

New Forest Biodiversity Forum

New Forest Biodiversity Conference **06-07 Feb 2024 @ Careys Manor Hotel, Brockenhurst**

Tuesday 06 Feb

0900-0930: Arrival and refreshments

0930: Welcome from the Chair and Sponsors (Russell Wynn and Hans Bishop / Kate James)

0935: Introduction to the New Forest Biodiversity Forum (Russell Wynn)

1000-1030: Keynote

- Impacts of environmental change on biodiversity in the New Forest
Prof Adrian Newton (Bournemouth University)

1030-1100: Habitats session 1 (2 x 15 min talks)

- Habitat restoration and management in the New Forest
Leanne Sargeant (Forestry England)
- New Forest: Important Freshwater Landscape
Naomi Ewald (Freshwater Habitats Trust)

1100-1115: Panel Q&A

1115-1145: Refreshments

1145-1245: Habitats session 2 (3 x 15 min talks and 3 x 5 min *flash talks)

- Green and Blue Horizons GRCF project
Paul Walton (New Forest National Park Authority)
- Habitat management at RSPB Franchises Lodge
Saul Alonso (RSPB)
- Prescribed burning vs wildfire in heathland management
Claire Belcher (University of Exeter)
- *PhD on large herbivore grazing
Alexandros Theodorou (University of Reading)
- *Hurst Spit to Lymington Strategy: Adapting to the challenge of sea level rise
Marianne Piggin (Environment Agency)

New Forest Biodiversity Forum

- *Solent Seascape Project
Louise MacCallum (Blue Marine Foundation)

1245-1300: Panel Q&A

1300-1400: Lunch

1400-1410: Identifying key evidence gaps relating to New Forest biodiversity (Russell Wynn)

1410-1510: Breakout groups to identify and discuss key evidence gaps (with plenary summary)

1510-1530: Refreshments

1530-1615: Habitats session 3 (3 x 15 min talks)

- Monitoring water quality in the New Forest
Shirley Medgett (Environment Agency)
- Reducing Combined Sewer Overflows
Nick Mills (Southern Water)
- New Forest Wilder for Water project
Gemma Stride (Freshwater Habitats Trust)

1615-1630: Panel Q&A

1630-1700: Habitats session 4 (2 x 15 min talks)

- Communicating about forest management to public and policymakers
Tony Hockley (Policy Analysis Centre and London School of Economics)
- Commoning in the New Forest: challenges and opportunities
Andrew Parry-Norton (Commoners Defence Association)

1700-1715: Panel Q&A

1715-1830: Networking reception with drinks and nibbles

New Forest Biodiversity Forum

Wednesday 07 Feb

0900-0930: Arrival and refreshments

0930-0935: Welcome from the Chair (Russell Wynn)

0935-1005: Keynote

- New Forest - a cornucopia of species
Clive Chatters (author, naturalist, and conservationist)

1005-1100: Species session 1 (3 x 15 min talks and 2 x 5 min *flash talks)

- Biodiversity recording in Hampshire and the New Forest
Nicky Court (Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre)
- New Forest lichen surveys
Neil Sanderson (Ecological Consultant)
- New Forest freshwater fish surveys
Dominic Longley (Environment Agency)
- *Freshwater Species Monitoring
Naomi Ewald (Freshwater Habitats Trust)
- *Fauna and fungi response to heathland restoration
Russell Wynn (Wild New Forest)

1100-1115: Panel Q&A

1115-1145: Refreshments

1145-1245: Species session 2 (3 x 15 min talks and 3 x 5 min *flash talks)

- New Forest bird surveys
Keith Betton and Marcus Ward (Hampshire Ornithological Society)
- New Forest raptor monitoring
Andy Page (Forestry England)
- New Forest Curlews: the impact of predation on breeding success
Elli Rivers (Bournemouth University) and Mike Short (GWCT)
- *2023 New Forest Nightjar survey
Carmen Perry (Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust)

New Forest Biodiversity Forum

- *New Forest woodland bird resurvey
Russell Wynn (Wild New Forest)
- *Snakes in the Heather project update
Ben Limburn (Amphibian and Reptile Conservation)

1245-1300: Panel Q&A

1300-1400: Lunch

1400-1455: Discussion on future species monitoring with breakout groups

1455-1515: Refreshments

1515-1615: Species session 3 (3 x 15 min talks and 3 x 5 min *flash talks)

- New Forest Non-Native Plants Project
Catherine Chatters (Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust)
- *Green Forest Hoverfly survey - results and future plans
Andy Murdock (Maploom and University of Southampton)
- *Recent bat surveys at RSPB Franchises Lodge
Chris Dieck (RSPB)
- *Endangered species conservation in the New Forest
Dominic Price (Species Recovery Trust)
- New Forest deer monitoring
Andy Page (Forestry England)
- New Forest Pine Marten project
Marcus Ward (Wild New Forest Guided Tours)

1615-1630: Panel Q&A

1630-1645: Concluding remarks from Chair, Sponsors, and Keynote Speakers

1645: Meeting close

New Forest Biodiversity Forum

New Forest Biodiversity Forum Steering Group

Chair

Prof Russell Wynn
Director, Wild New Forest

Steering Group

Ian Barker
Ecologist, New Forest National Park Authority

Clive Chatters
Author, Naturalist, and Nature Conservationist

Tracé Cooper-Williams
Senior Nature Recovery Manager, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT)

Nicky Court
Manager, Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC)

Pete Durnell
Team Manager, Hampshire County Council Countryside Service (HCC)

Dr Tony Hockley
Director, Policy Analysis Centre, and former Chair of New Forest Commoners Defence Association

Julie Stubbs
Head of Land Use, Butterfly Conservation

Prof Adrian Newton
Director of Conservation Ecology, Bournemouth University

Leanne Sargeant
Senior Ecologist, Forestry England

Gemma Stride
Senior Project Manager, Freshwater Habitats Trust

Jenny Thomas
New Forest Nature Recovery Senior Adviser, Natural England

Nick Tomalin
New Forest Conservation Officer, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

Marcus Ward
Scientific Committee, Hampshire Ornithological Society (HOS) and Director, Wild New Forest Guided Tours