



Panel Session 1: Measuring Biodiversity for Policy Purposes.

Organized by: Alex Bush (Lancaster), Katherine Simpson and Nick Hanley (Glasgow)

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Concept:

Initiatives such as Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) are leading to an expansion of regulated markets in biodiversity credits; whilst in the UK, the development of new agri-environment schemes will incentivize landowners to increase conservation actions for a monetary reward. In both cases, the policy designer needs to decide on how best to measure changes in biodiversity. How biodiversity change is measured – the choice of metric – will impact on how markets in biodiversity perform, and on the emergence of sufficient conservation actions to achieve national targets for recovery.

This panel session will bring together ecologists and economists to discuss new insights into the best choices of metrics for biodiversity.

Preliminary Structure: 1.5 hours

- 15 minute opening presentation by Alex/Nick/Katherine focusing on their work in the UK;
- One- hour panel discussion with 4 panelists, made up of 2 economists (Ben Groom and Brett Day) and 2 ecologists (TBA)
- 5 min responses from each participant.
- 40 minute discussion.

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