



European Centre for River Restoration  
Secretariat:  
Italian Centre for River Restoration  
Viale Garibaldi 44/A  
30173 Mestre – Venice, ITALY



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# European Centre for River Restoration

## NEWSLETTER – August 2008

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## RIVER AND STREAM RESTORATION SHORTCOURSE

River and Stream Restoration Shortcourse

Oct 20-21 (2-day fundamentals) or Oct 20-24 (full 5-day course)

Duke Farms, Hillsborough, New Jersey

<http://streamrestorationnj.com>

Sponsor: New Jersey Chapter of the American Water Resources Association

Instructors: Matt Kondolf (University California Berkeley), Margaret Palmer (University of Maryland), Jack Schmidt (Utah State University), Mark Tompkins (CH2MHill), Peter Wilcock (Johns Hopkins University)

Set in beautiful Duke Farms near Somerville, this shortcourse provides training in geomorphic and ecological understanding and analysis for sustainable stream restoration, drawing upon experience in implemented projects from a wide range of environments. You can attend the first two days only (Mon-Tue, Oct 20-21) to learn about restoration approaches and how to determine what's suitable for a given stream, or attend the entire five days (Mon-Fri, Oct 20-24) and benefit from training in field techniques and integration of geomorphology into restoration planning and design. We will use nearby Duke's Brook and Raritan River for field exercises, and visit several streams in the region to understand problems and consider potential solutions.

### WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

The field of stream restoration has experienced tremendous growth recently in the northeastern US, where high population densities have resulted in a range of impacts to rivers and streams. New Jersey in particular is experiencing a boom in restoration efforts, motivated by the need to improve water quality, as components of flood control programs, as part of dam removals, or as mitigation for development impacts, and built by a variety of government agencies, nonprofits, and consultants.

Restoration can be most effective when based on an understanding of processes and the larger context, and when it benefits from systematic learning from previously built projects. The course emphasizes understanding geomorphic and ecological processes in rivers, approaching restoration from a watershed-scale and decadal-time scale context, incorporating insights from recent research in fluvial geomorphology and ecology, developing predictive connections between objectives and actions, learning from built restoration projects, and developing restoration strategies and innovative management approaches based on understanding of underlying causes of channel or ecosystem change, rather than prescriptive approaches. Participants in this course will learn to see their reach of stream as part of a larger system, and to identify factors in other parts of the watershed and over a longer time scale that may be influencing the current behavior of the reach (such as the effects of historical mill-dams creating fine-grained floodplain deposits). The course draws on cutting edge research and practice, taught by experienced instructors active in research and implementation in the field.

### WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE?

The course is ideal for those responsible for managing and restoring rivers and streams, including those who have previously taken shortcourses in the field, as this course offers insights and approaches unlike those typically taken in many restoration projects today, including innovative approaches being implemented in Europe and Asia, as well as elsewhere in North America. Practitioners and agency staff responsible for reviewing restoration

proposals will benefit from the high caliber of instruction and direct link to current research. Managers responsible for supervising restoration programs and projects will benefit from the first two days' presentation and discussion of the broad range of potential restoration goals and strategies and how to match those with the specific river's situation. The subsequent three days provide more specifics and field-based instruction. This course is a good choice for those seeking an understanding of sustainable process-based river restoration. And this course is unique in offering the opportunity to learn from such an extensive and growing data set of post-project appraisals of restoration projects, and to learn how to conduct effective post-project monitoring. The number of participants is limited to provide many opportunities for one-on-one instruction.

#### COURSE FORMAT

The course consists of organized lectures, backed by lecture notes, a reference text on measurement and analysis methods in fluvial geomorphology, spreadsheets, and other relevant reading, field trips, exercises, and discussions. The course includes field trips to streams in the Raritan River Basin, and workshops on stream restoration problems faced by participants, who briefly present the problem for discussion by instructors and colleagues in a workshop format, for discussion and ideas on analytical approaches and resources.

#### REGISTRATION

Course fees include the text *Tools in Fluvial Geomorphology*, a CD-rom with relevant papers and spreadsheets for calculations, printed lecture notes, as well as continental breakfast and lunch each day, and receptions Monday and Thursday evenings. Fees: If paid by Sept 15: Mon-Tue only \$590, Mon-Fri \$1500; after Sept 15: Mon-Tue only \$690, Mon-Fri \$1600.

To register contact: [njawra\\_stream@yahoo.com](mailto:njawra_stream@yahoo.com)

For more information, see the course website at <http://streamrestorationnj.com>

## PUBLICATIONS

### [Effectiveness of environmental taxes and charges for managing sand, gravel and rock extraction in selected EU countries](#)



Sand, gravel and rock, which are commonly known as aggregates, are relevant in terms of their contribution to economic progress and also the impact they have on the environment. Not only does extraction of aggregates alter the landscape they also affect groundwater reserves and the cultural assets of a region, hence an important factor to consider in EU policies.



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## [Assessing Management Regimes in Transboundary River Basins: Do They Support Adaptive Management?](#)

Transboundary river basin management, in itself of high complexity due to the variety of countries and stakeholders involved, is facing increasing challenges due to new social, economic and climate-change drivers. In this article, Tom Raadgever, Erik Mostert, Nicole Kranz, Eduard Interwies, and Jos Timmerman analyse the regime features that contribute to adaptive management of these basins.

