

'Wilder By Design?

Managing Landscape Change and Future Ecologies'

15th & 16th May 2014, a 2-day seminar / workshop;
9th to 11th September 2015, a 3-day conference / symposium

These two linked events build on our themes of ancient wooded landscapes, of trees beyond the wood, of cultural peatlands & wetlands, of commons and traditions, of declining wildlife, of grazing landscapes and treescapes, and more. The event will address critical issues of landscape and ecological history, of wilding or re-wilding, on nature and heritage conservation, and the impacts of current trends and major socio-economic changes. We will address issues of funding, of skills, of best practice, of case studies, and of awareness, in order to consider how conservation writ broad can respond to challenges of environmental change, of climate change, of a radically altered public sector and political climate. The event will relate to recent work and conferences on cultural severance and the nature of the eco-cultural landscape. There are major questions to be answered in terms of the opportunities of 'wilded' landscapes as part of a toolkit to manage future change, but these in turn present issues of carrying capacity, heritage conservation, and animal welfare. Finally, if we are to 'wild' the landscape, then where should this be, and how can the benefits be maximised? Can we deliver long-term, sustainable ecologies and significant growth-poles for rural, tourism economies? These questions and more will be addressed at these two landmark events. We are now calling for offers of papers and for conference partners.

The May 2014 event will set the scene and explore issues at a practitioner-led level raising critical questions which will be addressed at the major 2015 symposium. Along with oral presentations, there will be displays and posters, which will form the basis of an exhibition, and field visits to local sites. The events are being organised with Sheffield Hallam University by the South Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group, the Biodiversity & Landscape History Research Institute, The Landscape Conservation Forum, the British Ecological Society, and other partners. There will be pre-published proceedings and a post-conference book linked to both events.



For more information: visit our website www.ukeconet.org or to register your interest, email us at: info@hallamec.plus.com or contact **Christine on 0114 272 4227**

Supported by partner organisations the *Biodiversity & Landscape History Research Institute*, the *Landscape Conservation Forum*, the *Peak District National Park*, the *European Society for Environmental History* (UK Network), *Sheffield Hallam University*, *Natural England*, the *Ancient Tree Forum*, and **sponsored** by the *British Ecological Society*, *The International Union of Forest Research Organisations*.

Speakers, participants, discussants and other contributors will include key individuals and authorities such as:

Dr Frans Vera, Ted Green, Jill Butler, Professor Ian Rotherham, Ken Smith (Peak District National Park), Sir Charles Burrell (Knepp Castle), Dr George Peterken, Dr Jamie Lorimer (University of Oxford), Dr Dollie Jorgensen (University of Umea), Dr Marcus Hall (University of Zurich), Dr Bill Adams (University of Cambridge), Stuart Warrington (National Trust, Wicken Fen Project), Simon Tonkin (RSPB, Farm Grants and Policy), Suzanne Perry (Natural England), Dr Jan Woudstra (University of Sheffield), Dr Paul Warde (University of East Anglia), Professor Mauro Agnoletti (University of Florence), Dr Tomasz Samoljik (Polish Mammal Research Institute, Białowieża), Kieran Sheehan (Environmental Consultant), Dr Alper Çolak (University of Istanbul), Dr Keith Alexander (Entomological Consultant), Professor Chris Smout (University of St Andrew's), Dr Della Hooke (University of Birmingham), Dr Helen Shaw, Peter Quelch (Consultant), Peter Taylor (Rewilding), Dr Steve Carver (Wildland Research Institute), Jonty Denton (Consultant) and others.



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