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Ecosystems Knowledge Network news, events and resources.

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Dear Member,

Welcome to our December 2018 e-news. Updating our membership with current event opportunities, news and resources from across the UK.

News

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- Tool being developed which measures effect of land use change on ecosystem services
- HM Government opens consultation on biodiversity and environment net gain
- €2 million invested into campaign to mainstream valuation of nature by business

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Natural Wealth

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News

Ecosystems Knowledge Network launches strategy for 2018 - 2023



Wellbeing and prosperity, through a healthy natural environment

The strategy document sets out our vision and the delivery mechanisms for our three strategic aims:

1. To equip our members through accessible learning opportunities
2. To equip sectors and professions to connect the environment with wellbeing and prosperity
3. To catalyse innovative partnerships that will make a practical difference 'on the ground'

[Explore the full text.](#)

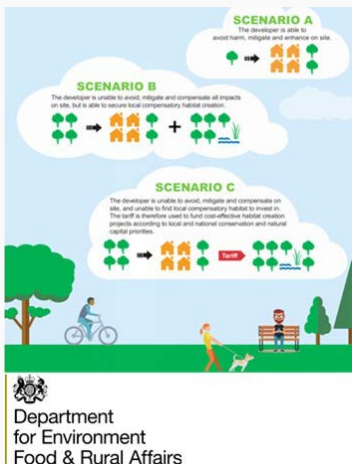
Tool being developed which measures effect of land use change on ecosystem services

'Eco-Metric' tool under development

Defra (Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs) and Natural England are working with a consortium led by the University of Oxford to develop the 'eco-metric', which aims to measure the ability of habitats to deliver ecosystem services. It can be used to measure the net change in natural capital and the ecosystem services it provides as a result of land-use change or development. [More detail.](#)



HM Government opens consultation on biodiversity and environment net gain



Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs launched consultation

Aiming to deliver on aspects of the 25 Year Environment Plan, the consultation covers: the objectives of net gain policy, the core concepts of biodiversity net gain and environmental net gain, and whether to make biodiversity net gain a requirement for development planning permission. Evidence received through this consultation will be considered for delivering biodiversity net gain successfully, and achieving the most for the environment and built developments.

[Read the full consultation.](#)

€2 million invested into campaign to mainstream valuation of nature by business



New collaborative campaign launched: We Value Nature

We Value Nature was launched at the natural capital week in Paris and will be supported over the next three years by €2 million in funding from the European Commission. The ambition of this collaborative campaign is to help increase the use of approaches such as natural capital and green infrastructure assessment, natural capital accounting, nature based solutions and related ecosystem-based ways of working in businesses across Europe. [Find out more.](#)

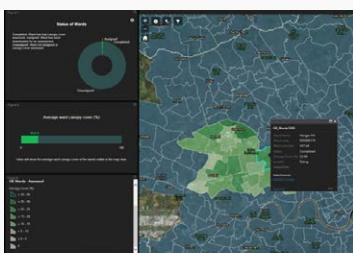
ONS green cities tool: results from Welsh pilot studies



Cardiff "marginally greener" than Newport

The project aim is to make use of new data sources and data science techniques to better understand the environment and its value. The tool itself, which examines the volume of visible roadside trees and hedges, has produced street-level scores for urban greenery. A UK-wide rollout is planned. [Examine the data maps produced so far.](#)

Expanding the urban canopy cover map of Britain



Citizen science deployed to review UK urban canopy cover

Trees for Cities, Brillianto and Forest Research are hosting a citizen science project to map out the canopy cover of Britain's urban areas. Building up from an existing database covering 283 English towns and cities this project aims to expand across the UK. The goal is to help improve urban tree management and identify areas that could benefit from future planting. [Get involved and view the interactive map.](#)

Events

Ecosystems Knowledge Network: Webinars



Business attitudes towards funding ecosystem services provided by urban forests

Thursday 31st January 2019, 1 to 2 pm

Presented by Dr Helen Davies of the University of Southampton and Dr Kieron Doick, Head of the Urban Forest Research Group at Forest Research, this webinar will explore the findings of a study into the willingness of business to pay for urban tree planting. [Register here.](#)



Building the foundations of a restoration economy - raising investment for habitat banks

Tuesday 15th November 2018, 1 to 2 pm

This webinar is for members of our Natural Capital Investment Forum. Professor David Hill (Chair: Northern Upland Chain Nature Partnership, Founder and Chair: Environment Bank & Chair: Plantlife International) will discuss ways of raising investment to establish habitat banks, which use conservation credits to try and engage developers in delivering biodiversity net gain. [Join the forum](#) then [register with WebEx](#).

