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## Dear all,

The summer of 2011 is nearing its end; most of us have enjoyed a well deserved holiday. Since the former newsletter and despite the holiday period, a lot of activities have been performed by the ECRR. The secretariat received several interesting articles for this newsletter.

An important activity for ECRR is coordinating the theme "protect and restore rivers and water eco systems to reach a good ecological status of European water bodies" as one of the events for the next WWF which will take place in March, 2012, at Marseille. The preparatory working group, consisting of ECRR, ONEMA and EWA has met on several occasions to discuss the preparation of the WWF-6. One of many preparatory activities is to organize a seminar that is planned on November 15-18th in Ljubljana, Slovenia. We are very glad to have the opportunity to work closely together with The National Institute for Water of the republic of Slovenia (NIW) towards this event.

If you want to contribute to the WWF6, please register and do come to Ljubljana. This task now is in full progress. A leaflet about the seminar is included in this newsletter.

We hope that in the near future we may welcome the NIW within the ECRR network as official National River Restoration Centre of Slovenia.

I am glad to announce that our Russian counterparts have managed now to make available to a broader audience the proceedings of the fourth ECRR International Conference on River Restoration as these have been translated into Russian. In this newsletter you will find an article on this.

In this newsletter again some interesting articles about river restoration projects in this newsletter can be found. A practical example of a restoration pilot has been outlined by Christina Oosterhoff and Klaas-Jan Douben in an article about the Meander project, in Croatia.

Another interesting project is the restoration of the Emscher river, Germany, as described by Mechteld Semrau and Rudolf Hurck

In Spain, a start has been made for a new range of river restoration E-courses in Spanish; an article by Josu Elsu of CIREF will explain more.

Apart from these, other items in this Newsletter are:

- Moment, introduction to an on going project in the South Baltic Sea Area about modern water management with special attention to participation of "water users partnerships".
- Events calendar

*Hil R. Kuypers*  
Secretary ECRR



## SEMINAR 16 -18 NOVEMBER 2011 LJUBLJANA

### Forging Targets and Solutions for Rivers and Water Ecosystem Restoration



Sign up now for the opportunity to influence the targets of the 6th World Water Forum of March 2012, for the greater European region.

Help to develop new knowledge and know-how on rivers hydro-morphology, restoration and protection of water ecosystems.

Visit [www.ecrr.org](http://www.ecrr.org) regularly to stay up to date with the latest news, and for registration.

**Free admission is made possible by the World Water Forum, ONEMA, RESTORE, EU Life+, ECRR, and the Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia.**

#### Organising committee:

- *European Centre for River Restoration (ECRR)* (Lead partner). For more info visit [www.ecrr.org](http://www.ecrr.org).
- *European Water Association (EWA)*. For more info visit [www.ewaonline.de](http://www.ewaonline.de).
- *Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia (IzVRS)*. For more info visit [www.izvrs.si/index\\_eng.html](http://www.izvrs.si/index_eng.html).
- *The French National Agency for Water and Aquatic Environments (ONEMA)*. For more info visit [www.onema.fr](http://www.onema.fr).
- *RESTORE*, Partnership for sharing knowledge and good practice on River Restoration in Europe (Environment Agency, Wetlands International, SYKE, DLG, RRC, CIRF). For more info visit [www.restoreivers.eu](http://www.restoreivers.eu) or email [restore@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:restore@environment-agency.gov.uk)



possible with the contribution of the LIFE+ financial instrument of the European Community.

#### Why you cannot afford to miss this:

- **Inspiring solutions** - by examining river restoration practices and also how this might be delivered or supported through land use planning, tourism and education.
- **Invaluable networking** - the ideal platform to meet and share ideas with like-minded professionals.
- **Leading intelligence** - share your view on river restoration with the leading experts from around Europe and beyond.
- **Find out about RESTORE**: the new LIFE+ project for sharing knowledge and promoting good practice on river restoration in Europe.

