



RRC Site Visit Series

Smithills Estate, Bolton

Wednesday 3rd August 2022

Join us at the Woodland Trust Smithills Estate in Bolton, to find out more about the Natural Flood Management (NFM) interventions that have been delivered on the Estate to reduce flood risk downstream, benefit biodiversity, improve water quality and aid carbon sequestration.



WOODLAND TRUST

Site visit lead

Mike Norbury (Mott MacDonald)
David Brown (Environment Agency)
Nick Haigh (Woodland Trust)



The Project

The Smithills NFM project is a partnership between The Woodland Trust and Environment Agency, and utilised funds from the DEFRA Flood Defence Grant in Aid Catchment Scale Programme aimed at delivering innovative natural flood management (NFM) to reduce flood risk and deliver additional multiple benefits for biodiversity, land management and hydrological monitoring. In combination with an HLF funded project on the wider estate, the project was delivered via a collaboration of partners including the Mersey Forest for delivery, University of Liverpool for monitoring and analysis, Moors for the Future Partnership (MFFP) on the moorland restoration, Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU) for ecological expertise and Natural Course for support in dissemination.

NFM intervention examples to be seen on the day include in-stream 'living' woody dams, offline storage bunds, moorland restoration, stone dams, tree-planting and culvert daylighting. Evidence from local specific examples of the impact of the additional 12,000 m³ of additional storage capacity will be presented, as well as the habitat benefits, and the visit will also cover the practicalities and legislative requirements associated with NFM delivery.

Information

This site visit is **FREE to RRC members** (£10 deposit to be refunded following attendance at site visit). If space is available, non-members are welcome to attend at a cost of £30. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. To book a place please complete a booking form at the [link here](#). Booking closes when all spaces are allocated.

- The visit will start at 10:00 and end by 15:00. This will include time for a packed lunch (not supplied).
- Meeting point will be Woodland Trust Walker Fold Car Park, Horwich, Bolton, BL1 7PT.
- Wellington boots or walking boots and waterproof clothing are necessary as it will be a full day out walking to see the interventions. Hazards include those typical of moorland/woodland footpaths.

[Find out more about Smithills Estate](#)