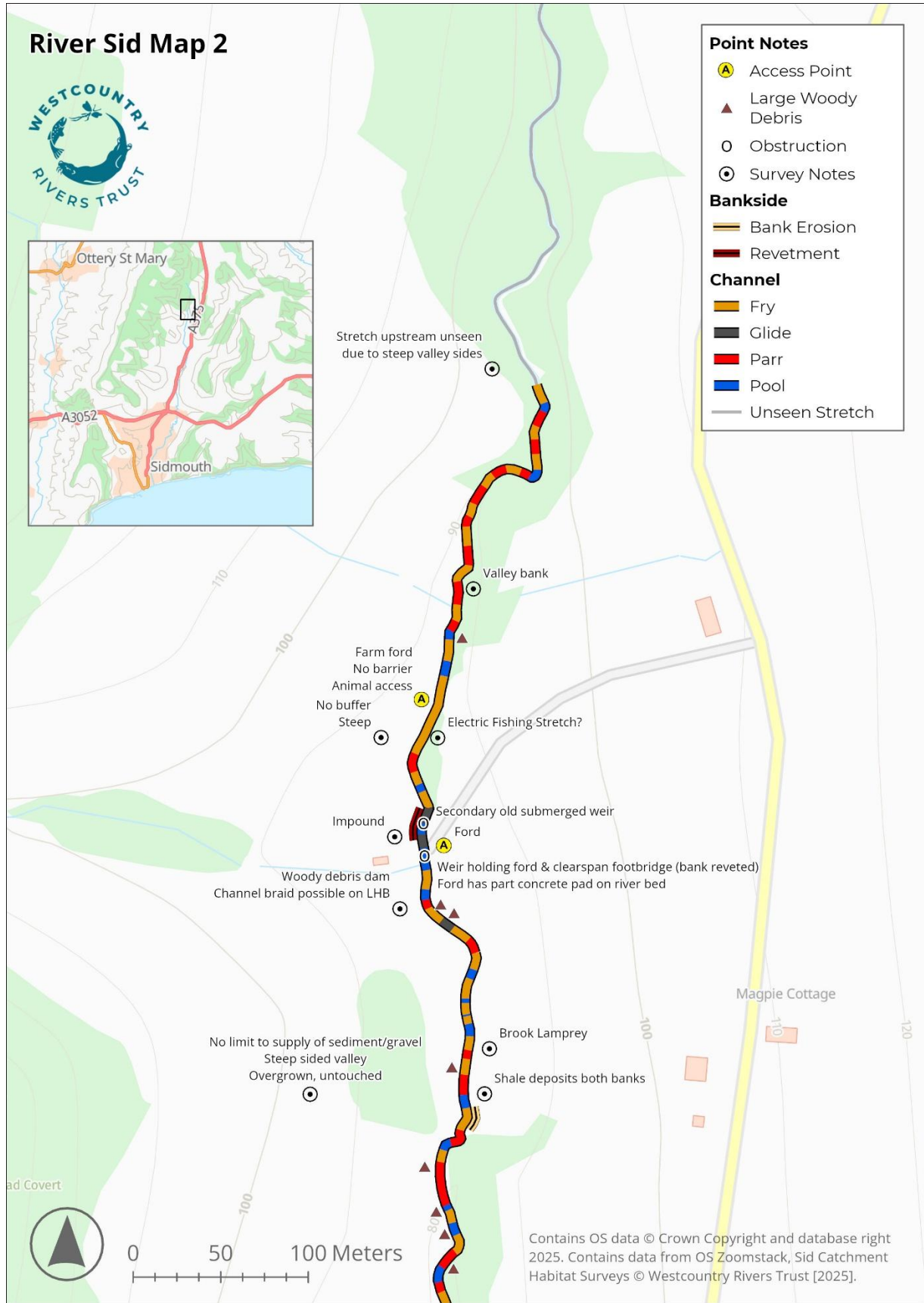
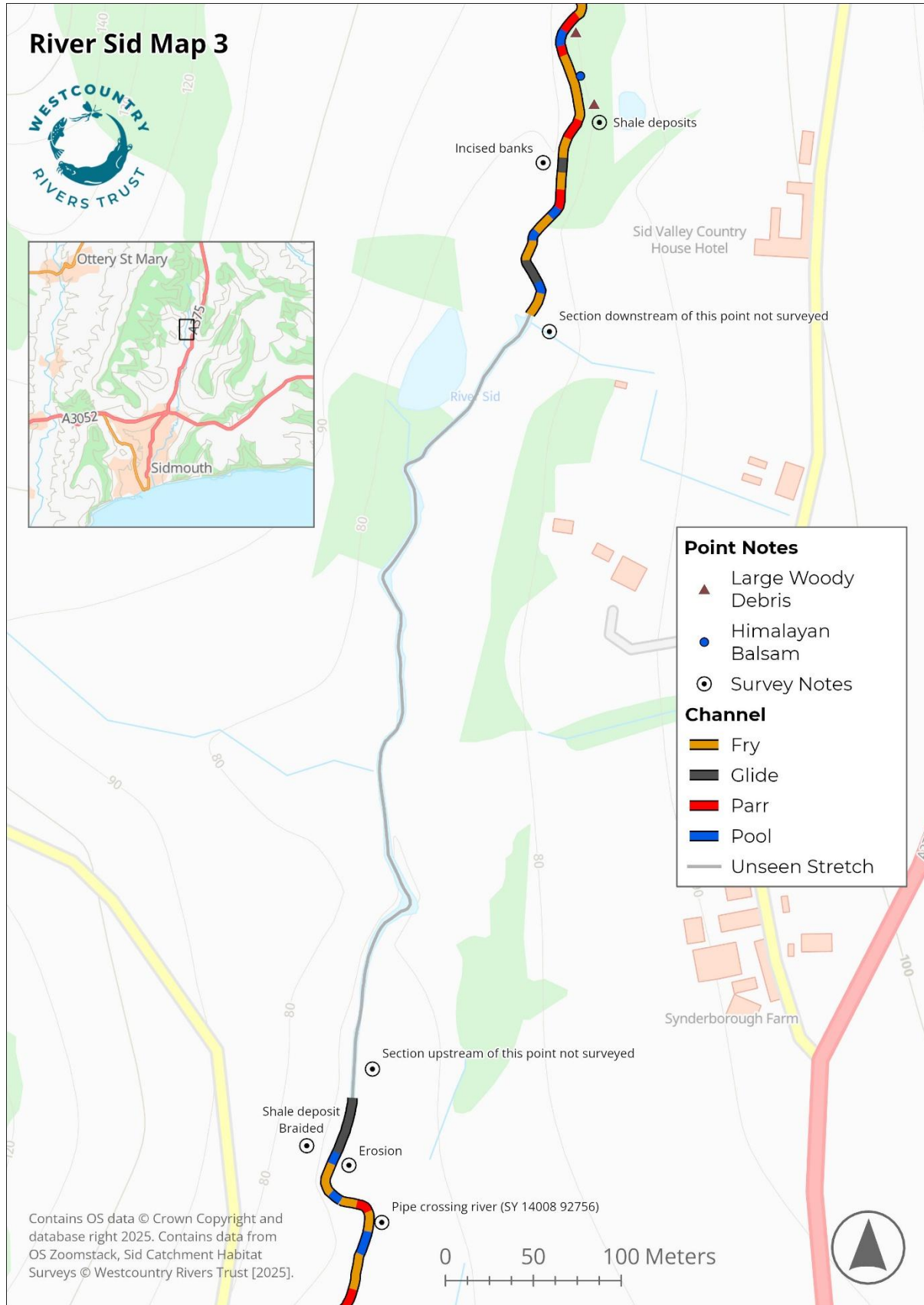
