Restoring Europe’s Rivers

The RESTORE project is made possible with the contribution of the LIFE+ financial instrument of the European Community

and works in partnership with

Regional Updates
Activities and Events
RESTORE-activities North Region 2011
Jukka Jormola
Finnish Environment Institute SYKE
Ljubljana 16.-18.11.2011
1. Engagement event on agricultural drainage
Finland, May 2011
Participants: 20 people from county agencies from Sweden

- Interests: How to
  - adopt river restoration practices in land drainage and maintenance of brooks
  - widen reproduction habitats for the vulnerable sea trout (Salmo trutta) population of the Baltic Sea
Solution: excavating flood terraces instead of dredging and straightening channels
Results:
-Natural diversity of channels can be preserved
-Flood terraces collect sediment
-Habitats for fish can be restored instead of being ruined

Sea trout 6.3 kg
Photo: Ilpo Havia
2. Engagement event on hydropower and Water Framework Directive
Nordic water manager network meeting, Norway, September
Presentation of same subject:
INBO-congress, Portugal, September
CIREF-congress, Spain, October

- Enabling migration and compensating lost reproduction habitats by nature-like bypass channels

Constructed bypass channel in Finland
3. New case study: Restoration of an urban brook in Helsinki city, November

- Restoration of straightened channel
- Design in park landscape
- Habitat for sea trout
Western Region Update

Martin Janes
Managing Director
River Restoration Centre (UK)
RESTORE West Region Lead

Ljubljana 2012 Seminar – Forging Targets and Solutions for Rivers and Water Ecosystem Restoration
The River Restoration Centre (RRC)

• Independent, not-for-profit, technical advisory organisation
• Not a consultancy = non-competitive support role
• RRC aims to support the development of river restoration as an integral part of best-practice river management in UK
• Dedicated to making river management more effective through the collection and dissemination of knowledge on river restoration, informing and influencing policy and practice.
  – Promotion
  – Information
  – Advice

Since 1992
RESTORE: Western Region

UK, Netherlands, Germany, Ireland, Denmark, Belgium, Austria, Northern France
Target Audience Maps
Capacity Building *Events*

- RR Networks
- Sector-specific
  - Contractors/Consultants
  - NGO & River Trusts
  - Urban planners
  - Flood risk managers....
- Policy makers and River Basin Planners
- Field visits
- End Conference
‘River Restoration Design and Construction’

- Contractor Procurement and Frameworks lack of relevant river restoration/WFD expertise;
- The need for early contractor involvement;
- Limitations of completing the project in a financial year;
- Uncertainty and Risk: - lack of client managers’ understanding of river restoration which can lead to ‘over’-designed schemes;
- River restoration materials and availability of products? Can we produce standard specification of materials?
Western Region – Policy & Planners

Paris, 29th November 2011 (Places still available)

‘Policy support for catchment river restoration and landuse planning’

– How is national policy delivering river restoration?
– How to fund the catchment approach to water management;
– Incorporate into WWF6 outputs from Ljubljana.

RRC, ONEMA, UK Environment Agency....
**RESTORE** - Forthcoming Events

Where: *France (Paris), 29th November 2011*  
Audience: Policy makers and RB Planners  
**Key theme:** Policy support for catchment river restoration and land use planning  
Stand alone 1 day workshop.

Where: *France (Lille), 22/23rd February 2012:*  
Audience: Policy makers and RB Planners  
**Key theme:** RBMP in Europe, benefits of River Restoration  
Conference: Water management in Europe

Where: *Netherlands (Arnhem), 8/9th March 2012:*  
Audience: Practitioners  
**Key theme:** Conflicts between landownership, planning and usage  
Stand alone 1 day workshop and 1 day site visits.

