



Amy Taylor  
Trent Rivers Trust  
Rooms 7a and 7b  
The Old Police Station  
Wharncliffe Road  
Ilkeston  
DE7 5GF

## TENDER FOR 1 HECTARE GRID SCALE SOIL SAMPLING, ANALYSIS & MAPPING

**Tenders to be emailed and to be received by 12pm on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

Email: [amy@trentriverstrust.org](mailto:amy@trentriverstrust.org)

Telephone: 07384 632368

**The Trent Rivers Trust** is a registered charity which seeks to conserve, protect and enhance the rivers and streams of the Trent catchment [www.trentriverstrust.org](http://www.trentriverstrust.org) Registered Charity 1089239. Company Limited by Guarantee: 4225307. Registered Office: Rooms 7a and 7b, The Old Police Station, Wharncliffe Road, Ilkestone, DE7 5GF.

# RIVER MEASE PHOSPHATE PROJECT

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background - Project Aims and Objectives

The River Mease Phosphate Project is Round 2 of an Environment Agency funded project which aims to investigate the general level of soil phosphate levels on **eight farms** within the River Mease catchment through soil nutrient mapping on a range of different farm enterprises. This would be achieved through **GPS soil analysis on a 1 hectare grid scale** to provide interpretation of the varying Phosphate (and other key nutrients, organic matter and pH) indices across five individual fields on each of the eight farms.

We would also like **phosphate budgets** calculating for **2 farms**. This would be using the results of either these set of 8 soil analyses results and mapping (or else results from 2 farms from the first round of this project, which would be supplied by us to you). Detailed nutrient inputs and exports would be used to calculate phosphate budgets for the 2 chosen farms.

A potential add-on which we would also like costing, but that might not be included, is nutrient management planning for a further 2 farms.

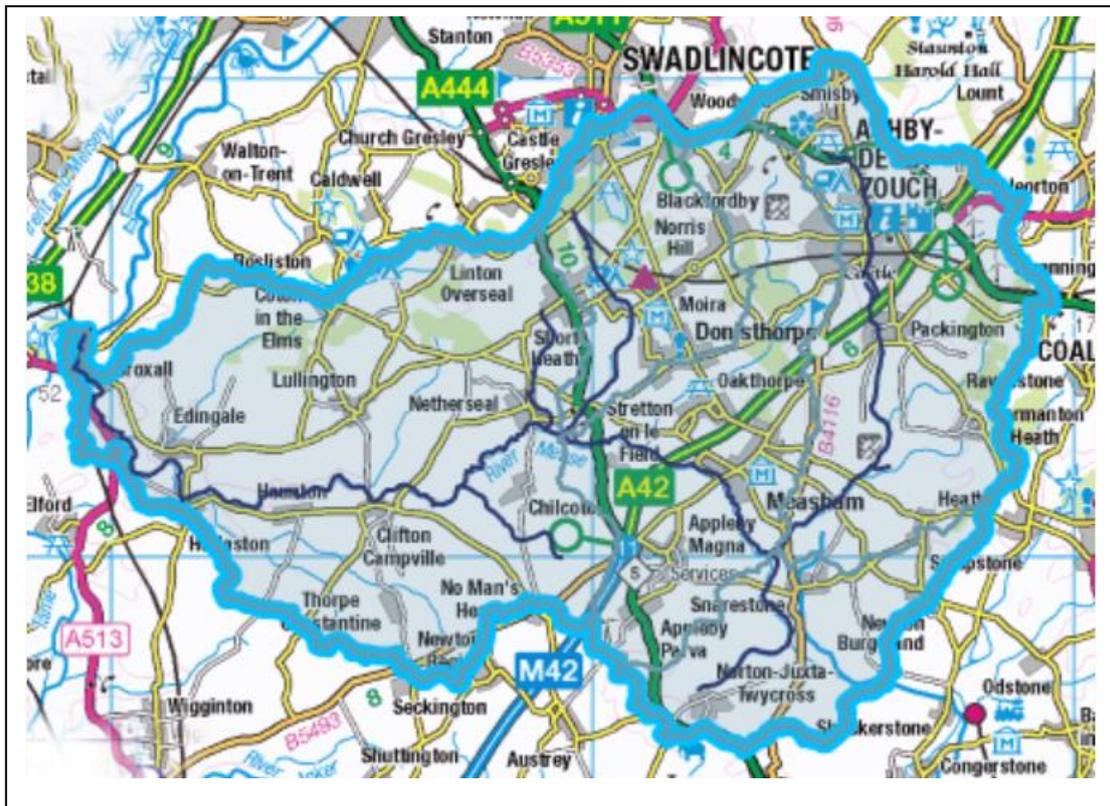
### 1.2 The Trent Rivers Trust

TRT is a charity operating across the Trent Catchment on a wide range of projects relating to water. We have a small team of specialist staff. Our work primarily focuses on delivering projects to improve water management incorporating other benefits in both urban and rural settings. We work with a wide range of organisations, business, the voluntary sector and community groups.

