

'SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION' CONFERENCE - DAY 1







CROESO - WELCOME

Joseph Roberts,
Lead Specialist Advisor: Outdoor Access and Recreation
Natural Resources Wales







CONFERENCE RECORDINGS & RESOURCES

This conference has been recorded and post event resources will be made available. Stay tuned for our post conference e-zine.







Scan here to view the ORN Action Plan 2022-25

Theme 3: Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Related Tourism and Visitor Management

- Environmental Sustainability
- Social Sustainability
- Cultural Sustainability
- Economic Sustainability



AGENDA - Day 1 (AM)

10:00-10:20: Welcome

10:20-10:40: What does 'good sustainability' for outdoor recreation look like? Presentation by Julian Gray, Director, South West Coast Path Association

10:40-11:00: Strategic approached to delivering sustainable tourism Presentation by Jeanette Uttley, Head of Business Support Transformation, VisitEngland/VisitBritian

11:00-11:20: The approach to embed sustainability into Snowdonia National Park Presentation by Helen Pye, Head of Engagement, Snowdonia National Park

11:20-12:00: Panel Discussion

Keynote Speakers





Scan here to submit a question virtually

ASK A VIRTUAL QUESTION TO ONE OF OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



AGENDA - Day 1 (PM)

12:00-13:00: Lunch

13:00-17:00: Site Visits

17:30-18:45: (Optional) Afternoon Activities – Limited places available on each activity

- Famous faces of PYB Behind the scenes tour
- Open Water Swimming
- Pre Dinner Walk Coed Brun-Engan

19:00: Conference Dinner (Drinks Reception)

Pre booking essential – Drink voucher

19:30-Late: Conference Dinner (Drinks Reception)

Pre booking essential





Scan here to download the Jamboard APP

SPEED PROJECT/IDEA SWAPPING DURING THE CONFERENCE





WELCOME TO PLAS Y BRENIN

Paul Kennedy, Trustee, Plas y Brenin







A UNIQUE LOCATION IN THE HEART OF ERYRI Plas y Brenin is **the home** of true adventure







MORE PEOPLE ACTIVE OUTDOORS AND CONFIDENTLY EXPERIENCING INDEPENDENT ADVENTURES

THE OUTDOOR SECTOR





Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport



Department of Health & Social Care



Department for Business Innovation & Skills



Department for Education



Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

OUR STORY

We're a National Outdoor Centre. We're 65 years old. We're here for all those who wish to learn about, train for and experience the outdoors and adventure sports at all levels and do it in a way that meets their needs.

Our key focus is climbing, hiking, padding and biking.

Our groups include schools, outdoor workers, businesses, youth groups and university students.

And we also run private programmes for a whole range of individuals and groups.

We run public courses designed either for formal qualifications or for anyone looking to develop their skills – from whatever start point.

We also run a four-month FastTrack programme and regular adventure days.

On site there is a bar, shop, climbing wall, accommodation and conference/meeting facilities.

And we also run a range of offsite programmes so people can experience PyB even when they are not on site.

WHAT DOES 'GOOD SUSTAINABILITY' FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION LOOK LIKE?

Julian Gray,

Director, South West Coast Path Association







"meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."



