



 @IUCNpeat
#UKPeatConf18

Peatland Programme

Peatland Connections: Building Prosperity

2nd October – 4th October 2018
The Shore. Loch Lomond, Balloch



Red deer (C) Pete Quinn

www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org



Useful contacts

Conference venue

The Shore
Loch Lomond Shores
Ben Lomond Way
Balloch
G83 8QL
T: 01389 488884

National Park Headquarters

Loch Lomond & The Trossachs
National Park Authority
Carrochan
Carrochan Road
Balloch
G83 8EG
T: 01389 722600

Balloch Train Station

Alexandria
G83 8SN

Local Taxis

Wrights taxis
T: 01389 721020

Dumbarton and Alexandria TOA
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Wifi network: Shore Guest

Password: Sh0r3L0m0nd# (note numbers as '0')

Complimentary wireless internet access is provided throughout the venue. Please note this is a public wifi network and shared throughout the building. Connectivity will vary dependent on the number of people accessing it.

Please note that photographs and footage will be taken throughout the conference. These will be used by the IUCN UKPP for marketing and publicity in our publications, on our website and in social media or in any third party publication. Please contact info@iucn.org.uk if you have any concerns or if you wish to be exempt from this activity.

Please feel free to share highlights, pictures and thoughts about the conference on social media using the conference #:

 @IUCNpeat #UKPeatConf18

Photo highlights from the previous day will be credited and shown during the welcome session the following day.



Fire Procedures

Please note there are no planned fire alarm tests during the conference. If the fire alarm sounds at any time, please make your way to any of the six fire exits located within the building. Please do not use the lift during a fire alarm.

The designated meeting point is: Drop Off area at Loch Lomond Shores car park located outside 'The TreeZone'

Arrangements for specified dietary requirements

If you have stated dietary requirements your name badge will have a sticker to indicate as such. Please make sure you make yourself known to catering staff at meal times to ensure you receive the correct food.

Smoking is permitted at the designated smoking area located at the side of The Shore building but not at the main entrance or the terrace of the venue.



The 8th IUCN UK Peatland Programme conference, 'Peatland Connections: Building Prosperity', aims to inspire delegates to think about, in the context of peatland management:

- What constitutes as a public benefit?
- How do we account for public benefits and/or reward those who provide them?
- How does provision of public benefit impact land management decision-making?

With public benefit in mind, over the two and half days (2nd – 4th October) we will be exploring innovative solutions to commonly faced issues around sustainable land management that delivers for people and the environment. We will also be investigating how healthy peatlands can support prosperous businesses and communities, whilst also receiving an update on the scientific findings of the Commission of Inquiry Update.

Acknowledgements

The UK is a global leader in peatland restoration. This is only made possible by the enthusiasm and dedication of hundreds of individuals, whether paid staff or volunteers; NGO, Government, academic, business or private land manager. We would like to commend the whole peatland community and particularly the partnerships that drive this work, restoring and protecting peatlands for future generations.

The 2018 IUCN UK Peatland Programme conference is brought to you in partnership with Scottish Natural Heritage and Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park



And is kindly sponsored by:



We would also like to thank the following teams who have greatly assisted in helping with the organisation of the conference:



and the Scottish Whisky Association & Beam Suntory

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is a global organisation, providing an influential and authoritative voice for nature conservation. The IUCN UK Peatland Programme promotes peatland restoration in the UK and advocates the multiple benefits of peatlands through partnerships, strong science, sound policy and effective practice.

The work of the Peatland Programme is overseen by a coalition of environmental bodies including John Muir Trust, Moors for the Future Partnership, Natural England, North Pennines AONB Partnership, RSPB, Scottish Wildlife Trust, University of East London and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. The Programme is currently hosted by the Scottish and Yorkshire Wildlife Trusts.

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Peatland Connections: Building Prosperity: Forewords



Jonathan Hughes

Co-Chair of the IUCN UK Peatland Programme and Chief Executive of Scottish Wildlife Trust

I am delighted that our UK-wide series of conferences is back in Scotland again and am grateful to our partners Scottish Natural Heritage and the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority for their support in organising this event.