This seminar is a preparatory meeting for the 6th World Water Forum, for the greater European region<sup>1</sup>. The goal is to build capacity by working on new knowledge for the protection and restoration of rivers and other water ecosystems. This goal will be achieved by formulating targets and a concrete plan of action focused

<sup>1</sup> This European region comprises: the European Union, the Candidate countries to the European Union, Norway and Switzerland, the Balkans, Eastern Europe, Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine, the Russian Federation, the Caucasus, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia.

#### on 4 main topics:

1. Promote integration of aquatic ecosystems conservation in **land (use) planning** and other territorial policies,
2. Reach consensus on **river restoration good practices** as a means to support delivery of European policy goals.
3. Reinforce **public education** on water ecosystems and resources preservation and restoration,
4. Improve the link between **tourism development** and quality of water ecosystems.

*This is for you if you are a: policy maker, planner, engineer, land and catchment planner, river restoration organisation and network, river manager, representative from stake holders like hydro-power, land owner/famer, navigation organisation and anybody else who wants to pull in the subject.*

#### SEE NEXT PAGE FOR TENTATIVE PROGRAM



## Restoring Europe's Rivers



## SEMINAR 16 -18 november 2011 ljubljana

### WWF6 Draft targets

- 1.... projects use knowledge from good practices of local land – use planning and land-bank instruments for ecosystem conservation / river restoration.
2. Delivery of European policy objectives at local to basin scale is underpinned by shared knowledge and understanding of good practice approaches to river restoration, based on stakeholder owned problem analysis and action plans, in ... cases.
3. Lessons learned from social perception studies and questionnaires/polls testing the knowledge of the public will be communicated in ... river basins.
- 4.... examples of integrated land and water management planning projects that take into account tourism development will be reported on the Forum solutions website.

**RESTORE** will address the lack of opportunities for sharing river restoration good practice and knowledge by creating:

- an online knowledge management database of case studies;
- a website supporting information such as European good practise;
- 36 events in over 10 countries;
- field visits
- a major international conference.

If you or your organisation is involved in river restoration or you are looking to know more about river restoration we hope to meet you. If you would like to showcase your work within our database and perhaps be identified as European good practise, please bring examples of your work.



### Tentative program

#### Day 1:

#### November 16

12:00  
13:00 - 13:30  
13.30 - 16.30

Registration, information fair

Plenary opening session

Workshops

To identify main problems and solutions regarding the 4 main topics.

*It is vital that information on good practice is developed and shared to support the implementation of the EC Water Framework Directive and other key European Directives to help address the decline in river habitat. Sharing will be done in such a way that policy makers, practitioners and stakeholders can relate this to their policy drivers and the related measures that they require, can access information that is contextually relevant to them, can understand the challenges and opportunities that river restoration presents and can as necessary engage with those that have practical experience to share.*

16:30 - 18.00

Info fair

Organisations present their activities, achievements and results with respect to the 4 main topics at stands, with posters, films, brochures, etc.

*Whether you are interested in national, basin wide or EU policies... We intend to look at a wide range of themes associated with river restoration and catchment management. Please contact us at [info@ecrr.org](mailto:info@ecrr.org) if you have information you would like to share.*

18:00

Network event hosted by RESTORE

*Exchange experiences and interact informally with your peers at the RESTORE network event. (see textbox).*

#### Day 2

#### November 17

9:00 - 11:30

Key-note address

To summarize main problems and solutions regarding the 4 main topics.

*The summaries from the working groups from the previous day will be presented and integrated to further specify the draft targets.*

12:00

Field trip

*A unique opportunity to visit a state of the art restoration project in Slovenia (TBD).*

19:30

Official joint dinner

#### Day 3

#### November 18

9:00

Plenary closing session

*Recap and summary of the main targets and solutions per topic. Outline remaining preparations towards WWF6.*

13:00

End of seminar

## MEANDER project (Croatia)

Successful Basic Training of Trainer course on Hydromorphological Monitoring and Assessment

**One of the objectives of MEANDER (MEAsures for Naturation and DEvelopment of Rivers), a G2G project for implementing WFD requirements in Croatia, is to develop capacity within national state institutes and ministries for hydromorphological monitoring and assessment.**

A basic Training of Trainers (ToT) course on hydromorphological monitoring and assessment has been organised in Zagreb, last July. The (approx. 20) participants are employed at Croatian Waters, Croatian Meteorological and Hydrological Service, State Institute for Nature Protection, Ministry of Regional Development, Forestry and Water Management, University of Zagreb and Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries.