2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



13 CLIMATE ACTION

















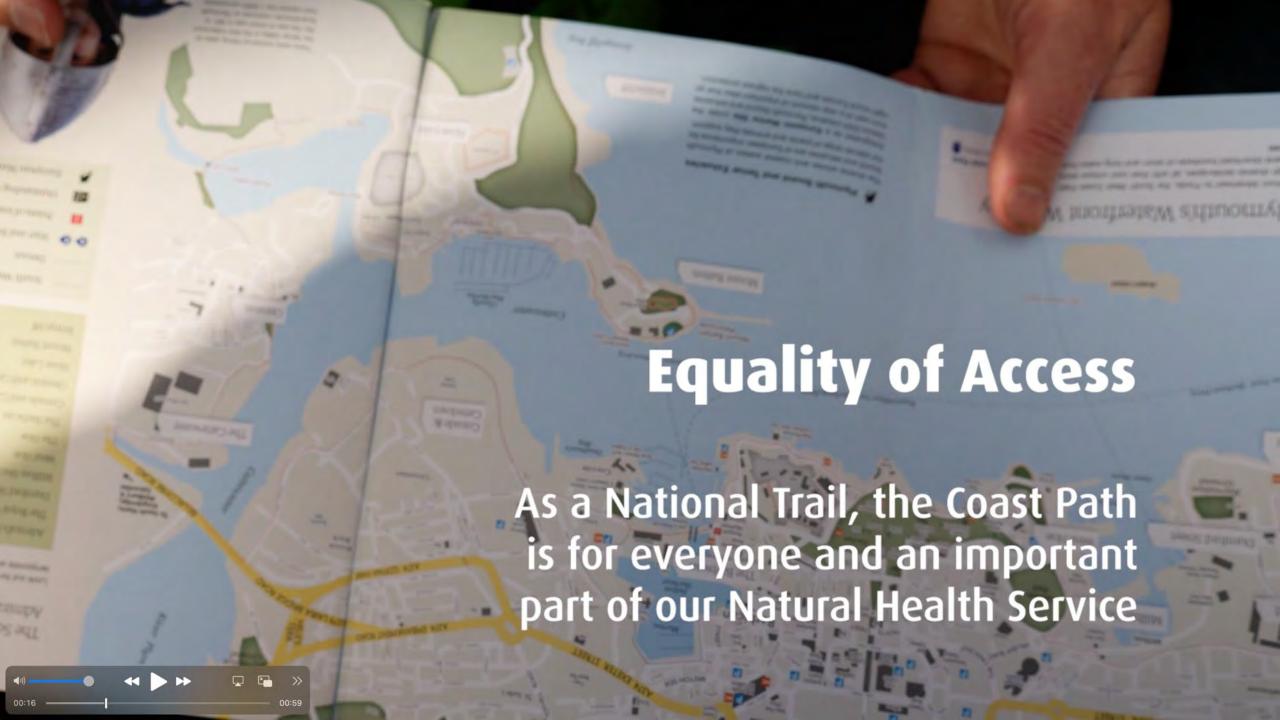




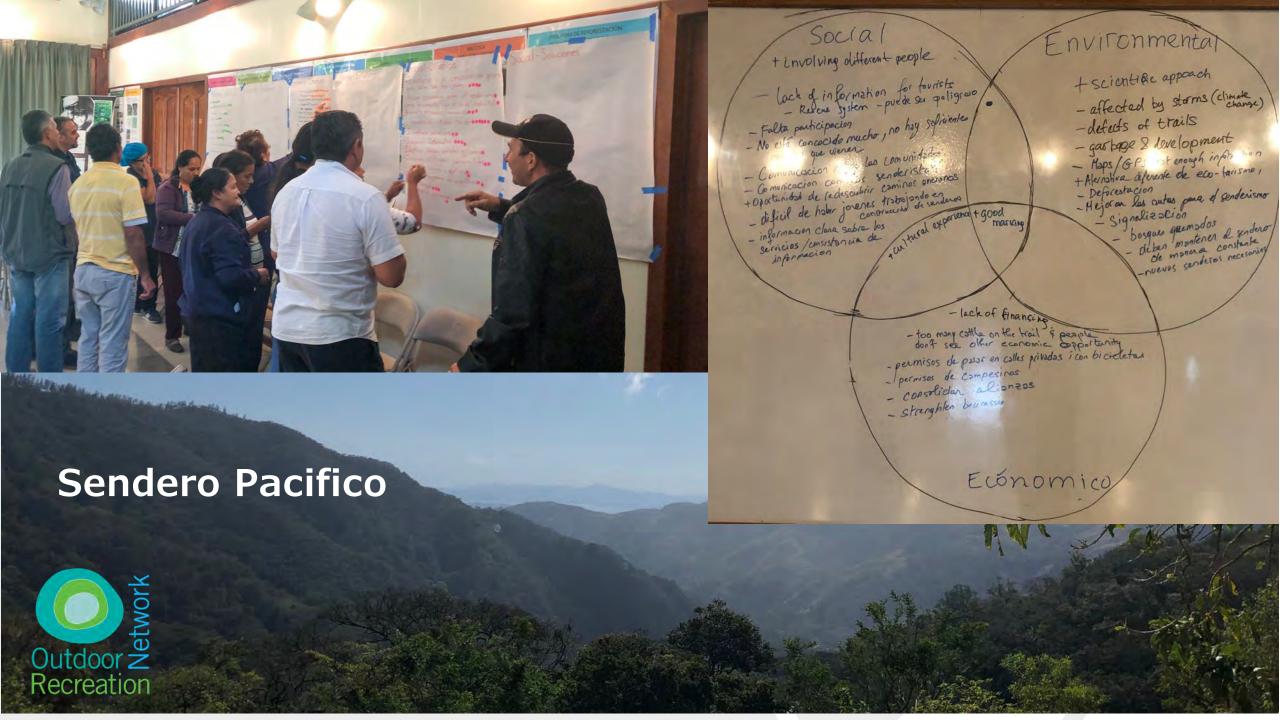




























Become a Way Maker

>Support Us

'Good' Sustainability





A STRATEGIC APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION RELATED TOURISM

Janet Uttley

Head of Business Support Transformation VisitEngland/VisitBritain





DEFINING SUSTAINABLE TOURISM





Practices taken by visitors and businesses in the visitor economy to minimise the negative environmental and social impacts of tourism and to enhance the economic and cultural benefits for visitors, businesses and host communities

GREEN INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION TEN POINT PLAN





Ten Point Plan released by the UK Government in November 2020 – five of those points directly relate to travel & tourism:

- **Electric Vehicles** accelerate transition
- Public Transport investment in zero-emission public transport and encourage cycling and walking as more attractive ways to travel
- Jet Zero & Greener Maritime support the difficult to decarbonise industries through research projects for zero-emission planes and ships
- Homes & Public Buildings setting targets to install 600,000 heat pumps every year by 2028
- Nature Protect and restore natural environment, planting 30,000 hectares of trees every year, creating and retaining jobs

ALIGNING THE VISTOR JOURNEY

Pre-trip

In trip







- Bookability
- Connectivity

- Buy local
- Reduce waste
- Improve energy efficiency
- Service provision



- Extending open season
- **Dispersal** –rural/city/coastal

Post trip

Distribution

Dispersal

- Long term commitment
- Infrastructure investment

MIDAS – RESEARCH FROM 29 INBOUND MARKETS





Sustainability is an emerging driver of importance in destination selection for international tourists, most relevant to Buzzseekers and younger travellers

Most however are lost as to what it means, how important it is and how to navigate it, **leading to a strong degree of scepticism**

Future intentions mirror past behaviour, suggesting we focus on reinforcing current behaviours around themes of localisation, nature, dispersion (geographic and seasonal) and preservation

We see evidence of a stronger imprint in terms of perceptions of sustainability in Australia where these themes are being utilised

Key barriers are consistent across markets and segments, all pointing to a need for **greater clarity**, **signalling and impact reinforcement** to overcome behavioural apathy

