

***Title: WBP Planning***

***Produced by: Sean McHugh WBP Support Team***

***Background/Progress***

***WBP Biodiversity Conference 2012***

This year's WBP 2-day conference will be held on the 12th and 13th September at the University of Glamorgan, Pontypridd and input from the group is requested to develop the conference. The following are ideas are a starting point to generate discussion. With the ecosystem approach starting to take shape, the conference can highlight examples of the ecosystem approach in practice at varying spatial and temporal scales. In addition, emerging thinking around ecosystem service supply & demand, indicators, measurement of success, behaviour change & the relationship of biodiversity conservation with ecosystem service delivery could be explored; linked to the general theme: - adapting conservation to a changing climate; local biodiversity initiatives; funding; citizen science projects to rebuild ecological recording capacity. The conference will draw on existing initiatives e.g. the NEF pilots, the continuing work of WBP working groups, partner organisations, LBAPS and external speakers to exchange ideas, promote discussion and generate action.

***Action Requested***

1. To agree the general conference outline
2. To suggest topics/speakers/workshops for the conference
3. To circulate the WBP conference date & location to your contacts

**Note:** The WBP Conference 2011 proceedings are available from the WBP website: [www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/wbp\\_activities-18.aspx](http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/wbp_activities-18.aspx)

***Biodiversity Awareness Initiatives***

***Wales Biodiversity Week (WBW) 2012 9th -17th June***

WBW is designed to raise awareness of biodiversity to society and to celebrate local wildlife. In 2011 over 100 events took place including: Open Farm Sundays; 'Go Wild' – a large-scale community environment fair; Botanical Beats festival; practical activities; numerous wildlife walks; schools events. The WBP support team advertise all WBW events on behalf of LBAPs and partner organisations, supply merchandise and provide guidance & support. An evaluation of WBW 2011 is available from the WBP website: [http://biodiversitywales.org.uk/wales\\_biodiversity\\_week-121.aspx](http://biodiversitywales.org.uk/wales_biodiversity_week-121.aspx)

***International Day for Biodiversity (IDB) and other United Nation Initiatives***

Organisations are encouraged to host events around IDB on 22nd May. In Wales, events are planned for the 18-20<sup>th</sup> May at National Museum of Wales sites, further details will be released shortly.

2011-2020 is the UN Decade on Biodiversity ([www.decadeonbiodiversity.net](http://www.decadeonbiodiversity.net) & [www.cbd.int/2011-2020](http://www.cbd.int/2011-2020)). 2011-12 is the Year of the Bat ([www.yearofthebat.org](http://www.yearofthebat.org)) & 2012 is the International Year of marine & coastal biodiversity ([www.cbd.int/idb](http://www.cbd.int/idb)).

An outline of notable dates, surveys & initiatives in the environment calendar is listed on the WBP website: [www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/whats\\_on-4.aspx](http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/whats_on-4.aspx)

***Action Requested***

4. For partners to circulate the WBW date (9<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> June) to your contacts
5. For partners to agree to host WBW & IDB events and/or coordinate with LBAPs and partner organisations in hosting events.
6. For partners to agree to send WBW & IDB event details to LBAPs/WBP secretariat (Sean McHugh) for publicity purposes.