

Carlos Abrahams BSc PgC MSc MIEEM **Technical director**

Professional qualifications

M.Sc. Environmental Management for Conservation and Recreation (Distinction). Sheffield Hallam University. 2002.

Pg.C. Environmental Technology (Zoology). Leicester University. 1992.

B.Sc. Environmental Studies (Distinction). Crewe & Alsager College of Higher Education. 1991.

Full Member of the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (since 1999).

Work profile

Carlos has twenty years experience as an ecologist and environmental manager, including work with public and private sector clients on a diverse range of high profile projects. He has considerable experience in the delivery of ecological services to large engineering projects such as road and rail infrastructure, flood defence schemes, power stations, windfarms, quarries, pipelines, residential, commercial and leisure developments. It has included schemes such as the M6 Toll, the London 2012 Olympics site, Tunstead Quarry, the Low Level Waste Repository and Donington Park.

Carlos has expertise in the full range of ecological work, from field survey to environmental impact assessment, design and implementation of mitigation measures and practical site management. He has considerable experience in the survey, evaluation and management of rare and protected species, habitats and designated sites and holds licences for surveying great crested newts, natterjack toads and bats. He works closely with client design/engineering teams to provide valuable and timely advice throughout the ecological assessment process and produces clear and robust reports and Environmental Statements. He has been responsible for the development and implementation of a large number of ecological mitigation schemes, including licensed works in relation to European Protected Species. This has involved the production of method statements and the subsequent supervision of works on site.

Carlos' key area of expertise is aquatic ecology and wetland creation and management. He has carried out research on habitat selection by wetland invertebrates, the landscape ecology of amphibian communities and the vegetation communities found in reservoir drawdown zones. He maintains an active interest in wetland research and policy, particularly with regard to the ecological effects of water level fluctuations in lakes and reservoirs. This theoretical base has been closely allied with practical implementation, producing management plans for a range of wetland sites, developing water abstraction reports for Severn Trent Water and managing the Witches Oak Waters gravel pit restoration scheme.

Employment history

Baker Consultants Ltd (March 2011 – present)

Technical Director responsible for team leadership, project delivery and technical output from the practice.

URS Corporation (September 2008 to March 2011)

Principal Ecologist responsible for team leadership, project management and production of EIA chapters for projects throughout the UK.

Baker Shepherd Gillespie (June 2002 to September 2008)

Principal Ecologist undertaking high level project work for a range of clients.

Atkins (March 2001 to May 2002)

Senior Ecologist undertaking survey and reporting for internal and external clients.

Severn Trent Water (February 1994 to March 2001)

Conservation Manager responsible for the management of conservation, access and recreation activities across a range of sites in England and Wales.

National Trust (July 1993 to February 1994)

Trainee Warden on the High Peak Estate, undertaking practical habitat and estate management.

Self-employed Ecologist (September 1992 to October 1992)

Employed to carry out a research project in Portugal on the golden-striped salamander *Chioglossa lusitanica*, an IUCN international red-list species.

Additional information

Carlos has published a number of papers on wetland ecology and organised an international conference on the subject in 2010. He manages a website, which focuses on the ecology of shoreline wetlands, at www.drawdownzone.eu

He is a peer reviewer for Water and Environment Journal, Aquatic Ecology, Lakes and Reservoirs: Research and Management and Frontiers in Environmental Science and Engineering.

Skills and training

RYA Powerboat Level 2

NVQ Assessor D32/D33

NPTC Tree Climbing Certificate

Great crested newt and natterjack toad survey licences (for science & education)

Bat survey licence (for conservation, science & education, and training bat workers).

Spanish speaker

Affiliations

Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management

Freshwater Biological Association

British Ecological Society
