



Participant Agreement

These Terms set forth the legally binding terms and conditions that govern your participation in the FreshWater Watch project (the “**Project**”). This project is run and organised by the Conservation Education and Research Trust (working name: Earthwatch Institute (Europe)) (the “**Company**”, “**us**” or “**we**”) or one of our local **Project Partners**. If you are under 18 years of age an adult must read and sign this agreement.

Liability Statement:

Further to the information and any terms and conditions you may have been sent regarding an event, the activities undertaken carry some risks. Earthwatch and/or our local Project Partners have taken every reasonable step to mitigate the impact of these risks on participants. This may include (but is not limited to) conducting risk assessments, incident management plans, and providing training and instructions for use of equipment. It is essential that participants follow the safety instructions provided (by field staff, supporting kit documentation or online), and behave in a way that minimises their exposure to risks, and the risks to other people on the Project.

You may get involved with the project in a number of ways, including collecting research data, taking part in a one-day training programme, being part of a hands-on demonstration of the research techniques, and/or collecting data in your own time as a self-directed research activity without Earthwatch’s or anyone’s direct supervision. Earthwatch (or your local Project Partner) may provide you with a kit for the data collection. It is your responsibility to read and understand the instructions included with the kit before first use (as you are solely responsible for your kit and its use). If you have any questions about using the kit or performing your tasks please contact Earthwatch (or local Project Partner).

The Project involves minor inherent and other risks when collecting samples. Those risks include (but are not limited to) those associated with being in the outdoors and near water bodies such as encounters with wildlife, harmful plants, inclement weather and challenging terrain. By signing this agreement, you understand that such risks can, in extreme and unlikely circumstances, cause or lead to death, injury, illness, or disability, and agree to assume all the risks of your activities relating to the Project whether mentioned above or not. When you are working without Earthwatch or other Project Partner supervision, you must be the person to determine whether your activities and actions are reasonable and appropriate. You are responsible for making decisions about your safety and whether the conditions for the activity are safe.

Any under-18’s or vulnerable adults must be accompanied by a parent/guardian who takes full responsibility for their health, safety and wellbeing at all times, and who has read and signed the agreement and safety instructions provided.

By joining the FreshWater Watch project, you agree to forever release, waive and discharge the Company and its Project Partners, to the maximum extent permitted by law, from any liability they may jointly or severally incur in respect to any claim, suit or cause of action, arising from your participation in the Project.

The work on this Project may be long term, spanning many years. This document is in effect for any Earthwatch activities in which you participate over that time, you can retract your consent by contacting us (details below) at any time.

You can download this liability waiver now or at a later stage from the footer of the [FreshWater Watch](https://www.freshwaterwatch.org.uk) website.