



**Yorkshire
Wildlife Trust**

YWT's
Restoration Trial

ywt.org.uk



Project Background

- **Mid Calder Catchment**- Historically a mill town, heavily modified rivers. Industrialised in many areas. Victorian Mill relics still present. Steep sided valleys and prone to flooding
- **Japanese Knotweed**
 - Introduced in the Victorian era as an ornamental plant. Has since become a category 9 invasive species. Found close to watercourses.
- **Calder Greening**
 - A restoration and regeneration project that began in 2019. With the aim to regenerate and reconnect the green corridor of riparian habitats



Combining Forces!

- **Post Japanese Knotweed Treatment**

Bare ground, close to river.
High erosion or secondary
infestation by Himalayan
Balsam

- **Restoration issues**

We were seeing heavy
erosion in post treatment
areas, reduced species
diversity and potentially
reduced flora resilience for a
possibly changing climate



High Royd Water Facility

- The 'perfect' site
 - Removed from public access.
 - Large amounts of JKW
 - Close to the river bank.
 - Continued access to assess.



What to test

- **Activated Carbon (AC)**
Activated Carbon is a refined carbon sediment. It is used industrially to remove pollutants from water bodies or in air filters.
- **Grass Seed**
A bespoke seed mix for the Calder valley
- **Riparian Seed Mix**
A bespoke seed mix for the Calder valley
- **Plug Plants**
A bespoke species mix for the Calder valley
- **Erosion Control Blanket (ECB)**
Coconut husk woven blanket to reduce erosion



The Plan

- **4 Sections**

Section 1: No Treatment and no AC

Section 2: No Treatment and AC

Section 3: Treatment and no AC

Section 4: Treatment and AC

- **5 restoration methods in each section.**

1. Control (no restoration)
2. ECB + Grass Seed
3. ECB + Riparian Seed
4. ECB + Plug Plants.
5. ECB only



Installation



The results so far





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Network 4
Nature

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