Links to:

MIDAS Webinar

recording

Key Findings

DESIRE FOR WIDE VARIETY OF PRODUCTS & EXPERIENCES DESIRED EXPERIENCES FOR TRIPS TO ... (Top 2 Pay interest)

DESIRED EXPERIENCES FOR TRIPS TO (Top 3 Box interest)	Britain
Experience coastal places and scenery	68%
Explore local food and beverage specialties	68%
Visit famous/iconic tourist attractions and places	65%
Explore history and heritage (historical sites, architecture)	64%
Visit parks and gardens	58%
Experience rural life and scenery	58%
Experience city life	58%
Enjoy outdoor walks, hiking or cycling	55%
Visit famous shops or shopping streets/centres	54%
Visit museums or galleries	54%
Enjoy fine dining experiences	52%
Attend a cultural/historical exhibition or event	52%
Guided tours/day excursions	50%
Socialising with locals	49%
Visit zoos, aquariums, and wildlife parks	48%
Self-driving tours	47%
Experience pubs, bars and clubs	46%
Attend a live music festival/event	45%
Visit literary, music, film and TV locations	44%
Participate in action and adventure experiences	42%
Visit a winery (e.g. wine tasting/ vineyard tour)	42%
Visit theatre, opera, ballet or musicals	40%
Visit a brewery or distillery	40%
Attend a sporting event	36%
Participate in wellness activities such as yoga, etc.	32%
Attend a learning course (cooking, language etc)	31%
Participate in sport (golf, football, etc.)	29%
Volunteering	25%



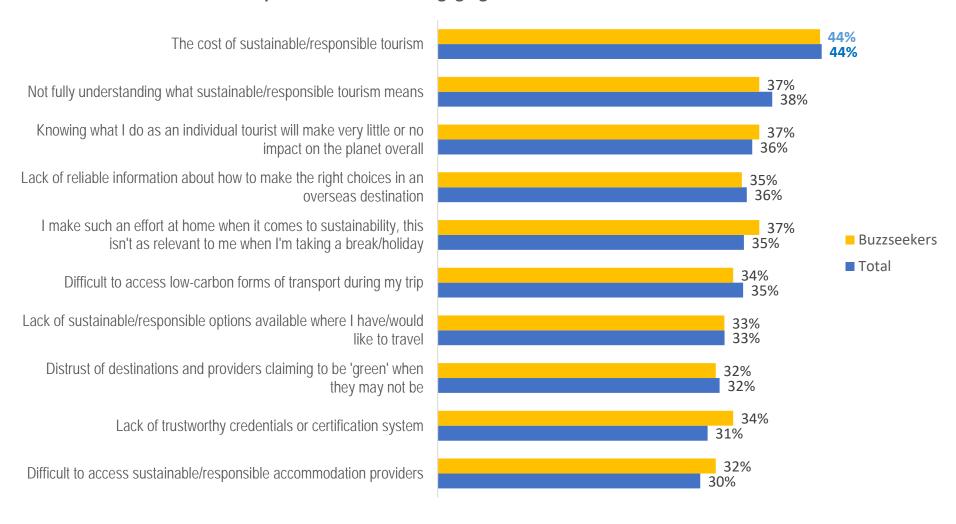


WHAT PREVENTS TRAVEL IN A SUSTAINABLE/RESPONSIBLE WAY





Top Ranked Barrier to Engaging in Sustainable Tourism Behaviour



TRAVEL TRADE – GETTING INFORMATION RIGHT

VisitBritain VisitE

VisitEngland[®]

https://www.greatwestway.co.uk/traveltrade/travel-trade-directory







SUSTAINABILITY - ADVICE & GUIDANCE







Green Tourism promotes greener ways for businesses and organisations to operate, by offering our members advice on:

- · Reducing energy use
- Saving water
- · Efficient & eco-friendly waste disposal
- · Ethical buying
- Staying local & seasonal
- · Minimising food miles
- Promoting biodiversity
- · Adopting a smart, sustainable outlook from top to bottom

Case studies and further guidance available on the VisitEngland <u>Business Advice Hub</u>



THANK YOU

janet.uttley@visitbritain.org

Connect in: sign up to VB/VE corporate enews

Check out: <u>Business Advice Hub</u>: <u>inbound research</u>: <u>England research</u>

