

GEOMORPHOLOGY SURVEYOR(S)

Burrator Geomorphology Survey, Dartmoor

September – November 2021

SWLT are working on a Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP) investigation to assess whether the South West Water (SWW) landholding around Burrator Reservoir, Dartmoor is reaching its NERC S41 habitats and species potential. Rivers are a NERC habitat (depending on qualification criteria). A consultant is currently employed to undertake a biodiversity assessment of the rivers, streams and wetland habitats across the project area to provide a baseline condition of their ecology and help assess whether the rivers qualify as a NERC habitat.

However, we are looking for an **experienced geomorphologist who can undertake a simple geomorphology assessment of these rivers, streams and valley systems** to complement this biodiversity study and **who can identify and prioritise any interventions/ river restoration opportunities** across the Catchment. These interventions can be at different levels (small scale – full scale) but need to be linked to habitat enhancement (ie holding water higher in the Catchment/ climate resilience, etc).

The map on page 3 indicates the main rivers and streams within the project area which equate to approx. 29km in total. The Devonport Leat (a man-made structure carrying water to Dousland Water Treatment Works) enters the project area at Nuns Cross and winds its way across the Catchment above Newleycombe Lake valley, across an aqueduct over the River Meavy. All the river systems in the Catchment have been modified by humans over time through tin mining, peat cutting and farming, etc and no natural river systems exist. We are therefore keen to understand through this geomorphology assessment: **to what extent these upland river and valley habitats have been modified from their natural state, if these modifications are having any impact on the river ecology, habitats and hydrology within the Catchment and what interventions can be proposed to enhance priority habitats and improve the eco-hydrological functioning of the Catchment.**

An indication of the geomorphological setting, and the anticipated types of intervention are set out in the accompanying “Burrator Geomorphology Survey, Dartmoor – Supporting Guidance Notes”

The project area is recognised for its importance in Archaeology, with many historic features protected as Scheduled Monuments. Dartmoor National Park Authority have also identified 14 areas across Dartmoor as Premier Archaeological Landscapes, Walkhampton Common covers a large area of this catchment <https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/about-us/about-us-maps/pals-map>. The initial assessment should be made irrespective of archaeological importance to assess if there is any potential for river restoration to improve the ecology and habitats within the catchment, particularly in relation to climate change adaptation.

Survey methodology

Desk based and site walk over surveys to be used to confirm extent of landscape modification, identify sites and scales of interventions and their influence, as well as and constraints for restoration options.



What do we need from you?

- An initial geomorphology survey of the rivers, streams and valley systems identified on the map below recording modifications and identification of different levels of interventions. .
- A report which covers the following elements: Description of survey methodology, areas surveyed, results and identify any recommendations for river & habitat restoration including a matrix of intervention options, locations, with a qualitative indication of benefits, impacts, cost, and deliverability.
- Data to be presented using a professional mapping software and a copy of this plotted data provided to SWLT in a format that is compatible with QGIS (e.g. Shapefiles).
- A project contact who is contactable to discuss different aspects of this work throughout standard office hours (Mon-Fri 0900-1700).
- The surveyor(s) will be expected to create their own site-specific health and safety methods, risk assessments including Covid 19, and provide their own PPE.
- A CV from the surveyor(s) detailing their geomorphology survey experience of upland river systems and examples of any reports.
- Submission of the Burrator Geomorphology Survey report to South West Lakes Trust by **30 November 2021**.

What can you expect from South West Lakes Trust?

- A project manager who is contactable to discuss different aspects of this work throughout standard office hours (Mon-Fri 0900-1700).
- Initial meeting on site if required.

To express your interest in this geomorphology survey, please email ddeveney@swlakestrust.org.uk with any questions, followed by a quote for delivery of this project. Please explain how you are planning to deliver this project, number of surveyors, address any health & safety issues, methods of presenting results etc. Please ensure that your quote is broken down to include the following sections (where applicable): hourly/daily rates (for survey work, data management & report writing), expenses, travel, accommodation, VAT etc.

Please submit your quote by **Monday 6th September 2021**

