

Recent News

Is CREW Working?

New research shows that CREW is working well to better connect water research and policy. The project ([Evaluating Science Policy Practice Interfaces](#)) included undertaking 37 interviews with CREW customers and researchers in summer this year. Responses showed that most believed the work they delivered or requested responded to the needs of science, policy or practice.

The findings show that CREW has contributed to the work of policy customers. For example;

- Research on the value of Scotland's water resources directly impacted on policy by influencing the phrasing of the Water Resources (Scotland) Act 2013.
- Research on flooding and insurance provided evidence for use in talks with DEFRA, influencing their position.
- A review of the evidence base and potential for multiple benefits of measures to reduce diffuse pollution from agriculture formed the basis of SEPA's recommendations to Scottish Government on what they should fund to meet WFD objectives in the next Scotland Rural Development Programme.

A key finding of the research was that increasing dialogue between researchers, policy and practice leads to better research outputs and better understanding of demands in our respective roles. CREW will be working towards developing a way to facilitate this in 2014.

CREW team changes

As many of you will have heard by now, our longstanding CREW manager Wendy Kenyon has left for pastures new. Wendy has taken up a position at the Scottish Parliament. We'd like to thank Wendy for all her hard work and wish her well in her new position, and offer a warm welcome to Jannette Macdonald the new CREW manager. Jannette previously worked in SEPA's Land Unit developing ways to improve water quality by reducing diffuse pollution from rural land use. This involved working with scientists, policy makers and practitioners in the UK and beyond. Jannette's experience will help in CREW's ambition to become an internationally recognised centre for facilitating policy relevant research.

Sue Morris and Emily Hastings remain the contacts for CREW projects and call downs respectively and can be contacted via enquiries@crew.ac.uk

Professor Bob Ferrier, Director of CREW

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 Scottish Universities. The centre is funded by the Scottish Government.

In other news...

River basin planning

SEPA has just released the [Current Condition and Challenges for the Future](#) consultations, giving you an opportunity to contribute to the development of the second river basin management plans. These reports describe the current condition of the water environment and assess progress made towards the improvement targets set for 2015.

Shellfish Growing Waters

The Scottish Government has now finalised a [package of measures](#) to ensure the continued protection and improvement of Scotland's shellfish growing waters.

Flood Risk Management Conference 2014

[Sniffer's Flood Risk Management Conference 2014](#) registration open
This annual conference is the key networking and information event for anyone involved in flood risk management across Scotland.

Hydro Nation Scholars Launch

The Hydro Nation scholars programme is part of the Scottish Government's Hydro Nation Strategy and funds a number of PhD students in relevant topic areas. Students will benefit from policy and industry events and work experience organised by CREW. The strategy aims to develop the economic, environmental and social value of Scotland's water resources.

The programme was launched at Victoria Quay in October with the first four PhDs students giving presentations on their areas of work, which range from international transboundary water cooperation to valuing water in Scotland. CREW manages the Hydro Nation Scholars Programme on behalf of the Scottish Government. More details on the scholars programme can be found on our [website](#).

Recent work

Natural Flood Management in the context of UK reservoir legislation

A short policy paper requested by Scottish Government detailing the issues managers come up against when implementing NFM in relation to UK reservoir legislation.

Fats, Oils and Greases

Around 75% of the 200,000 sewer blockages in the UK every year are caused by fats, oils and greases (FOG). These affect the performance of the system, increase maintenance costs, and can result in sewer overflows into homes and businesses. This report outlines best practice for FOG management at UK and international levels and explores opportunities for reuse of recovered FOG.

Reducing pollution from forestry related activities in the Galloway and Eskdalemuir forests: A review of Best Management Practices to reduce diffuse pollution

This report collates information on forest management practices from national and international case studies. It reviews the effectiveness of these measures to help reduce non-point sources of pollution entering water courses.

Innovations in aquatic monitoring

This report highlights examples of monitoring where personal monitors have the potential to be, or currently are, being used. Existing technologies for acquiring, processing and reporting on environmental data in the field are reviewed, to assess if it is possible to use off-the-shelf technology for water monitoring.

Contact us

Call us: **01224 395 395**

Email us: enquiries@crew.ac.uk

Web: www.crew.ac.uk

Twitter: twitter.com/jameshuttoninst

Expert Register: www.crew.ac.uk/register-expertise

Scottish Freshwater Group:

91st Meeting

The talks from this autumn's joint meeting with the IBIS Project are now available on the Scottish Freshwater Group [website](#).

Events

Water Futures

The way CREW works with policy makers and scientists is evolving. CREW will be organising a series of Water Futures events throughout 2014, themed around the main water policy drivers in Scotland, to help develop future projects. More details to follow on our [website](#).

Impact by who, for who: Science for, with or by Policy (makers)? –

A call for papers

Proposal for a double session at RGS-IBG 2014

The conference theme, geographies of co-production, invites us to consider how different perspectives influence how knowledge is generated, interpreted and used. In this session, we invite participants to reflect on how their research processes have been affected by the way their results were utilised in the policy process.

[For more information and submission details, please see our website.](#)



Scotland's centre of expertise for waters

The James Hutton Institute

Craigiebuckler
Aberdeen AB15 8QH
Scotland UK