

New Forest Biodiversity Forum

Welcome to the 2024 New Forest Biodiversity Conference

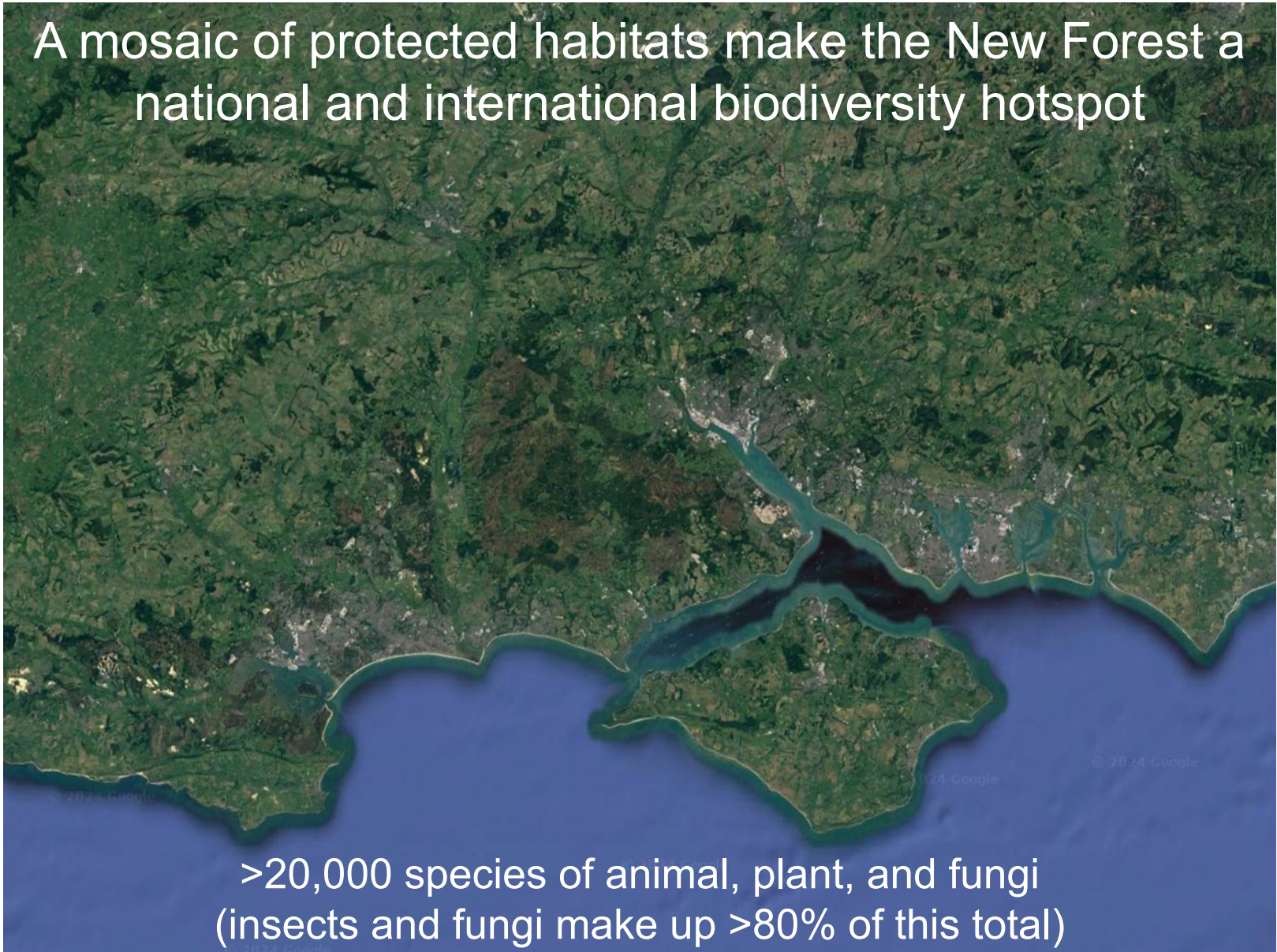


New Forest Biodiversity Forum



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A mosaic of protected habitats make the New Forest a national and international biodiversity hotspot



>20,000 species of animal, plant, and fungi
(insects and fungi make up >80% of this total)