At a time of major policy review in the light of Brexit, our peatlands and the challenges they face need to be brought to the fore. We have an opportunity to ensure the often-ignored costs and consequences of decisions affecting peatlands are now fully accounted for. This conference explores the benefits that peatlands provide for us all and highlights the connections between our peatland environment, our economy and our well-being.

This has been an exciting year for the IUCN UK Peatland Programme with the publication of the UK Peatland Strategy that will be complimented by country strategies. We have a clear direction and focus across all the relevant sectors involved in peatlands and targets to mark progress against. It is now time to act and put the appropriate resources into achieving our goals. Ensuring that people understand the benefits of doing so is a vital aspect and our update to the Commission of Inquiry will showcase the science that underpins our work.

We are not alone in our peatland challenge and by sharing experiences we are helping in the global effort to protect and conserve peatlands. International conventions on climate change, biodiversity, and sustainable development all highlight the need to take urgent action. Looking back over the great progress made for peatlands in the UK and internationally is an inspiration for us all to make that bigger step forward.



Francesca Osowska

**Scottish Natural Heritage
Chief Executive**

I'm delighted to welcome the eighth IUCN UK Peatland Programme Conference to Scotland, where 1.8 million hectares of peatlands accounts for almost one fifth of our land cover. Estimates suggest at least 50% of this has been damaged. It is therefore both appropriate and encouraging that the Scottish Government has set ambitious targets in the Climate Change Plan to restore 50,000 hectares of degraded peatlands by 2020, and 250,000 hectares by 2030.

This ambition is reflected in UK Peatland Strategy published earlier this year and Scotland's National Peatland Plan which was published in 2015. Both of these documents were developed by broad partnerships of interested parties, demonstrating that we have moved on from the days of different sectors each having their own, often conflicting, objectives for our peatlands. But agreement on objectives does not of itself solve problems, and as I've just indicated, we still have problems to address.

One of the key elements of our National Peatland Plan is the recognition that degraded peatlands benefit no-one, whereas there are many benefits from their restoration. The Peatland ACTION project, which is administered by Scottish Natural Heritage, is leading the way in actively restoring Scotland's peatlands. Since 2012, almost 15,000 hectares of degraded peatlands have been set on their road to restoration, working closely with our partners and land managers. The project is planning to start restoration works across a further 8,000 hectares as we speak, hoping to get a good head start before the winter.

The theme of this conference is about building prosperity as peatlands are vitally important for people and for nature: much of our drinking water filters through peaty catchments; clean water is also the lifeblood of our important freshwater pearl mussel and Atlantic salmon rivers. Healthy peatlands also protect the ground from erosion and hold water for longer, slowing the flow of water into our rivers and streams; they are valuable wildlife habitats; they offer insight into our past and our future climate as archaeological and environmental archives; and crucially, store vast amounts of carbon, helping us to combat and be more resilient to climate change.

In short, peatland restoration is good for nature, good for people and a key tool in combatting climate change. I hope you learn more about peatlands and building prosperity which will help you spread the word through your networks. Enjoy the conference.



Gordon Watson

**Loch Lomond and The
Trossachs National Park
Authority Chief Executive**

On behalf of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority, I want to extend a warm welcome to delegates from all across the UK and beyond to what is one of Scotland's most precious natural assets and home to the nation's first national park. We are very proud to host this years' conference and our team is looking forward to meeting you all, giving you a taste of Scotland's famous culture and hospitality and showing off one of the UK's must see destinations.

The rich natural and cultural heritage of the Park attracts millions of people every year, who enjoy its stunning lochs, mountains, forests and diverse settlements. These landscapes bring not only inspiration and recreation for people, but a hugely important reservoir of natural capital which benefits us all.

Our work includes engaging communities in understanding how the sustainable management of our natural capital can improve the resilience of the places they live in. We also have a great opportunity to engage with our many visitors, and especially young people, to promote more awareness of how better management of our land can help us address some of the many challenges of climate change.

Restoring degraded peatland is a key organisational priority for us and within our new National Park Partnership Plan we have set ourselves an ambitious target of restoring 2,000 hectares over the next five years. Efforts are already well underway and we very much look forward to sharing these with you during the conference.