Share PR news: <u>vbpr@visitbritain.org</u>: <u>vepr@visitengland.org</u>

THE APPROACH TO EMBED SUSTAINABILITY INTO SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK

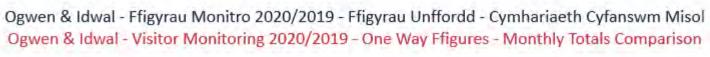
Helen Pye,

Head of Engagement, Snowdonia National Park

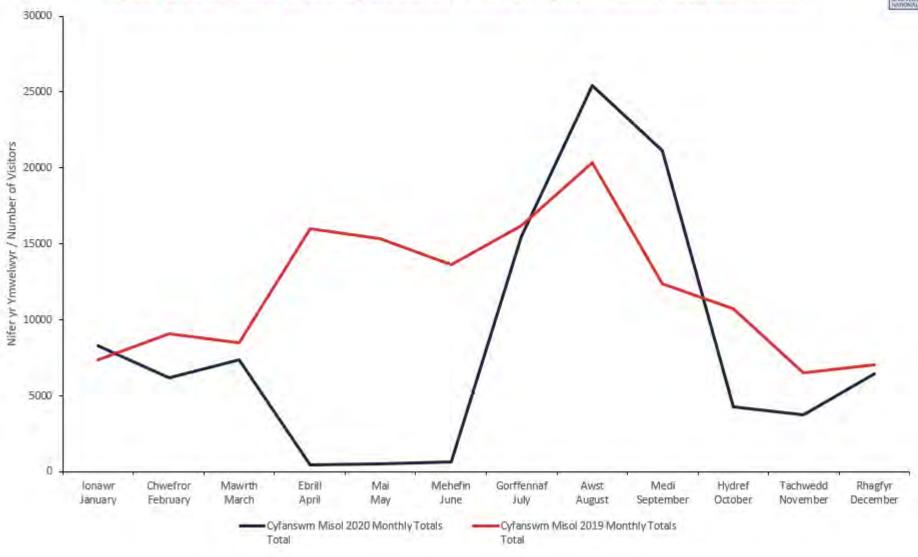












CROWD PSYCHOLOGY





EMBEDDING SUSTAINABILITY INTO NATIONAL AND REGIONAL POLICY





A globally responsible Wales

A prosperous Wales

vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language

A resilient Wales

A Wales of cohesive communities

A healthier Wales

A more equal Wales









MAKING BIG CHANGE HAPPEN





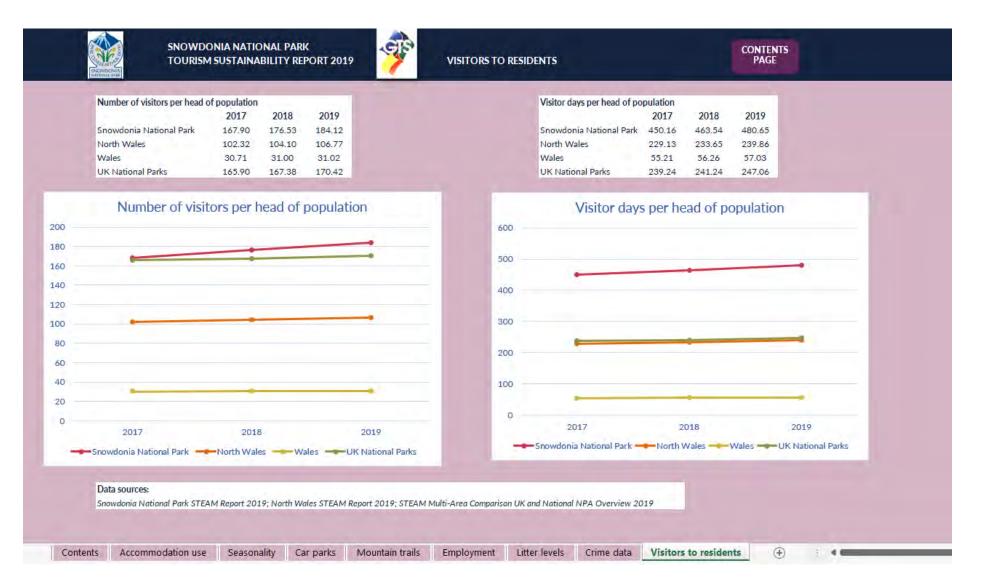


PEN Y PASS PRE-BOOKING NOW LIVE

For visits from the 8th of April onwards.



MEASURING THE RIGHT STUFF





START WITH THE INFRASTRUCTURE





[noun] (literal)
A tree branch that has been cut or broken off.

[noun] (figurative)
A punishment or penalty,
used to induce
cooperation.





BOOTS ON THE GROUND







INFLUENCING VISITOR BEHAVIOR



Countryside rules and guidelines



N 1,455

LIKELIHOOD OF FOLLOWING COUNTRYSIDE RULES AND GUIDANCE

YouGov Survey, Feb 2022

Likelihood of following the countryside rules and guidelines On a scale ranging from 0 to 10, where 0 is "Not likely at all" and 10 is "Very likely" How likely, if at all, would you be to follow each of the following England and/ or Wales countryside rules and/ or guidelines when you	49.24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55+	A.I.
next visit the countryside?	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	22+	All
You must only camp in campsites	42	46	61	64	70	61
You must not light fires	51	59	70	76	82	72
You must only have barbeques where permitted	(36)	51	66	72	78	67
Dogs must be kept on a lead when on a footpath	47)	55	67	73	80	69
Litter should be taken home	72	85	88	88	93	88
Access to gateways or driveways must not be blocked when parking	57	78	83	83	89	82
Emergency vehicles must have access to gateways and driveways	66	83	86	88	92	86
Permission is required for activities such as wild-swimming and standup paddle boarding	34	(38)	(47)	47	56	48
Unweighted N	113	235	260	242	605	1,455



MONEY TALKS





FUTURE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNTIES







CONTACT DETAILS AND WAYS TO CONNECT

Helen Pye Head of Engagement, Snowdonia National Park Authority

Email: Helen.pye@eryri.llyw.cymru

Twitter: @Helen_Pye Linked-In: Helen Pye





Scan here to submit a question virtually

PANEL DISCUSSION



AGENDA – Day 2

09:15-09:30: Welcome to day 2

09:30-10:00: Environmental Sustainability

Presentation by Dr Christian Dunn

10:00-11:00: Seminar Session 1

11:00-12:00: Seminar Session 2

12:00-13:00: Plenary Wrap-up and speed project/idea swapping

13:30 - 14:00: Lunch and Departure





AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

17:30 - 18:45

Famous Faces of PYB – A behind the scenes tour Meet in Bar

Open Water Swim Meet at Lake

Pre Dinner Walk – Coed Brun-Engan Meet in Dining Room







CONFERENCE DINNER

19:00 - Drinks
Bar
(Present your token for you free drink)

19:30 - Dinner Lecture Room

After Dinner Presentation Snowdonia Dark Skies & PYB







LUNCH

During lunch, please get ready for heading to your chosen Site Visit. Please make you way to your seminar room for 1pm.

