



The Wet Woodlands Research Network: Strengthening the evidence base for wet woodlands

Dr Alice Milner (Royal Holloway University of London) + the WWRN members





Wet Woodlands Research is a network of scientists and stakeholders interested in wet woodland and their potential contribution for nature-based solutions for climate change. The aim of the network is to improve understanding of these unique ecosystems for policy and practice.



Dr Alice Milner

Senior Lecturer at
Royal Holloway
University of London,
with expertise in
peatland
environmental
change.



Prof Andy Baird

Chair of Wetland
Science at University
of Leeds, with
expertise in
peatland hydrology,
carbon balance
processes and
modelling.



Dr Emily Lines

Lecturer at University
of Cambridge, UKRI
Future Leaders
Fellow and Turing
Fellow, expert in
forest ecology.



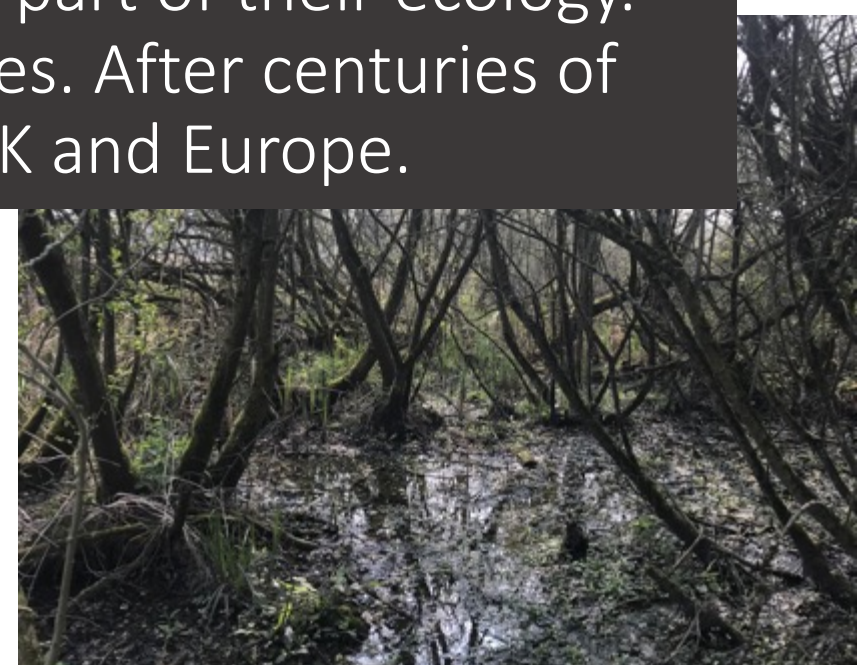
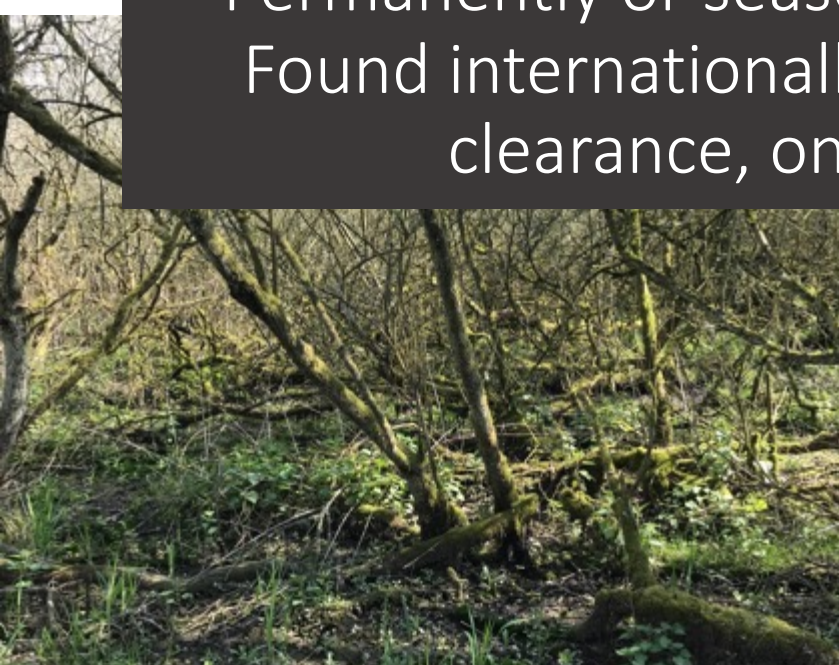
**Dr Scott J.
Davidson**

Lecturer at University
of Plymouth, with
expertise in wetland
resilience to climate
change and
disturbance.