Ecosystems Knowledge Network: Events

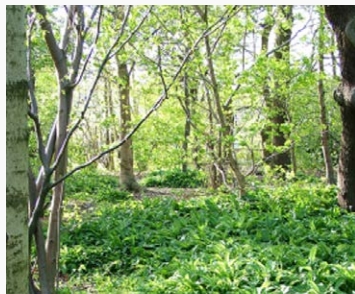


Natural Capital Investment Conference: Early bird savings end 7th December

28th February 2019, London

The programme for the Natural Capital Investment Conference boasts an impressive line-up of speakers and panellists, including Jennifer Pryce of Calvert Impact Capital and Andrew Mitchell, Founder of the Natural Capital Finance Alliance. Join this leading environmental finance event to learn how to be part of the key frontier in green finance for the UK. Organised by the Ecosystems Knowledge Network. [Learn more and book today](#).

Events organised by others



Creating Value from Woodland Conference

Monday 21st January 2019, Chester

In light of changing land management priorities and the plans for planting 50 million trees as part of the Northern Forest announced in HM government's 25 Year Plan for the Environment, Institute of Chartered Foresters, Mersey Forest and RICS are hosting an event to explore the opportunities of creating value from woodland. [Find event details here](#).



Coastal Futures conference 2019

23rd -24th January 2019, London

Running since 1994, this year the focus of the annual Coastal Futures conference is the necessity of working with people to achieve action. The title of the 2019 conference is: People, Partnership & Pioneering: Action & Ideas on Protecting Coasts and Seas. [Explore the event programme](#).

UKCP18 Projections in Scotland

Thursday 24th January 2019, Edinburgh

Published on the 26th of November, the UKCP18



projects give a state-of-the-art and regionally detailed analysis of climate change risk. In response Adaptation Scotland, ClimateXChange and the Met Office are reaching out to engage stakeholders in how to react to, capitalise on and share this new information. [Read the full event description.](#)

Resources



New website case study

MoorLIFE 2020, Moors for the Future Partnership

The MoorLIFE 2020 project aims to restore and protect areas of Active Blanket Bog within the South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation. This case study focuses in particular on the carbon audit undertaken as an aspect of this monitoring process. [Read on.](#)

With a strong response to our call for case studies last month expect more additions to this section of our site soon. [Browse our case studies.](#)



Natural Capital Assessment Gateway



New entry on the Natural Capital Assessment Gateway

Towards a Register of Exmoor's Natural Capital

Commissioned by the Exmoor Society, this study sought to find whether a natural capital approach could be applied at the level of individual land holdings, taking account of Exmoor's special landscape character. This study and more are accessible through the free-to-use Natural Capital Assessment Gateway. [Explore the Gateway.](#)



Report: Mainstreaming international biodiversity goals for the private sector

A report published by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee outlines 14 case studies that demonstrate the impacts and dependencies of business on biodiversity across multiple social and economic contexts. These examples are analysed with the intention of showing the links between business decisions and international biodiversity policy, aiming to raise the visibility and relevance the Sustainable Development Goals. [Read the full report.](#)



Natural Capital Coalition Reports and This is Natural Capital 2018

Documents emerge from Paris Natural Capital Week
The Natural Capital Coalition have published their 2018 edition of "This Is Natural Capital" with a variety of articles covering topics including scaling-up natural capital, the multidimensional value of forest, cross-sector collaboration and more. [Access the document here.](#)



SNH release long-term trend data on Scotland's breeding birds

Concern for declining upland birds

Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) have released official statistics tracking the abundance of Scotland's terrestrial breeding birds using results from the BTO/JNCC/RSPB Breeding Bird Survey. [Read the press release.](#)



Latest UK climate projections released UKCP2018 emerges from the Met Office's Hadley Centre Climate Programme

The UK Climate Projections provides the most up-to-date assessment of how the climate of the UK may change over the 21st century. This information may be particularly useful for making local climate change risk assessments and adaptation plans for natural assets. [View the projections.](#)



Scotland: Our Natural Wealth

Watch this short film produced by the Scottish Forum on Natural Capital

'Scotland: our natural wealth' was produced earlier in 2018 by the Scottish Forum on Natural Capital. It showcases the importance of Scotland's natural capital and the innovative work happening to protect and enhance 'our natural wealth'. [Watch the film.](#)

Send us your news - do you have project news or reports you want to share, new tools or other resources? Let us know via info@ecosystemsknowledge.net



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