Prioritising natural flood management interventions in Calderdale

A rainfall-runoff model developed at the University of Leeds is the latest weapon in Calderdale's armoury to prevent future flooding in the valley. An iCASP project is using a digital model, SD-TOPMODEL, to model the flow of water from hillslopes to the river.

The project team will then be able to analyse how and if existing landscape features, such as walls, gates and hedges, and new measures, such as hedge and tree planting, reduce flood risk by storing and slowing flood water.

Conclusions will bolster future business cases and evaluations of work done already, and contribute to the Calderdale Flood Action Plan by helping to prioritise the siting of future natural flood management (NFM) schemes.

Furthermore, the project will also help to identify research gaps and provide information for communities to illustrate how working with natural processes can have an impact on flooding.

Partners:
Environment Agency, Calderdale Council, Calderdale NFM Operational Group, University of Leeds, Yorkshire Water.

Duration:
November 2018 – January 2020

Natural Environment Research Council

Funded by NERC Grant: NE/P011160/1