Site Visit 1: Lecture Room

Site Visit 2: Bryn Egan Bunkhouse

Site Visit 3: Staff Room

Site Visit 4: Gwynant

Site Visit 5: Meet in PYB Reception







'SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION' CONFERENCE DAY 2







AGENDA – Day 2

09:35-10:05: Environmental Sustainability

Presentation by Dr Christian Dunn

10:05-11:05: Seminar Session 1

11:05 - 11:20: Comfort Break

11:20 -12:20: Seminar Session 2

12:20-13:20: Plenary Wrap-up and speed project/idea swapping

13:20 - 14:00: Lunch and Departure



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Dr Christian Dunn,

Associate Pro-Vice Chancellor (Sustainability),
Bangor University





























PART OF NUCLEAR FUTURES AT BANGOR UNIVERSITY



#SustainableBangor

Not just the environment

Ambitious and evidence-based

Open and honest communication

In everything we do



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



School of Natural Sciences (SNS)

School of Ocean Sciences (SNS)







Earth Systems and Environmental Sciences: 1st in the UK for the impact of our research





"How can outdoor recreation not be detrimental to conservation?"



1 EDUCATION AND INSPIRATION



34

Exploring the Relations Between Childhood Experiences in Nature and Young Adults' Environmental Attitudes and Behaviours

Catherine Broom

University of British Columbia, Okanagan, Kelowna, British Columba, Canada

Abstract

This article presents the findings of a research study with young adults who explored the connections between their early childhood experiences in nature and their attitudes and actions towards the environment in adulthood. Drawing on E. Wilson's (1984) work, environmental or ecological consciousness is theorised to connect to ecological identity and relates to an individual's deep reflection on, connection to, and engagement with the natural environment. The study's survey tool invited young adults to select various options that described their experiences in nature as children and their views of, and actions towards, the environment in the present. The findings illustrated connections between childhood experiences in nature and later views of, and actions towards, the environment. The correlations between expressed views about caring for the environment and environmentally friendly actions were surprising, however, as actions did not necessarily align with beliefs. The article concludes with recommendations based on the findings, outlining how positive attitudes and actions towards the environment may be fostered in childhood.



2 CITIZEN SCIENCE



Robert Marsham recorded phenological events 1736-1797, family carried it on for 223 years.





Plastic pollution: Snowdon research is a 'wake-up call'

By Matt Lloyd BBC News

Share ① 1 March 2020

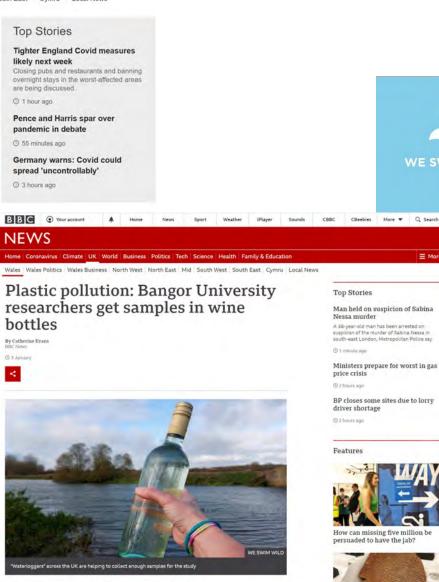


The discovery of microplastic pollution near the top of the highest mountain in Wales is a "scary wake-up call", environmentalists have said.

Traces of plastic have been found in samples collected from Llyn Glaslyn - a remote lake near the summit of Snowdon.

The tiny particles are "most likely" to have been deposited by rain, wetland science

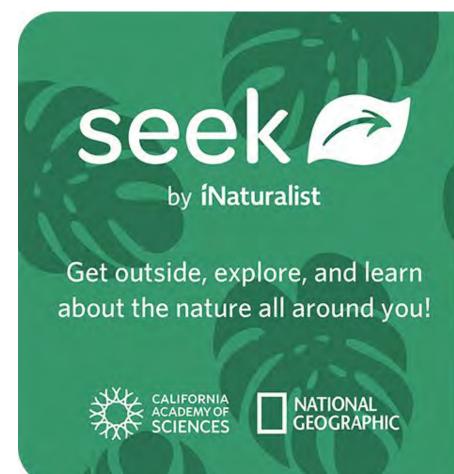




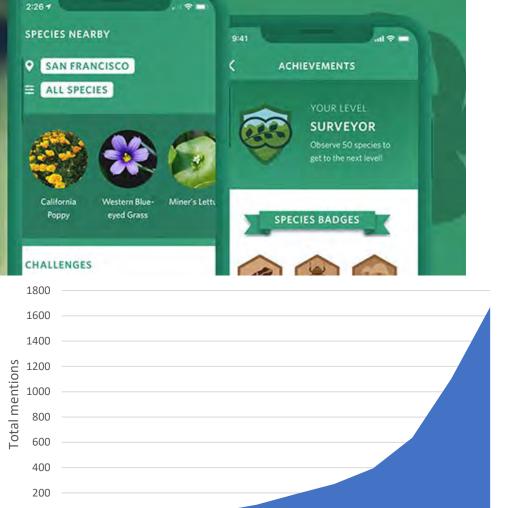
The clinking of wine bottles in Welsh waters is signalling a fresh fight Covid travel restrictions had threatened to stop swimmer Laura Sanderson's

microplastics monitoring.









