

Uses of Rivers

Fishermen:

How they use the river

For leisure.

Some catch fish to eat.

Positive effects

Fish populations controlled.

Presence may prevent vandalism / damage.

This could lead to

New fish species.

People taking greater care of environment.

Negative effects

May leave litter.

Over-fishing some species.

This could lead to

Polluted waters

Decline in some fish species.

Factory Owners:

How they use the river

For transporting goods.

Powering machinery.

Positive effects

Sections of river maintained.

This could lead to

People taking greater care of river environment.

Negative effects

Chemicals and dirty water flushed back into river after water used.

This could lead to

Polluted waters

Decline in some fish species.

Power Generation Companies:

How they use the river

Use the energy in the water to generate power – hydroelectricity.

Positive effects

Water is renewable.

Less pollution if other fuels, e.g. coal, gas, not burned.

This could lead to

Long-term reduction in pollution.

Energy provided more cheaply as harnessing the power of nature to provide.

Negative effects

River courses and habitats may have to be modified for the power companies to run most efficiently.

This could lead to

Loss or displacement of habitat for some animal species.

Quality of water in rivers affected.

Tourists:

How they use the river

Leisure pursuits, e.g. rowing, transportation.

Walking routes.

Positive effects

Investment in area.

Conservation projects to protect and educate about local wildlife.

This could lead to

Greater understanding and careful use of rivers and surrounding environment.

Better maintenance of rivers and surrounding environment.

Negative effects

Too many people could upset local wildlife.

Litter.

Pollution from boats, e.g. noise pollution from motor-powered boats.

This could lead to

Local wildlife leaving habitat.

Decline in water quality.

Increased cleaning and maintenance costs.

Water Sports Groups:

How they use the river

Leisure.

Participating in water sports pursuits, e.g. sailing, rowing.

Positive effects

Sections of river maintained.

This could lead to

Investment in area.

Conservation projects to protect and educate about local wildlife.

Negative effects

River courses and habitats may have to be modified for the sports.

This could lead to

Loss or displacement of habitat for some animal species.

Quality of water in rivers affected.