



Staying Connected for Conservation in a Changed World:

UKOTCF's 6th conference on conservation and sustainability in UK Overseas Territories, Crown Dependencies and other small island states

By Zoom
2nd, 3rd, 9th & 10th March 2021

Outline Programme (as at 21 December 2020)

(For information and proceedings of earlier conferences, see <https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/our-conferences/>.)

Note: This is a preliminary programme, and includes listings only of the main topic sessions. It does not include posters which are only now being submitted (see <https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/ukotcf-online-conference-2021-poster-presenters/>). These will be added to the programme later.

It does not include either the contents of the shorter sessions later in each day. These sessions on all 4 days of the conference will include at least one 1-hour session when poster presenters will be asked to be online to give immediate feedback on questions posted in the session. Another session will be devoted to the first Sir Richard and Lady Ground Lecture on Nature Conservation in UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies. The days of the conference on which each will occur will be indicated later. We will also be inviting territory music etc. to play in some of the breaks (see link on <https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/onlineconference2021>).

In each main session, talks will generally each last 15 minutes and each will be followed by 5 minutes of questions and answers. Each topic session will end with a general discussion, focussed on the draft conclusions and recommendations, which will be circulated to participants before the conference for comment.

Times, dates (within the conference days) and sessions of each session and talk may change at any time, but the chance of this reduces as the conference days near. Talks are subject areas, and not all are yet titles. Note that multi-author papers will have the correct order of authors after the first in the abstract but this may have been changed here.)

UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum is pleased to acknowledge support for this conference from the following sponsoring organisations and Peter Flockhart. (Others interested in exploring sponsorship should see <https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Note-for-Sponsors201208.pdf> and/or contact hello@ukotcf.org, cc jmales@ukotcf.org.)



Day 1: Tuesday 2nd March

12:00 Noon – 14:30 GMT: **Main topic 1:**

Progress (or otherwise) in reaching environmental targets

Session team:

Catherine Wensink (UKOTCF; Coordinator); Leigh Morris (Manx Wildlife Trust); Joan Walley (UKOTCF; former chair, House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee); Paul Cawsey (UKOTCF); Dr Mike Pienkowski (UKOTCF)

Talks include:

- UKOTCF assessments of progress in Environment Charter implementation, Aichi Targets & Sustainable Development Goals: setting the scene for the future (Catherine Wensink, UKOTCF)
- A biodiversity strategy for the Isle of Man and a mid-term assessment of its implementation (Richard G Selman & A M Thomas, Department of Environment, Food & Agriculture, Isle of Man)
- St Helena's integrated Peaks Implementation Plan (Peaks Project Development Group)
- Producing and maintaining a dynamic catalogue of the endemic taxa of the UKOTs and CDs (Dr Jamie Males, UKOTCF);
- Taking UKOT & CD needs in mind in negotiating future target-setting, in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (Defra; TBC).

15:00 – 17:30 GMT: **Main topic 2:**

Engaging people; the wider benefits of conservation and healthy ecosystems

Session team:

John Pinel (National Trust for Jersey; Coordinator); Jake Kuyer (Economics For The Environment Consultancy Ltd); Dr Keith Bensusan (Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society); Camilla Nichol (UK Antarctic Heritage Trust); Iain Orr, Dr Mike Pienkowski & Catherine Wensink (UKOTCF)

Talks include:

- NCA: Providing economic evidence for a Green Recovery (The economic benefits of conservation; green economy; green recovery) (Jake Kuyer, eftec: Economics For The Environment Consultancy Ltd)
- The benefits of conservation: a non-financial view (John Pinel, National Trust for Jersey)
- Behaviour Change for Conservation - approaches and tactics to inspire/enable more people to do something positive for nature (Leigh Morris, Manx Wildlife Trust)
- *Buy Back Bermuda* programme (Myles Darrell, Bermuda National Trust; & Alison Copeland, Bermuda Department of Environment and Natural Resources)
- Championing UK's most special species: the wildlife of the UKOTs & CDs (Lord [John] Randall, UKOTCF & House of Lords)

17:30 – 20:00 GMT: **Meal-break, followed by shorter sessions**

Day 2: Wednesday 3rd March

12:00 Noon – 14:30 GMT: **Main topic 3:**

Facilitating local leads in conservation

Session team:

