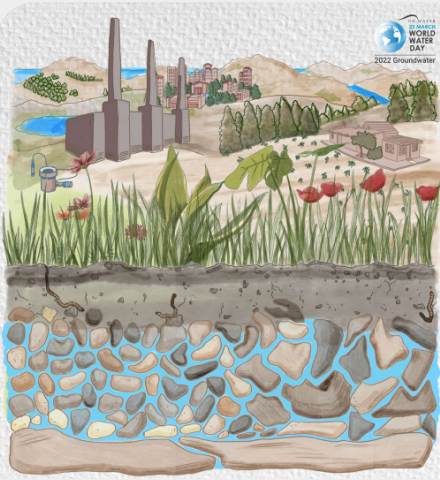


# SMARTWATER

## The Importance of Conceptualising Groundwater



In the Year of Groundwater, UNESCO and IGRAC are leading the way when it comes to 'making the invisible visible'. This year-long campaign aims to raise awareness of groundwater and the role it plays in the water cycle and water resources management. We have always championed the role of groundwater and strongly believe that it must be managed and regulated in ways that maximise the benefits to the environment, businesses, and society.

Getting the most out of groundwater requires an ability to conceptualise groundwater systems and, more broadly, to effectively communicate geoscience in ways that both technical and non-technical audiences can understand. As water resources consultants, and hydrogeologists in particular, we are continually 'making the invisible visible' in order to solve our clients water related problems.

Conceptualisation is a very powerful tool but in a world that is increasingly dominated by numbers and modelling, we find it can be overlooked, or not given the attention required before jumping to more complex methods of analysis. There is a premise that more complex models will give more accurate results, but this is a misnomer because, without a robust conceptual model to base them upon, they introduce far more uncertainty by their very nature.

Our experience shows that poor conceptualisation leads to the wrong questions being asked, the wrong solutions being found, and expensive delays on projects that could have been delivered much more quickly and/or more cost effectively. We therefore encourage everyone in this 'Year of Groundwater' to not only champion groundwater, but make sure that we maximise the value of conceptualisation to make the invisible visible for everyone!

And of course, if you are experiencing a groundwater, surface water or any other water related problem, please [get in touch!](#)

## BHUC 2022 in Collaboration with the BSDA

The Borehole Users Conference is back for its 10<sup>th</sup> year on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 2022! Following the success of last year's event, the conference will be hosted at the National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire and will be run in collaboration with the British Soft Drinks Association.

This year's conference will focus on 'making the invisible visible'. Amongst other things, we will delve into how geophysics looks into the ground to support the successful siting, design, construction and ongoing management and maintenance of boreholes. As always, the conference is an excellent networking event, bringing together leading sector experts to impart their knowledge, along with top contractors and equipment suppliers in the water industry, who will make up our highly acclaimed trade exhibition.

As the only conference in the UK dedicated to borehole based industrial and private water supplies, the Borehole Users Conference is THE event for borehole owners, operators and regulators. Take a look at the [feedback](#) from last year's conference, be the first to learn about our speakers and receive access to early bird tickets by [registering your interest](#).



3<sup>rd</sup> November  
2022





“Joining the RSK family has opened doors, enabling us to deliver even more solutions to our clients in the way in which we are renowned for doing so. Our regulatory expertise and knowledge of natural water resources are also opening doors for many of the RSK Group companies. We are looking forward to a bright and successful future!”

**James Dodds,**  
Director &  
Water Management  
Specialist

## Broadening Our Scope within the RSK Group

It has been six months since we joined the RSK Group! We are proud to be part of a rapidly growing global group of environmental, engineering, and technical service businesses that are working together to provide practical solutions to many of society's challenges.

Within this short space of time, we are proud that we have already grown our team by three and quickly begun collaborating with other companies in the wider group, broadening our service offering to existing and new clients. Here are just a few of the exciting projects we've been getting involved in:

Our Scottish Team has been combining their expertise with hydromorphologists at cbec, to assist in a river morphology and surveying project on the River Leven. With more frequent flooding, riverbed levels and sediment depths both in the main channel and tributaries have been measured to create detailed channel cross-sections to assess what solutions can be implemented to mitigate flood risk.

Our Surface Water Modelling Team has been working with RSK Orbital to gather high-resolution aerial imagery and bathymetry data that will be used to create a detailed flood risk assessment covering a 10 km<sup>2</sup> area of the floodplain of the River Spey.

On the back of the recent announcement from Natural England relating to adverse nutrient impacts on habitats sites, our Groundwater Teams in the Midlands and North of England are collaborating with several group companies to provide Nutrient Neutrality support to a range of residential developers in affected catchments.

**With several tenders in progress, we are looking forward to more collaborative working both across our offices and within the RSK Group.**

## The 2022 Business Update

We believe the success of our business is rooted in the people it employs and that's why at the start of every year, our team comes together from across the country to discuss how we can all contribute to future growth.

During our day-long interactive training, we not only talked about our aspirations for the years ahead, but we also reflected on our achievements over the 12 months. For the first time in our history, we comfortably passed the £2 million turnover mark. What an accomplishment for a team of just 20 staff!



Over the coming 12 months, we will build on this success. We want to increase our market share and collaborate with like-minded businesses to enhance the scope, quality, and value of the services we can provide to our clients. We plan to add three new people to the business and develop both technical and leadership skills across the team. We have also committed to offering some graduate places in the autumn, recognising the value of growing our own talent from within.

**Joining RSK is the next step on our journey and provides us with the support and backing to continue growing our business. Could you be our next team member? Take a look at our current vacancies!**



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