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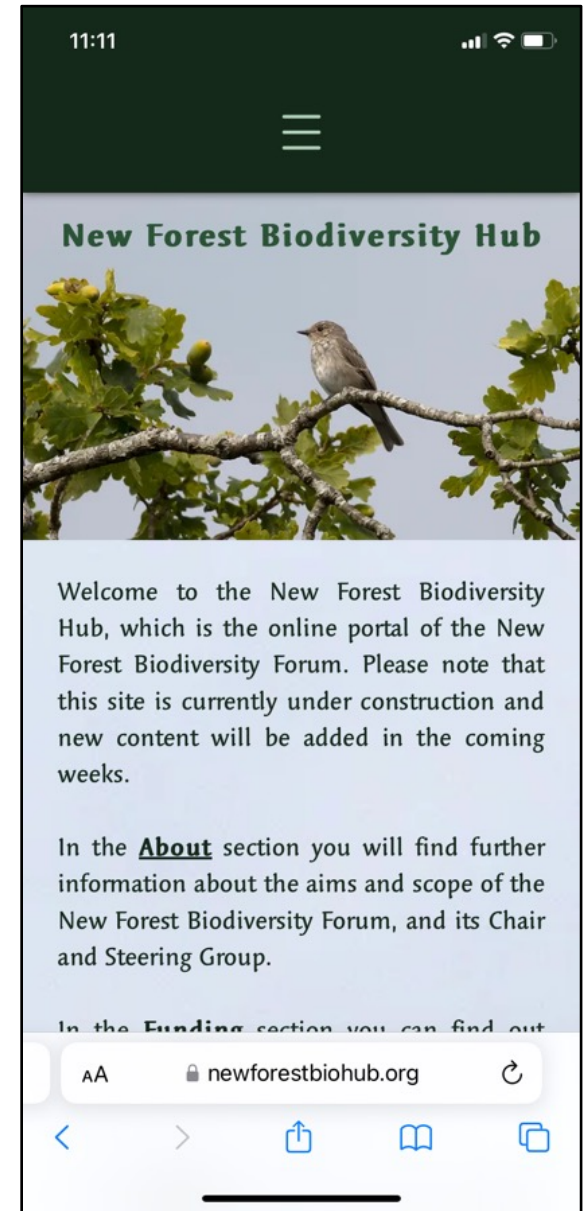
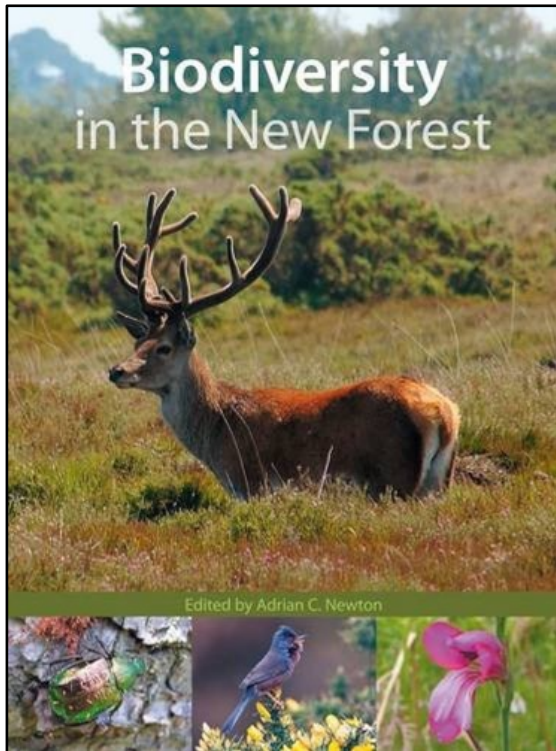
Why do we need a New Forest Biodiversity Forum?