The ToT has been developed by the Dutch Regional Water Authority Brabantse Delta, in close cooperation with Croatian Waters. Levelling the playing field for the participants with different backgrounds and expertise is one of the main objectives. To ensure a theoretical as well as a practical (hands-on) level of knowledge, the ToT includes a two-days basic (class-room) training (theory and application) and a one-day field training.

The ToT primarily focuses on the relation of hydromorphology with the WFD and basic principles of monitoring hydromorphological features in rivers and streams. Key features of the most important (and EU-wide accepted) methodologies on hydromorphological monitoring and assessment have been presented, including their



specific scoring and classification systems.

The participants have also been involved in an exercise, in which they had to 'survey' several sites along a water body on the basis of photographs. A spreadsheet programme was used to collect the survey results, and to calculate various hydromorphological 'classifications'.

The response of the participants to the lectures was positive, although many of them have not yet been involved into hydromorphological monitoring. Also the exercise was received very positive, it provided the participants opportunities to use some theoretical elements 'in practice', generating interesting discussions.

The participants went into the field to practise and discuss the basics of hydromorphological monitoring. A relatively simple survey protocol was used to monitor various sites with different hydromorphological features along the Bliznec stream (north of Zagreb, both natural and heavily modified stretches), the Kraljevčki stream (north of Zagreb, partly modified) and the Sava river (near Zaprešić, modified stretch).

The field visits were received very positive, especially to 'see' the hydromorphological features and the relation between theory and practice in the field.



The field visits provided many opportunities to discuss the selection and implementation of a methodology for hydromorphological monitoring and assessment in Croatia, including relations with on-going biological monitoring. Hence, giving input to the remaining deliverables of this specific project component; development of Croatian guidelines for hydromorphological monitoring and assessment (including fact sheets and survey protocols), and an implementation strategy for harmonizing Croatian monitoring practices.

On behalf of the Netherlands Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, the EVD implements the Environmental Facility of the G2G programme (G2G/V). This programme aims to assist new EU member states, candidate EU member states and potential EU member states in meeting the criteria for EU membership through projects dealing with the (consequences of) implementation of European legislation.

Programme objectives:

- to support the governments of Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Romania and Turkey with issues related to the transposition and/or implementation of EU legislation;
- to foster bilateral government to government co-operation on relevant environmental focal areas.

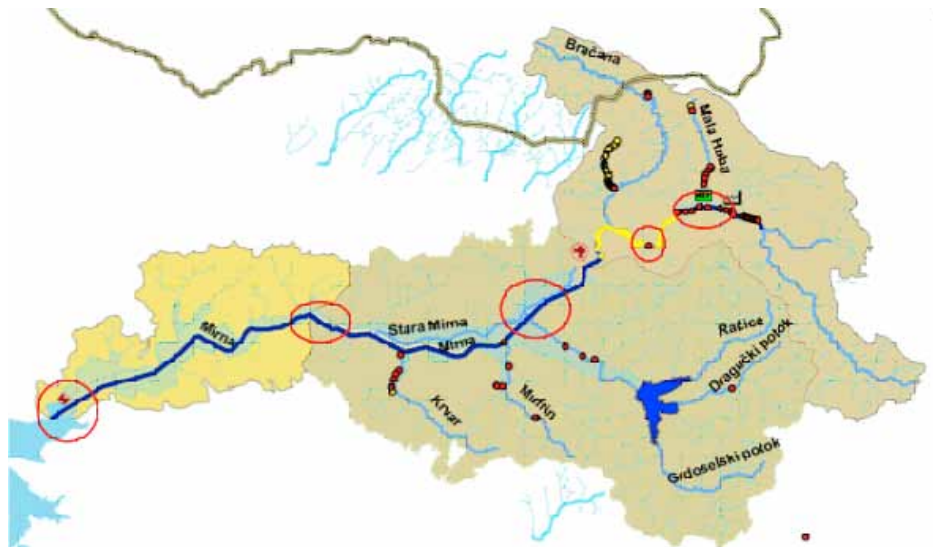
In the process of EU integration, the Republic of Croatia needs to harmonise its monitoring practices with the requirements of Water Framework Directive (WFD), and take up these points in national legislation. As hydro-morphology is a new element introduced through the WFD, as is the case for all EU Member States, progress in this field is running behind and this element urgently needs to be developed to comply with EU standards.

