

ESP 11 World Conference

“From global to local ecosystem services: pathways to Nature-based Solutions inspired from Down Under”

23-27 June 2025 | Darwin, Australia

SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID: B2

Healing riverscapes: promoting nature-based solutions for conserving/restoring rivers

Hosts:

	Name	Organisation	E-mail
Host:	Ruchi Badola	Wildlife Institute of India	ruchi@wii.gov.in
Co-host(s):	Kamaljit Sangha	Charles Darwin University	Kamaljit.Sangha@cdu.edu.au

Abstract:

The degradation of river ecosystems due to urbanization, pollution, and climate change poses significant challenges to biodiversity and human well-being. Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) offer innovative approaches that leverage natural processes to restore river systems while providing ecological, social, and economic benefits. This session aims to explore the principles, methodologies, and case studies of NbS in river restoration, highlighting their effectiveness in addressing contemporary environmental challenges. As an outcome of the session sustainable strategies will be developed for river restoration that leverages natural processes to enhance ecosystem resilience and address societal challenges. During the session, scholars representing diverse geographical contexts will share their experiences, observation and best NbS used for restoration of river ecosystems in various socio-ecological setups. By analyzing case studies shared framework will be developed that can be employed to identify the best suited strategies for a particular socio-political-ecological scenario. Challenges in integrating NbS into policy frameworks and decision-making processes will be highlighted to address the issues such as stakeholder and policy coherence. Nature-Based Solutions represent a paradigm shift in river restoration. By harnessing the power of natural processes, we can create resilient ecosystems that benefit both nature and society. This session will provide a platform for knowledge exchange and collaboration among stakeholders committed to advancing river restoration efforts through innovative solutions.

Goals and objectives of the session:

The session aims to derive multiscale and multi-disciplinary NbS pathways for restoring river ecosystems and maximizing benefits for society in the face of climate change. The session also aims at fostering dialogue, knowledge sharing and inspire locally relevant and inclusive NbS actions. The session will showcase successful NbS case studies and interventions for river restoration, which transcends beyond political boundaries. The session will also explore the effectiveness of NbS in restoring river ecosystems, integration of NbS into aquatic biodiversity conservation, and challenges and opportunities in implementing NbS at various scales.

Planned output / Deliverables:

1. Bringing case studies on NbS to a common platform for dissemination and outreach of best practices, to enable increased potential of NbS interventions for river restoration.
2. Develop collaborative network among stakeholders practicing NbS and those interested in implementing NbS.

3. Identification of locally relevant and inclusive best practices and recommendations for future river restoration projects using NbS.

Voluntary contributions accepted:

Yes, I allow any abstract to be submitted to my session for review

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