The Sheffield Rivers Invasive Species Management Project
“Balsam Bashers”
Environmental contracting company

- **Maintenance and restoration works** on rivers and uplands around Yorkshire.

Community Interest Company

- Works with **local volunteers and community groups**.
- Balsam Bashers project
Invasive Species Control across Yorkshire

River Stewardship Company funded by the Environment Agency
Balsam Bashers

The focus will be on assisting community groups with the management of Himalayan balsam across the rivers of Sheffield.

aim:
• controlling the spread, reducing the abundance or eradicating the non-native species Himalayan Balsam.

secondary aim:
• contributing to effective management of Japanese Knotweed.
How?

• Work with and support least 8 community groups.

• Provide training and equipment for local riparian volunteer groups to carry out management safely and effectively.
Training Offered

Safe Working Near Water
Externally accredited qualification.

Practical training covering:

- **Identification and control** of Himalayan balsam through hand pulling.
- **Monitoring and mapping** including Japanese Knotweed.
- **Biosecurity**
Material Support Offered

• **Biosecurity ‘kits’** for each community group being supported.

• **Fixed point photography** posts to be installed at sites determined by community groups.

• **PPE** for participants where necessary.
## Timescales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before April</th>
<th>Throughout 2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Training for community groups to be delivered.</td>
<td>• Fixed point photography posts to be installed (before starting balsam pulling activity).</td>
<td>• Funding ends.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• All biosecurity kits to be provided.</td>
<td>• Carry out community ‘Balsam Bashes’.</td>
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<td>• Survey and map distribution.</td>
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<td>• Ongoing support to groups.</td>
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See how we get on...

@riverlutionbyrsc @RiverStewards
@riverlution_byrsc @riverstewardshipcompanylimited

See how we get on...