River back to nature; MINUTE BRIEFING; MINUTE BRIEFING; MINUTE BRIEFING

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A PROJECT to return rivers to a more natural state where they meander "like the branches of a tree" is being brought in to help wildlife and tackle flooding.

The National Trust said the project at Holnicote Estate, in Somerset, is the first of its kind for the UK, and will allow rivers to flow through multiple channels, pools and shallow riffles as they would have done before human interference.

It is hoped the scheme will reduce the frequency of flooding by slowing the flow of water.

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