

# Capacity building - overview

# Programme objective: Capacity building

Substantially increase the capacity to deliver improvement in water body status in the North West River Basin District.

- This means developing and strengthening skills and technical knowledge to enable organisations to overcome the barriers to delivering Water Framework Directive objectives.
  - Jobs created / safeguarded
  - Training packages
  - Number of volunteers trained
  - New tools created or adopted

# Jobs created / safeguarded

Paid employment focussed on RBMP work that is in existence as a result of direct Natural Course funding or complementary funding sources.

- Increasing the number of people who are focussed on delivery of improvements to the NW water environment
- Newly created capacity (alongside upskilled existing resources), will mean that dedicated resources are available to address specific significant water management issues

Target	Current	Remaining
36	42	-6

# Collaborative Team



The formation of a Collaborative Team, enabled Natural Course funding, has allowed individuals to connect and understand other projects partners, the need for greater collaborative and the challenges to delivering the NW RBMP.

- A dedicated member of staff from each organisation
- Co-locate in Manchester one day a week
- Build trust and relationships
- Co-develop, co-design, co-fund and co-deliver projects

# United Utilities

Formed a 'Natural Capital Planning and Strategy' team specifically to look at integrated solutions and work with partners to deliver.

- Through complementary funding, devised a wetlands research centre to test new green technology, and identify projects where it could be implemented together with catchment interventions.
- Worked with the Environment Agency to deliver the UK's first flexible catchment permit, to allow delivery of these new ideas in the Petteril catchment (with these approaches now expanded further into the region)
- Members of the team are seconded from partner organisations



# Training

Live event (in person or virtual) hosted or facilitated by Natural Course partners which includes objectives focussed on RBMP outcomes and is actively delivered to a targeted audience (this can be about knowledge / information sharing or the promotion / application of Natural Course activity)

Target	Current	Remaining
100	89	11

# Volunteers trained

Target	Current	Remaining
1500	918	582

# Facilitation training workshops for Catchment Partnerships



- Practical theories and concepts of facilitation, a range of techniques and how to apply a systematic approach to planning workshops and meetings.
- 10 organisations attended.
- Four training workshops delivered virtually, one in person.

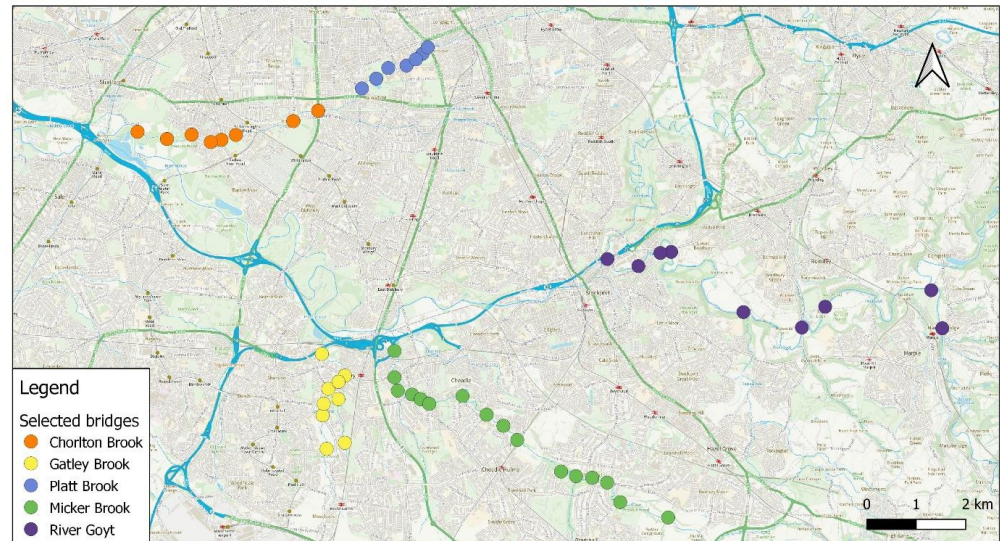
# Volunteer training in Greater Manchester

## Otter spotting survey

- Recently created a citizen science otter survey to monitor their distribution as they become re-established within Greater Manchester
- One volunteer spotted an otter on their walk home!



Tips for surveying for Otters



Otter Bridge Survey

Scale 1:68184

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# Volunteer training in Greater Manchester

## Invasive non-native species

- Natural Course has supported the largest and most comprehensive survey of INNS plants in the Irwell Catchment.
- Consultants were commissioned to survey the main rivers with some of the smaller tributaries surveyed by volunteers (trained by GMCA and GroundWork GM).

Irwell INNS SurveyV6




Thank you for signing up to volunteer on the Irwell INNS Survey Project!