In 2011 the Meander project started. In this project, the Dutch Government Service for Land and Water Management, work together with four Croatian organisations (Ministry of Regional Development, Forestry and Water Management (MoRDFWM), the Ministry of Culture (MoC), Hrvatske vode (Croatian Waters, CW) and the State Institute for Nature Protection (SINP) on the development

of procedures and capacity of hydromorphological knowledge.

The purpose of the Meander project is: "Developed procedures and capacity for hydro-morphological monitoring at national level and methodology for the definition of hydro-morphological measures based on a case study in the Mirna river basin in accordance with the requirements of the WFD (Art. 8 & 11) and Birds and Habitat Directives (Art 6)."

The emphasis will lie on capacity building through training and exchange of experience (the first component) and development of guidelines and strategy paper (the second component). At this moment, both projects have started with several missions. In the next chapter we will focus on the first results of the missions.



The second component of the Mirna project consists of the development of guidelines and a strategy paper. This component consists of 2 parts::

- 1 – To assist CW to work out a River Restoration Plan for parts of the Mirna;
- 2 – To develop a special River Restoration Guide for Croatia,

The first mission in May was meant to:

- 1 – to determine the most important targets for restoration of the Mirna;
- 2 – to set up the general content and structure of the guide.

constructive.. Consensus was reached about the main content of the RR-guide. A good insight of the stakeholders was given. Also a list of the available data were made up. In the next mission the priorities in problem setting will be made and hydrologic modelling will be started. Therefore experts of the university will be invited.

*Christina Oosterhoff,*  
[c.oosterhoff@minlnv.nl](mailto:c.oosterhoff@minlnv.nl)

*Klaas-Jan Douben*  
[k.douben@brabantsedelta.nl](mailto:k.douben@brabantsedelta.nl)

All relevant parties were present during this event. The atmosphere was



## CIREF Online training programme

**INBO-Academy (International Network of Basin Organisations) and CIREF (Iberian Centre for River Restoration), in coordination with ECRR (European Centre for River Restoration), join their forces to propose to Basin Organizations management staff, consultants, and university students a distance training program on river restoration in Spanish.**

### Training program on River Restoration

The European picture of river functions and conflicts is quite variable from one country to another; as a consequence, priorities can differ. Nevertheless, under the umbrella of ECRR (European Centre for River Restoration) and CIREF (its National Center for the Iberian Peninsula), there is a common view on river restoration, which should target the restoration of entire ecosystems and their processes, in which, as in undisturbed nature, dynamism is a key feature, expressed as the self-sustaining capacity of river and stream ecosystems, and their ability to respond to imposed external environmental changes (e.g. climate change). River dynamics can be used as the central process of restoration and create future trajectories of ecosystem and its self-maintained recovery.

Between 1998 and 2005, Europe suffered over 100 major damaging floods. Flood alleviation measures must be based on an integrated implementation and planning of projects resulted in a better protection against floods and contributed to the natural development and/or hydrological connectivity of floodplains.

Linkages and feedbacks between hydrology, geomorphology and ecology along river corridors have provided knowledge that has influenced the way the rivers are managed today.

River restoration is an effective tool to implement EU Directives, and chiefly the Water Framework Directive; on the other hand, existing legislation gives good opportunities to implement river restoration measures.

