

# Joint Defra / EA Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management R&D Programme

## Science Project: Environment Agency E-Learning for Fluvial Geomorphology Summary SC030008/SS

SCHO0106BKDI-E-P

The Environment Agency have released a training package for Fluvial Geomorphology in November 2005. This package is a 5-module course delivered direct to the desktop of employees through their 'Easynet' system (Intranet) and nationally available computer drives. The course is designed to be undertaken as interactive individual study, taking about 3 hours to complete. The course is designed to provide an introductory level of training in this important and rapidly developing area of river management. While this package is primarily aimed at Environment Agency employees, it is also available externally through a website hosted by the project contractors Geodata Institute.

The processes of Fluvial Geomorphology govern or contribute significantly to the formation and development of river habitats. They include the erosion of banks and the deposition of sediments, governing changes to the shape and form of river channels that influence flood risk and frequency. Geomorphological processes also influence the storage and transport of nutrients and pollutants in river systems.

The E-learning package provides an introduction to the science of fluvial geomorphology and the ways that it can be used in river management. It also introduces the further resources available in this field to support Environment Agency staff.

The training assumes no previous knowledge of the subject area.

The five modules contained in the training are:

- 1) Basics of Fluvial Geomorphology
- 2) Overview of the Guidebook of Applied Fluvial Geomorphology
- 3) Hydromorphology and the Water Framework Directive
- 4) Methods in Fluvial Geomorphology
- 5) Applications and Case Studies

This training will be of interest to those working within the Environment Agency in Flood Risk Management,

Conservation and Ecology, Fisheries, Environmental Management and Protection and Water Resources.

The training package provides a first important step in raising the awareness and understanding of this important area of river science and management.

While the training is developed to service the needs of the Environment Agency in this area it may also be of interest to others involved in the use or management of river systems.

This Summary relates to information from Project SC-308. Findings are reported fully in the following output(s):-

**E-Learning Training Package, Available to Environment Agency Staff via the Easynet at:**

[http://intranet.ea.gov/Organisation/df/Water\\_Management/conservation\\_and\\_ecology/staff\\_issues/training\\_and\\_competencies/elearninggeomorphology.htm](http://intranet.ea.gov/Organisation/df/Water_Management/conservation_and_ecology/staff_issues/training_and_competencies/elearninggeomorphology.htm)

**E-Learning Training Package, Available externally via the website (hosted by Geodata Institute until Oct 2006) at:**

<http://e-learning.geodata.soton.ac.uk/EA/>

Internal Status: Released to Regions

External Status: Released to Public

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management R&D Programme, as part of the EA Science Programme, which provides scientific knowledge, tools and techniques to enable us to protect and manage the environment as effectively as possible.

Copies of these documents can be obtained from the Environment Agency's National Customer Contact Centre by emailing [enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk) or by telephoning 08708 506506 or through Environment Agency's science publications catalogue <http://publications.environment-agency.gov.uk/epages/eapublications.storefront> on a print-on-demand basis. Alternatively, they may be downloaded from the Defra FCERM Programme website [www.defra.gov.uk/environ/fcd/research](http://www.defra.gov.uk/environ/fcd/research) whose search tool is located on project information and publications page.

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