



CREWs NEWS

Quarterly Newsletter 2012 ISSUE 2 April - June

What is CREW?

The Centre of Expertise for Waters (CREW) is a partnership between the James Hutton Institute (JHI), the Scottish Government (SG) and its agencies (SEPA and Scottish Water) and Scottish Higher Education Institutes (HEIs). It ensures that water research and expertise is available and accessible to the policy community, in a timely and effective manner. CREW is funded by the Scottish Government.

www.crew.ac.uk Contact: [Bob Ferrier](#) Tel: 01224 395395

Have you got a question for CREW?

CREW experts respond to enquiries and requests for rapid research from policy colleagues. In CREW's first year, experts have completed 14 discrete pieces of work, and redirected a further 2 enquiries to different elements of the RESAS programme. The service has involved 12 stakeholders from SG and its agencies, and 15 experts. Requests to date have included peer reviewing of documents, conducting literature and web reviews, organising workshops, and conducting primary research.

www.crew.ac.uk/enquiry-service. Contact: [CREW staff](#) Tel: 01224 395395

Get involved

We encourage all water experts in Scottish HEIs to take advantage of CREW funding opportunities, and provide their expertise to Scottish policy makers. [SIGN UP HERE](#). Kit Macleod co-ordinates the register and would like to say a big thank you to all of you who have already taken the time to fill in the CREW expertise survey.

www.crew.ac.uk/get-involved Contact: [Kit MacLeod](#) Tel: 01224 395157

CREW is attending Green Week, Brussels, 22 - 25 May

CREW will be supporting Scotland's Hydro nation agenda at this event, showcasing our science policy interface and building international relationships. See our poster in the exhibition space, first floor area at the Charlemagne building.

<http://www.greenweek-2012.eu/>

Major International Water Conference in Glasgow, Radisson Blu, 22/23 May

Global Water Scarcity is a two day conference hosted by the International Resources and Recycling Institute, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, CIFAL Scotland, David Livingstone Centre for Sustainability and Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management in partnership with the Scottish Government and Scottish Waters.

http://www.cifalScotland.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=194:global-water-scarcity-what-needs-to-be-done&catid=1:forthcoming-programmes

Water works photography competition

School pupils can enter the monthly competition with their best photographs depicting water use in Scotland. All entries can be viewed on the [JHI Facebook page](#). The next competition winner will be announced at the end of the month.

FEBRUARY WINNER

Louis Pasqualini, Age 7, Ratho Primary School

MARCH WINNER

John Smith, Age 8, Orkney

This picture was taken in my kitchen to show the power, energy and life that water brings

My photo shows the local pumping station in the north of Stronsay, flooded due to the loch

to my house and family.

nearby flooding. This caused problems for my dad, but I got his camera and took a photo because the reflection of the pumphouse was bonnie.

The Magic Water Fountain



Pumping station, North Stronsay

www.crew.ac.uk/projects/hydro-literacy Contact: [Emily Hastings](mailto:Emily.Hastings@crew.ac.uk). Tel 01224 395150

Current CREW project updates

A range of projects commissioned in 2011-2012 are now being completed in collaborations between the JHI and Scottish Universities including Heriot Watt, Dundee, Stirling, Edinburgh, and the Scottish Association for Marine Science. For more information see www.crew.ac.uk/projects Contact: [Sue Morris](mailto:Sue.Morris@crew.ac.uk) Tel: 01224 395219

Water, Health and Wellbeing (Blue Health) Stakeholder Workshop is being held in Edinburgh on 31 May. Findings from this project are that whilst research on green health is now making an impact on Scottish policy (e.g. *Equally Well, Let's make Scotland more active*), 'blue space' remains an under-used resource for promoting health in Scotland. There simply is not enough evidence to make specific recommendations to government agencies and other bodies on how best to manage water to promote health, or how best to incorporate 'blue space' into public policies. The workshop will discuss evidence needs of policy makers in this area of environment and human health. For more details of this work see www.crew.ac.uk/projects/water-health-well-being or contact: [David Miller](mailto:David.Miller@crew.ac.uk) Tel 01224 395276

CREW Diffuse Pollution Project

A farmer focus group was held on 22nd February 2012 to share knowledge and understanding of diffuse pollution issues and management opportunities in the Water of Fail catchment, Ayrshire. Feedback from this particular sample of farmers suggested that there is still much to do in terms of communicating the message and value of fundamental management strategies (such as nutrient management planning) to reduce diffuse pollution from agriculture. Read the full report at: http://www.crew.ac.uk/sites/www.crew.ac.uk/files/documents/WoF%20summary%20report_final.pdf

New CREW projects

Three new CREW research will start soon. These are:

- A critical review of urban diffuse pollution control: methodologies to identify sources, pathways and mitigation measures with multiple benefits

- A review of emerging contaminants of concern in waters: sources, impacts, risks and monitoring of water-related 'known-unknowns'
- Review of good practice in communicating uncertainty related to flood risk and set out proposals for a consistent approach for Scotland

www.masts.ac.uk/crew/ Contact: [Emma Defew](#) Tel: 01334 467000

Other water news

[Scotland the Hydro Nation: Prospectus and Proposals for Legislation](#) closed on 12 March. Responses to the consultation are being analysed. CREW has [jointly responded](#) with the CXC (Centre for Expertise on Climate Change). The Bill is expected to be introduced at the end of May. Alex Neil, MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure and Capital Investment will be giving the keynote address at a conference on [Making Scotland a Hydro Nation](#) on 19 June.

www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/02/9536 Contact: [Lucy Carmichael](#) (Scottish Government) Tel: 0131 2440258

[Blueprint to Safeguard Europe's Waters consultation](#) closes 7 June 2012

The European Commission has launched its formal public consultation for the revision of EU water policy to be published in November this year. The Blueprint will assess how policies of relevance to the water environment are implemented and which gaps and shortcomings prevail, preventing the full achievement of policy goals, in particular to ensure availability of good quality water for sustainable and equitable water use in line with the EU's Water Framework Directive (WFD).

[Analysis of responses to Fitness Check Public Consultation](#) was published at the end of March.

The Fitness Check is about evaluating the EU Freshwater policy sector, about identifying what works and what does not work - and where things do not work sufficiently well, about suggesting improvements. [For more information:](#)

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/blueprint/fitness_en.htm

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