Through this Training Program, CIREF wants to offer the possibility to improve knowledge linked to specific subjects of river restoration, in such a way that the student can join only the courses that best suit his/her needs, avoiding those in which he/she is sufficiently trained. For that, it is offered a general program made up of short courses in which all aspects related to river restoration will be targeted, with the objective of offering the students the possibility of obtaining in a comfortable way the necessary knowledge to develop a good quality work in their jobs related to river restoration.

It is sought to give the keys to understand how to use an ecological approach for reaching the Good Ecological Status or Potential of their water bodies, and to fight against floods. Students will learn directly from specialists both theoretical and the practical aspects related to river restoration, with special focus on fluvial ecosystems of the Iberian Peninsula.

The program is made up of 9 courses of 4-5 sessions each that will take place on Fridays from 16:00 to 18:00 hours (Central European Time) and will be taught by professors from different universities and

recognized experts on river restoration. All courses will end up on a wrap up session and round table with all lecturers to develop the discussion on most interesting matters, and answer to participant's questions. At the end of each course, a certificate will be issued.

Online training is an excellent way to make learning easier at a lower cost, since time and money usually spent in traveling and accommodation is saved, with no decline on the quality offered. To assist the courses, students only need a computer connected to internet and a microphone. Headphones are recommended to obtain a better sound quality. Software used in the courses is very easy to understand and will be explained in the first session of each course.

### Audience

River basin managers, decision makers from basin organizations or regional administrations, private consultants that work or wish to work on river restoration, university students that wish to improve their knowledge to devote themselves to river restoration, and in general to all experts on river restoration who wish to improve their knowledge in any specific subject related to river restoration.





**You, with a headset (better) or the loudspeakers of your PC with a microphone**

**Your computer connected to Internet**

**Your office, or your home, or wherever you want**

**The best available Experts, and your colleagues, worldwide, together in your office**

#### Language

All courses will be taught in Spanish. Different versions of this program in other languages (English, Italian,...) are being prepared by INBO and National Centers of ECRR and will be available soon.

#### Places

There are a limited number of places for each course. This maximum number is 25 and will be allocated in registration order. Registration to one course does not give any preferential right to be admitted to other courses.

#### Cost and registration

Cost of each course is 150 € (125 € for members of CIREF). Registration should be made through CIREF's web page ([www.cirefluvial.com](http://www.cirefluvial.com)). Once the registration is received, instructions on how to make the payment will be sent through e-mail.

#### Dates

Course 1	Basis for river restoration: characterization and diagnosis of river system	From September 2 to 30, 2011
Course 2	Legal and economic aspects of river restoration	From October 7 to November 4, 2011
Course 3	Design and execution of a river restoration project	From November 11 to December 16, 2011
Course 4	Overview of computer tools and modeling in river restoration	From January 13 to February 10, 2012
Course 5	River restoration techniques I	From February 17 to March 16, 2012
Course 6	River restoration techniques II	From March 23 to April 20, 2012
Course 7	River restoration techniques III	From April 27 to May 18, 2012
Course 8	Rehabilitation of heavily modified water bodies	From May 25 to June 15, 2012
Course 9	Evaluating and monitoring river restoration plans/projects	From June 22 to July 13, 2012

For more information on contents, lecturers, etc in each course please visit [www.cirefluvial.com](http://www.cirefluvial.com)

#### Organization:

CIREF, Centro Ibérico de Restauración Fluvial Office International de l'Eau,

INBO Permanent Technical Secretary,

ECRR, European Centre for River Restoration

## Multifaceted, interlaced and without barriers – the new Emscher ecological concept

### Abstract

Part of the integrated river basin management for the Emscher Region (865 km<sup>2</sup>, 2.700 inhabitants/ km<sup>2</sup>) is the revitalization of the river Emscher and its tributaries. Due to industrialization the waterbodies were systematically developed as open wastewater sewers at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Economic and technical alternatives such as closed sewer systems could not be implemented due to constant subsidence caused by mining.

