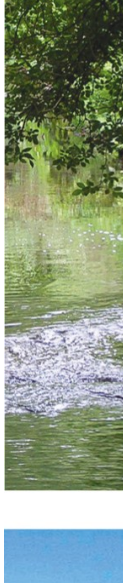
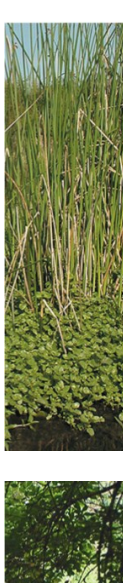
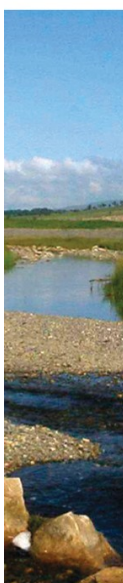


CATCHMENT RESTORATION FUND - ROUNDS 1 & 2



Source: Environment Agency

Press-release: Projects approved following rounds 1 & 2

Forty two projects have been approved through the first two rounds of the Catchment Restoration Fund. This equates to just over £23m of funding over the three years, supplemented by over £5m of additional partners' funding and contributions.

Those chosen were prioritised using River Basin Liaison Panels following technical assessment by experts in the Environment Agency, Natural England and RRC. [View the list of all approved CRF projects.](#)

Over 300 water bodies will receive habitat improvement, improved access for fish or reductions in diffuse pollution as a result of these projects, making significant steps towards more waters at good status as well as providing wider benefits to society and the environment.

Although not all of the total available funding (£28m) has been allocated, no further bids will be considered for 2012/13. However due to the high standard of project proposals submitted and the obvious appetite to undertake catchment based improvements, the CRF partners are aiming to secure further funding. At this moment in time, a third window for applications will open in March 2013 for projects commencing in late 2013. Please see the [CRF webpage for more information.](#)

RRC OLYMPIC CHALLENGE - CONTENDERS SO FAR

Last month RRC launched its very own *Olympic Challenge* to celebrate gold-medal restoration projects in the following six disciplines:

1. **Marathon** – Longest project including pre and post monitoring
2. **Sprint** – Project construction start to finish with positive outcome!
3. **Relay** – Most project partners/funding partners involved
4. **High-jump** – Greatest height (barrier) overcome in project
5. **Hurdles** – Biggest hurdle overcome (*metaphorically speaking*)
6. **Freestyle** - Most innovative design/ approach to restoration



Source: www.guardian.co.uk

Thanks to everyone who has nominated a project so far. Contenders that we have received include:

- ⇒ [Sinderlands Brook](#) (Marathon)
- ⇒ [Maysbrook Park](#) (Relay)
- ⇒ [Fobney Island](#) (Freestyle)

In true Olympic spirit, RRC would like to reward those who submit winning projects as, without your support, the National River Restoration Inventory (NRRI), the largest resource of river restoration and habitat enhancement data in the UK, would not continue to reflect current practice. Thank you.

To **enter**, all that we require is 100 words (max) detailing the restoration works, with photos before and after. The deadline is the [9th September](#) to coincide with the end of the Paralympics.

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT: RESTORE FIELD VISIT IN FRANCE

River Restoration Field Visit, Brittany, France Thursday 11th - Friday 12th October 2012

A two-day excursion to restoration sites in the Sèvre Nantaise basin will be hosted by RRC and led by contacts at the Institution Interdépartementale du Bassin de la Sèvre Nantaise. Commentary for all site visits will be in both French and English.

Please send an email to [RRC](#) and mark it for the attention of Jenny Mant if you are interested in attending. Note: Places are limited and these will be on a strictly first come first served basis.



Source: www.eptb.asso.fr

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.



WEIR COLLAPSE ON THE RIVER IRWELL

The Irwell WFD Good Ecological Potential project aims to strategically remove redundant structures from the river corridor. Following the removal of ten barriers by the Environment Agency Operations Delivery team last year, Little Lever weir on the River Irwell in Bolton was identified as one of the next to prioritise.

While removal works were not planned, high flows experienced in June and July assisted removal of the structure (2m+ head with a 30m span) as well as two further weirs, which all collapsed, succumbing to pressure. Remaining material was removed under emergency works and this helped add a few more ticks to the Environment Agency's 'weir removal hit list'.

The removal of this has already helped to create a more dynamic and diverse river corridor as well as allowing resident fish species a clearer passage upstream. Follow-up works cost approximately £20,000.

[Photos of Little Lever weir before collapse, after severe flows and after initial completion of works.](#)

LATEST RIVER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS INCLUDING:

[2012 Thiess International Riverprize nominations announced](#)

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For those on LinkedIn, the ['River Restoration Professionals' group](#) is an active forum for discussion.

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 or call 01234 752979.