Our focus is to investigate the abundance of Giant Hogweed (GHW) and Japanese Knotweed (JKW) across the Irwell Catchment by collecting data on the presence of each species, their abundance, natural status and treatment status. This will also include capturing the location of Himalayan Balsam (HB) which lies in close proximity to GHW and JKW to prevent the spread of HB post INNS treatment.

The River Irwell Catchment has been split into small sections which cover various stretches of the watercourse. On the map they are labelled as either: available (various colours) or allocated to somebody (red). Choose the section you wish to survey and contact Mike Beard. He will then send a confirmation and the site will be updated as allocated to you / your volunteering group. Questions marked with an asterisk are compulsory.

Recording INNS observations (1)

1



Find address or place

No geometry captured yet.

Which of the following INNS species can you see in this patch?\*

Please select all that apply.

Giant Hogweed

Japanese Knotweed

Himalayan Balsam

# New tools adopted or created

Interactive tools that have been created or adopted as a result of Natural Course activity that enable better decision making towards measure delivery (e.g. priority, location, cost benefit)

- An increase in the adoption or creation of tools that help to inform decision making in terms of priority, location and cost benefit will ensure that spending is more effective and results in greater environmental outcomes.

Target	Current	Remaining
35	64	-29

# Irwell Catchment Partnership Evidence Review Tool

- Designed to support integrated catchment planning process of reviewing evidence and turning this in to a funded action plan.
- Designed in consultation with the partners, created by The Rivers Trust using ArcGIS Online as part of the national Catchment-Based Approach support programme.
- ArcGIS Online is available at low cost to charities, and provides an easy way to engage partners by sharing data and evidence in a visually appealing way

**Irwell Catchment Partnership Evidence Review Tool**  
A Natural Course Story Map

1 Turning Evidence in to Action

This tool has been designed to support the Irwell Catchment Partnership's integrated catchment planning process of reviewing evidence and turning this in to a funded action plan.

**Turning Evidence in to Action**

**Understand the evidence base**  
Review all of the evidence and learn what it means by viewing on a single map with easy access to the associated Report.

**Find multi-benefit opportunities**  
Use the custom map tool to overlay layers together to find opportunities which deliver multiple benefits.

**Build a collaborative business case**  
Make notes on the map to record your thinking and share with partners. Record evidence for potential projects against partnership drivers in a draft business case.

**Develop a collaborative action plan**  
Review and prioritise the project ideas with your partners. Publish your action plan to engage funders and turn the draft business case in to funding applications.

**Monitor Outcomes**  
Record and share evidence of benefits and environmental outcomes. Share case studies and lessons learnt to refine future planning.

**Record Progress**  
Coordinate delivery of actions with partners. Record and share detailed measures and project progress with funders and stakeholders.

**Action Planning Cycle**

**NATURAL OUR WATER, OUR FUTURE COURSE**  
Catchment Partnership  
Partnership for the River

How we find out how we've developed this tool to meet these needs...

2 Irwell Story Map Plan

**Irwell Catchment Partnership Evidence Review Tool**  
A Natural Course Story Map

Introducing the Evidence Base

The Irwell catchment has been the subject of a number of evidence reviews and modelling exercises, many of which have developed spatial prioritisation and targeting maps to help direct future activities. This tab presents these evidence sets individually to show what they mean and how they've been generated, then we show how they can be used in combination to identify potential multiple-benefit projects using the custom evidence tool (next tab).

Scroll down, click the links below or use the section bookmarks to the left to navigate between sections.

1. CaBA Evidence Base
2. Evidence 9 Measures
3. Natural Flood Management Modelling
4. Green Infrastructure for Water
5. United Utilities Prioritisation
6. Local Action Project
7. Ecosystem Services Opportunity Mapping
8. Using the evidence in combination

**CaBA Evidence Base**

The CaBA data package is a comprehensive national set of evidence which can be used by catchment partnerships to develop consensus about the issues, to target and prioritise action, and as a baseline to monitor progress. The full package of 126 layers is available as

**Opportunity Layers**

- Opportunity Level
- Low
- Medium
- High
- Very High

**Opportunity Level**

- 0.1
- 0.2
- 0.3
- 0.4
- 0.5

**Opportunity Level**

- 0.1
- 0.2
- 0.3
- 0.4
- 0.5

# Ecological Network Tool

Modelling habitat connectivity and identify bottlenecks in our wetland and woodland habitat networks.

- Allows us to identify priority areas for habitat creation and restoration, and recommend appropriate management actions.
- Can be combined with other modelling work to identify where actions can have maximum benefits in terms of WFD, natural capital and flood risk from a Natural Course perspective.

# Ecological Network Tool

Building the evidence base to improve  
our catchment understanding.

**NATURAL**  
OUR WATER. OUR FUTURE  
**COURSE**