The river system will be restructured, so that the Emscher will once again become a fully functioning, continuous water-based ecosystem with typical topologies and vegetation. Therefore an ecological concept has been developed. This is based on the assumption of a non-interrupted river as a connection from the source to the mouth. The basis for a nature-orientated transformation must therefore be a model that is able to define the optimal waterway design from an ecological point of view. The reference condition for the Emscher is a sandy-type river of the lowland. Though it is more or less based on a status that existed more than 150 years ago. Studies on the feasibility of restructuring the Emscher show, that due to coal mining, industrial and population changes the “original” conditions can never be reached again. It will not be possible to return the Emscher to its original, meandering state. So the reference conditions are no direct goals for the river restoration, but they give orientation in the planning procedure. The ecological concept is founded of the following elements (figure 1):



Figure 1 – Ecological concept for the Emscher

- The basis is a non-interrupted river as a connection line from the source to the mouth.
- “Ecological Hot Spots” are the most important structures for the ecological development of the river. Here a natural like configuration is possible, allowing the Emscher to develop its river bed in a self-cultivating manner. There is enough place to design the typical features and vegetation of a lowland river and its floodplain so ecological priorities will be set.
- The confluence of the tributaries are important network elements structures to the rehabilitated river system. These form the “joints” of the interlinked system of biotopes, allowing a rapid and stable exchange of organisms.
- Adapted urban wetlands give the chance for floodplain-like-structures behind the dike.

With the connection to other water-biotopes the existing flora and fauna in the region can be integrated.

One of the first hot spot to realize is the recreation of the Emschermouth (figure 2).



Figure 2 – Ecological Hot spot Emschermouth – Plan

The last part of the river behind the existing wastewater treatment plant has no longer wastewater.

The new mouth area will comprise 19 ha. There a typical lowland river mouth with natural substrats, features and vegetation can be formed. A varied mosaic of biotopes, which are typical for floodplains (alderfloodplainforest, sedge, typha and phragmites reed, floodgrass and potamogeton) is expected to develop. The vertical height difference between the river Rhine and the river Emscher (caused by the coal mining) will be overcome in five rock ramps. Two million m<sup>3</sup> of native soil has to be excavated. Half of this soil will be used to build dikes.

Just as with the Rhine floodplains, the new Emschermouth will usually be flooded for 80 days in the course of a year. The high water-levels in times of flooding will make it difficult for vegetation development due to the high velocities predicted.

*Emschergenossenschaft*  
Kronprinzenstraße 24  
45128 Essen  
Germany

*Mechthild Semrau*  
([semrau.mechthild@eglv.de](mailto:semrau.mechthild@eglv.de)),  
Rudolf Hurck

## International Conference on the Status and Future of the World's Large Rivers



This conference has been organised by *BOKU - University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna* in Vienna from 11 - 14

April 2011 (<http://worldslargerivers.boku.ac.at/wlr/>). More than 550 abstracts have been submitted to the conference. Out of these, 360 have been accepted for either oral or poster presentation. The conference has been attended by more than 400 participants coming from 73 different nations from all over the world.

What was most apparent is the increasing threats on large rivers across the globe such as the huge expansion of plans and projects to exploit at present free-flowing and to some extent near

natural large rivers for hydropower e.g. in the Mekong and Amazon rivers basins. In the presentations there was attention for the too much neglected role of sediments in river functioning and the consequences for societies who live in river, floodplains and deltas. Major large rivers from all continents were addressed in the presentations. Topics covered were hydrology and hydraulics, water quality, ecology, morphology and river morphodynamics, but also stresses and conflicting demands, restoration and integrated management. The conference prepared a declaration. The final version of this Vienna Declaration has been adopted by the conference attendees on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> of April 2011. The declaration recommends that a collaborative and multidisciplinary international initiative is required to create the basis for a holistic, global scientific assessment of the status

of the World's Large Rivers (WLRs) and to promote urgently needed improved, integrated and sustainable management of WLRs and their surrounding landscapes and basins (<http://worldslargerivers.boku.ac.at/wlr/index.php/vienna-declaration.html>). In all, it was very good that there was a conference with a specific focus on large rivers. It is also clear that research and the level of understanding do not keep pace with the increasing rate of exploitation and modification of large rivers for either energy production and transport. The abstracts are unfortunately not freely available. The book of abstracts can, however, be ordered through the conference website.

