

CATCHMENT RESTORATION FUND & EXTERNAL FUNDING

Catchment Restoration Fund (CRF) Phase 1 funding awarded

A national panel has awarded funding to twenty nine projects as part of the first phase of the Catchment Restoration Fund (CRF). Nineteen charitable organisations comprising river trusts, wildlife trusts, and voluntary and river action groups have been awarded funding to carry out projects in England. These will restore rivers, lakes, wetlands, estuaries, coastal habitats and their surrounding landscapes to more natural conditions.

The CRF forms part of the Government's Water Framework Directive Programme, and further funding will be awarded subsequently. RRC worked with the Environmental Agency and a panel of technical assessors to review applications. Those received in the second phase are now being assessed.

For more information on how to apply, the CRF assessment process and legal grant conditions, visit the [Catchment Restoration Fund](#) webpage.

How to apply for external funds - new guidance

New advice notes have been posted online to help people apply for external funds to be used to deliver catchment improvements. This includes Lottery funding, the landfill communities fund and other charitable trusts. Visit the [Catchment Based Approach](#) webpage to access this information.

RIVER NENE NATURE IMPROVEMENT AREA VACANCY 'RESTORATION ADVISER'

The River Restoration Centre is pleased to announce its involvement in one of the 12 Nature Improvement Areas (NIA) suggested by the Lawton Review '[Making Space for Nature](#)'. The 12 NIA will receive a share of £7.5 million to create wildlife havens, restore habitats and encourage local people to get involved with nature.

To realise this work over the next 3 years, the Wildlife Trust's NIA Manager will be supported by 4 posts which are currently being advertised. The River Restoration Adviser will be employed by RRC through Cranfield University, with the post based at the River Nene Regional Park.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 8th July 2012. Interviews will be held on 16th July 2012 in Northampton.

[River Restoration Adviser](#)
[Land Adviser](#)
[Natural Development Officer](#)
[Postdoctoral Researcher in Ecosystem Services](#)



LINKING WETLAND, FLOODPLAIN & RIVER RESTORATION

Jenny Mant (Science and Technical Manager) outlines some of the outputs from the RESTORE workshop at the 7th Annual Meeting of the Society for Wetland Scientists (SWS) European Chapter in Aarhus, Denmark, held on the 20th June.

The workshop audience identified different approaches to linking wetlands and rivers to directly address some of the issues that RESTORE has set out to address. Feedback included the need for:

- Clear messages & common terminology in expressing what is being delivered in projects that link wetlands and rivers (and the benefits).
- Better stakeholder communication.
- More dissemination of information regarding river and wetland projects across Europe. The development of the RESTORE wiki-tool will provide a good platform to ensure this is achieved.

Beyond the RESTORE workshop, the SWS conference also outlined recent research in wetland construction and restoration.

There was also an opportunity to visit the River Skjern restoration project (pictured).

The workshop, site visit and conference outputs will be available on the [RESTORE website](#) shortly.



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.



CONSULTATION: UPDATING THE RIVER BASIN PLANS

The Environment Agency is asking for views on how to develop the river basin management plans (RBMP), which are due to be updated in 2015. The "Working Together" consultation can be found at <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/portal/ho/wfd/working-together2012>.

It is important to include everyone in the process to ensure that the new river basin management plans are 'fit-for-purpose'. The formal closing date for responses is the 22nd December 2012, but the Environment Agency would appreciate comments as early as possible.

For a printed version of the document, call 03708 506 506 or [email the Environment Agency](#).

LATEST RIVER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS INCLUDING:

[UK's first Siphon Fish Pass - Launch event , 21st September 2012](#)

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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.