

Ribble Life project update

August 2012

Welcome to the August edition of the Ribble Life pilot. Ribble Life is a pilot which focuses on the improvement of water environments in the Ribble Catchment for social and economic benefit for all.

The catchment is principally made up of the River Ribble, along with its major tributaries which include the Hodder, Calder and Darwen. At the heart of the vision is a real appetite to bring people together and make a difference to the environment and help improve people's quality of life.

The e-bulletin is sent to a variety of public, private, voluntary and community organisations throughout the Ribble Catchment.

What have we been up to?

Stakeholder Exchange

On 27 July 2012, a Stakeholder Exchange meeting was held at Gazegill Organics Farm in Rimington. 12 organisations attended including the RSPB, United Utilities, and Yorkshire Dales National Park. The purpose of the meeting was to look at the complexities involved in the use, protection and management of the Ribble Catchment. It also explored opportunities for action and ways of working together. We received strong support to continue a Ribble Catchment Stakeholder Exchange to help develop and implement a shared Catchment Action Plan for the Ribble. A follow up meeting is planned for October 2012. For a full report from the day please visit the 'Get Involved' section of the Ribble Life website www.ribblelife.org



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Tidal Ribble Workshop No.3

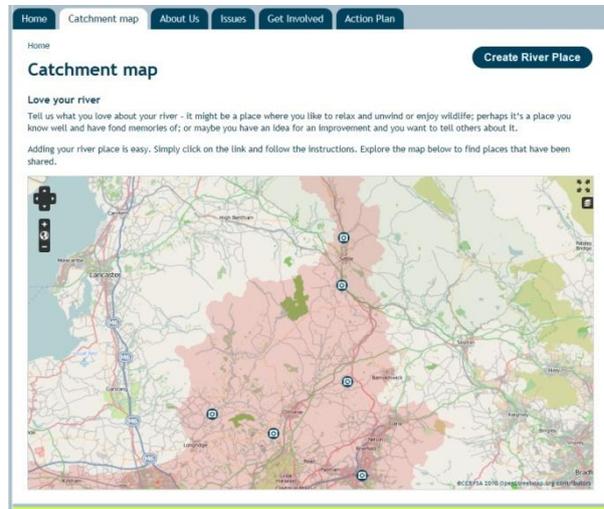
The third and final workshop for the Tidal Ribble 'Evidence and Measures' project was held on 14 August 2012. The project has focused on the tidal part of the Ribble River (the area of the Ribble influenced by the tides) from Lytham St. Annes to Longridge. This part of the Ribble is often forgotten about, but it is equally as important as other parts of the catchment for its impact on Lancashire's bathing waters. Using evidence and data to inform our knowledge and understanding of

issues affecting this part of the catchment, a series of specific actions have been identified by stakeholders and interested parties and will be included in the overall Ribble Catchment Action Plan.

Interactive map on Ribble Life website

www.ribbonlife.org

The Ribble Life website has a new look, including the addition of an interactive map where you can tell us what you love about your river and make suggestions for an improvement. To add your river place click on 'Create River Place' from the Catchment Map tab of the website and follow the online instructions. You can also upload any relevant photos, videos and sound recordings. Please tell your colleagues, friends and families about this new resource!



Planning and the Water Framework Directive (WFD)

With the support of the Sustainable Places team within the Environment Agency, the Ribble Life project board has been exploring the possibility of developing a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) with interested Local Authorities across the Ribble Catchment. A supplementary planning document is a local development document that can cover a wide range of issues, thematic or site-specific. The proposal so far is to look at developing a supplementary planning document covering water management and related issues. If you would like to find out more please get in touch.

What's in the news?

Breathing new life into Burnley's rivers

A £1.4m. plan to revitalise rivers in Burnley town centre has been unveiled to the public by the Ribble Rivers Trust as part of the Urban River Enhancement Scheme (URES) which hopes to breathe new life into the town's rivers. The three-year URES project – one of the first of its kind in the country – will look to naturalise a 2.2km stretch of river through the town which was heavily developed during the Industrial Revolution. For more information please see:

<http://www.burnleyexpress.net/news/local-news/1-4m-plan-to-revitalise-rivers-in-burnley-town-centre-1-4842444>

New stream of funding to restore East Lancashire's rivers

The Ribble Rivers Trust has received £1.4m of funding from Defra to carry out physical works to improve the rivers and streams to the benefit of all their inhabitants, including people and wildlife, such as fish, otters and birds. For more information please

see: http://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/9862163.New_stream_of_funding_to_restore_East_Lancashire_s_rivers/

Getting in touch

If you need any information about any aspect of the project or want to get in touch please contact Jo Spencer, Ribble Life Community Engagement Officer on 01200 444452 or by email at ribblelife@ribbletrust.com

You can also visit our website at www.ribblelife.org and follow us on twitter @RibbleLife