Please enjoy your time here, make the most of the conference and once again...

Fàilte air Pàirc Nàiseanta Loch Laomainn agus nan Trosaichean!

Programme of Events

Tuesday 2nd October 2018: Rural economy & peatlands

10.45am – 12.15pm **Hosted by Scottish Natural Heritage and Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park at Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Headquarters:**
 Year of Young People reception (for 18 - 26 year old delegates)
 An informal introductory session and chance to meet the Peatland Action team and National Park staff. Lunch will be provided.

The John Muir Suite, Carrochan, Carrochan Road, Balloch G83 8EG

11am – 1pm **Registration opens**

The Shore, Entrance Foyer

All sessions and events will take place at The Shore, Loch Lomond, Balloch, G83 8QL

1pm – 1.45pm **Welcome**
 A welcome from our hosts and introduction to public benefit provision in relation to sustainable peatland management, communities and economy.

Session 1 – All delegates

Chair: Jonathan Hughes (IUCN UK Peatland Programme)
Speakers: James Stuart (Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park)
 Francesca Osowska (CEO, Scottish Natural Heritage)
 Professor Dieter Helm CBE
 Sue White (Shetland Amenity Trust)

1.45pm – 2pm **COMFORT BREAK** 15 minutes

2pm – 3pm **A policy framework to support rural economy and deliver peatland benefits**
 This session will explore how we account for public benefits and reward their provision through either the public purse or private investment.

Session 2 – Plenary

Chair: Jonathan Hughes (IUCN UK Peatland Programme)
Speakers: Jo Pike (Scottish Wildlife Trust)
 Tom Lancaster (RSPB)
 Thomas Binns (NFU England, Uplands Forum Chair)

3pm – 3.30pm **BREAK** Refreshments will be served

Bar area

3.30pm – 4.25pm **The role of the food and drink in sustainable environments**
 This session will provide examples of how peatlands benefit business – with a focus on the food and drink sector - and how the objectives of food and drink provision can link with sustainable peatland management and reach the public.

Session 3 – Parallel (Room A)

Chair: Vicki Swales (Food Coalition Scotland)
Speakers: Fraser Leith (Scottish Water)
 Morag Garden (Scotch Whisky Association)
 Ceri Ritchie (Scotland's Rural College)
 Vicki Swales (Food Coalition Scotland)



3.30pm – 4.25pm

Evaluating public attitudes to peatlands

Why do we care that people care about peatlands? Updates on research carried out on public attitudes and opinions in relation to peatlands, and their perception of the public benefits that they provide, will be presented to spark discussion.

Chair: Ian Crosher (Natural England)

Speakers: Paula Novo (Scotland's Rural College)

Dylan Young (Tipping Points, University of Leeds)

Mike Pilkington (Moors for the Future Partnership)

Session 4 –

Parallel (Room B)

4.25pm – 4.40pm

COMFORT BREAK 15 minutes

4.40pm – 5.30pm

The importance of local community in a thriving and sustainable environment

Presentations will showcase how engaging volunteers and using public help efficiently can benefit bogs and people.

Chair: Sue White (Shetland Amenity Trust)

Speakers: Rebecca Crawford (Butterfly Conservation)

Maureen Potter (Friends of Langlands Moss)

Sue White (Shetland Amenity Trust)

Session 5 –

Parallel (Room A)

4.40pm – 5.30pm

Quantifying peatland benefits

This session will explore recent research work into the economic values placed on public benefits provided by peatlands and other habitats, and how these can be used to support their restoration and good management. It will also provide a window into what public benefits private investors place a value on, and why they are interested in paying for restoration and conservation.

Chair: Davy McCracken (Scotland's Rural College)

Speakers: Hazel Trenbith (Office for National Statistics)

Andrew Moxey (Pareto-consulting)

Anja Liski (University of Edinburgh)

Session 6 –

Parallel (Room B)

7pm – 11.30pm

Formal Conference dinner

The evening presents an opportunity to hear about the vital environmental and economic role peatland's play as part of our natural capital and provides a chance to learn about the surprising ways in which peatlands affect all our lives.

