



Angling and nature conservation training course and management planning

The Angling and Nature Conservation project is a partnership initiative between Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust (HMWT) and the Colne Valley Fisheries Consultative (CVFC). It will find ways to manage fisheries that protect fish stocks, restore biodiversity in the Colne Valley and enhance angling experiences. The project forms part of a wider Heritage Lottery Funded programme: 'Colne Valley – Landscape on the Edge', coordinated through the Colne Valley Regional Park and Groundwork South.

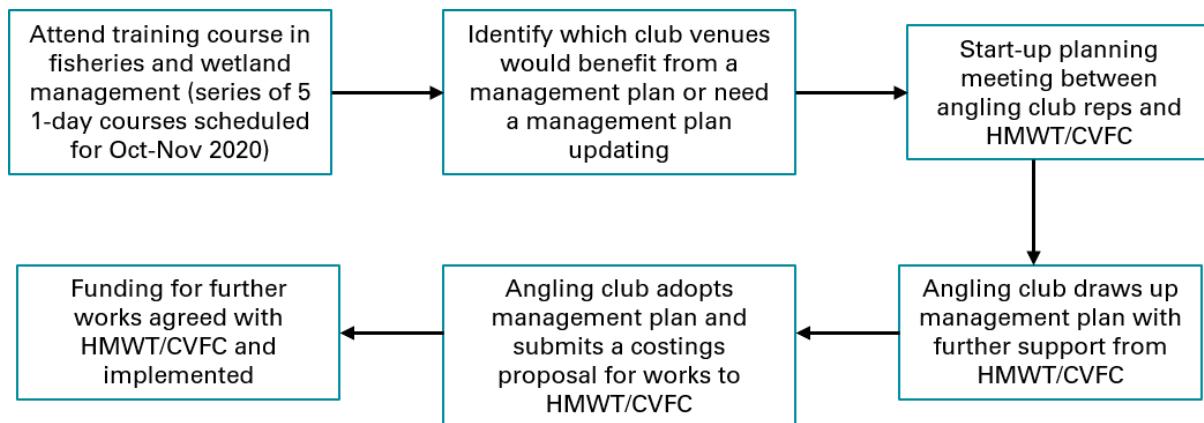
Through this project, there is an opportunity for angling clubs with waters in the Colne Valley Regional Park to work with HMWT and CVFC to draw up management plans for one or more of their sites. To do this, the club nominates one or more members to complete an accredited training course in fisheries and wetland management and then produce a management plan to enhance habitats onsite for fish and wildlife. The aim with the plans will be to balance objectives of managing a fishery with creating wildlife habitats, and to identify mutually beneficial actions.

Anglers who attend the training course will prepare management plans for their sites with support from HMWT and CVFC. Management plans will be adopted by angling clubs on completion, and owned solely by them.

Each management plan produced will provide a key resource and working document for managing and monitoring the health of fisheries sites. As well as this, both the training course and management planning elements are accredited under the AQA Unit Award Scheme, allowing course participants to gain individual certification in each of the topics covered.

Some funding will be available through the project for implementation of key actions identified in management plans (e.g. habitat works, purchasing of capital items, further training). Anglers can submit a proposal to accompany each completed management plan, with funding for works agreed through further discussion with HMWT and CVFC.

What's involved:



Costs: The training course costs £49 per person, plus a £200 deposit per person returned on completion of all training courses. Support and advice with management planning is provided free of charge.

To book a place or for any queries contact Lydia Murphy, Colne Valley Rivers and Wetlands Officer: lydia.murphy@hmwt.org / 07909 914962