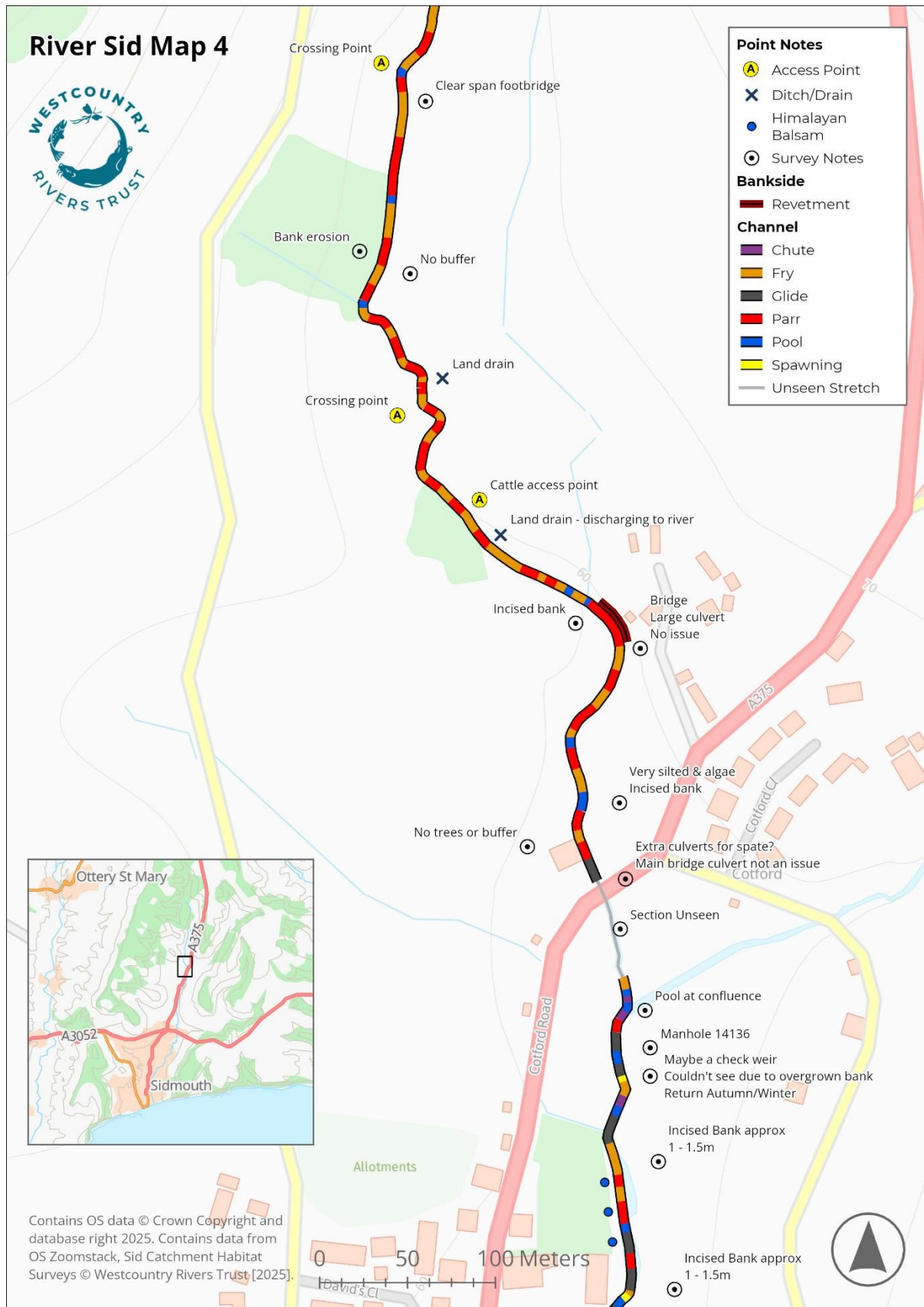


