



Agenda 2024

Springfield Country Hotel, Wareham, Dorset

	DAY 1	10th September
10:00 - 12:30	Registration	
10:30 - 12:30	Discussion group: Strategic mitigation approaches	
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 - 13:45	Welcome to the National Heathland Conference 2024	
13:45 - 15:30	Session 1	
	How “wild” can heaths be? Prof. James Bullock, Centre for Ecology & Hydrology	
	Invertebrate heath-forest connectivity Dr Scott Pedley, Manchester Metropolitan University	
	Urban heath challenges, specifically for Nightjars Terry Elborn, Bournemouth Christchurch Poole Council & Brian Cresswell, Lotek	
15:30 - 15:45	Tea break	
15:45 - 17:30	Session 2	
	Latest from Cannock Chase partnership working Georgina Sharp, Cannock Chase SAC	
	Latest from Pebblebed partnership Kim Strawbridge, Pebblebed Heaths	
	An introduction to the Purbeck Heaths National Nature Reserve David Brown, National Trust	
17:30 - 19:45	Break and dinner	
19:45 - 21:30	Panel discussion: With conservation veterans	



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DAY 2		11th September
Group A - Meet in hotel car park 9am		
AM	Hartland Moor, Stoborough Heath & Arne <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wild grazing / natural process restoration / move towards more dynamic & complex landscape • Monitoring framework for large dynamic landscapes – from processes to species • Transition from SSSI targets to FCS / landscape scale resilience 	
PM	Studland, Godlingston Heath & Rempstone Heath <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland restoration on heaths: peatland restoration • Heathland restoration from conifer plantations – landscape scale connectivity • Visitor management / community engagement / sustainable tourism • Visitor based economy & nature tourism – Osprey, Sea Eagle, outdoor adventures 	
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch with groups A & B at Burnbake Campsite (toilets available)	
Group B - Meet in hotel car park 9am		
AM	Studland, Godlingston Heath & Rempstone Heath <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland restoration on heaths: peatland restoration • Heathland restoration from conifer plantations – landscape scale connectivity • Visitor management / community engagement / sustainable tourism • Visitor based economy & nature tourism – Osprey, Sea Eagle, outdoor adventures 	
PM	Hartland Moor, Stoborough Heath & Arne <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wild grazing / natural process restoration / move towards more dynamic & complex landscape • Monitoring framework for large dynamic landscapes – from processes to species • Transition from SSSI targets to FCS / landscape scale resilience 	
18:30 - 19:30	Conference dinner	
19:30 - 20:30	After dinner speakers: “Who are heathlands for?”	



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	DAY 3	12th September
	Session 3	
9:00 - 10:15	Condition monitoring, and is it time to redefine heathland? Frances McCullagh, Natural England	
	Place-based pilot: Purbeck favourable conservation status Chris Panter, Footprint Ecology	
10:15 - 10:30	Tea break	
	Session 4	
10:30 - 12:30	Climate change adaptation and microclimates in lowland heaths Marijke Thoonen, Research Institute for Nature and Forest	
	Palaeoecology for conservation: A case study of heathland management Ben Siggery, Surrey Wildlife Trust / University of Surrey	
	Peat restoration case study: Wishmoor Valley Mire NFM Pathfinder Project Dr Mike Simmonds, University of Reading & Ben Habgood, Surrey Wildlife Trust	
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch	
	Session 5	
13:30 - 15:15	Sand Lizards: Implications of rare species recovery for heathland managers Paul Edgar, Amphibian & Reptile Conservation	
	Managing Silver Birch without pesticides at Bucklebury Common Alex Cruickshank, Sundew Ecology	
	Pesticides and herbicides Toby Taylor, RSPB	
15:15 - 15:30	Round up and goodbyes	