Where: *UK (Nottingham), 19/20th April, 2012:*  
Audience: Practitioners  
**Key theme:** Funding and policy and how they aid deliver on the ground  
Conference: RRC Annual Conference : Delivering restoration

*If you are interested in any of the above events, or can bring them to the attention of relevant colleagues – please see me over the next three days.*
**RESTORE - Forthcoming Events**

**Where: Denmark (Aarhus), 17th – 21st June 2012: Audience:** Practitioners  
**Key theme:** Monitoring effectiveness and building the evidence base  
**Conference:** SWS Wetland Restoration: challenges and opportunities

**Where: Austria (Vienna) 17th - 21st September 2012: Audience:** Practitioners  
**Key theme:** River Restoration and weir removal  
**Conference:** 9th International Symposium on Eco-hydraulics

**Where: Germany (Hamburg), August 2012: Audience:** Practitioners  
**Key theme:** Small Streams: best practice restoration and stakeholder engagement.  
Stand alone 1 day workshop and 1 day site visits.

**Where: Ireland (Dublin) November 2012: Audience:** Policy makers and RB planners  
**Key theme:** Delivering cross boundary catchment scale river restoration  
Stand alone Workshop.

**Where: Belgium (Brussels) June 2013: Audience:** Policy makers and RB planners  
**Key theme:** The Stakeholder View; how policy supports river restoration implementation  
Stand alone Workshop.
Western Region Study Tours

Field visits to look at good practice examples and discuss success and lessons learned.

• France, River Loire – June 2012
  – 2 to 3 days to explore the work of the Loire Conservatoire

• UK – River Eden - June 2013
  – 2 to 3 days visiting the work of the Eden River Trust
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The RR Database: besides France and to some extent Switzerland, no established national databases are looking for feedback on implemented projects!

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Field trip “INCISED RIVERS AND MORPHOLOGICAL RESTORATION”
Italy and Austria, 25-28 October 2011

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1. Sediment transport and geomorphological dynamics: present knowledge and research needs
What is the present level of knowledge in different national or basin contexts? Is it sufficient to understand existing problems and present trends? And to define planning and management lines of action? Based upon the exchange of views between scientists and planners/managers, which appear to be the most important gaps to be filled? Where should funds for research and monitoring be primarily allocated?

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2. A new vision for incised rivers: what level of ambition can we afford?
The issue can be addressed at different levels
- Technical: what kind of "vision" is appropriate, both in extreme cases, such as the Secchia, where the alluvial layer has been completely lost and the morphological profoundly altered, as well as, is in the most "ordinary" cases, typical of many Italian rivers (e.g. Adige or Aurino) where the degree of reversibility of is theoretically higher.
- Planning: the main driver for morphological restoration to control incision will probably be the joint implementation of the Water Framework (2000/60/EC) and Floods (2007/60/EC) Directives. What can we expected by 2015, 2021, 2027? What is already ongoing in Italy? And in other Mediterranean countries?

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3. Reactivating sediment sources and transport: main alternatives and experiences
One of the key elements in the restoration of incised rivers is the reactivation of sediments sources and/or sediment transport. Several solutions can be applied, i.e. removing / modifying the physical barriers that separate the river from potential sources (e.g. slope stabilization works, bank protections, etc.) or that prevent or limit the transport downstream (dams, weirs, etc.), or acting on management procedures of dams and works for water abstraction and regulation that modify the water and sediment flow regime.
What interventions of this type do you know directly? Have some of these actions already been implemented in your area? Are they expected to be carried out in the near future? What kind of technical, economic, legislative or social factors may facilitate or hinder their application?
4. Is it appropriate – and if so, to what extent - to use extracted material to fund restoration?
In an increasing number of cases, proposals and actual interventions of morphological restoration are associated with the partial or total sale of the extracted material, in order to (co)fund the works. This issue raises concerns of both "ethical" and strategic kind: is this approach just a "Trojan horse" for new in-stream gravel extraction? A real need due to insufficient funding for river restoration? Or a common practice that could nonetheless be limited or abandoned? Is it possible to suggest a general approach or does it depend on the specific context? In the latter case, within what boundaries and under what circumstances it may be acceptable without prejudice of future improvements to the water body?
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NEXT STEPS

• Spring 2012: field trip RR in urbanised areas

• Autumn 2012: international workshop on RR in RBMPs within the 2nd Italian RR Conference

• Further events to be defined...
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How you can get involved

Business cards, Etc..

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