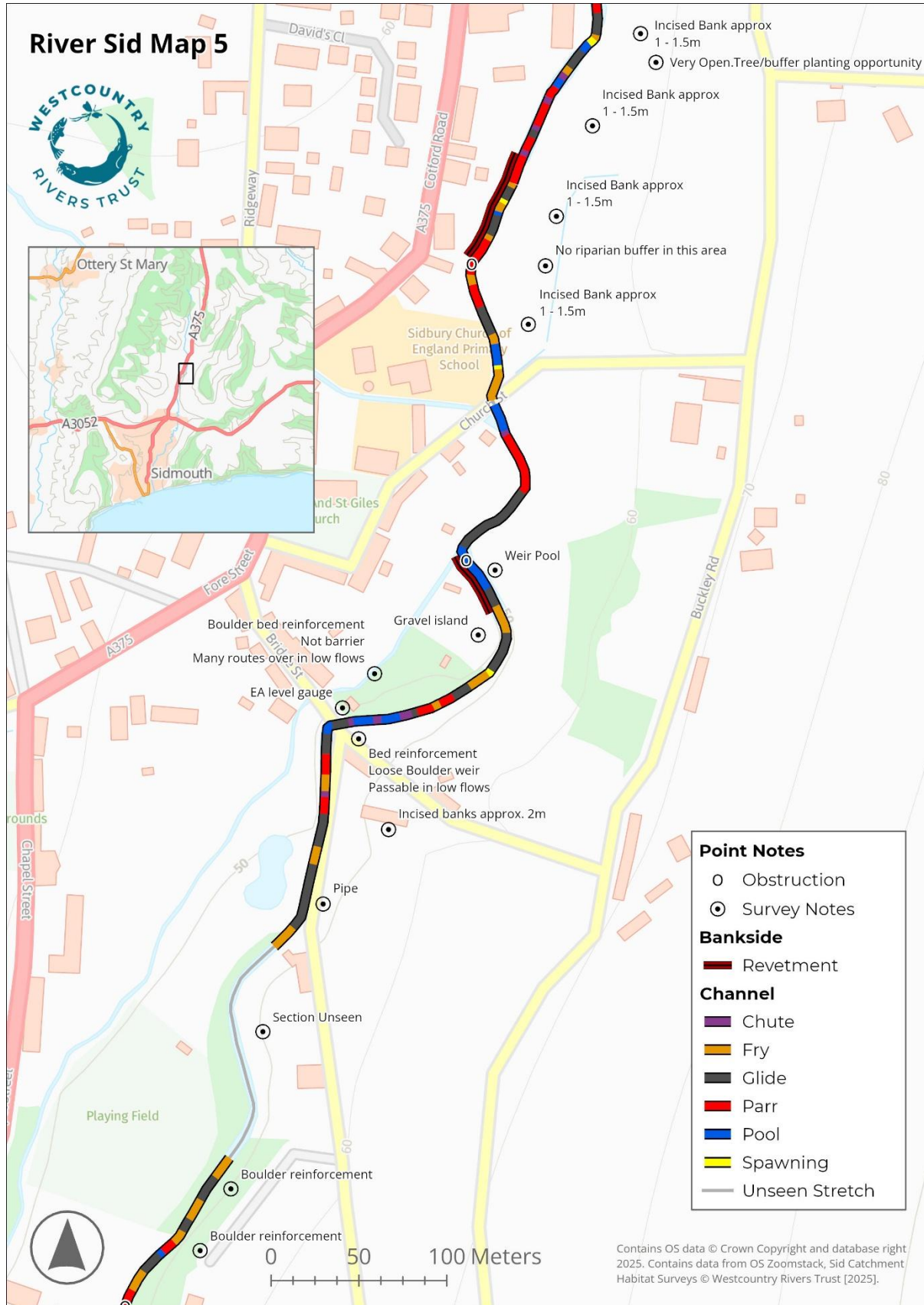
# Appendix 3: Salmonid Habitat Walkover Maps – River Sid

