

# WESG Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Ibers – Williams Davies room  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2011  
10am – 3pm

## Attendees

Chris Tucker – Chair	FCW
Jim Latham	& Hilary Miller CCW
Nigel Ajax Lewis	Wales & West Wildlife Trust
Arfon Williams	RSPB (Reg Thorpe deputy)
Jane Holloway – Minutes	FCW
David Jenkins	Coed Cymru
Celia Thomas	Pembrokeshire National Park
Richard Lucas	University of Wales - Aberystwyth

## Minutes

### 1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies from

- Peter Bunting (Richard Lucas deputising)
- John Healey
- Jerry Langford
- Emma Guy
- Richard Jones
- Sarah Mellor
- Chris Smith

### 2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

AWI meeting tomorrow with Chris Tucker – ahead of schedule –will be done by end of March.

Feedback on section 42 list – priority species

Forestry Commission Wales pages on Phytophthora ramorum hyperlink below

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-85TDX6>

Action Point – Chris Tucker to check with Andy Sowerby

What time span after felling will be the re-stock plans for areas cleared?

Action Point – Jane – Attached to email

Circulate LBAP list from Emma Guy

Action Point – Chris Tucker

Send paper updating Woodland priorities to the group

Update WESG Action Plan

Richard Maxwell Lucas – University of Wales Aberystwyth – update

- Global Mapping – requested the groups help
- Published Journal paper ..... – Journal Confidential not for circulation (attached to email)

Habitat map for Wales – mapping habitat ecological knowledge from remote sensing – upgraded to phase 1 – very detailed 2003-2006 maps phase 1 released 2012

Baseline for climate change – and monitoring system for biodiversity. Samples available mapping all hedgerows in Wales. 5 metre pixel – map is updateable.

EU project – look at changes in Dyfi Estuary – long term monitoring system – 10/20 years will be good resource.

Light Detection and Ranging LiDAR resource management applications fall into two general categories: 1) vegetation mapping and 2) topographic mapping.

Vegetation mapping:

LiDAR is used to measure the three-dimensional characteristics of plant canopies and can estimate the vertical structure of vegetation communities.

Project on LiDAR data with RSPB looking at Lake Vyrnwy – ground data – will give demonstration in next meeting. LiDAR can do tree height – biomass amount etc

Shape of trees – 1 understory – 2 understory etc

Terrestrial Laser scanning - Terrestrial laser scanning provides highly accurate, three-dimensional images enabling designers to experience and work directly with real-world conditions by viewing and manipulating rich point-clouds in computer-aided design software. By sweeping a laser beam over a scene or object, the laser scanner is able to record millions of 3D points. These X,Y,Z measurements can be imported into CAD or 3D application software and displayed on a computer monitor as a "point cloud" which has photographic qualities portrayed in one-colour, gray-scale, false-colour or even true colour. Since all laser scan points are 3D, the files can be viewed, navigated, measured and analyzed as 3D models.

- EA has flown 8% Wales
- Would like 3 dimensional and 2d as a combined map - 5 year baselines

### Action Point – All Group

See attached PowerPoint slide – would like group to fill in table – by end January.

LiDAR cost £5 million

Habitat Mapping data held by CCW

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### 3. WBP Items for ecosystem groups - Chris Tucker including actions from:

Ecosystem Chairs Group – Diana Reynolds

We have been asked to identify no more than three key contacts from the list, (sent with agenda) with whom you would like to work to seek improved outcomes for your groups ecosystems/area of responsibility.

As a group list 3 key contacts & who from our group who will speak / email them depending on the themes taken forward - A sentence or brief paragraph for each

theme about no more than three key topics with which you would like to begin discussions.

### Action Point – All Group

The three themes below could be picked out, please email if you would prefer anything else. Looking for volunteers to take this forward to forward to relevant key contacts

Three themes for Diana Reynolds

- Remote sensing / setting baseline for condition
- Glastir – targeting & dissemination of information
- Guidance – gap – how to do/and keep updated? Not for each type of species – 1 with list of different species associated with different type of woodland – group looking at existing guidance

Three Contacts chosen were:

- Head of Climate Change & Water Division
- Head of Farming Development Division
- Head – Rural Policy Unit

Please email if someone else is more appropriate

Policy Group – EIA regs email

Action Point – Chris Tucker

Steering Group - send out email of actions – Chris Tucker

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#### 4. Glastir Woodland Management grants - Patrick Green FCW

Patrick Green – gave presentation on Glastir Woodland Management grants.

Link to Glastir pages on FCW website

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-6J2GXD>

Action Point – Jane Holloway – Done

Send presentation to group

Link to A guide to increasing tree species diversity in Wales

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-8bag9s>

General discussion about Glastir

- Celia Thomas recommended that the group request that WAG/Glastir get data available from Local Records Centre (LRC)
- Use information from LRC to target – more strategically
- Question – what will happen if scheme is over subscribes?
- Will looked and target on priorities i.e. Woodland for Wales/PAWs restoration, forest priority species etc down to CCF.
- Training – Glastir has training element – Arfon Griffith co-ordinating this.
- Chair suggested that the group should have a Comms Plan to get the word out about Glastir (Flyer available with general information) – This group should promote to LBAP groups.
- Had about 2900 applications so far
- Grey control
- Where would you like to target grey control?

- Native woodland sites

### Action Point – Chris Tucker to check with Patrick Green

Seek clarification on – targeted element

Scoring on weighting – non Glastir farmers etc.

### 5. Woodland prioritisation update - Jim Latham -

Provide guidance – deliver via internet – supported by LBAP – NEF bundle of info – conservation action on the ground – mapped information – nested so nothing left off. 3 levels

1 Maps of total resource and areas between (connectivity)

2 Key clusters of sites – same level as Glastir

3 Level - each Ecosystem group have to identify projects

Analysis needs to be done on what map shows

Jim showed a sample Map used for Glastir when woodland was used as target element.

Discussed issues around Himalayan Balsam

Floodplain woodland – needs to be dealt with higher up the catchment

Red squirrels

Targeted woodlands

### 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.

Timescale – send examples ASAP

Hilary Miller - Revision of the wood pasture and parkland HAP.

Co-ordinate the information on the revised definition – focus is very much not vegetation type more of a structural feature. Interrogating Spp – Parkland and wood pasture – Ancient or veteran trees – importance of deadwood – micro habitat

Definition slightly different – UK level then country takes forward – to more detailed level.

Hilary will circulate info after next meeting (within the next few months)

### 6. Action Plan - Chris Tucker

Some changes, dates and add Comms plan for Glastir

### 7. AOB

### 8. DONM

In March – Chris to talk to Richard Lucas for dates