



# Rivers & Seas Watch

from Southern Water

Version No. R&SW 1.2  
Type: Minor Release  
Release Date: 18.07.2025

[Download beta  
release notes  
\(1.0.0 - 1.0.5\)](#)

## Release description

This update includes improvements to how we retrieve and process storm overflow release data from our other systems, along with improvements to how we process email notifications.

Specifically, this has involved replacing legacy processes (stored procedures) and utilising more modern technologies (FME Workbenches). As outlined within the [recommendations from the Beachbuoy independent review](#), this change will simplify monitoring of transfer issues, centralise business rules in one location, and offer ease of management and improved processing times.

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## Key improvements

1. **Faster processing of release event data:** The time taken to transfer data from our spills validation system and publish it on Rivers and Seas Watch has been reduced from a maximum time of 30 minutes to ten minutes. This has been achieved by replacing the stored procedures previously used with FME workbenches.
2. **Historical release data always updated:** Previously, Rivers and Seas Watch's release history had a cut-off point after the end of the release event where it would stop receiving data updates for the storm overflow release. This resulted in updated historical data becoming misaligned with our Environment Agency annual reporting data and any verification data. For example, older release events which were verified after the cut-off points would not be updated from their 'under review' status, even though they had been verified.
3. **Email system refactoring:** Stored procedures have been replaced with FME workbenches to coordinate the transfer of data and triggering of email notifications. The change will improve the maintainability of this feature of Rivers and Seas Watch, and enable more timely improvements to it in the future
4. **Surfers Against Sewage API:** The stored procedures used to transfer data to the Surfers Against Sewage API have been replaced with FME workbenches in order to future-proof this approach, and offer consistency in our technology used.



## Resolved defects

### Unpublished release events

Proactive analysis of our previous integrations revealed that **233** storm overflow releases failed to publish on Rivers and Seas Watch - of which 34 were genuine events, 199 not genuine events (false alarms). This affected 26 outfall locations.

These release events have now been published, and the cause of the issue resolved as part of this release. Please [see our full list of events](#).

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## Known Issues

- **.CSV Exports from the release show in US (United States) date format** – When exporting .csv files of the release history table, the .csv file uses US (United States) date format instead of UK date format in the data. *This issue is logged with the ESRI Platform and is dependent on a platform update from ESRI to get the issue fixed.*
- **WCAG accessibility issues** – There are a number of WCAG accessibility issues, such as navigation, screen-reader compatibility and visual impairment accommodation across the mapping interface and release table. *The development team have explored resolutions to these issues, and at this time, there is limited work that can be undertaken by them to resolve these issues. The issue has been raised with ESRI to understand how a resolution can be achieved for the platform in the future.*