



**Rural River Rehabilitation
and Sustainable Land Management Workshop**

Monday 6th – Tuesday 7th December 1999

Station Hotel, Perth

Organised by River Restoration Centre

With financial support from:

**wild
rivers**

Demonstration and Advisory Project

Report commissioned by Wild Rivers Demonstration and Advisory Project,

compiled by:

Vyv Wood-Gee

Countryside Management Consultant

Scabgill, Braehead, Lanark ML11 8HA

Tel: 01555 870530 Fax: 01555 870050

E-mail: vyv.wood-gee@zetnet.co.uk

Mobile: 0411 307980

CONTENTS

Introduction, purpose and rules of engagement

Discussion Session 1: Project and Work Objectives

Discussion Session 2: Selling Projects/Actions to Owners and Occupiers

Discussion Session 3: Choice of Techniques/Methods

Discussion Session 4: The Doing

Discussion Session 5: Economics

Discussion Session 6: Success Evaluation

Discussion Session 7: Contribution to Responsibilities

Discussion Session 8: Sharing Information More Effectively

Summing Up

Feedback

Delegate list

Project summaries and contact details - listed alphabetically by project name

Note:

The report which follows makes no pretence of comprehensively exploring or documenting each of the above subject areas. Rather, it is intended as a ready-reference summary of the key points covered by presentations made at the Rural River Restoration workshop, and arising during subsequent discussions. The format reflects the variation between individual sessions depending on subject matter and facilitators. Conclusions are included if and when these were discussed or could be surmised from discussion. For the sake of clarity, points raised are documented under the most appropriate session heading rather than strictly verbatim. To avoid repetition, information and experience already covered by the appended project summaries is not repeated within the body of the report.

INTRODUCTION, PURPOSE AND RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

Nigel Holmes and Steven Bell

River Restoration Centre (RRC)'s main aim is to promote river rehabilitation and best practice in river management, within the overall context of catchment consciousness. Although little developed as yet, a potentially key role is to facilitate exchange of information between individuals and organisations who share a common interest in practical river restoration. Each of the many different projects involved in such work around the country works as a catalyst for action, but there remains even greater potential to catalyse further action by sharing experience and working together as a team.

This workshop offers an opportunity for people who, in the main, are usually preoccupied by achieving outputs on their own particular patch to learn more about what is happening elsewhere and to stand back and consider scope for improvement of their own projects. It offers an opportunity to say things which for a variety of reasons may not be written down on paper - to acknowledge and learn from failures as well as draw on successful experience. By being honest and realistic we can avoid unnecessarily reinventing the wheel, and so make the best possible use of hard-won resources. Based on summaries submitted in advance, those attending this workshop are directly responsible for or giving advice on budgets exceeding £3 million per annum. An improvement of only 1% in the efficiency with which this money is spent therefore offers opportunities to achieve very considerable benefit on the ground.

This is the first of what it is hoped will become regular workshops. The format and topics to be discussed within each of the sessions which follow are based on suggestions from those who expressed interest in attending.