Pre-booked

ticketed event

Evening highlights will include:

- Welcome address from Gordon Watson
(Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park)
- Introduction from Mike Cantley (Scottish Natural Heritage)
- Premier of *The Carbon Farmer* - a new short film from The Top of The Tree productions in conjunction with the IUCN UK Peatland Programme
- Keynote Terry A'Hearn (Scottish Environment Protection Agency)
- Closing remarks from Jonny Hughes (IUCN UK PP) and a chance to network with conference delegates and business representatives working in the fields of natural capital and peatland restoration.

9.30pm – 11.30pm

Open invitation for delegates to join evening networking event



Wednesday 3rd October: Public Engagement

9am – 9.30am	Registration	The Shore
9.30am – 9.45am	Welcome Clifton Bain (Director, IUCN UK Peatland Programme) Pic of the Day photos from Day 1 shared via #UKPeatConf18, on display	Session 1 – All delegates
9.45am – 10am	COLLECT PACK LUNCHES	All delegates
10am	Delegates on full day site visits depart from The Shore car park. Full day site visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Ben Lomond led by National Trust Scotland■ Auchlyne & Suie led by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)■ Flanders Moss National Nature Reserve led by SNH and Forestry Commission	
10am – 11am	Making nature tourism work This session will include a series of short presentations from organisations at the forefront of visitor engagement on peatlands – focussing on the recreational, cultural and wellbeing benefits they provide. Chair: Simon Jones (Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park) Speakers: Simon Gray (Fermanagh Council) Caroline Eccles (Flows to the Future Project) Sarah Smith (National Trust)	Session 2 – Plenary
11am – 11.30am	BREAK Refreshments will be served	The bar
11.30am – 12.30pm	Phasing out peat: progress to date This session will provide updates on the progress made towards phasing out peat with examples from businesses and NGO's including their key public communication messages, successes so far and ambitions to continue to drive progress. Chair: Olly Watts (RSPB) Speakers: Catherine Dawson (Melcourt Industries Ltd) Neil Bragg (Bulrush) Julia Griffin (B&Q) Ben McCarthy (Plantlife)	Session 3 – Parallel(Room A)
11.30am – 12.30pm	Inspiring people in our natural environment using history Peatlands have many stories to tell – from archaeological Bronze Age discoveries to unveiling environmental records that reveal past climate change. This session will shed a light on some of the key moments in our peatlands history and consider how these stories can be used to engage with a different audience. Chair: Rory McDonald (Historic Environment Scotland) Speakers: Paul Hughes (University of Southampton) Ben Geary (University of Cork) David Harpley (Cumbria Wildlife Trust)	Session 4 – Parallel (Room B)



12.45pm

All remaining delegates to leave on chosen half-day site visit.

- RSPB Loch Lomond, (part of Loch Lomond National Nature Reserve)
- Flanders Moss National Nature Reserve - Lagg Fen
- Auchentoshan Whisky Distillery

All site visits due back by 5pm

Evening events open to all delegates with 3-day or Wednesday tickets.

6pm – 7.30pm

Poster Session

Main Hall

- Premier of the James Hutton Institute, the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh and the Scottish Rural College's *Experience how peatland restoration in Scotland contributes to climate change mitigation: A Virtual Reality Movie*.
- Mocktails inspired by Scotland's Natural Larder, provided by Scottish Natural Heritage.
- IUCN UK Peatland Programme conference 2018 beer

7.30pm – 8.30pm

BBQ Served

Terrace & Main Hall

8.30pm – 10pm

Ceilidh – Band 'The Reel Fling'

