

**DRAFT
Conference Programme**

**2018 Biodiversity Science Conference
Biodiversity Conservation Post-2020: New Challenges and New Approaches**

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh 5 - 6 November 2018

The run up to 2020 is a critical time for biodiversity conservation, both nationally and internationally. We will be assessing progress in delivering the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy, and looking ahead to what comes after 2020.

Species and habitat conservation face a wide range of well-known but also new and poorly-understood challenges. However, new initiatives and rapid changes in technology and thinking bring the promise of new solutions.

At this year's Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Science conference we will consider some of the new challenges facing biodiversity conservation, and the novel and innovative solutions biodiversity science can offer.

The conference will run from 13:00 on Monday 5th November to 13:00 on Tuesday 6th November. It will focus on four main themes: Species health and management; Landscape scale conservation; Climate change; Public engagement.

Each session will include an over-view keynote presentation, detailed talks on specific issues, and short speed talks allowing us to find out more - from you - about your new ideas and approaches for biodiversity conservation. Sessions will wrap up with round table panel discussion allowing us to explore the session themes more broadly.

A poster session on the afternoon of Monday 5th November will be followed by a keynote presentation on the evening of 5th November at RBGE.

This year we are delighted that Jane Smart, Global Director, IUCN Biodiversity Conservation Group and Director, IUCN Global Species Programme has agreed to give our keynote talk.

The evening event is co-sponsored by Edinburgh Conservation Science and the British Ecological Society Scottish Policy Group.

The SBS Science Conference is supported by:



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Day 1 – Monday 5th November: Lunchtime arrival & registration 12:00 – 13:00; light lunch provided

13:00	<i>Welcome to RBGE – Pete Hollingsworth, RBGE, Director of Research</i>
13:10	<i>Welcome to the conference – John Kerr, SASA, Chair of the SBS Science Support Group</i>
	Session 1 – Species health and management Chair, Ruth Mitchell, James Hutton Institute
13:15	Keynote – Chris Quine, Forest Research <i>Current issues in species management, and managing for resilience</i>
13:40	Gerry Sadler, SASA <i>The Plant Health Centre of Expertise</i>
13:55	Rob Ogden, Edinburgh Centre for Conservation Science <i>Conservation of genetic diversity – can we measure progress?</i>
14:10	Speed talks x 2
14:20	Roundtable
14:45	Tea and Coffee
	Session 2 – Landscape scale conservation Chair, Zoe Clelland, RSPB, Chair SBS Landscape Scale Conservation Working Group
15:15	Keynote - Davy McCracken, SRUC: <i>Working with land managers to deliver at a landscape scale</i>
15:40	David Hetherington, Cairngorms National Park Authority: <i>Mountain woodlands</i>
15:55	Phil Taylor, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology: <i>Connecting the Data Dots – from APIs to Hydroscares</i>
16:10	Speed talks x 2
16:20	Roundtable
16:45	Poster session
17:30 – 19:30	Evening event: Keynote presentation by Jane Smart IUCN.

Day 2 – Tuesday 6th November: Morning arrival 8:45 – 9:15

	Session 3 – Climate Change Chair, Chris Ellis, RBGE, Chair SBS Species and Habitat Group
9:15	Keynote – James Pearce-Higgins, BTO: <i>Climate change and conservation – should we hold back the tide or welcome invaders?</i>
9:40	Nick Everett, SNH: <i>Climate change adaptation for coastal habitats – learning from geodiversity</i>
9:55	Rebekka Artz, James Hutton Institute: <i>Peatland restoration and climate change mitigation</i>
10:10	Speed talks x 2
10:20	Roundtable
10:45	Coffee
	Session 4 – Engagement Chair, Chris Wernham, BTO Scotland
11:15	Keynote – ReRoute: <i>TBC</i>
11:40	Ellen Wilson, Chair, Scottish Biodiversity Information Forum (SBIF): <i>SBIF integration - big data or more efficient data</i>
11:55	Ellie Owen, RSPB: <i>Being the Puffarazzi: Using digital photography and citizen science to describe spatial variation in puffin diet</i>
12:10	Speed talks x 2
12:20	Roundtable
12:45	Conference wrap up