

## Haltwhistle Burn Catchment Restoration Fund (CRF) Project – PhD Study

### 3 October 2013 Meeting – PhD Briefing and Preparation

**Attendees:** Newcastle University, Haltwhistle River Watch Group, Flood Action Group, local Farmers and the CRF Project Board

**Date & time:** 3 October 2013 at 19:00

**Venue:** Comrades Club, 2A Central Place, Haltwhistle, NE49 0DF

#### Briefing – background and purpose of the meeting

Newcastle University (School of Engineering and Geosciences) is working in partnership with the Tyne Rivers Trust (TRT) on a PhD project focussed on Haltwhistle Burn with funding from the CRF project (CRF036) and Natural Environment Research Council (NERC). A 'total catchment' approach is proposed to improve fish populations, water quality, hydromorphology and also reduce flood risk. Key objectives include establishing priorities within the Haltwhistle Burn Catchment, engaging with the local community, monitoring, modelling and using established intervention (land management) techniques which will assist with managing runoff. In turn this will lead towards the development of a Catchment Management Plan for Haltwhistle Burn.

The purpose of the meeting is to introduce Newcastle University and the PhD student (Eleanor Starkey), and to begin to collate any historical information which you may have, or any catchment management issues which you are aware of. This will help to characterise the Haltwhistle Burn Catchment and enable the project to prioritise areas which need to be managed.

#### Preparation – what we need from you before / during the meeting

We would like to use this meeting as an opportunity for us to engage with you, and for you to share and informally discuss where and when events have previously happened within the Haltwhistle Burn Catchment. This could be anything relating to flooding, habitat degradation, pollution, sedimentation, erosion or any other catchment issue. **Please can you therefore bring along any photos, videos, news articles, data or any notes you may have to the meeting on a memory stick** (or hard copy if an electronic copy is not available) which illustrates or describes these events.

**You can also send any information online using the Newcastle University file drop-off service**, both before and after the meeting. To do this, simply:

1. Click on the link <https://dropoff.ncl.ac.uk/> and then click on 'Drop-off';
2. Enter your name, organisation (and/or role in the project) and your email address;
3. Enter information about the recipient (eleanor.starkey – the web site adds @ncl.ac.uk automatically);
4. Browse and upload your document(s) and enter a description. It would be useful if the description also included locational information (such as a grid reference).

The above information will be used to construct a database of events and will be mapped after the meeting. We will hold further events to keep you informed and involved in the study as it progresses.

#### Further information

Should you require further information prior to the meeting, please contact either Eleanor Starkey (Newcastle University – [eleanor.starkey@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:eleanor.starkey@newcastle.ac.uk)) or Ceri Gibson (Tyne Rivers Trust – 01434 636902 / 07817 238455 / [c.gibson@tyneriverstrust.org](mailto:c.gibson@tyneriverstrust.org)).