Bar Area & Main Hall

10pm – 1am

Drinks and Networking

Bar Area & Main Hall

Thursday 4th October: Conservation and Land Management

8.45am – 9.15am	Registration	The Shore
9.15am – 9.20am	Welcome Sarah Proctor (IUCN UK Peatland Programme) Pic of the Day photos from Day 2, shared via #UKPeatConf18, on display	Session 1 – All delegates
9.20am – 10.15am	The Global Peatlands Initiative, UK Peatland Strategy and Country Highlights Chair: Sarah Proctor (IUCN UK Peatland Programme) Speakers: Jonathan Hughes (IUCN UK Peatland Programme) Clifton Bain (IUCN UK Peatland Programme) Andrew Coupar (Scottish Natural Heritage) Peter Jones (Natural Resources Wales) Richard Weyl (Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs) David Hunter (Department environment, food and rural affairs)	Session 2 – All delegates
COMFORT BREAK 10 minutes		
10.25am – 11.15am	Provision of public benefits from sustainable land management Land managers from different sectors will come together in this session to provide their perspective on the public benefits that well managed peatlands can provide and how their work contributes to the provision of these. Speakers will reflect on where the win-win opportunities lie to meet land management goals as well as peatland benefits - and what Chair: Stuart Brooks Speakers: Anne Gray (Heather Trust) Simon Jones (Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority) David Smith (South West Water)	Session 3 – Plenary
11.15am – 11.45am	BREAK Refreshments will be served	The bar
11.45am – 12.45pm	The Practicalities: Setting up a large-scale restoration programme Peatland Action and others will share their experiences of setting up large-scale restoration programmes, with a look at both the successes, but also challenges along the way and how these have been resolved. Andrew McBride & Emily Taylor (Scottish Natural Heritage)	Session 4 – Parallel (Room A)
11.45am – 12.45pm	State of UK peatlands and monitoring Our ability to report on progress in delivering peatland objectives is vital not only to allow assessment and reporting against national and international targets such as climate change, and biodiversity but also to demonstrate that our investment in peatlands is providing quantifiable benefits. The working group behind the Commission of Inquiry Update reports on the State of UK Peatlands and Biodiversity will share their findings in this session. There will also be updates on monitoring progress from JNCC and insight into a new IUCN UK PP initiative 'Eyes on the Bog' aimed at providing long term monitoring of peatland sites. Chair: Iain Diack (Natural England) Speakers: Paul Robinson (Joint Nature Conservation Committee) Peter Jones (Natural Resources Wales) Richard Lindsay (University of East London)	Session 5 – Parallel (Room B)



12.45pm – 1.45pm	BUFFET LUNCH	The bar
1.45pm – 2.30pm	Peatland restoration – tools for the future A broad pool of resources, skills and expertise will be required to enable the UK to continue to deliver the extensive peatland restoration needed in future. This session provides an opportunity for the peatland community to discuss what materials and training support is needed by existing and new practitioners to achieve best-practice peatland conservation now and in the future. Chair: Rob Stoneman (IUCN UK Peatland Programme) Speakers: Tim Thom (Yorkshire Peat Partnership) Richard Lindsay (University of East London)	Session 6 – Parallel (Room A)
1.45pm – 2.30am	Managing at a catchment-scale Led by the working group behind the Commission of Inquiry Update report on Peatland Catchments, this session will reveal the findings of the report, as well as look at what other research projects are doing. Chair: Sarah Proctor (IUCN UK Peatland Programme) Speakers: Tim Allott (University of Manchester)	Session 7 – Parallel (Room B)
2.35pm – 3.30pm	Innovation in peatland restoration As a common funding requirement and necessary way to address new challenges this session will focus on sharing innovation to support conservation. Peatland Action will share with the audience some of the innovative solutions they have come up with to address challenging restoration scenarios in Scotland. The speakers will cover upland and lowland habitats as well as including techniques from the forestry and renewables sector. Stephen Corcoran and Ewan Campbell (Scottish Natural Heritage)	Session 8 – Parallel (Room A)
2.35pm – 3.30pm	Planning for the future: land management and climate change This session will look at climate change as one of the major drivers for peatland conservation and restoration. There will be an update on the science around peatlands and carbon, and their role in relation to climate change. Speakers will also explore the response needed to a changing climate looking at how we can adapt lowland agriculture as well as the latest policy thinking around climate change adaptation and how this relates to peatlands generally. Chair: Clifton Bain (IUCN UK Peatland Programme) Speakers: Chris Evans (Centre for Ecology and Hydrology) Deborah Land (Natural England)	Session 9 - Parallel (Room B)
3.30pm – 3.40pm	Closing remarks A quick look back at what has been discussed over the last 3 days and setting out the next steps to ensuring peatlands are well embedded in future UK policy decision making.	

Thank you and safe journey home.



Peatland Programme

In partnership with



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