

Jo Goad

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PROFILE

I have a broad skillset with both theoretical and applied knowledge of environmental restoration. My experience in the river restoration sector has bolstered my enthusiasm and passion for improving fluvial environments. I am keen to progress my career in the environmental sector through consultancy and delivery.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Water Science Specialist, Jacobs (May 2025- present)

- Provide a holistic, catchment-based approach to solving fluvial issues for clients, grounded in nature-based solutions.
- Geomorphological surveying including River Condition Assessments, Geomorphology Reconnaissance Surveys and River Habitat Surveys.
- Support business development in the river restoration sector.

River Restoration Officer, Thames21 (August 2023- present)

- Manage, budget, plan and execute river restoration projects on rivers across the Thames basin. Projects include wetland creation, restoring in-channel processes and lateral connectivity.
- Monitor and analyse water quality, biodiversity, hydrological and geomorphological evidence to inform river restoration projects and assess their effectiveness.
- Implement Construction Design Management across projects.
- Collaborate with local stakeholders, landowners, government agencies, local councils and volunteers through a catchment-based approach.
- Delivered public engagement initiatives such as consultation events, practical conservation, and educational talks to improve environmental stewardship and ensure community buy-in for projects.
- Reporting on projects to funders, through websites, newspaper articles and presentations.
- Preparing project documentation, including technical reports, environmental impact assessments, and monitoring plans.
- Work with contractors to deliver larger works.
- Leading volunteers to deliver practical restoration works.
- Secretary for the Thames21 Union, managed meetings, minutes and the membership database.

Policy Analyst, Environment and Agriculture Lead, We Are Orchard Ltd. (July 2022 – August 2023)

- Worked for Anaerobic Digestion and Bioresources Association (ADBA) and World Biogas Association (WBA) representing the biogas industry to the UK government and international organisation respectively.
- Engaged with Defra, Environment Agency, Ofwat, and devolved nations on agricultural, waste, and environmental policy.
- Collaborated with the wastewater, agricultural, and waste private sector to improve sector wide issues.
- Developed a strong understanding of nutrient pollution in these sectors and mitigation technologies.
- Managed conflicting priorities and adapted perspectives according to stakeholders.

Intern, River Restoration Centre (August 2021)

- Worked alongside Scientific Officers to assist with projects and provide ad-hoc support across the organisation.
- Utilised Google Earth Engine to examine longitudinal connectivity barriers on Bulgarian rivers for a strategy for the Bulgarian Government.
- Produced project summary one-pagers for the website.

- Categorised river restoration projects for the wiki database.
 - Authored a blog piece.
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EDUCATION

Geography BA 2:1, University of Cambridge (October 2019- June 2022)

Dissertation: Examining the effectiveness of leaky barriers in Costells Wood, a small river catchment in West Sussex. I used HEC-RAS and 2D modelling to model the impacts of leaky barrier installation on water volume and flow. Data was informed by field work.

Modules included: Seascapes, Living within Limits (Biogeography), Demography, Political Appetites, Development, Austerity, Quaternary.

Extracurricular activities included being elected as the Green Officer for my College's Student Union, captaining the netball team and stage-managing comedy shows.

A Levels, Varndean College (September 2017- June 2019)

Geography, English Language, Mathematics, Extended Project Qualification (A*, A, B, A)

SKILLS AND TRAINING

Working in Water training- ISAR3 (September 2025)

River Condition Assessment- RCA2409(5) (November 2024) - uses the Modular River Physical Surveys to assess the condition of a river. This is used as part of the Biodiversity Net Gain Watercourse unit calculation in the UK.

Watercourse BNG Module training (November 2024)- as part of the RCA, I attended a training course on how to calculate BNG units and uplift potential.

Site Management Safety Training Scheme (April 2025) – allows me to inspect construction sites for larger scale river restoration projects

Construction Design Management (November 2023) – training to understand how CDM legislation applies to river restoration projects to ensure health and safety is considered throughout the process

Project Management for Wildlife Conservation (March 2025)

Introduction to Hydromorphology Level 1 (March 2024)

First Aid trained (September 2023)

Riverfly Monitoring Initiative/ Wetland Invertebrate Monitoring (July 2024) – a methodology to assess water quality through sampling invertebrates in river and wetland sediment

Water vole surveying (October 2024)

Phase 1 Habitat Assessments (July 2024)

REFERENCES

Available upon request