- New Forest is biologically and administratively complex!
- Some species groups are data-poor and/or reliant upon a small number of expert recorders
- Recorders now faced with bewildering array of recording schemes and apps
- Survey and monitoring is not usually co-located in space and time
- Site managers often don't have access to the 'right' data
- Risk of missed opportunities, overlap, and decisions based upon 'who shouts loudest'
- New strategies including Re:New Nature and Local Nature Recovery Strategy
- Site managers increasingly need biodiversity data to inform new funding, e.g. ELM

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New Forest Biodiversity Forum - Actions

- New Forest Biodiversity Conference (Q1 annual)
- New Forest Biodiversity Hub (www.newforestbiohub.org)
- New Forest Biodiversity Research Programme



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New Forest Raptor Monitoring Programme



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New Forest Biodiversity Forum - Small Grant Scheme

- Grants up to £5k with a total pot of ~£30k pa (open now, details on website)
- First grants have been awarded to HFRG and NFRG to commence activity in Q1 2024



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New Forest Biodiversity Forum - Strategic Research and Monitoring Programme

- Larger grants with total pot of £165k in 2024-26 (e.g. suitable for PhD co-funding)
- Chair also has ~20 days pa to undertake and support policy-relevant fieldwork
- Bournemouth University PhD with Southern Water co-funding
- In-kind support (including staff time) for Defra Species Survival Fund bid



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Leveraging, longevity, community

Sponsors



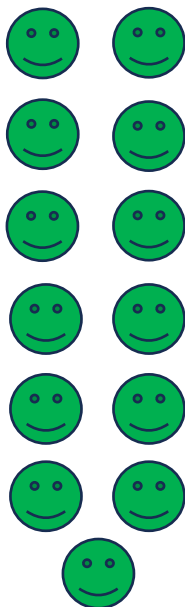
Chair



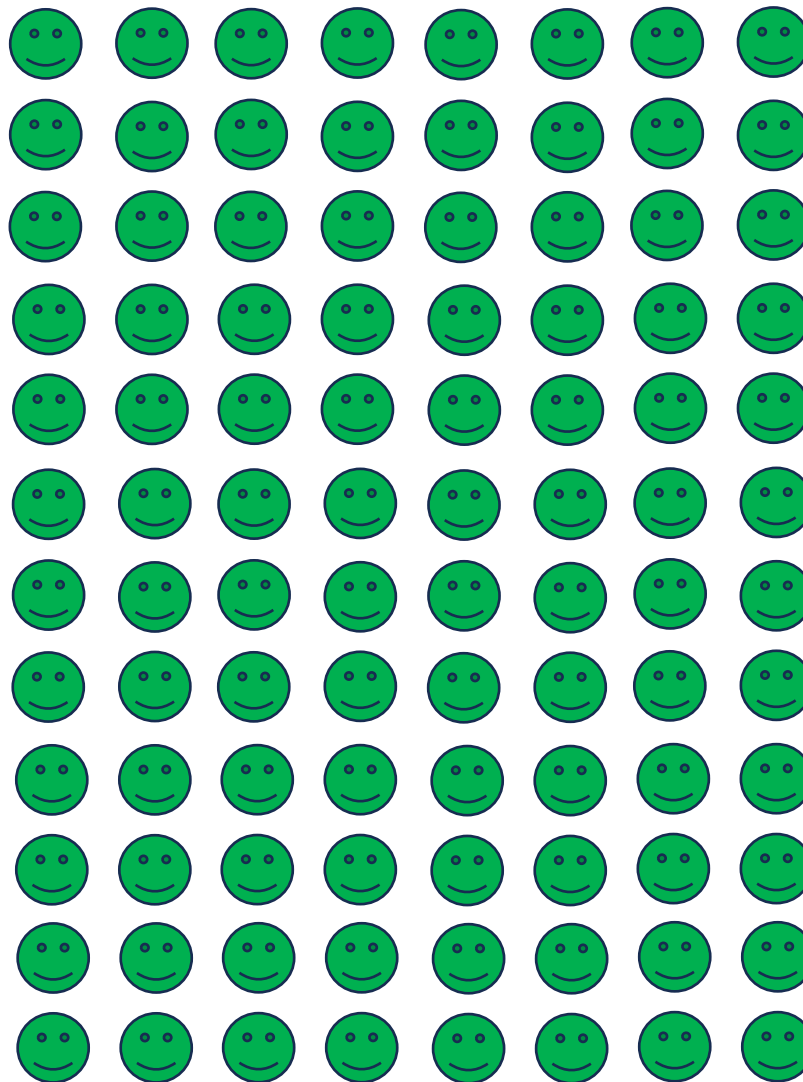
Partners



Support
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Community

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Thanks to...

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Steering Group

Conference Support Team

Steve Laycock

Speakers

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New Forest Biodiversity Forum - 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*