

WESG Meeting
Visualisation Centre – University Aberystwyth
Monday 14th March 2011

Agenda 10am – 3pm (lunch provided)

Chris Tucker – Chair	FCW
Jim Latham	CCW
Nigel Ajax Lewis	Wales & West Wildlife Trust
Jane Holloway – Minute	FCW
David Jenkins	Coed Cymru
Celia Thomas	Pembrokeshire National Park
Richard Lucas	University of Wales - Aberystwyth
Russell Hobson	Butterfly Conservation
Michelle van-Velzen	FCW
Trevor Dines	Plantlife
Sarah Mellor	National Trust
Linda Makepeace	WAG
Keith Bunting	University of Wales - Aberystwyth
Hugh Evans	Forest Research - Wales
Mark Lawrence	Bangor University
Chris Smith	Snowdonia National Park
Richard Crompton	
Keith Jones	FCW

1. Welcome and apologies

Emma Guy
Calum MacIntosh
Jerry Langford
Liz Halliwell
Richard Jones

2. Michelle van-Velzen – presentation on Glastir

Presentation will be sent out to group

Discussion on presentation and look at targeted maps/Habitat network

- Drainage issues
 - Tree species diversity – climatic zones – elevation, soil type and size of woodland
- Number of tree types to plant
- Freshwater Ecosystem group – link together re-drainage already working with group regards to lakes
 - 5 layers – for Glastir – at or around £3m same as BWW – application window
 - MVV - Glastir woodland creation nearly up to 6months – all native woodland – grant rates based on cost – higher cost on native woodland 95% - Scheme size on average quite small normally under 5 hectares – will discuss during next meeting some of the results from analysis, including appeals.

- Most things on appeal are BAP priority habitat

[View New FCW Map Viewer](#)>> The Forestry Commission Wales (FCW) Map Viewer allows you to explore and discover information about Wales's woodlands and forests. You can display a wide variety of information on the map including Glastir Woodland Creation planting maps.

[Map Viewer Guidance Page](#)>>
[Glastir Woodland Creation Mapping and eligibility guide](#) (PDF)

3. New Draft TOR for ecosystem group – NEF framework

Leans towards ecosystem approach
National priorities

Comments from Trefor Dines

ToR – set for consultation of 'A Living Wales' that is still ongoing – setting TOR for something that does not exist yet? Need more resources, as a number of groups do not have good representation.

All groups have fed back the comments about – NGO's lot of activity on delivery – NEF taking this focus away and looking at process only.

3 year time frame for group (end of year 1 now) – group has action plan to set out what group will achieve during this time,

Re-send aims of group to Peter.

Form a response from group and Chris Tucker will send back to Chairs.

4. Priority Mapping – Jim Latham

Bring together – central source for Maps

3 levels of data

Level 1- Hold resource – e.g. for woodland -woodland inventory/connectivity

Level 2 - Mapped areas – e.g. for Glastir

Level 3 – Produce a short list – key areas to if no action then there would be biodiversity loss – hard to pinpoint for woodland – have circulated possible sites – would still link map with boundaries – examples given but need final detail – key issues – Trevor Dines – to send list

Action Point All Group

Jim asked the group to provide examples for level 3 - to him not just woodlands / wood pastures but also species, tree species, Invertebrates, PAWS site – done by size – pick out 2 largest PAWS sites. Rhododendron

If you have provided Jim details can you also provided a map and ½ page of info.

Deadline end of March

Action Point – Chris Tucker list to be sent out to group/ and template

Environment Wales Biodiversity Grant Fund Applications – 200k 20 applications put in but only £120k pot so over-subscribed

The successful applicants were:

Ref No.	Organisation / Name on Bank Account	Project	Ecosystem Group	Value of work (£)	Requested grant (£)	Approved grant (£)
BGF05/10/11	PONT	PONT	Upland, Heathland, Grassland	£143,000.00	£15,000.00	£14,000.00
BGF04/10/11	National Trust	Dinefwr	Freshwater	£6,760.00	£2,830.00	£2,830.00
BGF10/10/11	Butterfly Conservation	Butterfly Conservation	Woodland	£3,424.00	£1,920.00	£1,920.00
BGF11/10/11	BTCV Cymru	BTCV Cymru	Wetlands	£24,589.25	£8,224.25	£8,224.25
BGF24/10/11	Pond Conservation	Pond Conservation	Freshwater	£19,165.00	£13,990.00	£13,595.00
BGF25/10/11	Plantlife Cymru	Downey Hemp	Species Expert Group	£2,916.00	£750.00	£750.00
BGF28/10/11	NWWT	Bodwrog	Wetlands	£16,190.00	£11,434.00	£11,434.00
BGF29/10/11	British Dragonfly Society	British Dragonfly Society	Species Expert Group	£8,996.00	£4,231.00	£4,231.00
BGF32/10/11	Gwent Wildlife Trust	Gwent Wildlife Trust	Species Expert Group	£3,167.92	£8,932.92	£8,932.92
BGF21/10/11	RSPB Cymru	RSPB Cymru	Marine	£20,563.17	£10,789.84	£10,040.84
BGF27/10/11	Marine Conservation Society	Marine Conservation Society	Marine	£8,714.00	£6,218.00	£6,218.00
Total				£257,485.34	£84,320.01	£82,176.01

5. Actions from previous meeting

Minimum time for restocking after Phytophthora is 3 years, species not given yet but will be more diversity, updates to come from FR and Defra

Action Point – Chris Tucker – not completed

Send paper updating Woodland priorities to the group

Update WESG Action Plan

6. Remote Sensing presentation – Richard Lucas/Peter Bunting - Aberystwyth University (1pm-3pm)

Action Point – Richard Lucas

Circulate a paper on the benefits of having complete LiDar coverage for us to consider, it is due to be ready in April

7. Date Of Next Meetings

23rd June 2011 – venue to be decided – Hafod?

22nd September 2011 – venue - Ibers