

A CIWEM-CMS Conference

World Wetlands Day Conference 2008

Taking forward the Wetland Agenda

**29 – 30 January 2008
London**

This conference will actively engage and update the wetland community in helping promote effective input into water planning policies that will affect various activities over the next five years. Main issues are:

- PR09 – wetland policies for water company investment
- River Basin District Planning – wetland policies for programmes of measures
- Post-Pitt Review Flood Risk Management policy for the UK – the role of wetlands
- BAP new targets – implementation and delivery
- Wetlands Strategy – post workshop report

Sponsors: Mouchel WWF-UK Natural England
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There is a comprehensive, low cost sponsorship package. If you are interested in sponsoring this event please contact Justin Taberham at CIWEM on 0207 831 3110 or justin@ciwem.org

Organised by CMS - Coastal Management for Sustainability

PLEASE FORWARD TO COLLEAGUES WHO MAY BE INTERESTED

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Background to the conference

World Wetlands Day (WWD) marks the signing of the Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the shores of the Caspian Sea. The World Wetlands Day conferences have become major events for the wetland community as a whole to meet and share their views. The focus of the WWD 2008 conference is wetland policy, how this is influenced and implemented. **The aim of the meeting is to:**

Actively engage and update the wetland community in helping promote effective input into water planning policies that will affect various activities over the next five years. The main issues are:

- PR09 – *wetlands policies for water company investment*
- River Basin District Planning – *wetlands policies for programmes of measures*
- The post Pitt Review Flood Risk Management policy for UK – *the role of wetlands*
- BAP new targets – *implementation and delivery*
- Wetlands Strategy – *post workshop report*

In addition there will be wide range of inspirational talks, network opportunities, guided tour of the London Wetlands Centre and sharing best practice.

We are at a critical point in the water planning cycle since both the Periodic Review process (PR09) and the Water Framework Directive River Basin District Planning process are at key points where consultation and inputs are being sought. The conference will brief delegates on these key areas of delivery and challenge them to make their views heard in the debates that are underway.

The Periodic Review Process - How do we make the most of it for wetlands? The Periodic review process is upon us once again and a number of important Ofwat consultations are underway. Is there any hope of making an impact on spending to assist wetlands whilst delivering the services of the water companies?

River Basin District Planning – How do we make the most of it for wetlands? The River Basin District Planning process will be in full swing in 2008 – how will people influence and have any input into this? What should we be looking for in the Programmes of Measures in relation to wetlands?

Lessons from the floods – can wetlands benefit from major flood schemes? The spend on flood risk management is being gradually geared up and there is a long standing debate about whether more could be done to encourage the development of wetlands in this context. In this respect the summer flooding had a major negative effect on wetland areas in Gloucestershire. Do we fully understand what we are asking for?

The UK BAP process and wetlands A revised listing of BAP species and habitats appeared in the summer of 2007 – how will this affect the way we approach wetland habitats and species conservation and management? What will be the key aspects of delivery that we need to focus on?

Wetland strategy debate Do we have a co-ordinated strategy for wetlands? Your views on this are likely to depend on which organisation you work for. This workshop on the 29th will explore just how our wetland policies join up. It will consider how we measure and assess progress and what more we might do to communicate what we are aiming to achieve. [Limited places: first come – first served]. The outcomes of the workshop will be presented on the 30th

The Wetland Vision for England Considerable progress has now been made on this project which will be launched later in 2008 – this will be an update

Programme

Tuesday January 29th

12.00 London Wetlands Centre

There will be a number of **themed walks and discussion groups** led by Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust staff

14.15 -16.30 **Workshop:** Debate – **Does there need to be a UK / England Strategy for Wetlands?** [limited numbers: first come first served]

Rob McInnes WWT, **Rob Oates** WWF and **Chris Rostron** The Wildlife Trusts

17.30 – 21.00 Evening Wine Reception – Brunei Gallery, SOAS, Russell Square, London

Chairman: CIWEM President

18.30 **Wetlands – the future challenges** **Jeremy Purseglove** Mott MacDonald

19.00 **International Riverprize** **Alastair Driver** Ambassador, International Riverfoundation

