

CREW completes projects in response to requests from Scottish Government, SEPA and Scottish Water. This quarterly email newsletter keeps you up to date with our activities.

Recent News

CREW supports Bill amendment

The CREW Value of Scotland's Water Resources briefing supported a Government amendment of the Water Resources (Scotland) Bill. The Deputy First Minister stated "Scotland's centre of expertise for waters – CREW – led by the James Hutton Institute, is busy producing research that will support the hydro nation agenda, including a recently published report on the latest evidence and thinking about developing the value of water resources." Scottish Parliament official report (17087). The briefing was also welcomed in a Scottish Parliamentary motion lodged by Maureen Watt, MSP, on 11 March 2013, supported by 31 MSPs.

CREW Flood Insurance Provision research informs parliamentary discussions

A CREW research report on the provision of flood insurance was heavily cited in the Parliament Public Petitions Committee debate on flood insurance held on 7th May. The work is also discussed in a SPICe briefing on "Flood Insurance Problems", in Scottish Government correspondence, and the official report.

Hydro Nation PhD Scholars Programme

The Deputy First Minister announced that the Scottish Government has recently offered the first Hydro Nation Scholars their posts and looks forward to more joining them next year. The Hydro Nation scholars will play an important role in supporting the Government's Hydro Nation vision. CREW administers the Hydro Nation Scholarship Programme on behalf of the Scottish Government. A new round of applications will open in Autumn 2013.

The Scottish Rivers Handbook out now!

The first CREW book will be launched at the Royal Highland Show. Produced by the James Hutton Institute and the Centre for River Ecosystem Science (CRESS) at the University of Stirling, "The Scottish Rivers Handbook" provides an overview of the geomorphic character of Scotland's rivers.

New projects and enquiries underway

Diffuse pollution and forestry

A request to review previous research on diffuse pollution problems in watercourses related to forestry activities with regard to suspended solids, nutrients, pesticides and acidification. To be completed July, 2013.

About Us

Scotland's Centre of Expertise for Waters (CREW) delivers objective and robust research to support water policy in Scotland. CREW is a partnership between the James Hutton Institute and all Scottish Higher Education Institutes, funded by the Scottish Government.

New publications

Sewer flooding guidance

This report was produced in response to a request from Scottish Water to provide information to be incorporated into Scottish Water Guidance on Sewer Overflows to Domestic Gardens and Agricultural Land.

Completed: 7 May, 2013.

Value of Scotland's Water Resources

This short briefing summarises current academic thinking and evidence on the value of water resources. It considers the Scottish context and examines how the value of water resources might be developed. It was produced ahead of the stage 3 debate for the Water Resources (Scotland) Bill.

Completed: 25th February 2013.

Review of literature to determine the uses for ozone in the treatment of water and wastewater

This reports on the findings of a literature search on the effects of switching from chlorine to mono-chloramine for water disinfection, specifically with regards to the effects on lead and copper corrosion.

Completed: 1st April 2013.

Optimising WFD delivery of RBMP using an Ecosystem Services Approach

A request to develop and describe a practical methodology/decision making framework to implement an ecosystems services approach at the catchment scale to meet requirements of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and other water-related policies, while maximising the delivery of multiple benefits. To be completed June, 2013.

Source Control Review

A request to review the background to source control including the history, various types, and options; to appraise how source control is being delivered, within the UK and Worldwide; and consider next steps for this work. To be completed: May, 2013.

Sustainable catchment management economic models

A request to assess the economic costs and benefits of sustainable land management in drinking water catchments. To be completed May, 2013.

Assessing potential water and soil quality options for SRDP

This project contributes to the development the next Scotland Rural Development Programme (SRDP) by considering water quality and soil options for inclusion in the next SRDP. Stakeholders will develop and test a ranked list of options. The results will help SEPA formulate a package of water and soil related SRDP options that will be taken forwards. To be completed: July, 2013.

Supporting marine spatial planning with local socio-economic data

This project aims to develop new approaches to gathering detailed information on local uses of, and values held about, Scottish coastal systems. It will help to underpin marine planning in Scotland. To be completed: January, 2014.

Natural flood management land manager research

This project considers the potential impact of natural flood management on the farming and land management community, on individual farm businesses, or on the socio-economic impacts and perceptions to its wide-spread introduction. To be completed: August, 2014.

Contact us

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Impact of riparian invasive non-native plant species on freshwater habitats and species

This short report summarises the documented impacts of riparian invasive non-native plant species Rhododendron, Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and Giant Hogweed on freshwater habitats and species. Completed: 12th March 2013.

Aerial Spraying Guidance for the Protection of Watercourses

This short report examines the protocol for aerial spraying of Asulam (for bracken control). It looks at the science behind the 50 metre buffer zone value set out in the protocol, and the definition of a "watercourse" in upland catchments that could be used for this guidance. Completed: 12th March 2013.

Natural Flood Management and Local Authorities in Scotland

This short reports sets out findings of a survey of local authorities on their views of natural flood management and its implementation. Completed: 20th February, 2013.

Fate of terrestrial carbon in the Scottish coastal environment

This short report considers the fate of terrestrial carbon when transported from the continents via rivers to the global ocean. It is estimated that only a very small fraction of the organic carbon can be accounted for. The report looks at where the rest might go. Completed: 20th February 2013.



The James Hutton Institute

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