2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

Year



3 PIONEEING LAND MANAGEMENT



The climate is changing.

Can we continue with current conservation strategies and management practises of natural systems?

Do we need to reconsider what is an area's "typical" species and habitat?





Bioclimatic envelope model of climate change impacts on blanket peatland distribution in Great Britain

Angela V. Gallego-Sala^{1,10,*}, Joanna M. Clark^{2,3,11}, Joanna I. House¹, Harriet G. Orr⁴, rgeia V. Ganego-Saia..., Joanna M. Clark..., Joanna 1. House, Flather G. C. I. Colin Prentice^{1,5,6}, Pete Smith⁷, Timothy Farewell⁸, Stephen J. Chapman⁹

QUEST, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Bristol, Wills Memorial Building, Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1RJ, UK

Welfeen Carbon Carbon Carbon School of Biological Sciences Ranger University, Deiniel Road, Ranger. UEST, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Bristol, Wills Memorial Building, Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1RJ,

2Wolfson Carbon Capture Laboratory, School of Biological Sciences, Bangor University, Deiniol Road, Bangor,

Gwynedd LL57 2UW, UK.

Gwynedd LL57 2UW, UK

Gwynedd LL57 2UW, UK

Gwynedd LL57 2UW, UK

Skempton Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Imperial College London, London SW7 2AZ, UK

Skempton Building, South Kensington, London SW7 2AZ, UK

Appearch and Innovation (Cimate Change). Environment Agency, Furticonment Centre Wales, Deivice Programment Centre Wales,

Skempton Building, South Kensington, London SW7 2AZ, UK

Skempton Building, South Skempton, London SW7 2AZ, UK

Skempton Building, Skempton, London SW7 2AZ, UK

Sk

⁵Division of Biology, Macquarie University, North Ryde, NSW 2109, Australia

⁶Grantham Institute for Climate Change, Division of Life Sciences, Imperial College London, Silwood Park, Ascot,

Berkshire SL5 7PY, UK

Residence Science University of Aberdeen

Trestitute of Riological and Environmental Science, School of Biological Science University of Aberdeen

Berkshire SL5 7PY, UK

Berkshire SL5 7PY, UK

Science, School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen

7Institute of Biological and Environmental Science, School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen

7Institute of Biological and Environmental Science, School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen

7Institute of Biological and Environmental Science, School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen

7Institute of Biological and Environmental Science, School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen

7Institute of Biological and Environmental Science, School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen

7Institute of Biological and Environmental Science, School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen

7Institute of Biological and Environmental Science, School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen

7Institute of Biological and Environmental Science, School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen

7Institute of Biological and Environmental Science, School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen AB74 31311. UK

*National Soil Resources Institute, Cranfield University, Cranfield, Bedfordshire MK43 0AL, UK

*Manufact Long Lies Desearch Institute Cranfield University Absorber All Capture 102 nonai Son Kesources Institute, Cranneid University, Cranneid, Bedfordsnire MR43 0A. ⁹Macaulay Land Use Research Institute, Craiglebuckler, Aberdeen AB15 8QH, UK

***Present address: Department of Earth and Ecosystem Sciences, Division of Physical Geography and Ecosystem Lund University, Sölvegatan 12, 223 62 Lund, Sweden Lund University, Sofvegatan 12, 223 62 Lund, Sweden

Lund University, Sofvegatan 12, 223 62 Lund, Sweden

Lund University, Sofvegatan 12, 223 62 Lund, Sweden

Geography and Er

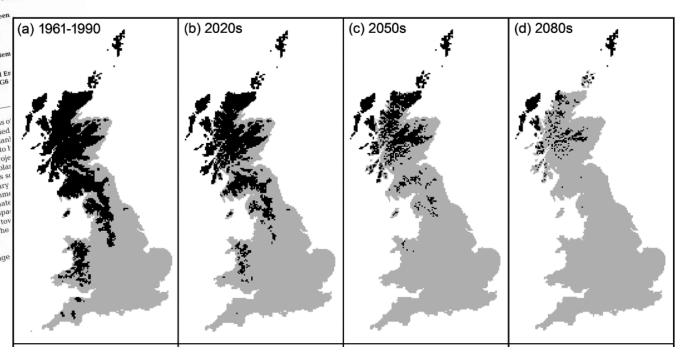
Fresent address: Walker Institute for Climate Systems Research and Soils Research Centre, Reading RG6

Science, School of Human and Environmental Sciences, University of Reading, Whiteknights, Reading RG6

