Dear Robin,

We wish to express our support for the City & Guilds Level 2 Technical Certificate in Land & Wildlife as an employer within the fisheries management and conservation industries. We are a local environmental charity established in 1997 to protect and restore the rivers, streams and watercourses within the Ribble catchment and to raise public awareness of the value of our local rivers and streams. The Ribble catchment is the area of land that is drained by the River Ribble and its major tributaries; the Hodder, Calder and Darwen. It covers a varied landscape, from the rural hills of the Yorkshire Dales and the source of the River Ribble, to major urban areas of Lancashire including Blackburn, Burnley and Preston. Our work is focused on improving our rivers and associated habitats. We work with farmers and landowners, other organisations with similar aims and engage and educate local communities and the wider public to ensure the long-term success of our projects, as well as promoting the importance of our environment and natural resources.

We support the City & Guilds Level 2 Technical Certificate in Land & Wildlife, which includes both fisheries and conservation pathways. We believe it is suitable for someone aged 16 years or over and would be viewed by employers as providing a good foundation for someone progressing into the land and wildlife management sector.

The skills and knowledge in the qualifications include:

- Health and safety and safe working practices
- Working in the land and wildlife industry
- Fish health and biology
- Game and coarse angling
- Assist with freshwater sport fishery management
- Estate skills
- Freshwater and wetland management
- Work experience (150 hours)
We believe that these would give a young person an advantage when seeking employment for a job as a:

- assistant fisheries worker
- assistant river keeper
- assistant maintenance operative
- project assistant for river improvements projects
- survey assistant for river surveys

In addition, to those skills and knowledge specifically associated with the fisheries industry, the qualification would also be suitable for someone to progress to further learning and training, or to an apprenticeship.

We confirm that we consent to our company name (and logo) being made publicly available on the City & Guilds website. Please contact me for a version of the logo for use in this way.

Yours sincerely,

Harvey Hamilton-Thorpe
Programme Manager