

“What’s happening down by the riverside? Mapping R & D across Oxfordshire’s Water Environment”

9:00 am – 3:30 pm 11th December 2015

Hosted by Wild Oxfordshire and the University of Oxford Environmental Change Institute

Gottman Room, School of Geography, Oxford University Centre for the Environment, South Parks Rd, Oxford OX1 3QY <http://www.geog.ox.ac.uk/contact.html>

Please note there are no car parking facilities at the school

Aim: Our aim is to share and update information on the range of projects currently going on across the county – to ensure we secure the best Natural Capital value from our water resource, mapping its uses, stresses & pressure points. To build an effective network and community whose goal is to make a difference by implementing solutions to Oxfordshire’s water issues.

Programme

- 9:00 am** **Registration, refreshments available**
- 9.30am **Welcome - Setting the Scene** Dr. Anne Miller (Wild Oxfordshire)
- 9:40am **A snapshot of the state of the water environment in Oxfordshire from a WFD perspective** Graham Scholey (Environment Agency)
- 9:50am **LOCAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT**
- The Thames Initiative Research Platform** Dr Mike Bowes (Centre for Ecology & Hydrology / CEH)
- Proposed Natural Environment Research Council research** Dr Gareth Old (CEH)
- Thames Water’s Catchment Management trial – conserving soils and reducing phosphorus losses to the River Evenlode** Claire Neale (Atkins)
- Gathering data from the Thames water blitz - lessons learned and new insights made** Dr Steven Loiselle (Earth Watch)
- Freshwater Areas - Oxfordshire Pilot Project** Dr Jeremy Biggs (Freshwater Habitats Trust / FHT)
- Clean Water for Wildlife survey** Dr Naomi Ewald (FHT)
- 10:45 **Panel Q & A**
- 11:00 am *Coffee break*
- 11.20am **CATCHMENTS**
- Evenlode Catchment Partnership** Hilary Phillips (Evenlode Catchment Partnership)

Ray & Cherwell catchments Dr Richard Bloor (Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust / BBOWT)

Thame & Ock Catchments Dr Pascale Nicolet (FHT)

Upper Thames catchment Jenny Phelps (Gloucestershire Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group)

Catchment Sensitive farming: Into the future Sarah Olney (Natural England)

11:45

Panel Q & A

12:00

CONNECTING CURRENT INITIATIVES

RECONNECT (Recreation, Conservation, Environment and Communities for the Upper Thames) Dr Richard Bloor (BBOWT)

The Upper Thames River Valleys Charlotte Kinnear (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds / RSPB)

National Farmers Union perspective Tom Ormesher (NFU South East)

Cover cropping for water quality Tim Clarke (CFE)

Flood Network - Crowdsourced Hydrology? Ben Ward (Flood Network)

NaturEtrade - developing a trading platform to fund ecosystem services

Dr Beccy Wilebore (Long-term Ecology Laboratory – U of Ox) / Alistair Yeomans (Sylva Foundation)

Oxfordshire LEADER Reviving the River Thames and associated waterways: John Gordon

12.50pm

Panel Q & A Discussion, summing up and setting the scene for the afternoon workshop

1.00pm

Lunch & networking

Lunch supplied by Doorstep Kitchen which raises funds for Donnington Doorstep, a community family centre in Oxford.

2.00pm

Afternoon workshops will be used to create detailed maps of current research and community engagement as the first step in developing a framework for collaborative working.

Group A: Mapping R & D being carried out in and around Oxfordshire's water

Group B: Mapping the state of engagement and issues faced

3.15pm

Plenary

Next steps – Anne Miller

3:30pm

Finish