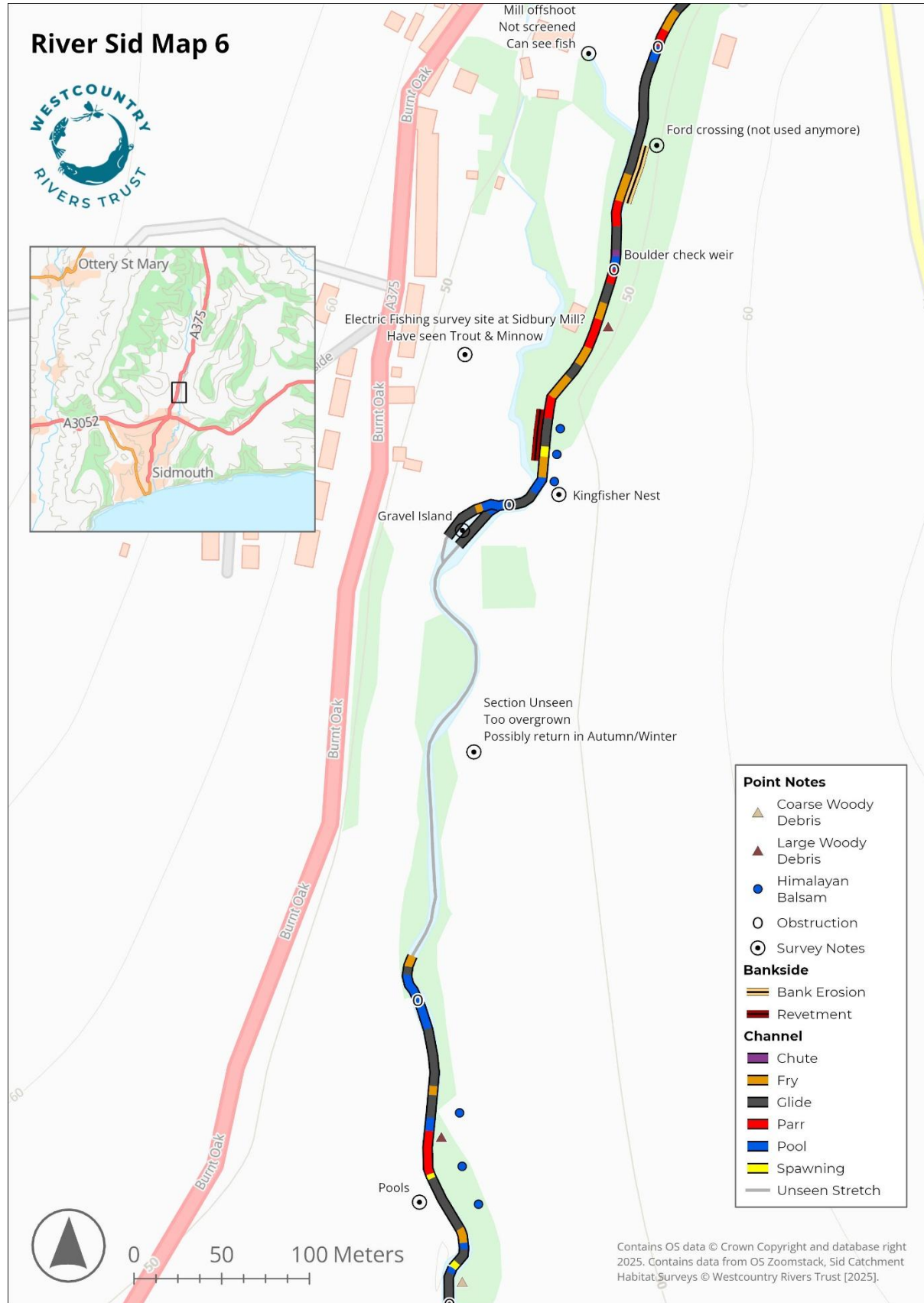


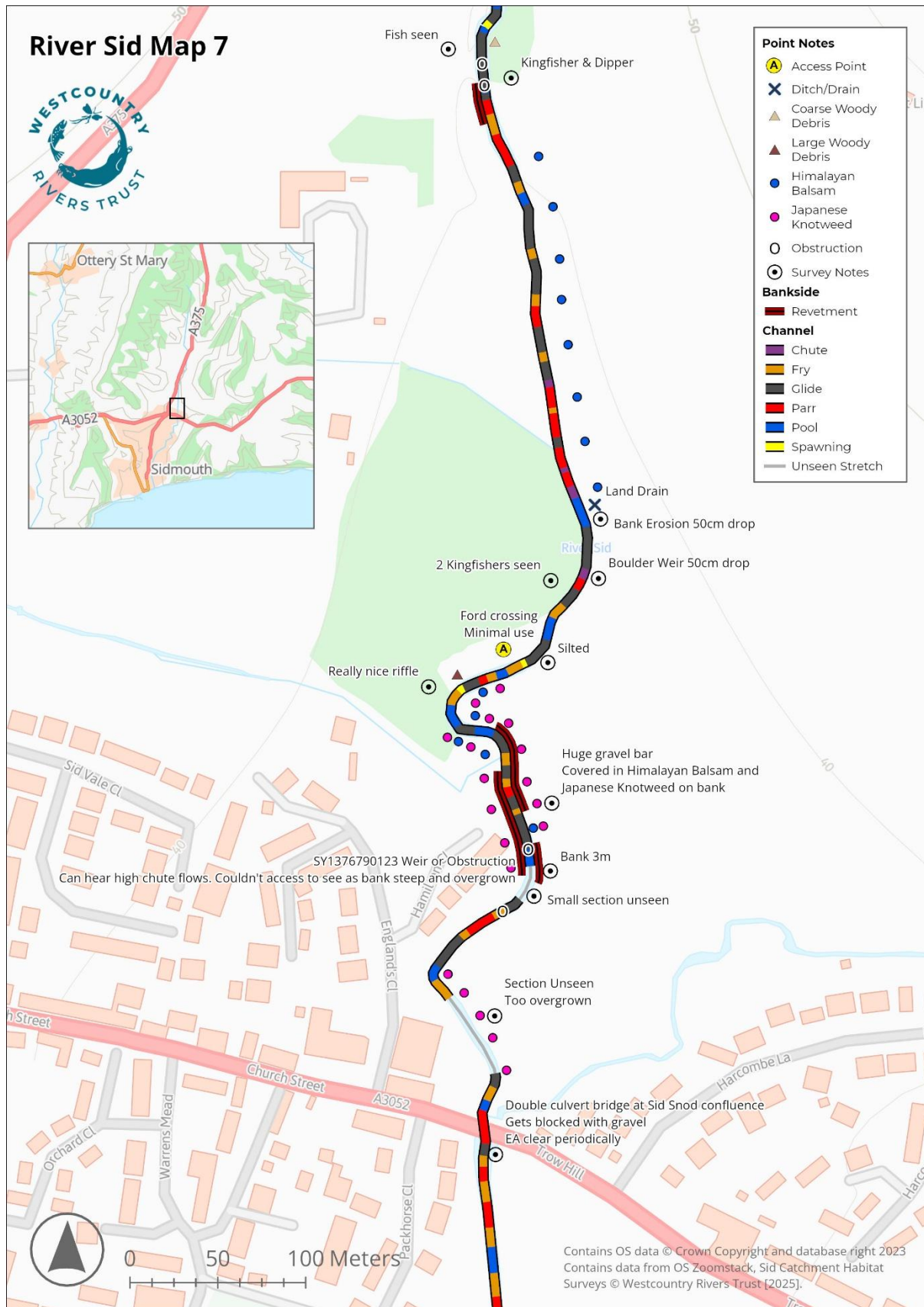


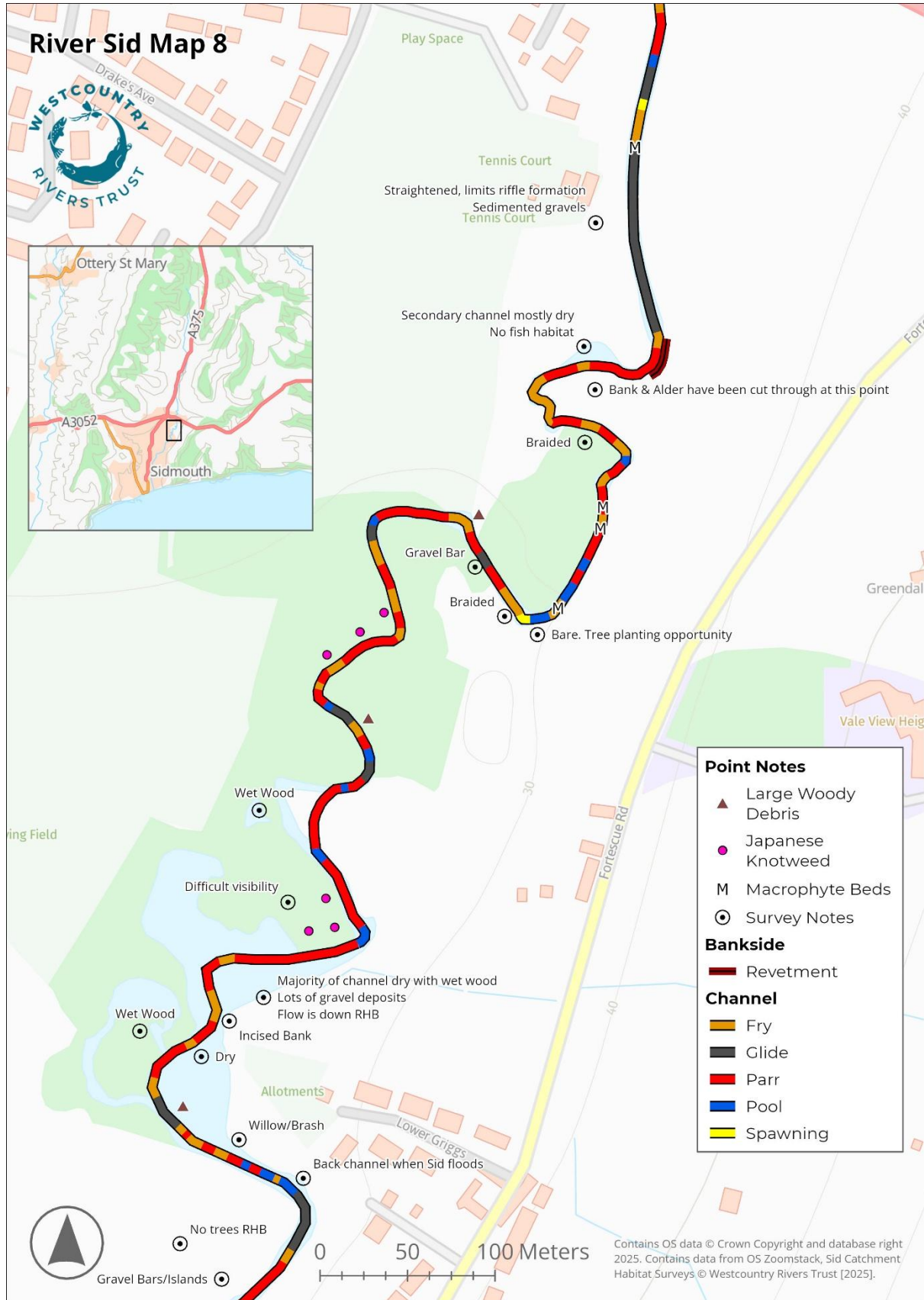


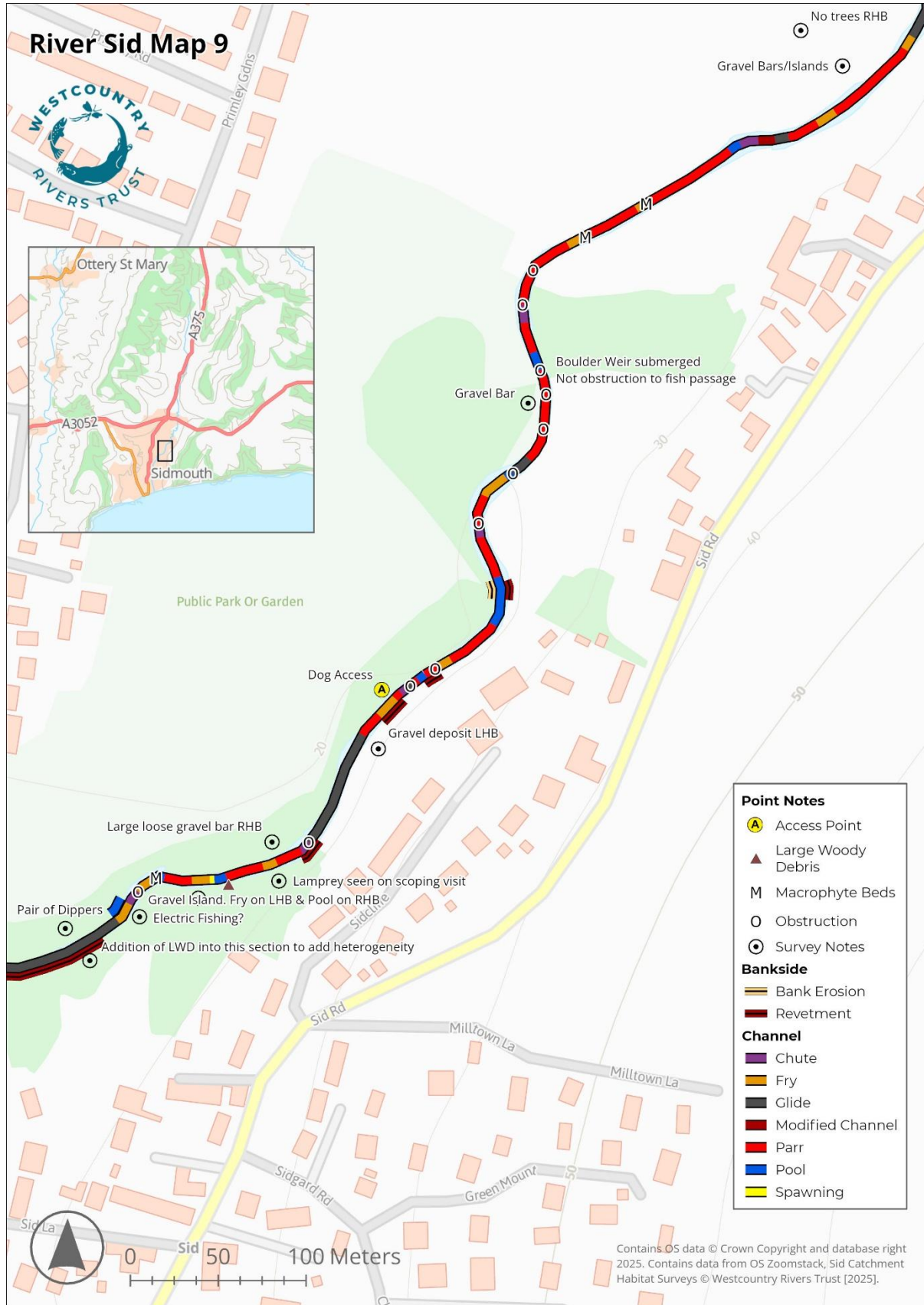


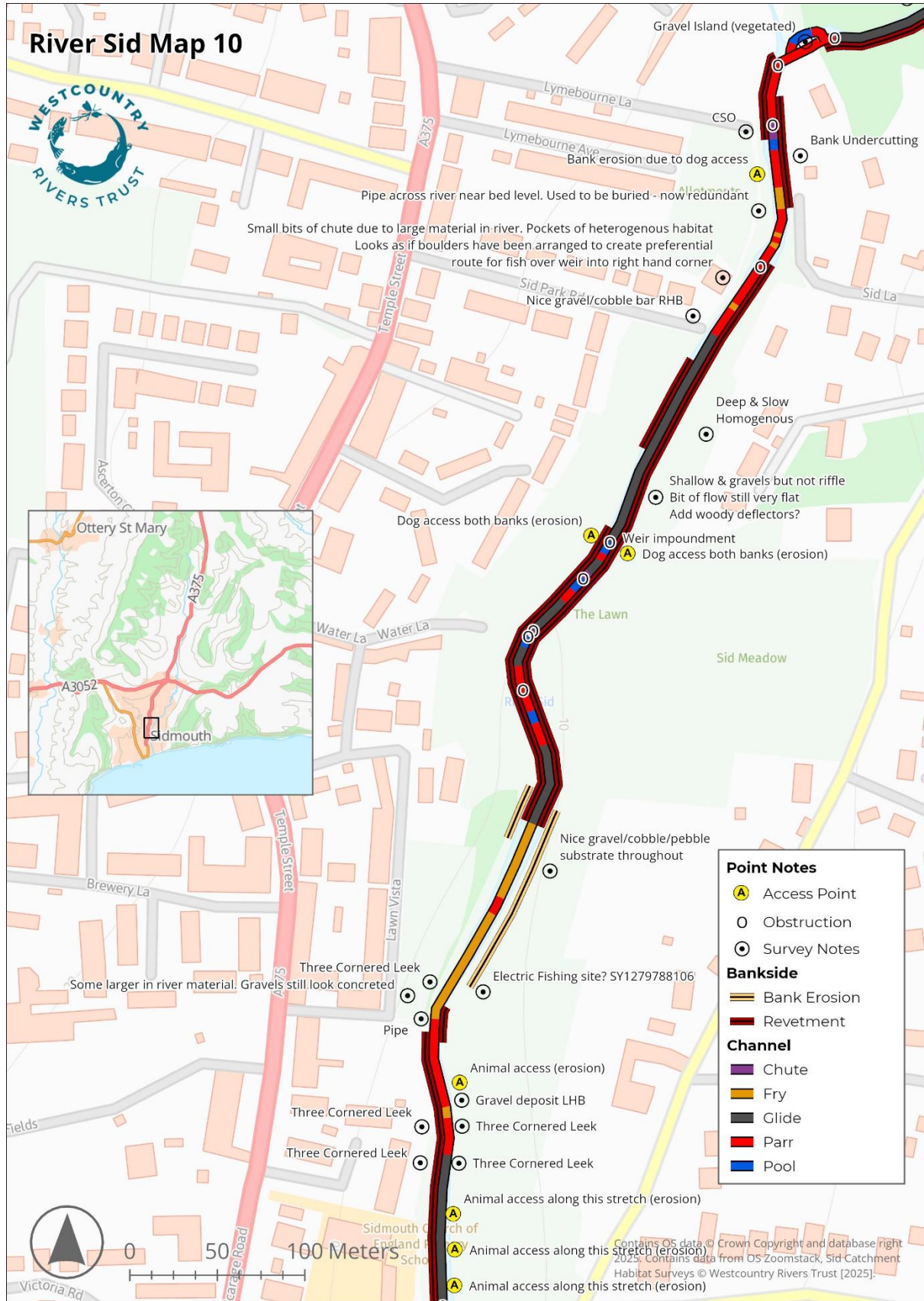





















## Appendix 4: Habitat walkover Photos – River Sid


Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 12859 87459</p> <p>Tidal reach of the River Sid, revetment along the true right bank, and steep cliffs along the true left bank, resulting in a constrained river.</p>	
<p>River Sid – SY 12781 87770</p> <p>Impoundment as a result of Mill Ford, consisting of long glide with deep pools with limited habitat variability.</p>	

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 12789 87866</p> <p>Gravel deposition downstream of School weir, creating some diversity and fry habitat. Environment Agency removed this during September 2025 for flood alleviation. Revetment on both banks through flood alleviation scheme down to river mouth.</p>	
<p>River Sid – SY 12900 88396</p> <p>Homogenous habitat through the Byes. Areas of bank erosion from dog access to the river and undercutting due to the river being constrained by revetment and footpaths along both banks.</p>	

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13299 88911</p> <p>This section of the Sid demonstrates that there is a natural ready supply of coarse substrate, required for salmonid spawning, within the Sid. The river here is heavily impacted by erosion on the true right