



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 - September 2008

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### CONTENTS:

- **10TH RIVER RESTORATION CONFERENCE 2009 'RIVER RESTORATION BENEFITS: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE' – 1/2 April 2009, Nottingham, England**
- **TWO DAY RIVER RESTORATION COURSES – 18/19 November 2008, Silsoe, Bedfordshire, England**
- **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE**
- **1/4 October 2008, Sibiu, Romania**
- **4TH EWA BRUSSELS CONFERENCE "EUROPEAN WATER MANAGEMENT AND THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE" – 4 November 2008, Brussels, Belgium**
- **PUBLICATIONS**
- **TOP NEWS**
- **EVENTS (September 2008 – October 2008)**
- **BECOME A MEMBER**



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## 10TH RIVER RESTORATION CONFERENCE 2009 'RIVER RESTORATION BENEFITS: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE' 1/2 April 2009, Nottingham, England

Nottingham University  
1st/2nd April 2009 (optional site visit on the 3rd)

*First call for paper and poster abstracts*  
DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACTS 7th November 2008

The RRC tenth annual conference provides a real opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved during that time and to look forward to future opportunities. This year the challenge is to have a range of papers that demonstrate the skills needed to deliver restoration projects for social, economic and habitat benefit. Topics might include the following where river restoration or habitat enhancement is an integral part of the project.

- Flood risk management working with natural processes (e.g. reconnecting floodplains and creating wetlands)
- Climate change proofing – integrating benefits for habitats and local communities
- River basin projects –river restoration as a focus for delivering large scale aspirations
- Benefits and effectiveness of schemes for habitat enhancement – what works, why, when and where?
- Indicators for appraisal and evaluation – why don't we always get the answers we anticipated?
- Urban regeneration – can river restoration benefit social cohesion?
- Planners and urban design – how effective is policy in taking account of the social and economic benefits of river restoration?
- 10 years on – then and now: how far has river restoration come since 1999, what are the new developments and new challenges?

If you are interested in presenting a paper or poster please send your ABSTRACT to the river restoration centre (RRC@therrc.co.uk) by the 7th November 2008 using the format outlined below.

The aspiration of this conference is to provide a forum where ideas can be discussed across disciplines and between those charged with implementing policy, designing schemes, carrying out on-the-ground work or assessing the results for ecological, physical, economic and social gain. A programme will be prepared and circulated in the New Year along with details of the conference costs. The RRC will aim to keep costs as close to those in 2008 as possible (i.e. circa £275 for an RRC member as a residential participant).

Please note: the RRC is a non-for-profit organisation so is unable to cover any costs for speakers e.g. conference fee, travel, accommodation etc. (substantially discounted places are available to students and small NGO's e.g. river trusts, community groups etc).

For more information about the Centre, this conference and details of previous events refer to the RRC website: [www.therrc.co.uk](http://www.therrc.co.uk)  
email at: [rrc@therrc.co.uk](mailto:rrc@therrc.co.uk)  
or call 01234 752979 (Jenny Mant or Gareth Codd)



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#### Abstract format

- A maximum of one page of A4, single line spacing
- 2.5cm margins (left and right hand)
- Times new roman font
- Title font size 14, main body font size 12
- Author(s) name and details (including email if applicable)

## TWO DAY RIVER RESTORATION COURSES 18/19 November 2008, Silsoe, Bedfordshire, England

### Module 1

Understanding River Restoration: Processes, ecology, planning and assessing potential.

### Aim

Two linked two day courses (Modules 1 & 2) will provide participants with an integrated view of all aspects required for successful ecological river restoration.

### Target Audience

Anyone involved with managing/identifying options for river restoration from inception to completion and assessment.

### Module 1 Course Description

A two day intense, applied and interactive course which is underpinned by science. As it is a residential course attendees will be expected to complete the two day module and work as a team with other participants and by doing so help to facilitate knowledge exchange between disciplines under the guidance of the course facilitators. This course is Module 1 of a two module set. A certificate of attendance will be given to those who complete the whole module.

### Facilitators

RRC has brought together a group of experts who have a long professional track record not only in their area of expertise but, more specifically, a wealth of experience about how important it is to understand the complex nature of delivering successful river restoration projects (see below for short background descriptions).

### Course numbers

This will be kept to a maximum number of 20 participants.

