



Upland Hydrology Group



# Exmoor Mires Project Conference

## Celebrating 5 years of research

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Dulverton Town Hall, 27 Fore Street, Dulverton, Somerset, TA22 9EX

The Exmoor Mires Project is holding a two day conference to showcase their monitoring and research programme findings. The project has been working in partnership to restore degraded peatland on Exmoor since 1998. Alongside this restoration work there has been a comprehensive monitoring programme set up to understand the effects of peatland restoration. The conference will present findings which show positive changes to peatland biodiversity, hydrology and carbon storage alongside the extensive palaeo-environmental and geo-archaeological research that has been carried out. The findings are focused on the last 5 year of the project which has been led by South West Water as the major funder in a partnership with local and national stakeholders and Exmoor's moorland farmers. The conference is supported and co-hosted by The Heart of Exmoor Project and the Upland Hydrology Group.

### PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 18 <sup>th</sup> March	
0900 – 0930	Registration and coffee on arrival
0930 – 0940	<b>Conference Chair and Opening Address</b> <a href="#">David Mount – Upland Hydrology Group</a>
0940 – 0950	Development of the Exmoor Mires Restoration Partnership and its Monitoring Programme <a href="#">Dr David Smith – Project Manager</a>
<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Biodiversity and Agriculture</b>
0950 – 1010	16 years of Exmoor mires vegetation surveying; a volunteer's perspective <a href="#">Andy Glendinning and Anne Hand – EMP</a>
1010 – 1020	Breeding birds of Exmoor's Mires <a href="#">Helen Booker – RSPB</a>
1020 – 1030	Changes in the invertebrate fauna of Exmoor's mires in response to restoration works <a href="#">David Boyce – Independent Ecologist</a>
1030 – 1050	Assessing the impact of mire restoration on agricultural productivity <a href="#">Guy Freeman – University of Exeter</a>
1050 – 1100	<b>Session 1 – Q &amp; A</b>
1100 – 1130	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>Session 2</b>	<b>Hydrology</b>
1130 – 1150	Ecohydrological monitoring of the Exmoor Mires project <a href="#">Prof Richard Brazier – University of Exeter</a>
1150 – 1210	Effect of restoration on baseflows <a href="#">Kate Bowers – Environment Agency</a>
1210 – 1230	Four years of water quality measurements on Exmoor – Initial changes in water quality after-restoration <a href="#">Dr Emilie Grand-Clement – South West Water/University of Exeter</a>
1230 – 1250	Understanding the ecohydrology of Exmoor's peatlands before and after restoration <a href="#">Dr David Luscombe – University of Exeter</a>
1250 – 1300	<b>Session 2 – Q &amp; A</b>
1300 – 1350	<b>Lunch</b>



ENGLISH HERITAGE





**Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March cont . . .**

<b>Session 3</b>	<b>Greenhouse Gases</b>
1350 – 1410	Greenhouse gas overview and carbon storage in mires <a href="#">Dr Ed Hornibrook – University of Bristol</a>
1410 – 1430	Methane emissions from Exmoor mires <a href="#">Adam McAleer – University of Bristol</a>
1430 – 1450	Carbon Dioxide fluxes from a drained Molinia caerulea dominated bog – how damaged was it, and has ditch blocking made a difference? <a href="#">Naomi Gatis – University of Exeter</a>
1450 – 1500	<b>Session 3 – Q &amp; A</b>
1500 – 1530	<b>Break and Refreshments</b>
<b>Session 4</b>	<b>Historic Environment</b>
1530 – 1550	Archaeological Science and the Exmoor Mires Project <a href="#">Dr Lee Bray – EMP Historic Environment Officer</a>
1550 – 1610	Volcanic ash in Exmoor’s mires <a href="#">Dr Alison MacLeod – Royal Holloway University of London</a>
1610 – 1630	Geoarchaeological investigations on Exmoor; reconstructing the human-environmental dynamic of Early Holocene Exmoor <a href="#">Dr Chris Carey – University of Brighton</a>
1630 – 1640	<b>Session 4 – Q &amp; A</b>
1640 – 1650	Summing up and closing remarks
1700	Break and freshening up before Buffet Supper
<b>1900 – 2100</b>	<b>Buffet Supper with <a href="#">Guest Speakers</a>:</b> Martin Ross, Director, Rainstorms Devon Ltd – ‘How SWW got into Mires management’ Monica Read, Business Services and Sustainability Director, South West Water ‘South West Water investment in catchment management’ Clifton Bain, Director, IUCN UK Peatland Programme - ‘A new era for peatlands’
2100 – 2300	Local pubs in Dulverton

**Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March – Field Trip**

0930 – 1015	Depart from Dulverton and Travel to Site
1015 – 1230	<b>Spooners</b> <a href="#">Dr David Smith and Prof Richard Brazier</a> and various research students
1230 – 1330	<b>Lunch in Simonsbath</b>
1330 – 1345	Travel to Site
1345 – 1530	<b>Lanacombe</b> <a href="#">Dr Lee Bray and Morag Angus</a>
1530 – 1600	Site to Dulverton and Site to Tiverton Parkway