Once widespread, now a rare woodland habitat

Permanently or seasonally wet locations. Trees as part of their ecology.
Found internationally from boreal to tropical zones. After centuries of clearance, only fragments remain in the UK and Europe.





C dynamics of wet woodlands are understudied

Limited data on litter production above- and belowground, C storage and drawdown rates, GHG emissions, controls on C dynamics... Represents major knowledge gap.



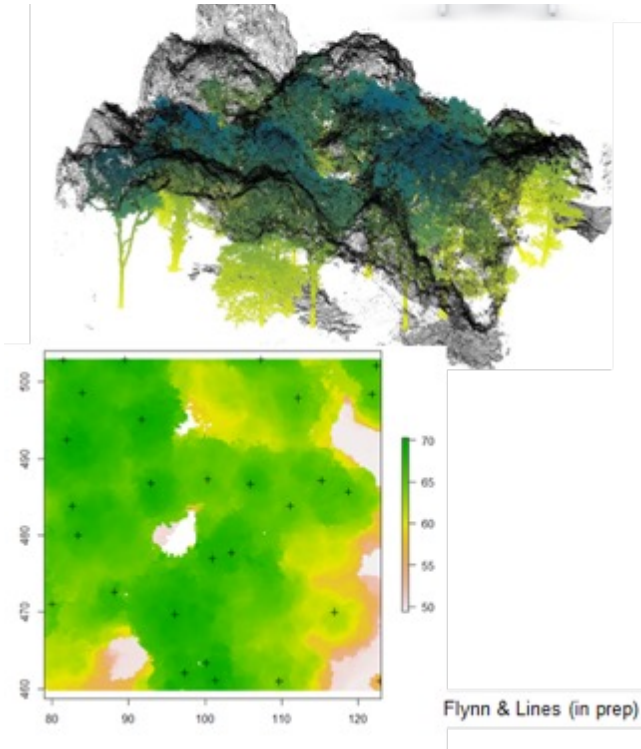
New research on wet woodland C sequestration

Estimate how much C stored above- and below-ground; and rates of above- and below-ground litter production in floodplain wet woodlands

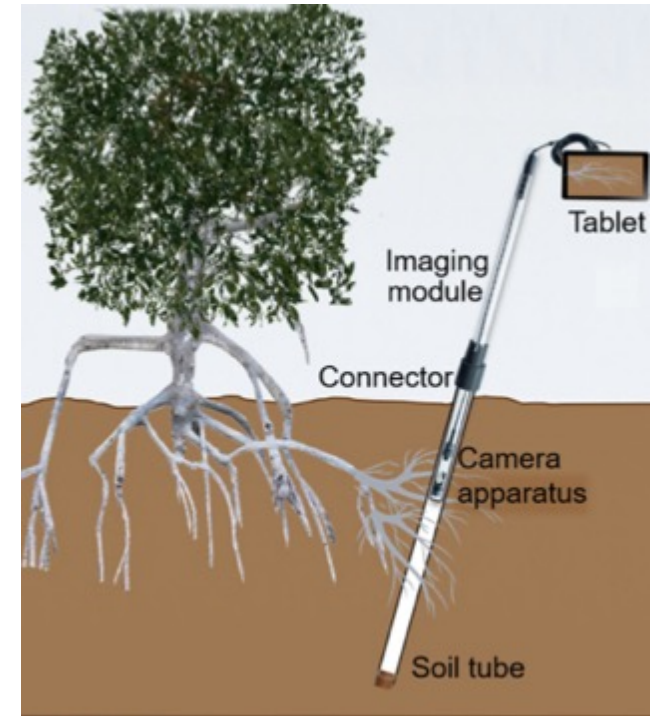
Monitoring change in biomass and biodiversity using forest inventory methods



Characterising structure and carbon content of the wet woodland using satellite imagery and drone data



Quantifying below-ground productivity using mini-rhizotrons to track root growth; peat cores to estimate C stock





Wet woodland monitoring in Broadland

Broadland Ecohydrological Observatory: long-term meteorological and hydrological monitoring of wet woodland ecohydrological behaviour, including response to (tidal) flooding.

Building a network of wet woodland monitoring

New project in Devon monitoring C dynamics of wet woodland site. Data comparability between sites. Long-term aim of network is to generate data from range of wet woodland types.





Wet Woodland Research Network: How to get involved

Submit evidence priorities; share knowledge & resources; contribute data; apply for joint funding/studentships; join as an expert; access experts

