

Important information.

Project: Attitudes of different demographics on ecosystem services associated with urban freshwater habitats and nature-based solutions.

This project has been given ethical approval from FBS REC (LTSBIO-028)

You are being invited to take part in a research project about aquatic environments. Before you decide if you want to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve.

Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Take time to decide whether you wish to take part.

The survey is easiest to view on a tablet or computer but you can still complete it on a mobile device.

Free prize raffle.

You will be able to enter into the free prize raffle to win one of three £50 gift vouchers after you have completed the survey.

What is the purpose of the project?

Biodiversity is declining globally. One way to help reverse this is to create and improve natural spaces in cities for wildlife.

This research project explores ways in which people perceive nature-based solutions (methods using ecological processes) to urban planning problems so that we can enhance cities for people and nature.

This information is important for contextualising the study and analysing demographic factors (e.g. age, nationality) in relation to participant preferences and understanding of nature-based solutions. Participant explanations are important for understanding the reasoning and preferences which in turn may yield useful insights about how we inform the public about these interventions.

Who is it open to?

The survey is open to anyone aged 18 or over in the United Kingdom (UK).

If you are not living in the UK please do not enter the survey.

What do I have to do?

You will be involved in this research through a short survey which will collect information on your perceptions and understanding of urban freshwater, nature-based solutions, and some demographic information. As a participant in this research, we require you to answer our questions openly and honestly and based on your own opinions and experiences; there are no wrong answers.

The survey should take around 10-15 minutes to complete.

You will not be identifiable from your responses.

Are there any disadvantages or risks of taking part?

There are no known disadvantages or risks associated with taking part in this research.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

There are no immediate benefits for participants of this project, it is hoped that this work will inform how urban water features are managed in the future for the benefit of people and nature.

What will happen to my personal information and how will the research data be used and stored?

All information collected as part of this study will be anonymised. This means once you have completed the survey you cannot withdraw from the study as your response will not be identifiable. We will take steps wherever possible to anonymise the research data so that you will not be identified in any reports or publications.

Any contact information that you provide during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential and will be stored separately from the research data.

Your responses will be confidential. Data will be stored in a password-protected folder on the university system and managed in accordance with General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 (GDPR).

What will happen to the results of the research project?

The results of this research will be used in research articles and manuscripts produced as part of postgraduate students' doctoral theses. Should these articles be published in a peer-reviewed journal, they will become publicly available. Participants will not be identifiable in any report or publication and no comments made will be attributed to individuals.

The research data produced in this project may be used in additional or subsequent research by The University of Leeds. Participants will not be identifiable in any additional or subsequent reports or publications.

Who is organising and funding the research?

This research has been organised by a postgraduate researcher at the University of Leeds and is funded by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC).

Contact for further information:

If you have any questions or require any further information, please contact the research team via the details below:

Researcher:

Name: Sebastian Stroud

Email: bs17sets@leeds.ac.uk

Thank you for taking the time to read through this information.

Please refer to the [Research Participant Privacy Notice](#) for information on how the University uses personal data for research, what individual rights are afforded under the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA) and who to contact with any queries or concerns.