### 1.3 The Site

The River Mease is an important lowland clay river in the Midlands of England. It flows through the counties of Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire before it reaches the River Trent between Lichfield and Burton upon Trent. The location of the River Mease catchment is shown below in Figure 1.

**Figure 1: River Mease Catchment**



## **2 Soil Nutrient Analysis, Mapping and Budgeting Tender**

### **2.1 Field work**

We are seeking a contractor with GPS soil sampling experience at a 1 hectare grid scale to undertake soil sampling on eight farms within the River Mease catchment. On each farm five fields would be identified for the GPS soil sampling on a range of different farming enterprises and management systems. Trent Rivers Trust would be responsible for supplying the details of the farms and individual fields to be sampled.

The appointed contractor would be expected to undertake a minimum of 16 soil cores within each 1 hectare grid. Additionally sample points should be GPS logged to allow for future replication of sampling and analysis for P, K, Mg, organic matter & pH in the lab.

The results of the soil sampling and analysis work should be supplied to each individual farmer for their farm. All results should be provided to Trent Rivers Trust in a format that can easily be displayed and used in a PowerPoint presentation for example. This information must include soil analysis result mapping for Phosphate, Potash, organic matter and pH.

### **2.2 Phosphate Budgets**

As part of the project delivery, we would like to perform 2 farm phosphate budgets. This will likely be on farms that have different majority land uses e.g. a dairy farm and an all-arable

farm – but this is to be decided. The whole farm P budget should account for all of the P that comes into and goes out of an operation using detailed production information that you will liaise with the farmers regarding.

### **2.3 Possible add-on Nutrient Management Planning**

As part of the project delivery, we may be able to add-on 2 farm nutrient management plans. This will also likely be on farms that have different majority land uses e.g. a dairy farm and an all-arable farm – to be decided. The whole farm nutrient management plans should account for crop requirements, soil testing results, additions of organic manure, slurry, bagged inputs and calculated fertiliser requirements. We would discuss if the nutrient value of organic manures and slurries to aid this can be tested at a later date, if the nutrient management planning goes ahead.

### **2.4 Health and Safety**

The requirements of health and safety and other current legislation and codes of practice must be observed in all work undertaken. It is the contractor's responsibility to identify hazards and to carry out a Risk Assessment for the operations. The contractor must have a written contract, dealing with common conditions – such as insurance, health and safety, and definitions of parties to the contract – and specific tasks and arrangements for the particular job to be done. The contractor must hold and provide evidence of Public Liability Insurance (a minimum of £1,000,000).

### **2.5 Commencement and Completion of works**

Trent Rivers Trust (Tel: 07384 632368) should be informed by the contractor five working days before any proposed commencement of the works programme. All fieldwork must be completed by **9th December 2022**. Budgets and reports would then need to be completed by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Trent Rivers Trust will accept invoices following the satisfactory completion of the works programme.

### 3. Project Costs

<b>Soil sampling, analysis and mapping</b>	
<b>Task</b>	<b>Cost per unit (£)</b>
1. Soil sampling, analysis & produce P, K & pH field mapping per 1 hectare grid (5 fields on 8 farms)	
2. Farm phosphate budget (x2)	
<b>Grand Total (<u>excluding</u> potential nutrient management planning)</b>	
Possible add-on 3. Farm nutrient management plan (x2)	
<b>Grand Total (<u>including</u> potential nutrient management planning)</b>	

**Please specify if costs are subject to VAT.**

**Please provide:**

- a. Confirmation of public liability insurance and cover.
- b. Confirmation of ability to carry out work to the above timescales.
- c. Experience of GPS soil sampling and analysis on a 1 hectare grid scale
- d. Examples of previous experience in phosphate budgeting and if you are qualified to write nutrient management plans (FACTS).
- e. Please also list if you have any experience of previous work within the River Mease catchment.

**The tender will be awarded based on:**

- Proven track record in similar work & Your approach to meeting the requirements set out here (60%)
- Cost (40%)

If you would like to discuss this further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

**Amy Taylor**

Trent Rivers Trust

07384 632368

amy@trentriverstrust.org

**CONTRACTOR DETAILS**

I/we agree to carry out the work detailed above for the sum set out above.

Signed ..... Date .....

For and on behalf of .....

Address .....

.....

.....

.....

Telephone .....