*Tom Buijse, Deltares*  
(e-mail: [tom.buijse@deltares.nl](mailto:tom.buijse@deltares.nl))

## Rivers as linked ecosystems

Berlin, August 8-12, 2011

Rivers as linked ecosystems was the theme of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Symposium of the International Society for River Science (ISRS). The conference was hosted by the Leibniz Institute for Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB; <http://www.isrs2011.igb-berlin.de>) in Berlin, August 8-12, 2011. Some 130 participants attended the conference. The scope of the conference addressed the various linkages in river ecosystems: linkages and boundaries along river corridors, aquatic – terrestrial linkages, biodiversity – ecosystem service linkages as well as social – ecological linkages. The sessions encompassed socio-ecology, biodiversity, biochemistry, trophic links, restoration, assessment, patterns and processes, connectivity, biotic and hydraulic links and hydromorphology. The presentations covered geographically Europe, North America, Australia and to a lesser extent Asia. The key notes focused on tidal rivers which apparently are much less studied (Martin Doyle), the influence of hydromorphology on Atlantic salmon (Chris Soulsby), the impact of agriculture on river structure and functioning (Margari-ta Xenopoulos), corridor and boundaries in



river and floodplains (Jack Stanford) and the potential impact of climate change (Nikolai Friberg) and pollution (Jianbo Chang) on river ecosystems. In all, the quality of the presentations was very high. Of course subjectively, but presentations which especially caught my attention were the Nature Conservancy (Michael Reuter, David Galat) who presented their Great River Partnership, Klement Tockner who discussed the need to focus on real time ecology to better understand river ecosystem functioning and a first attempt for a nation-wide inventory of the floodplain quality in Germany (Matthias Scholz). The abstracts of the conference can be downloaded from the conference website. Manuscripts will be prepared for a selection of the presentations and will in due course be published in peer-reviewed journals, but this normally takes one to two years. Altogether I very much enjoyed attending this interesting and well organized conference.

*Tom Buijse, Deltares*

## A new LIFE+ funded project was launched in Europe.

**RESTORE** will share knowledge and promoting best practice on river restoration in Europe. The ECRR are working in partnership to delivery this project and provide advice to the partners.

**RESTORE** is a cost effective project protecting investment in our rivers by bringing together the **best information** available on river restoration techniques from across Europe. It will give policy makers, river basin planners and practitioners the **practical information** they need to restore rivers, improve habitats for wildlife and help meet the objectives of the Water Framework Directive.

The main problem affecting **river restoration** practitioners is not a lack of expertise, but a lack of opportunities for sharing best practice and knowledge. The project will address this by holding sector-specific engagement events, field visits and a major international conference. Another key output will be an online **database of case studies** highlighting lessons learnt and best practice, and also key project



Case studies to be included from across Europe for example: Chinbrook Meadows, London



contacts, which will continue to operate beyond the life of the project. The programme will run until September 2013 and has six partners from five European countries working on the project: *Environment Agency* (England and Wales), *Finnish Environment Institute* (Finland), *Government Service for Land and Water Management* (Netherlands), *Italian Centre for River Restoration* (Italy), *River Restoration Centre* (UK) *Wetlands International* (Netherlands).

We aim to understand better the importance of river restoration and the barriers to achieving it. Then disseminate this infor-

mation through events, seminars and our website. River restoration means working with nature to re-establish natural river systems. Activities which reconnect river channels with their natural floodplain will improve habitats and biodiversity and reduce flood risk to communities downstream.

**Please contact us** with any relevant information or case studies that should be included within the project.

[restore@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:restore@environment-agency.gov.uk) for more information see [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/restore](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/restore) - the project website will be coming soon.

