The Freshwater Ecology Group (FreE) is part of the Centre for Functional Ecology - Science for People & the Planet" (CFE-UC). Prof. Cristina Canhoto is the head of the Freshwater Ecology Lab that includes several master and PhD students and investigators. The scientific activities of the group are centred on the impacts of anthropogenic stressors (e.g. afforestation with exotics, global warming, salinization) on stream biota and stream processes. Linking the causes of functional impairment to stream services degradation will help us to find solutions for the protection and recovery of these vital ecosystems.

The group is also committed to develop activities linked with citizen science and science communication in the scope of stream ecology. Prof. Cristina Canhoto and the researcher Ana Lúcia Gonçalves are two of the investigators enrolled in the LivingRiver project activities.