### Fee

- £450 plus VAT (RRC Members)
- £600 plus VAT (Non Members)

for the two day course (module 1) which will include: Course booklet; course materials; a copy of the RRC's Manual of River Restoration Techniques; teas, coffees, lunches and the course dinner on the evening of the first day. The fee does NOT cover the cost of accommodation (approx £35-£45 per night).

### RRC Membership

Annual membership starts from £60 plus VAT.



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#### Request a booking form

To download the programme of the two days river restoration course:

[http://therrc.co.uk/pdf/news&events/Outline\\_for\\_Module\\_1\\_course.pdf](http://therrc.co.uk/pdf/news&events/Outline_for_Module_1_course.pdf).

To request a booking form or further information email [rrc@therrc.co.uk](mailto:rrc@therrc.co.uk).

Places will be confirmed on receipt of the full fee and completed booking form.

#### Progression

Module 2 will consist of a follow-on two day course, building on the content of this first course, concentrating on design approaches, site analysis, specification and construction issues and integrated monitoring. Attendance at module 2 is conditional upon successful completion of the module 1 course.

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE 1/4 October 2008, Sibiu, Romania

The next «EUROPE-INBO 2008» international conference, organized by the «Group of European Basin Organizations for the Implementation of the Water Framework Directive - WFD», will take place, at the invitation of the National Administration of Romanian Waters (APELE ROMÂNE) and the National Institute of Hydrology and Water Management, under the aegis of the Romanian Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development:

in SIBIU – ROMANIA from 1 to 4 October 2008

at Hera Conference Hall - Ramada Hotel 2, Emil Cioran Street - Sibiu.

This General Assembly of the « EUROPE-INBO » Group will be especially dedicated to the preparation of the 5th World Water Forum 2009 of Istanbul with the participation of all our European partners:

- Chapter on basin management of the European report,
- Topic 3.1 « basin management and transboundary cooperation »,
- Handbook on basin-based IWRM, prepared by GWP and INBO...

The registration form is available online [here](#).

There will be simultaneous translation into English and French.

Registration to the «EUROPE-INBO 2008» conference is free of charge.

The aim of INBO is to enable the European Basin Organizations to regularly and informally meet in order to exchange their practical experiences.

The meeting will be organized around three main current topics:

1. The preparation of the Programs of Measures of the Water Framework Directive;
2. The implementation of the Flood Directive;
3. The analysis of WFD implementation in transboundary river basins.

As the meeting is taking place in Romania, special attention will be paid to the issues specific to water management in Central and Eastern Europe and in the Danube River Basin.



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The meeting is open to all INBO member organizations and observers, and also to the water administrations and organizations, interested in the implementation of the Water Framework Directive and of the Flood Risk Directive, of the member and candidate countries of the European Union and of all the other countries of the Balkans, the Mediterranean Region, as well as of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia.

Any useful information, programs and proposed papers will be continuously available on the website: [www.inbo-news.org](http://www.inbo-news.org).

## 4TH EWA BRUSSELS CONFERENCE "EUROPEAN WATER MANAGEMENT AND THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE" – 4 November 2008, Brussels, Belgium

The main issue this year is to further explore the implementation of sustainable water management and the Water Framework Directive by considering the associated economic aspects and approaches.

The conference, organised in cooperation with the European Commission, will include a keynote address by the Head of Sector Water Protection, DG Environment, contributions from experts in the field and end with a Panel Discussion with all speakers participating.

The 4th EWA Brussels conference will bring you closer to the aspects of economic policy associated with the Water Framework Directive.

You can find the programme [here](#).

For more information and registration contact:

Boryana Hristova

E-mail: [Hristova@EWA-online.eu](mailto:Hristova@EWA-online.eu)

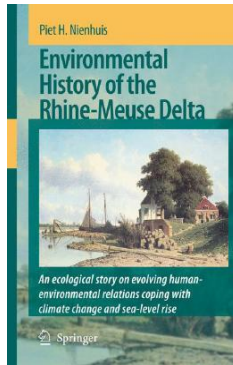
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## PUBLICATIONS

### Environmental History of the Rhine-Meuse Delta



An ecological story on evolving human-environmental relations coping with climate change and sea-level rise

This text presents the environmental history of the delta of the lowland rivers Rhine and Meuse. It is an ecological story of evolving human-environmental relations and how they cope with climate change and sea-level rise.

