Invitation training Marnewaard
3 and 4 November 2026

Interreg Co-funded by the European Union
North-West Europe
Bonsai

Dear,

In recent years, we can regularly be found in the Marnewaard (military site near Zoutkamp) to train emergency measures there. For example, last April of which we made the accompanying video: 001. BONSAI Marnewaard April 2026.mov. And an evaluation report has been drawn up: Evaluation crisis exercise Marnewaard. An exercise with mobile barriers, collars and sandbags (but coffins). With English summary | STOWA.

In this email you will receive more information about the program of November 3 and 4, the location, times and what to bring. And of course how you can sign up, because 50 colleagues a day are welcome.

Purpose:
Giving and receiving instructions to participants for the application of emergency measures such as closing a sand boil under water, building mobile flood defences with wooden pallets and sandbags. Training learning to work safely in water (on a rope), tracking a beaver hole under water and closing it.
Giving and receiving instruction is important because in a time of crisis there is no time for discussion and consultation.

Global program at basin and well:
We will work parallel to each other, in a kind of carousel:

1. Installing mobile barriers in a dry basin: 1) with wooden pallets and 2) with sandbags where we provide sandbag science training. After building, we will test them with water.
2. At the flooded engineering training pit (genieput), Eurosafe will give a short training session on working safely on a rope line, in and near the water. In the water, we will 1) build a sandbag ring around a sand boil, and 2) locate and seal (simulated) underwater beaver burrows.

So there are four activities where you can train 2 or 3 of them. After registration you will receive more information.

Date and times:
We will run the same program on November 3 and 4, 2026. So you can choose on which day you participate. Times:

- 8:00 am present at the barracks
- 15:00 we close the last training and clean up together. Departure from the site expected around 16:00.

Please note: it is a military site and arriving later or leaving earlier is not possible because we have to be accompanied.
This is training 3. In 2027 and in 2028 we will also train in the Marnewaard.

Location:
Willem Lodewijk van Nassau Barracks, Strandweg 21 Zoutkamp, Netherlands.

What to bring:
We assume that almost everyone actively participates and wants to get their hands dirty. This means that you have to bring your own:

- Warm clothing (layers), equipped for the weather.
- Clothes that can get dirty, a rain suit (pants and jacket) is a good idea.
- High boots, possibly groin boots if you have them.
- Work gloves (winter). If possible, long gloves that also cover the forearm. Write your name on it.
- Spare clothes and shoes in case you get wet. Towel.
- A wader or dry suit because we are going into the water.
- Proof of identity.
- If you can take an all-terrain vehicle with you, it will help us move around the Defence site, please fill it in on the registration form.

Furthermore:

- The Ministry of Defence will provide lunch, coffee/tea and a dixie in the field.
- We will create an app group for the participants to share the latest info and photos.
- We carry out the training with sponsorship from the European Union in the Interreg project Bonsai. More info can be found at: BONSAI: Boosting flOod resilieNce in estuarine Systems Anticipating shifting clImate zones) | STOWA. The official language at Marnewaard is Dutch but we will translate in English for international guests.
- The purpose of this training is, among other things, to give and receive instruction. So during that instruction there is little room for discussion, but there is after the training.
- Two evaluators watch and write along. After the exercise, an evaluation report is delivered (in Dutch and English) and distributed via Stowa/Bonsai.

Registration:
Aanmelding kan via:
https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=8MRFyDH0R0iIMReI4rEpQSroxgsTOD1PqtBywcRxxhdUME9UOFQ1SkhINlRMSjJMUkQ2VzZVUDBIWC4u
After registration, the confirmation and additional information will of course follow. If there are too many registrations, we reserve the right to make choices in this. After registration, an email from the Ministry of Defence will follow about access to the site.

Questions?
Mail Marian.Booltink@HDSR.nl. Or one of the working group members: Wouter Maat, Anco vd Heuvel, Lennaert Zonneveld, Cock Vermeulen, Luuk Vergelden, Wijnand Evers, Frank Jansen, Alexander van Gaans, Roy van Herpen or Marian Booltink.