## Proceedings of the IVth ECRR International Conference on River Restoration translated into Russian



From 18 -20 May 2011 the XI International Symposium "Clean Waters of Russia" was held in Yekaterinburg in the Russian Federation. During this conference Nadezhda Prokhorova, director of the Russian Research Institute for Integrated Water Management and Protection (RosNIIVKh) presented the Russian version of the proceedings book of the IVth ECRR International Conference on River Restoration. With this book, the articles reflecting the present state of the art of river restoration in Europe and beyond are now also accessible for all who have a common knowledge of the Russian language, which might help to promote river restoration in more countries and amongst their river managers. The translation and editing was all done by RosNIIVKh staff. The book was presented to ECRR Chairman, Bart Fokkens, who participated in the "Clean Water of Russia" on behalf of the European Regional Committee for the World Water Forum 2012 to be held in Marseille, France. A copy of the book can be ordered by sending an e-mail to [wrm@wr.ru](mailto:wrm@wr.ru).



## Events 2011/2012 relevant for ECRR

Date / periode	Titel/issue	Location	Links
27-30 September	<b>INBO and Menbo</b>	Porto	<a href="http://www.inbo-news.org/spip.php?mot120&amp;lang=en">http://www.inbo-news.org/spip.php?mot120&amp;lang=en</a>
29-30 September	<b>Waterscience meets policy</b>	Brussels	<a href="http://www.onema.fr/water-science-meets-policy">http://www.onema.fr/water-science-meets-policy</a>
3-5 October	<b>Restoration of Streams; the houting project</b>	Tonder, Denmark	<a href="http://www.snaebel.dk/konf_jukka.jormola@ymparisto.fi">http://www.snaebel.dk/konf_jukka.jormola@ymparisto.fi</a>
10-14 October	<b>Bioindication in monitoring of freshwater ecosystems</b>	St Petersburg	<a href="http://www.ecrr.org/events-october-2011.html">http://www.ecrr.org/events-october-2011.html</a>
18-20 October	<b>1 Iberian Congress on RR</b>	Leon	<a href="http://www.restaurarios.es/">http://www.restaurarios.es/</a>
27-28 October	<b>NCR-days</b>	The Netherlands	<a href="mailto:NCR2011@deltares.nl">NCR2011@deltares.nl</a>
29 October-04 November	<b>International waterweek</b>	Amsterdam	<a href="http://www.eurekanetwork.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=ef081217-4a05-4f07-bf65-0a8743a2536a&amp;groupId=10137">http://www.eurekanetwork.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=ef081217-4a05-4f07-bf65-0a8743a2536a&amp;groupId=10137</a>
15-18 November	<b>Preparatory Seminar WWF-6</b>	Ljubljana	<a href="http://www.ECRR.org">http://www.ECRR.org</a>
12-17 March 2012	<b>WWF-6</b>	Marseille	<a href="http://www.worldwaterforum6.org">http://www.worldwaterforum6.org</a>
19 April 2012	<b>RRC conference</b>	Nottingham	<a href="http://therrc.co.uk/2012%20Conference/1st_email_announcement_RRC_ANC_13.pdf">http://therrc.co.uk/2012%20Conference/1st_email_announcement_RRC_ANC_13.pdf</a>

## Call for articles

The newsletter of the ECRR should also be a way to share with one another what interesting work is being done, information about seminars or literature. One way of doing this is by writing an article of any project, event or literature you may be acquainted with. Send this article (**maximum of 500 words**) to the secretariat of the ECRR at [info@ecrr.org](mailto:info@ecrr.org).

We will take a close look to the content and if it is coherent with the philosophy of ECRR (ecological river restoration and sharing knowledge) your article will be published with pleasure in the next edition (s) of the ECRR Newsletter. The secretariat of the ECRR hopes to receive any article on ecological river restoration from any of its members.



Government Service for Land and  
Water Management  
Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and  
Innovation

Secretariat: DLG Government Service for Land and Water Management, P.O.Box 20021,  
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