The text offers a combination of in-depth ecology and environmental history. It deals with the exploitation of land and water, the development of fisheries and agriculture, changes in biodiversity, and invasive exotics.

The book is the first written in English on the integrated environmental history of the delta, from pre-historic times up to the present day.

It covers the legacy of human intervention, the inescapable fate of reclaimed, yet subsiding and sinking polders, and 'bathtubs' attacked by numerous floods. These latter were reclaimed in the Middle Ages and were unwittingly exposed to the rising sea-level and the increased amplitude between high and low water in the rivers.

The present-day Delta is a large wetland several meters below sea-level, where humans 'keep their feet dry' only by the application of advanced technical means.

The synthesis presents a blueprint for future management and restoration, from progressive reclamation of land in the past, to adaptation of human needs to the inevitable forces of nature.

Written for:

Water managers, policymakers in the fields of water and nature, environmental historians, applied ecologists, climate change experts and resource managers, graduates and undergraduates in environmental sciences

Keywords:

- Ecology
- Environment
- Environmental history
- Environmental management
- River estuary
- Water management

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## **River Axe Crossings: A visual survey along the course of the river**



The River Axe flows through Dorset, Somerset and Devon, rising near Beaminster, flowing west then south by Axminster and joining the English Channel at Axmouth near Seaton.

During its thirty-five kilometre course it is fed by various streams and by the tributary rivers Yarty and Coly.

Taken during the period November 2007 to March 2008, the photographs look directly upstream and down-stream from the centre of each of all the forty-one extant crossings, ranging variously from plain wooden beam, to stone arch, to concrete road bridge; excluded are weirs, railway bridges, and crossings by ford or stepping stones.

From the front of the book the right-hand page sequence shows the direction from mouth to source, while from the back the left-hand sequence is downstream with the river's flow. The crossings are numbered from source to mouth, and while the distances between vary, no account is made from one to the next other than the immediate stage of the river beyond and the particular landscape pictured.

## **TOP NEWS**

### **Flow plan for less talk and more action as climate change hits rivers**

Managers and stakeholders in freshwater systems need to stop talking about adaptation to climate change and start doing it, WWF told the World Water Week symposium in Stockholm.

### **Lower Danube People's Summit**

Participants at the Lower Danube People's Summit, which took place September 9-10, 2008 in Mehedinti County at the Iron Gates area in Romania, discussed practical implementation of the Lower Danube Green Corridor.

### **The economics of ecosystems and biodiversity**

The economic value of biological diversity is poorly characterised. A new report highlights the key issues that need to be addressed in assigning values to ecosystems and the services they provide. The report outlines a new framework that will be developed for valuing biodiversity.

### **Networking habitats to protect and enhance biodiversity**

Biodiversity is influenced by how different habitats within a given region are connected. A new project in the Alps has made initial progress in establishing an ecological network to promote and enhance biodiversity within Alpine regions. Additionally, the project aims to raise awareness among policymakers of the importance of ecological connectivity.



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## EVENTS (September 2008 – October 2008)

### [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

### [CEDA Dredging Days 2008: Dredging Facing Sustainability](#)

1/3 October 2008 – Antwerp, BELGIUM

### [EURO INBO 2008: International conference on the implementation of the European Water Framework Directive](#)

2 October 2008 – Sibiu, ROMANIA

### [STREAM project workshop](#)

3 October – Langford lakes, Wiltshire, ENGLAND

### [8th International Hydrogeological Congress](#)

8-10 October 2008 – Athens, GREECE

### [2nd Annual Meeting of the Loire Scientific Community](#)

10 October 2008 – Tours, FRANCE

### [Regional Meeting on Water in the Mediterranean Basin](#)

9-11 October 2008 – TURKEY

### [The World Conservation Congress 2008](#)

5/14 October 2007 – Barcelona, SPAIN

### [The Role of Hydrology in Water Resources Management](#)

14/16 October – Isle of Capri, Napoli, ITALY

### [IV International Symposium on Transboundary Waters Management](#)

15/18 October – Thessaloniki, GRECE

### [River and Stream Restoration Shortcourse](#)

20/24 October – Hillsborough, NJ, USA

### [Final Conference Freude am Fluss: Space for the river, space for people?](#)

22-24 October 2008 – Nijmegen, THE NETHERLANDS





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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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