## [Flood risk management and floodplain restoration in Europe: recent policy developments at EU level](#)

Against the background of an increased number of flood events and the dependency of their impacts on how the surrounding land is used, it has become evident that technical solutions have only a limited effect. New approaches to flood management, including the restoration of rivers' natural flood zones have become indispensable. In a book chapter, Thomas Dworak, Head of Ecologic Vienna, analyses current EU policies and how they can be used for the restoration of floodplain areas. He presents a detailed and systematic assessment of the opportunities and challenges arising from water and non-water related EU policies.

## TOP NEWS

### [Managing water related information in support of WFD and IWRM implementation](#)

SPI-Water project which is a Scientific Support Priority project of the European Commission, funded by DG RTD, with as main objective 'Science-Policy Interfacing in support of the Water Framework Directive implementation'; will organise its final conference in Brussels (Belgium) next 30-31 October 2008. This conference aims to: Bridging the gap between scientific knowledge and water policy implementation, Presenting the enhanced WISE-RTD Web Portal as a tool for sharing water related research information and operational practices, and Facilitating the transfer of WFD and IWRM experiences. A unique insight will be provided in the future plans of the EC with respect to the Water Information System Europe (WISE), the use and role of WISE-RTD, the organization of IWRM support to non-EU countries, the twinning processes, etc.

The conference will close with a round table discussion on the availability, sharing and linking of water related information. The sustainability and safeguarding of the available European Water Management Information will be an important issue here.

### [WISE reference datasets already available](#)

For the first time, WISE reference data is provided for download from EEA data service (<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/dataservice/>). This starts with datasets on River basin districts and Large rivers and large lakes. Both datasets can be used in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for analytical as well as for mapping purposes. EEA is looking forward on user feedback on this data and will maintain and enhance the reference data over the years to come. Further datasets will be published in preparation of the reporting on River Basin Management Plans.

### [BRIDGE provides thresholds for Water Framework Directive](#)

The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) defines chemical status objectives for groundwater and related monitoring obligations but does not yet provide criteria to assess chemical status compliance. Now researchers from EU project BRIDGE (Background Criteria for the Identification of Groundwater Thresholds) have investigated 14 representative bodies of groundwater and developed thresholds that can be used to protect both human health and the environment.



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## EVENTS (August 2008 – July 2008)

### [International Summer School: Complex flows, turbulence, morphodynamics and ecology in rivers](#)

27/29 August 2008 – Delft, THE NETHERLANDS

### [11th International Riversymposium](#)

1 September 2008 – Brisbane, AUSTRALIA

### [13th International Water Resources Association World Water Congress](#)

1/4 September 2008 – Montpellier, FRANCE

### [River Flow 2008](#)

3/5 September 2008 – Zmir-Cesme, TURKEY

### [International ESTROM 2008 Conference: Environmental Research and Mitigation of Water Pollution in Romania and in the Lower Danube Region in the context of the EU Water Framework Directive](#)

3/5 September 2008 – Bucharest, ROMANIA

### [Watershed & River Basin Management](#)

4/5 September 2008 – Budapest, HUNGARY

### [IWA World Water Congress](#)

7/12 September 2008 – Vienna, AUSTRIA

### [Adapting to the impacts of global changes on river basins and aquifer systems](#)

8/9 September 2008 – Delft, THE NETHERLANDS

### [6th European Conference on Ecological Restoration](#)

8/12 September 2008 – Ghent, BELGIUM

### [8th International Conference on Hydro-Science and Engineering \(ICHE-2008\)](#)

8/12 September 2008 – Nagoya, JAPAN

### [Urban Water Conference](#)

15/19 September 2008 – Leuven, BELGIUM

### [Catchment 08](#)

17/18 September 2008 – East of England Showground, PETERBOROUGH, UK

### [Conference on CAP and WFD: Towards the first river basin management plans](#)

18 September 2008 – Bonn, Germany

### [12<sup>th</sup> International Living Lakes Conference](#)

21 September 2008 - Lake Trasimeno, ITALY

### [World Rivers Day is set for September 28th 2008](#)

28 September

### [The European Conference on Flood Risk Management: Research into Practice](#)

30 September/2 October 2007 – Keble College, Oxford, UK



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## BECOME A MEMBER!

### **Joining the ECRR is FREE!**

Acting as an international network the ECRR is pleased to get contributions from its members: they are all very welcomed to provide us information on projects, events, news, training courses, etc.

The ECRR newsletter, for example, is thought as a tool (available to all members) for advertising to an international platform the outcomes of the project, important events worldwide, new publications, etc.

As a member of the ECRR, you will:

- keep on receiving a monthly newsletter with the most recent international information related to river restoration (conferences, projects, policy document, funding opportunities...);
- have the opportunity to share your experiences and spread the results of your projects;
- become a part of a network of people and institutions involved in river restoration and sustainable river management at European level, find partners for your project proposals and develop joint activities;

**To Become a member of the ECRR fill in the [application form](#) in our website.**

For request of information please contact

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