



**South East
Rivers Trust**

Loddon Rivers Week Amateur Photography Competition 2026

Terms and Conditions

1. Competition Overview & Theme

1.1 The Loddon Rivers Week Photo Competition is organised by the South East Rivers Trust (referred to as SERT) as part of Loddon Rivers Week 2026. Registered charity number: 1091000. Registered office: 1st Floor, Arthur Stanley House, 40-50 Tottenham Street, London, W1T 4RN. Registered in England & Wales as a company limited by guarantee. Company registration number: 03969688

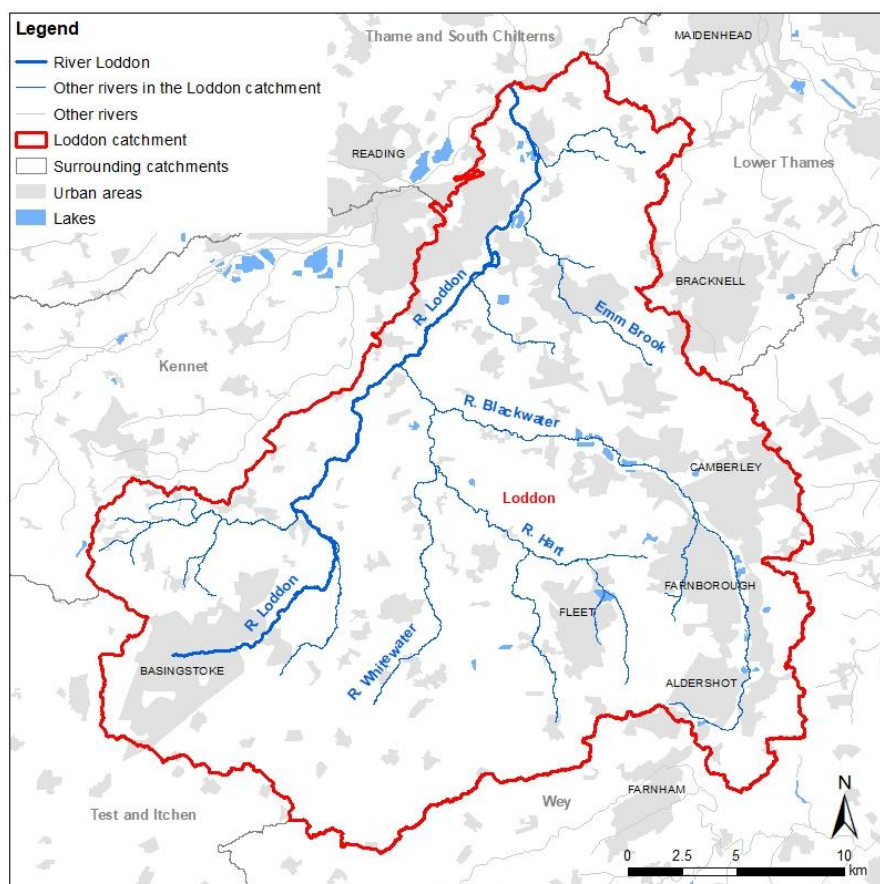
1.2 This is in partnership with Natural Basingstoke, charity number: 1211649

1.3 The theme of the competition is "Life on the Loddon: Our Rare Chalk Stream". Entries should celebrate the natural beauty, wildlife, community connections, and ecological importance of the River Loddon and its chalk stream tributaries.

2. Eligibility

2.1 The competition is open to amateur photographers only. For the purposes of this competition, an amateur is defined as someone who does not derive their primary source of income (more than half) from professional photography.

2.2 Entries must be photos taken along or within the River Loddon catchment area (including its tributaries, as defined by the red line below.



2.3 Employees of SERT directly managing the competition administration are excluded from entering. Other SERT staff, trustees, and volunteers may submit photos for display but are ineligible to win prizes.

2.4 Entrants under the age of 18 must have permission from a parent or legal guardian to enter.

3. Submission Guidelines & Key Dates

3.1 Submissions open on 1st September 2026.

3.2 All entries must be received 27th September 2026 at 23:59 BST. Entries submitted after this deadline will not be considered.

3.3 Each participant may submit a maximum of three (3) photographs. Any submissions after the first three will not be considered.

3.4 Entries must be submitted online via the official SERT Survey123 submission form at <https://arcg.is/0yq0iX0>. Submissions sent via email or social media will not be accepted unless prior accessibility accommodations have been agreed via email with the coordinator.

4. Digital Manipulation & Image Guidelines

4.1 Photos must faithfully depict the natural environment and wildlife.

4.2 Minimal digital enhancement is allowed. This includes minor adjustments to tone, contrast, exposure, cropping, sharpness, noise reduction, and colour balance/saturation.

4.3 Digital manipulation that alters the truth of the image is not permitted. This includes adding, removing, or relocating objects, animals, or structural elements within the photo, as well as composite images (HDR stitching excepted where natural) or AI-generated elements/filters.

4.4 High-resolution original files may be requested for shortlisted entries.

4.5 There is no minimum requirement of photo quality and can be taken on any device.

5. Ethics & Safeguarding

5.1 Photos must be taken responsibly without disturbing wildlife or damaging fragile riverbed and bankside vegetation. Photos deemed to have involved baiting, nest disturbance, or ecological harm will be disqualified.

5.2 Images should not contain any identifiable people.

5.3 Entrants must respect private land boundaries and obey public rights-of-way laws when taking photographs.

6. Judging Criteria & Winner Selection

6.1 A designated project coordinator will review all submissions for technical eligibility, rule compliance, and high-resolution quality to produce a shortlist of 10–15 images.

6.2 Shortlisted photos will be judged anonymously (without participant names attached) by a panel of SERT staff members and members of Natural Basingstoke.

6.3 Images will be evaluated on creativity, composition, relevance to the chalk stream theme, and overall visual impact.

6.4 Winners will be selected and notified via email by Friday 2nd October 2026. If a winner does not respond within 7 days of notification, SERT reserves the right to select an alternative winner from the shortlist.

7. Prizes

7.1 The total prize pool and breakdown are as follows:

- 1st Place: Voucher(s) to value of £50 (details TBC)
- 2nd Place: Voucher(s) to value of £30 (details TBC)
- 3rd Place: Voucher(s) to value of £20 (details TBC)

7.2 Prizes are non-transferable and no cash alternative will be offered.

8. Copyright, Privacy & Image Permissions

8.1 Entrants retain full copyright ownership of their submitted photographs.

8.2 By submitting an entry, the participant grants SERT and Natural Basingstoke a non-exclusive, royalty-free, worldwide, perpetual licence to reproduce, display, and publish the photograph in relation to their charitable work. This includes, but is not limited to: print materials (leaflets, newsletters), digital media (website, social media platforms), educational displays, and future campaign promotions.

8.3 Where reasonably practicable, SERT/Natural Basingstoke will endeavour to credit the photographer whenever the image is published. However, this is not guaranteed.

8.4 Personal data collected via the submission form (such as name, email address, and location data) will be processed in accordance with SERT's Privacy Policy and used solely for managing this competition, contacting winners, and cataloguing river monitoring locations.

9. Competition Contact & Queries

9.1 The competition is managed by the SERT Working with Communities Team.

9.2 For any queries regarding submissions, terms, or judging, please contact:

- Named Lead: Oli Rogers
- Email: oli.rogers@southeastriverstrust.org