

2016 UK RIVER PRIZE & NIGEL HOLMES TROPHY

Rewarding the best in river restoration and catchment management

Press release

Thursday 31st March 2016

Finalists announced for the 2016 UK River Prize

The UK River Prize celebrates the achievements of those individuals and organisations working to improve the natural functioning of our rivers and catchments, and recognises the benefits to society of having a healthy natural environment.

After much deliberation the judges selected the four category winners shown below. These four will go forward as finalists in the competition. The overall winner will be presented with the Nigel Holmes Trophy, named after a hugely influential and passionate river restoration and conservation advocate. The winner also receives a financial prize to go towards furthering the work on their river.

The finalists for the UK River Prize are:

Finalist	Category	Lead applicant
River Aller and Horner Water >>	Catchment-scale project <i>Demonstrating a whole river approach to restoration and natural flood management</i>	National Trust Holnicote Estate, North Somerset
Allt Lorgy, tributary of the River Dulnain >>	Innovative project <i>Demonstrating innovation and novel approaches to river restoration</i>	Spey Catchment Initiative, Scottish Highlands
River Wandle >>	Urban project <i>Working on highly constrained and modified urban watercourses to restore a healthy river for people and wildlife</i>	South East Rivers Trust, South London
Rivers Derwent, Eden and Kent >>	Partnership and multiple benefit project <i>Demonstrating a long-term partnership approach to restoring the ecology and natural functioning of rivers</i>	Natural England for the Cumbria River Restoration Strategy

Administered by the River Restoration Centre and judged by a panel of experts, **the overall winner of the UK River Prize for 2016, and recipient of the Nigel Holmes Trophy, will be announced on 26th April.**

The announcement and presentation will take place at the UK River Prize awards dinner on the 26th April at The Imperial Hotel in Blackpool, in conjunction with the River Restoration Centre's Annual Network Conference.

"The 2016 River Prize has attracted an exceptional and diverse group of projects from across the UK and demonstrates how much passion and effort goes into restoring the health and beauty of our rivers and their catchments.

The work and the achievements of these charities, volunteers, local partnerships and agencies has been exceptionally high. The four category winners highlight the diversity, challenges and rewards of working with our water environment: employing natural flood management across two N. Somerset catchments, reversing a history of decline on South London, helping the river to regain its natural shape in the Highlands, and working in partnership on protected rivers across Cumbria.

The judges would like to thank all of the applicants who submitted their projects for the 2016 UK River Prize."

**Martin Janes
Managing Director
River Restoration Centre**

Notes to editors

The overall winner will be announced at the River Restoration Centre annual network conference UK River Prize awards dinner to be held at The Imperial Hotel, Blackpool on the 26th April 2016. Please contact the **River Restoration Centre** to book a place at £35 per person.

Short videos will be submitted by all four finalists. These will be available to view on the River Restoration Centre's website prior to the announcement on the 26th April 2016. Further information on the finalists is available at www.therrc.co.uk/uk-river-prize



Thanks to our 2016 UK River Prize Partner

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