bank, largely due to dog and public access to the river. The true left banks is revetted with large boulders, and both upstream and downstream of this reach, there are multiple boulder check weirs. These affect the hydrogeomorphological function of the river and limit habitat diversity.</p>	 <p>The top photograph shows a wide, shallow section of the river with a bed of brown, leaf-littered rocks and pebbles. The water is clear and reflects the surrounding green trees. The right bank is eroded and shows signs of human impact. The bottom photograph shows a similar section of the river, but with a more pronounced boulder check weir structure across the channel, creating a small pool of water upstream. The banks are lined with large, grey boulders.</p>

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13512 89198</p> <p>SY 13512 89198 upstream of Fortescue Weir is the start of the most naturalised section of the lower river Sid up to SY 13728 89732.</p> <p>At SY 13512 89198. There is evidence of bank erosion on the true right bank of a meander, however, scrub has infilled this section which will aid in bank restoration by trapping sediment and creating refuge for fish.</p> <p>The pasture on the true right is fenced to minimise animal access to the river, however there is no riparian buffer. This section would benefit from tree planting and the creation of a riparian buffer to minimise further compaction and subsequent bank erosion.</p> <p>Tree planting and the creation of a riparian buffer would also make this section of the Sid more resilient to increasing river temperatures, as well as buffer and agricultural run-off into the river.</p>	


Description	Photograph
	 The top photograph shows a riverbank with a rocky foreground and a grassy field in the background under a cloudy sky. The bottom photograph shows a wooded area with a rocky path or stream bed in the foreground.


Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13492 89243</p> <p>Large woody material in the channel of the River Sid. This is beneficial for habitat diversity by creating pockets of scour, as well as sediment accumulation and providing refuge for fish. Large wood also increases diversity of flow paths and velocity within the channel.</p>	 A photograph showing a river channel with a large, fallen tree trunk and branches partially submerged in the water. The surrounding area is lush with green vegetation and trees, indicating a natural, wooded environment.


River Sid –  
SY 13572 89314

Large area of erosion on the River Sid, creating a 'cliff' of approximately 3m on the true left bank. There is no riparian buffer on the true left bank, and surface flow from the nearby road travels across the field to this point, increasing the impact of erosion. The large willow seen in photo 3 has likely fallen into the river as a result of the erosional processes. It is recommended that this is retained in place, as this large wood will likely help to trap sediment.