ABSTRACT: Blanket peallands are rain-fed mires that cover the landscape almost regardless of raphy. The geographical output of this type of popularial is highly constitute to climate. We amiliar is ABSTRACT: Blanket peatlands are rain-ted mires that cover the landscape almost regardless of raphy. The geographical extent of this type of peatland is highly sensitive to climate. We applied the process-based binclimatic envelope model. PeatStack to predict the distribution of British blank. raphy. The geographical extent of this type of peatland is nightly sensitive to climate. We applied process-based bioclimatic envelope model, PeatStash, to predict the distribution of British bland process-based bioclimatic envelope model, PeatStash, to predict the distribution of British bland process-based bioclimatic envelope model, PeatStash, to predict the distribution of British bland process. The model cantures the present areal extent (Kanna ≈ 0.771 and is birthly cancilloon). process-based biocumatic envelope model, PeatStash, to predict the distribution of British bland lands. The model captures the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and the present area (Kappa = 0.77) are the present area (Kappa = 0.77) and the present area (Kappa = 0.77) are the present area (Kappa = 0.77) and the present area (Kappa = 0.77) are the present area (Kappa = 0.77) a lands. The model captures the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to be present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to be present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to be present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to be present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to be present as the present areal extent (Kappa = 0.77) and is highly sensitive to be present as the present area to be present the time periods 2011–2040, 2041–2070 and 2071–2100, the geographical distribution of blat lands gradually retreats towards the north and the west. In the UKCIPO2 high emissions of the lands of the la lands gradually retreats towards the north and the west. In the UKCLPUZ high emissions of 2071–2100, the blanket peatland bioclimatic space is ~84% smaller than contemporary (1961–190m), only parts of the west of Cootland remain incide this exact. Increasing example, 2071–2100, the blanket peatland bioclimatic space is ~84% smaller than contemporary [1961–1990]; only parts of the west of Scotland remain inside this space. Increasing summing is the main driver of the projected change in areal extent. Simulations using 7 climate (1961–1990); only parts of the west of Scotland remain inside this space, increasing summe ture is the main driver of the projected changes in areal extent. Simulations using 7 climate multiple for the projected changes in areal extent of the biodimatic enamers of declining agreed extent of the biodimatic enamers. ture is the main driver of the projected changes in areal extent. Simulations using 7 climate puts resulted in generally similar patterns of declining aereal extent of the bioclimatic sparely similar patterns of declining aereal extent of the bioclimatic sparely first results procented in this should be viewed as a first stee for puts resulted in generally similar patterns of declining aereal extent of the bioclimatic spat differing in degree. The results presented in this study should be viewed as a first step loy standing the transle likely to affect the blanket postland distribution in Great Britain. The differing in degree. The results presented in this study should be viewed as a first step toy standing the trends likely to affect the blanket peatland distribution in Great Britain. The of existing blanket peatlands to their blockimatic space remains uncertain standards to the outside their blockimatic space remains uncertain. standing the trends likely to affect the blanket peatland distribution in Great Britain.

of existing blanket peatlands left outside their bioclimatic space remains uncertain. $KEY\ WORDS;\ Bioclimatic\ envelope\cdot Model\cdot Blanket\ peatlands\cdot Peat\cdot Climate\ change$



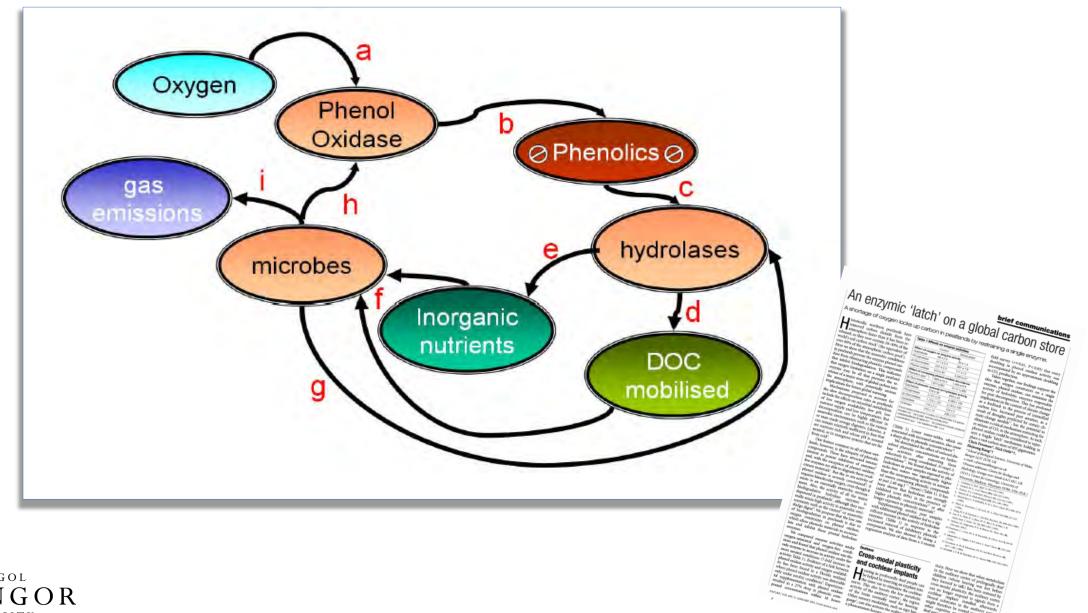


NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS (NBS)









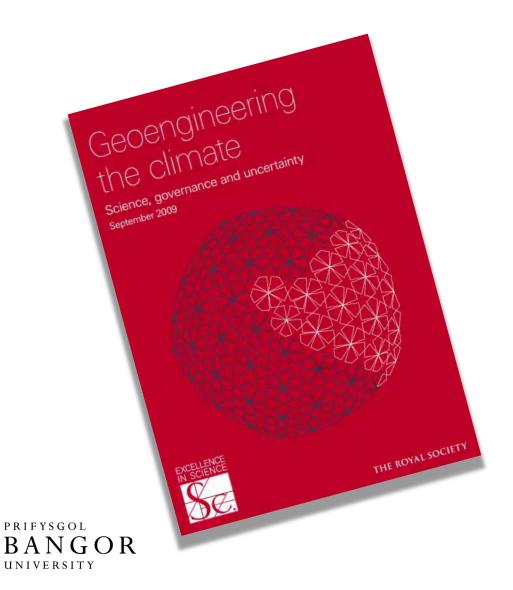


Should we incorporate 'enzymic latch' treatment into pristine peat habitats?





GEOENGINEERING







WATER CONTROL



Water quality



Glastonbury Festival: Levels of illegal drugs high enough to harm wildlife found in river running through site

During the festival levels of MDMA and cocaine in the water were so high they could affect the lifecycles of certain protected species of wildlife further downstream, researchers discovered.









