**Annex 8.1.15 Environment policy.**

The River Yealm Harbour Authority (RYHA) is committed to minimizing the environmental impact of its day-to-day operations whilst maintaining a balance between its commercial and recreational interests by ensuring the necessary resources, systems and procedures are available to implement this environmental policy.

The RYHA, wherever practical, will instigate the following principles:

* Implement management systems and procedures designed to reduce the use of hazardous materials, energy, C02 emissions, noise, water and other natural resources.
* Wherever possible, minimize the generation of waste, and enable recycling and reuse of materials
* Identify the relevant aspects and impacts of the RYHA operations on the river environment.
* Endeavor to comply with UK and International legislation and adopt best demonstrated environmental practices wherever possible.
* Promote participation and communicate our commitment to responsible environmental management with our employees by providing the necessary training and support.
* Encourage community engagement by involving our stakeholders, employees, customers, contractors, and Harbour Authority members in meeting our environmental goals and objectives whilst giving due regard to the relevant nature designations, improving overall water quality and the biodiversity of the authority’s management area.
* Provide a lead role in the Estuary Management Committee.
* Ensure that environmental pollution and accidental spillage controls are in place, regularly reviewed, and endeavour to minimise any risk of pollution from RYHA activities.
* Wherever possible employ contractors procure services and goods which will minimise the impact on the environment.

The River Yealm Harbour Authority members are committed to this policy and seek to improve their environmental performance on a continuous basis.

Chairman RYHA Harbour Master Office Manager

Date