

### LAST CHANCE FOR EARLY-BIRD CONFERENCE BOOKINGS

The deadline for early-bird bookings for this year's RRC Annual Network Conference on the 19th & 20th of April, **has been extended until the 31st of January**. This year's programme has a special focus on the nitty-gritty of techniques, as well as covering funding aspects and partnerships, with workshops on monitoring, training and knowledge exchange. You can pay for the event online by credit/debit card. Contact [Ian Brown \(Centre Administrator\)](#) with any enquiries.

To view the programme and access the booking form, check [our website](#).

### HABITAT IMPROVEMENT ON THE RIVER WELLAND

A restoration project is currently underway on the River Welland at Drayton. Funded by defra, the scheme aims to work with local landowners to improve and protect brown trout spawning areas along a 1.7km stretch of the river. This will deliver actions that have been identified to help meet targets set under the Water Framework Directive.

The project has used in-stream flow deflectors to improve flow diversity and increase the range of habitats, and wood bundles and coir have been installed to prevent erosion of the bank sides. These have been planted with native plants including common reed and reed sweet-grass.

Trees have also been planted along the river corridor in order to create shaded areas for fish and other aquatic species. To find out more about the project, please click on the following link to open a summary of the works.

#### [Summary of the River Welland at Drayton project](#)

For more information, please contact project manager [Hugh Bunker \(Environment Agency, Anglian Region\)](#).



### EU LIFE+ RESTORE EVENTS UPDATE

#### [OUTPUTS AVAILABLE](#)

**Policy and River Basin Planning workshop (Paris):** Presentations and a workshop report are now available on the RRC website from the November workshop. It was identified that linkages between land and water policy and spatial planning need to be addressed as they limit progress - [View workshop report](#)

#### [UPCOMING WORKSHOPS](#)

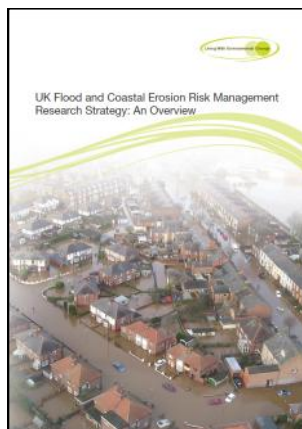
**“Restoring Europe’s Rivers” workshop at the CIWEM International Water Management conference (Lille):** RESTORE will be a feature workshop on the first day of the CIWEM event (22nd February). A key theme is the multifunctional benefits of river restoration - [View event flier](#)

**Integrating River Restoration & Spatial Planning: Delivering Multiple Benefits (Arnhem):** On 8th-9th March, RRC will host a workshop and site visit in the Netherlands - [View event flier](#)  
If you would like further information or to book onto this ‘free-to-attend’ event, [contact RRC](#)

The River Restoration Centre is the West Region lead organisation for the [EU LIFE+ RESTORE Information and Communication project](#) (2010-2013) which encourages the communication of sustainable river restoration best practice across Europe.



### UK FLOOD RISK RESEARCH STRATEGY LAUNCHED



Living With Environmental Change (LWEC) have launched the UK Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Research Strategy, where for the first time, evidence needs have been considered jointly at a national scale and with a common vision towards more efficient, collaborative delivery. The three thematic areas that are focused on in the strategy are:

1. Understanding risk;
2. Managing probability and
3. Managing consequence.

To download a copy of the strategy and other related documents, please visit the [Living With Environmental Change \(LWEC\)](#) website.

### MEET THE STAFF: JAMES HOLLOWAY

The Centre initially roped me in to analyse and evaluate a monitoring programme, but after that, wouldn't let me leave! Now as Projects Adviser, most of my time goes to site-specific 'options scoping' reports, and other tailor-made projects which exploit our unique over-arching and independent position. One such current project is the development of a methodology to prioritise >50,000 culverts for removal. We want to end up with 30!

Aside from this, I run the programme for our Annual Network Conference, answer technical enquiries and help RRC disseminate good practice through newsletters and other media.

However, given the chance to fight through Himalayan Balsam on a wet January morning, I can't get out of the office fast enough! Oh, and yes – I do love climbing trees!



### LATEST RIVER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS INCLUDING:

#### [Application process now open for the 2012 International Riverprize](#)

Visit our [Website](#) and [YouTube channel](#). Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#). Become a [Facebook fan](#).

For those on LinkedIn, a group managed by RRC Board Member Claire Thirlwall, 'River Restoration Professionals', is recommended by the RRC as an active discussion forum. [View the group here](#).

If you have questions or comments, or if you would like to remove your name from our mailing list, please contact us by email: [rrc@therrc.co.uk](mailto:rrc@therrc.co.uk) or call 01234 752979.