Article

Wetlands for Wellbeing: Piloting a Nature-Based Health Intervention for the Management of Anxiety and Depression

Phoebe R. Maund ^{1,2,*}, Katherine N. Irvine ³, Jonathan Reeves ¹, Emily Strong ¹, Ruth Cromie ¹, Martin Dallimer ⁴ and Zoe G. Davies ²

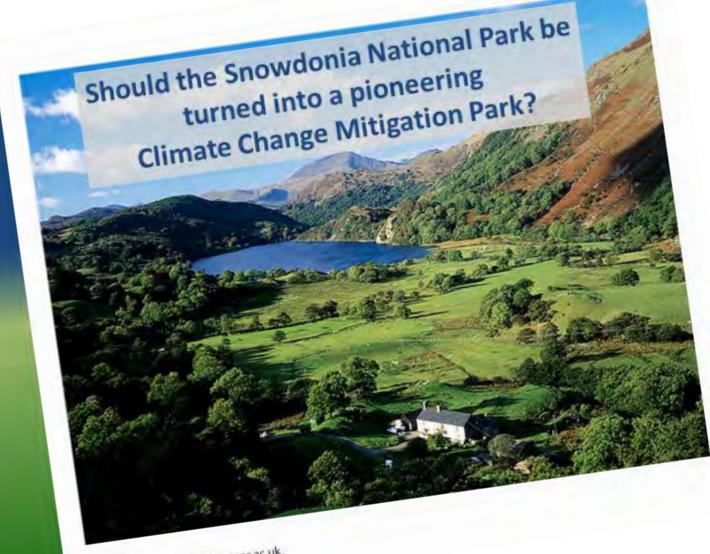
- The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, Slimbridge, Gloucester GL2 7BT, UK; jonathan.reeves@wwt.org.uk (J.R.); emily.strong@wwt.org.uk (E.S.); ruth.cromie@wwt.org.uk (R.C.)
- Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), School of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent, Canterbury CT2 8NR, UK; z.g.davies@kent.ac.uk
- ³ Social, Economic and Geographic Sciences, James Hutton Institute, Craigiebuckler, Aberdeen AB15 8QH, UK; Kate.Irvine@hutton.ac.uk
- Sustainability Research Institute, School of Earth and Environment, University of Leeds, Leeds LS9 2JT, UK; M.Dallimer@leeds.ac.uk
- * Correspondence: phoebe.maund@wwt.org.uk or p.r.maund@kent.ac.uk

Received: 14 October 2019; Accepted: 8 November 2019; Published: 11 November 2019



Abstract: Nature-based health interventions (NBIs) for the treatment of poor mental health are becoming increasingly common, yet evidence to support their effectiveness is lacking. We conduct a pilot study of a six-week intervention, aiming to engage individuals with wetland nature for the treatment of anxiety and/or depression. We employed a mixed methods design, using questionnaires, focus groups and semi-structured interviews to evaluate the intervention from the perspective of participants (n = 16) and healthcare professionals (n = 2). Results demonstrate significant improvements in mental health across a range of indicators, including mental wellbeing (Warwick and Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale), anxiety (Generalised Anxiety Disorder-7), stress (Perceived Stress Scale) and emotional wellbeing (Positive and Negative Affect Schedule). Participants and healthcare professionals cited additional outcomes including improved physical health and reduced social isolation. The wetland site provided a sense of escape from participants' everyday environments, facilitating relaxation and reductions in stress. Wetland staff knowledge of the natural world, transportation and group organisation also played a considerable role in the intervention's success. These aspects should be considered in future and existing NBIs to maximise benefits to participants. We propose NBIs based in wetlands are an effective therapy option for individuals diagnosed with anxiety and/or depression.







Christian Dunn | c.dunn@bangor.ac.uk

Without the outdoor recreation sector's engagement the effects of climate change will be more damaging to UK society, and the country will not reach its emission reduction targets.



Dr Christian Dunn
Bangor University
c.dunn@bangor.ac.uk
@christiandunn



SEMINARS

SEMINAR SESSION 1

Room 1 –
Outdoor Recreation and Biosecurity
Dr Sara MacBride
Cromlech

Room 2 – National Outdoor Recreation Strategy for Ireland Daithi de Forge Gwynant

Room 3 –
Creating a culture shift to active travel
(Walk & Talk)
Kevin Lafferty
Lecture Room

Room 4 – A sustainable business model for outdoor recreation sites Jonathan Woods Staff Room



SEMINARS

SEMINAR SESSION 2

Room 1 –
Inspiring Ethical outdoor recreation
Leave No Trace Ireland
Lecture Room

Room 2 -

How outdoor professionals are at the front Line in the quest for more sustainable use of the outdoors

Mike Raine Gwynant

Room 3 -

Helping people fall so in love with nature that it changes the way that they live (Walk & Talk)

TYF - Ryan and Chris Meet on Lawn below picnic area

Room 4 –
Supporting rural tourism economies with off-road cycle routes
Sophie Gordon
Staff Room



Scan here to submit your feedback

WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THIS CONFERENCE?





Scan here to download the Jamboard APP

PLENARY WRAP-UP

SPEED PROJECT/IDEA SWAPPING

Pippa Langford, Joint Chair of ORN







CONFERENCE RECORDINGS & RESOURCES

This conference has been recorded and post event resources will be made available. Stay tuned for our post conference e-zine.







Scan here to submit your feedback

CONFERENCE FEEDBACK





Scan here to find out more about ORN Membership

ENJOYED THIS CONFERENCE?

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ORN MEMBERSHIP