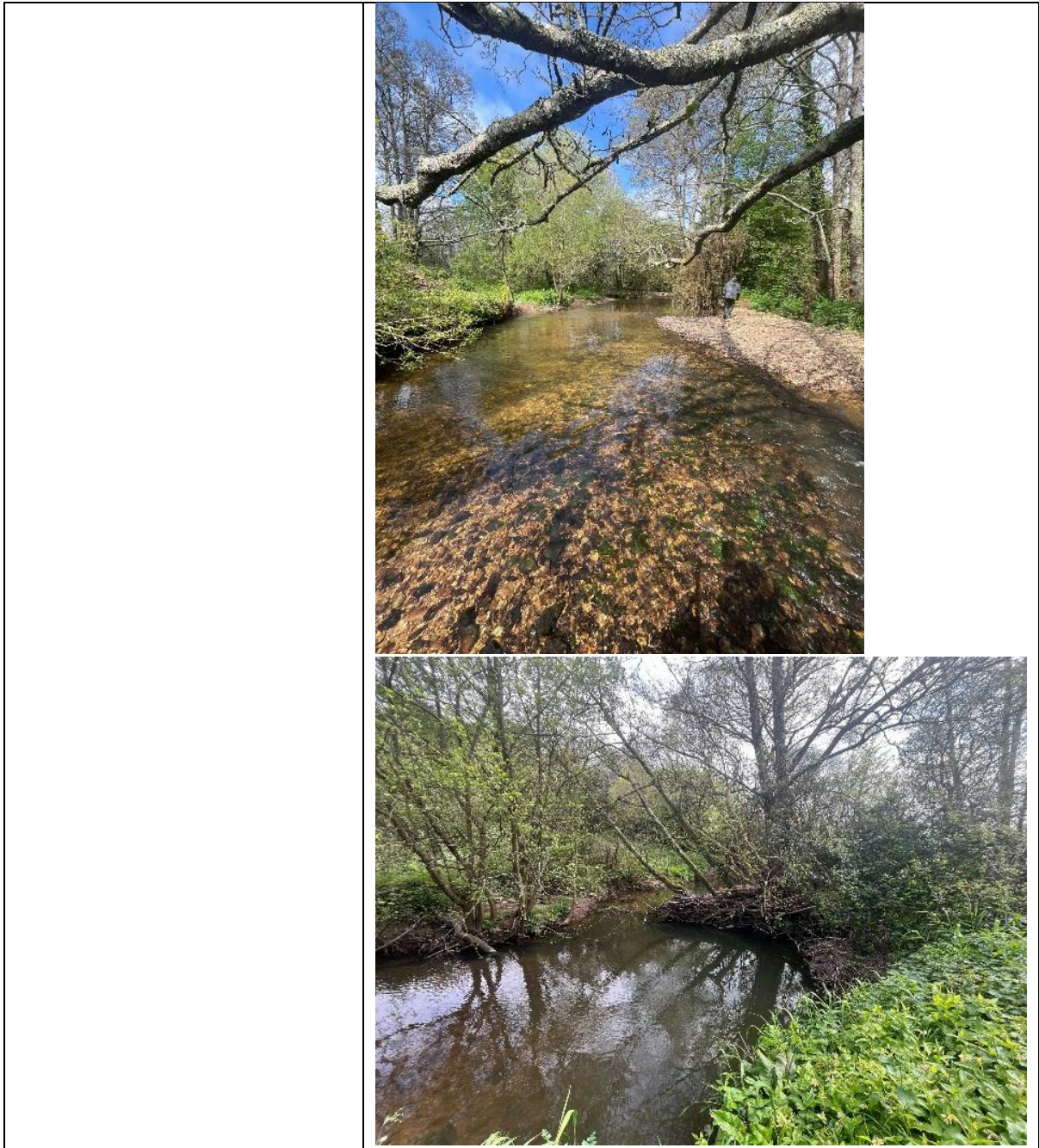




Description	Photograph
	 A photograph showing a riverbank with dense green vegetation, including tall grasses in the foreground and various shrubs and trees in the background. A large, fallen log lies across the bank, partially submerged in the water. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.



Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13524 89392</p> <p>The channel has been allowed to move freely in this section of the River Sid, creating braided sections of channel with large gravel bars and coarse wood in the channel. However, there are still areas of bank erosion that warrant further investigation to enhance habitat.</p>	 <p>The top photograph shows a close-up view of a braided river channel. The water flows through a network of gravel bars and coarse wood. The surrounding area is lush with green vegetation and trees. The bottom photograph shows a wider view of the river channel, which is heavily braided with gravel bars and coarse wood. The channel is surrounded by dense green vegetation and trees. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.</p>

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13604 89584</p> <p>Large wood in channel on the River Sid, which is increasing channel and flow diversity. The structure is not an issue for fish migration as there is sufficient depth of flow beneath the large wood.</p>	 A photograph showing a river channel with a large, fallen log partially submerged in the water. The log is positioned across the channel, creating a natural structure. The water flows around the log, and the surrounding area is lush with green vegetation and trees. The riverbank on the left is covered with white flowers.

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13651 89551 to SY 13713 89614</p> <p>The River Sid throughout this reach is more natural, with space to move across the landscape with areas of connection to the floodplain resulting in sections of wet woodland. There is a high proportion of coarse wood in channel, leading to areas of channel braiding, accumulation of sediment bars and islands, overall creating a diverse mosaic of habitats.</p> <p>In areas of juvenile habitat, the gravel cobble matrix was of good spawning size, and due to the complexity of the reach, gravels appeared much cleaner than other areas of the catchment.</p> <p>A large proportion of Himalayan balsam and Japanese knotweed was noted throughout this reach.</p>	



Description	Photograph
	
<p>River Sid – SY 13728 89732</p> <p>Straightened and homogenous section of the River Sid, with minimal tree cover and riparian buffer. This section would benefit from the addition of large woody flow deflectors to increase channel diversity and the creation of a more varied habitat. Selective tree planting and widening of riparian buffer would also add resilience to this section of the River Sid.</p>	


Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13733 89965</p> <p>Sidford Bridge, where the Snod Brook joins the River Sid on the true left bank. The bridge does not pose an issue for fish migration. There is variability of habitat directly downstream of the bridge, with a mixture of fry and parr, however the area has minimal tree cover. At the time of surveying trout fry were seen on the tail of a riffle.</p>	
<p>River Sid – SY 13740 90155</p> <p>Confluence of the Burscombe Brook with the River Sid. This area has dense growth of Himalayan balsam.</p>	


Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13733 90202</p> <p>Habitat diversity of pool with coarse woody debris in channel (photo 3) that flows into riffle/fry habitat. Accumulated gravel bar also present. True right bank is incised and undercutting (photo 1). This reach has substantial Himalayan balsam.</p>	



Description	Photograph
	 The top photograph shows a riverbank with dense green vegetation and a small stream. The bottom photograph is a close-up of pink flowers growing in a wooded area.

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13723 90214</p> <p>Ford crossing the River Sid, unclear how frequently used. Good fry habitat in this section.</p>	 Two photographs showing a river ford crossing. The top photo shows a wide, shallow stream with a bed of dark, wet rocks and fallen leaves, surrounded by dense green trees. The bottom photo shows a similar view from a different angle, highlighting the rocky riverbed and the surrounding forest.


Description	Photograph
<p data-bbox="204 239 424 315">River Sid – SY 13761 90228</p> <p data-bbox="204 371 592 622">Large boulders present in stream, do not appear to be natural due to the straight line formation diagonally across the river. Not posing a barrier to fish migration.</p>	 Two photographs showing a stream with large boulders. The top photo shows a stream flowing over several large, light-colored boulders in a wooded area. The bottom photo shows a similar stream with boulders, viewed from a different angle, with dense green foliage on the banks.

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13739 90570</p> <p>Impounded reach directly upstream of ford and two boulder weirs. Section has good spawning gravels present but, due to impoundment, the habitat is sub-optimal for spawning and fry. This impoundment reduces flow and oxygenation of interstitial space in the gravels. At the time of surveying, there was a high amount of algae growth on substrate present throughout the reach. This could be a result of nutrient enrichment, temperature and flow conditions or a combination thereof.</p>	


Description	Photograph
	 Two photographs of a river in a wooded area. The top photograph shows a wide view of the river flowing through a dense forest, with reflections of the trees in the water. The bottom photograph is a closer view of the riverbank, showing a rocky and pebbly shore on the left and dense green foliage on the right, with reflections in the water.

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13731 90671</p> <p>Historic structure on true right bank for River Sid. Not posing an issue to migration but may be constraining the river at this point and increasing erosion and incision of the bank.</p>	
<p>River Sid – SY 13723 90668</p> <p>Large woody debris present in channel, not an issue for fish migration as clear route of passage along true right bank. The instream wood is already creating flow diversity, with a deeper parr channel along the true right banks and shallower fry habitat on the left.</p>	






Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13833 91211</p> <p>Heterogeneous habitat (mix of fry and parr in this section) with ample substrate, however the channel is straightened and constrained by incised banks that are also eroding.</p>	 A photograph of a river channel, likely the River Sid, showing a rocky bed and dense vegetation on the banks. The channel appears to be straightened and constrained by eroding banks.


Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13910 91550</p> <p>Leat from Sidbury Mill Weir to Sidbury Mill via Millenium Park. Leat wetted at time of survey. Sidbury Mill is an active flour mill, therefore utilising the abstraction through the leat from Sidbury Mill weir.</p>	


Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13977 91616</p> <p>Instream boulders in an unnatural formation upstream of Sidbury EA level gauge, not likely related to gauge due to the placement upstream rather than downstream. Not likely to be a substantial issue.</p>	

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 14123 92041</p> <p>Open reach upstream of Sidbury. True left bank is fenced to stop animal access to the river however there is limited riparian buffer. Banks are also incised and eroding. This section would benefit from selective tree planting, as well as potential willow staking of the true left bank to protect against continued erosion.</p>	

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 14122 92070</p> <p>Location of new fry index survey site at 'US Church Street', in place of 'Sidbury' due to more suitable fry habitat for the survey methodology. Note, balsam present.</p>	 The 'Photograph' column contains two vertically stacked images. The top image shows a close-up view of a riverbank with a dense thicket of green trees and bushes in the background. In the foreground, there are several large, green-leaved plants with clusters of bright pink flowers, identified as balsam. The riverbank is dark and appears to be covered in fallen leaves or organic matter. The bottom image shows a wider view of the river channel, which is filled with a mix of rocks and pebbles. The banks are lined with tall grasses and various green plants, including the same pink-flowered balsam plants seen in the top image. The background shows a line of trees under a blue sky with some clouds.

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 14112 92161</p> <p>Tuer right bank undercutting and incised, appears to be reinforced with boulder or remnants of historic weir structure. Variety of habitat types in this reach, directly downstream of the Roncombe Stream confluence. Ample supply of gravel/cobble substrate.</p>	
<p>River Sid – SY 14098 92293</p> <p>Moving into the upper reaches of the River Sid the channel becomes narrower. In this reach directly upstream of Cotford the reach is open with no riparian buffer or tree cover. Banks are incised, but not as severely as further downstream. This reach would benefit from selective tree planting and riparian buffer creation.</p>	


Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 14046 92424</p> <p>Pipe discharging into the River Sid. Origins and function unknown.</p>	 A photograph showing a concrete pipe discharging into a stream. The pipe is partially submerged and surrounded by rocks and vegetation. The stream flows over a rocky bed, and the surrounding area is lush with green plants and trees.

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY14000 95215</p> <p>Ford crossing for livestock movement on the River Sid. High levels of algae present at time of surveying.</p>	


River Sid –  
SY 13994 92535 to SY 14009  
92757

Bank erosion present along reach, predominantly on true left bank where there is no fencing or riparian buffer for livestock pasture. Photo 3 shows a severe section of bank erosion of the true left bank whereby a pipe is now suspended. It is recommended to fence this reach to limit livestock access and willow stake areas of severe erosion to allow the bank to regenerate.




Description	Photograph
	 A photograph showing a riverbank. A large, mature tree with dense green foliage is the central focus, leaning over the water. The river is visible in the lower part of the frame, surrounded by lush green vegetation and reeds. The background shows a bright, sunny day with a clear blue sky and rolling green hills.

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 13990 92780</p> <p>Nice example of habitat heterogeneity on the Sid, with gravel island and large wood in river, allowing for multiple channels of flow and habitat types. Good mix of shade and light in this section from riparian trees.</p>	 Two photographs showing the River Sid. The top photo shows a gravel island in the river with large wood in the water, surrounded by lush green vegetation. The bottom photo shows a gravel island in the river with large wood in the water, surrounded by lush green vegetation.

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 14118 93356</p> <p>Incised eroding bank. From this point upstream of the catchment the gradient increases and banks are often steep valley sides. In some areas this resulted in unseen stretches of river due to inaccessibility.</p>	 A photograph of a river flowing through a valley. The river is narrow and appears to be in a deep, eroded channel. The banks are steep and covered with dense green vegetation. The water is clear and reflects the surrounding trees and sky. The sky is bright blue with some light clouds.


Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 17123 93435</p> <p>Strech of the River Sid that has fewer human impacts due to location in the steeper, less accessible part of the valley. Large wood in the river creates habitat diversity, however river is eroding and causing banks to be further incised. Similar examples also noted at SY 14135 93494 (photo 4) and SY 14123 93637 (photo 5).</p>	

Description	Photograph
	 The photograph section contains two vertically stacked images. The top image shows a riverbank with a rocky stream bed, dense green vegetation, and a fallen tree trunk. The bottom image shows a similar scene with a rocky stream bed, dense green vegetation, and a fallen tree trunk.

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 14118 93646</p> <p>Large woody debris present instream of the River Sid. Although complex, it was not deemed to have an impact to fish passage as there were multiple routes through and around the woody structure for the free movement of fish.</p>	 A photograph showing a river channel almost completely blocked by a large, tangled pile of fallen trees and branches. The debris is dense and complex, with many roots and branches protruding from the water. The surrounding area is lush with green trees and foliage, suggesting a forested catchment area.

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid – SY 14115 93753 to SY 14125 93781</p> <p>Section of good in-river habitat, mix of fry and parr with optimal sized spawning gravels that were relatively clean. However, this reach is unfenced with livestock present, resulting in poached and eroded banks. There was a favourable level of tree cover, however fencing of the banks to create a suitably sized riparian buffer is recommended, as well as installation of water troughs for livestock drinking access in place of access to the river.</p>	




Description	Photograph
	 A photograph showing a riverbank with dense green vegetation. A small stream flows through the center of the frame, surrounded by lush grass and various plants. The background is filled with tall trees and more greenery, suggesting a natural, wooded environment.

River Sid –  
SY 14107 94711 to SY 14091  
94741

Reach upstream of Plyford of the River Sid is much more natural, with the river able to move more freely across the landscape. Habitats in riparian buffer include species-rich grasslands. However, like many other areas of the catchment, banks are eroding and incised, although not as severely here.



Description	Photograph
	

Description	Photograph
<p>River Sid –</p> <p>Examples of areas along the River Sid (SY 13745 90012, SY 13767 90123, SY 13784 90439, SY 13752 90535, SY 13698 90751, SY 13732 90780, SY 13698 90751, SY 13732 90780, SY 14095 91957) that were unseen during walkover surveys due to high densities of bank vegetation, as well as invasive species such as Japanese knotweed (present in photo 1) and Himalayan balsam (present in photo 3).</p>	

Description	Photograph
	 Two photographs showing dense, overgrown vegetation. The top photo shows tall grasses and leafy plants. The bottom photo shows a thicket of green bushes and trees with some purple flowers.