19.20 mins **Winner of Living Wetlands Award 2007 Sutcliffe Park, Quaggy River Flood Risk Management Scheme** **Richard Copas** Environment Agency

19.40 **Announcement of the winner of the Living Wetlands Awards 2008**

Reception continues

Wednesday January 30th Brunei Gallery, SOAS, Russell Square, London

9.45 **World Wetlands Day - The RAMSAR Convention: Healthy Wetlands – Healthy People**
Alastair Burn Natural England

10.05 **Feedback from the Wetland workshop: Do we need a strategy for wetlands?**
Rob McInnes The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust – 10 + 10mins

10.25 *The Periodic Review Process - How do we make the most of it for wetlands?*

Facilitated by: **Amanda Craig** Natural England

15 mins **Frank White** Chief Scientist, United Utilities

15 mins **Phil Burston** RSPB

10 minute discussion

11.05 *River Basin District Planning – How do we make the most of it for wetlands?*

Facilitated by: **Rob Oates** WWF

15 mins **Chris Uttley** CCW

15 mins **Paul Learoyd** Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and Wildlife Link RBDP representative

10 minute discussion

11.45 Break and refreshments

12.30 **Wetlands and Flooding**

Facilitated by: **Chris Rostron**

Lessons from the floods – can wetlands benefit from major flood schemes? [post-Pitt Review preliminary findings]

15 mins **Colin Studholm** Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust – lessons from the summer floods

15 mins **Duncan Huggett** Environment Agency

10 mins discussion

13.10 **The UK BAP process and wetlands – change and implementation**

Facilitator: **Ann Skinner** Environment Agency

15 mins **Iain Diack** Natural England

15 mins **Nick Droy** RSPB

10 minute discussion

13.50 Break 2 – Refreshments

14.30 **Breakout Groups on PR09, River Basin District Planning, Flooding and BAP**

15.15 **The Wetland Vision for England – An update** **Carrie Hume** RSPB

20 min presentation +10 min Q&A

15.45 **Feedback from the workshops**

16.05 **Conference resume– taking forward the wetland agenda**

16.15 Conference ends - refreshments

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The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) is the leading professional and qualifying body for those involved in sustainable environmental management. With thousands of members in 98 countries, CIWEM provides a forum for debate through conferences, networking, policy statements and publications, and supplies independent advice to government, academia, the media and the public.
www.ciwem.org

The Venue: The venue is the School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS), Russell Square, London. This is a new, air conditioned lecture theatre, with all the modern AV aids and professional projectionists; there will be ample space to accommodate the anticipated delegate numbers.

Accommodation: There is a wide range of accommodation available in the area and delegates will receive a hotel list when they book.

The Organisers: The conference is being organised by Bob Earll of Coastal Management for Sustainability (CMS), in partnership with CIWEM.

Conference fee:

| | | | |
|--|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Conference fee | £155 | VAT £27.12 | £182.12 |
| Concession rate* | £125 | VAT £21.87 | £146.87 |
| Group Rate [3 or more paying together] | £135/person | VAT £23.62 | £158.62 each |
| Full time Post Graduate student/ Retired CIWEM members | £45 | VAT £7.87 | £ 52.87 |

*Our aim is to make the conferences as inclusive as possible. The concession rate applies to individuals and organisations that clearly work from limited budgets in the academic or voluntary sector. We will review this on a case by case basis and place individuals and organisations on a register for future reference. Please contact us first by email to bob.earll@coastms.co.uk

before booking if you think you qualify.

- The fee includes food and refreshments and the conference papers
- Delegates with special needs should make this clear on booking

Conditions:

- Payment may be by cheque, BACS, credit card or online at www.coastms.co.uk
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- Payment should be completed **BEFORE** the event; otherwise entry may be refused
- Refunds (less £20 administration charge) will only be issued for cancellation more than ten working days before the meeting; substitutes are permitted

Further details from Bob Earll: Phone / Fax 01531 890415 Joining details – maps, directions and hotels – programme are on the CMS website: www.coastms.co.uk or Email: bob.earll@coastms.co.uk

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World Wetlands Day Conference 2008
Jan 29-30th London 2008

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