

# Collaborative Sustainable Natural Flood Risk Management on the River Clwyd

**Lead organisation:**

Cadwyn Clwyd Cyfyngedig

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**Grant Award:** £ 330,000

**Location:** River Clwyd, Pwllglas, south of Ruthin to Bod Petryal, outskirts of Clocaenog forest

A landscape scale project to reduce peak flows into the river Clwyd and improve biodiversity through natural land based interventions and understanding their wider benefits if applied across the larger catchment. The longer term aim is to better understand the opportunity for collaboration between farmers, landowners and the public in habitat creation, reducing flood flows and improving water to benefit the local area. The project will aim to help deliver longer term solutions to the flooding issues affecting people and businesses in the area.

The collaborative group of farmers in the area are planting and restoring hedges, creating small woodlands and building leaky dams on hillside streams to hold back floodwater surges in the upper reaches of the rivers Clwyd and Elwy rivers.

Capital works have been carried out with over 3.5 kilometres of hedgerows planted, and 1,400 trees planted in the strategic small woodland areas with individual trees planted at intervals within the new hedgerows. Much of the planting being done by local volunteers as part of the community engagement work.

The Project focuses on actions, which stimulate grass-root participation, partnership working and innovation, supporting rural communities and sector groups. Working directly with local communities to assist in the development and implementation of projects, which benefit the area's local economy.

**Natural flood risk management:**

Reduced peak flows into the river Clwyd

**Habitat restoration:** 8000m of new or renovated hedgerows

**Woodland management & Planting:** 1400 trees planted in strategic places

Habitat restoration: Building ponds and wetlands

**Natural flood risk management:** Shelter belt creation and buffer strips

**Woodland management & Planting:** Woodland creation

**Soil Quality Management:** Aeration of soil

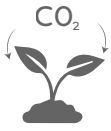
**Reducing Agricultural Pollution:** Work on field boundaries to protect waterways from agricultural pollution

**Natural flood risk management:** Soft engineering work on areas of river bank erosion

**Reducing Agricultural Pollution:** Managing stock access to water courses

**Natural flood risk management:** Leaky dams and woody debris dams

**Volunteer Programmes:** Involving community volunteers in the nature based solutions



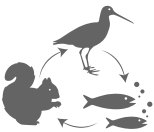
**Carbon Sequestration** - supported by hedgerow renovation, tree planting, shelter belt and buffer strip creation and woodland creation.



**Climate Change Adaptation** - supported by woodland creation.



**Climate Change Adaptation** - supported by peat sensitive planting.



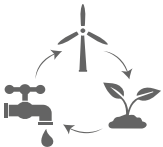
**Increased Biodiversity** - supported by hedgerow renovation, wetland creation and woodland creation.



**Ecosystem Resilience** - supported by hedgerow renovation, wetland creation, shelter belt and buffer strip creation and woodland creation.



**Reduced Flood Risk** - supported by reduced peak flows, wetland creation, soft engineering works, stock access management and leaky dams.



**Soil, Air & Water Quality** - supported by hedgerow renovation, tree planting, woodland creation, soil aeration, work on field boundaries and stock access management.



**Health & Wellbeing** - supported by volunteer programmes .



**Rural Skills & Heritage** - supported by volunteer programmes and traditional methods.



**Development of Skills Capacity & Expertise** - supported by volunteer programmes.

**Get Involved** – Cadwyn Clwyd and the North East Wales Local Action Groups (LAGs) are keen to work with other partners from elsewhere in Wales, the UK or wider EU. They are open to discussing possible cooperation projects with other LAGs.