Dr Mike Pienkowski (Coordinator); Dr Rebecca Cairns-Wicks (St Helena Research Institute); Sarita Francis (Montserrat National Trust); Roland Gauvain (Alderney Wildlife Trust); Catherine Wensink & Catriona Porter (UKOTCF)

Talks include:

- UKOTCF/MNT terrestrial/coastal work in Montserrat *Adopt a Home for Wildlife* (UKOTCF)
- Assessing the Viability of Alternative and Improved Livelihoods in Sustainable Tourism at the East Caicos Key Biodiversity Area (Don Stark, Turks & Caicos Reef Fund; and Kathleen McNary Wood, SWA Environmental)
- Alderney NGO working all levels; from grassroots community action to influencing governments decision making (Roland Gauvain, Alderney Wildlife Trust)
- St Helena Millennium Forest (Dr Rebecca Cairns-Wicks, St Helena Research Institute; Martina Peters & Shayla Ellick, St Helena National Trust)
- Falklands Conservation's Wild Ambition, Partnerships and local leaders in the Falkland Islands (Dr Esther Bertram, Falklands Conservation)

15:00 – 17:30 GMT: **Main topic 4:**

Coping with recovery after hurricanes and natural disasters by building resilience

Session team:

Dr Katie Medcalf (Joint Coordinator; Environment Systems); Peter Beckingham (Joint Coordinator; UKOTCF; former Governor, Turks & Caicos Islands); Bryan Naqqi Manco (TCI Department of Environment & Coastal Resources); Dr Stephanie Martin (Tristan da Cunha Government); Susan Zaluski (Jost Van Dyke Preservation Society, BVI); Dr Mike Pienkowski & Catherine Wensink, UKOTCF)

Talks include:

- After the volcano – 20+ years on (Sarita Francis, Montserrat National Trust)
- Tristan da Cunha storms
- Mangrove restoration project in British Virgin Islands (Susan Zaluski, Jost Van Dyke Preservation Society)
- The situation in TCI (Lormeka Williams & Bryan Naqqi Manco, Department of Environment & Coastal Resources; Winema Sanders-Penn, Turks & Caicos National Trust; & Don Stark, Turks & Caicos Reef Fund)
- Using ecosystem modelling to prioritise nature-based resiliency building actions in Anguilla (Farah Mukhida, Louise Soanes, Anguilla National Trust; Katie Medcalf, K. Naumann, S. Pike, Environment Systems Ltd; Charlie Butt, Lyndon John, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; C. Rouse, Department of Natural Resources, Anguilla; & C. Samuel, Department of Disaster Management, Anguilla)

17:30 – 20:00 GMT: **Meal-break, followed by shorter sessions**

Day 3: Tuesday 9th March

12:00 Noon – 14:30 GMT: **Main topic 5:**

Nature-based solutions for the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration: Terrestrial

Session team:

Kathleen McNary Wood (Joint Coordinator; SWA Environmental); Dr Jamie Males (Joint Coordinator; UKOTCF); Frederick J Burton (Cayman Islands Department of Environment); Julia Henney (States of Guernsey); Alison Neil (South Georgia Heritage Trust); Dr Mike Pienkowski & Catherine Wensink (UKOTCF)

Talks include:

- Recovery of the endemic Grand Cayman blue iguana, the need for similar measures for the endemic iguana of Little Cayman and Cayman Brac, and efforts to control the invasive green iguana (Fred Burton, Cayman Islands Department of Environment and formerly Blue Dragon Recovery Program)
- Rewilding as a tool to restore the biodiversity of UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies (Rob Stoneman, Rewilding Europe)
- Balancing the Scale: Fifteen Years of Pine Rockland Conservation and Restoration in Turks & Caicos Islands (B Naqqi Manco & Junel Blaise, Department of Environment and Coastal Resources, Turks and Caicos Islands Government)
- Biosecurity: the key to safeguarding South Georgia's ecology (Ross James, Government of South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands)
- Managing the mosquito problem while protecting biodiversity at the Akrotiri wetland, Sovereign Base Areas, Cyprus (Kelly Martinou, Chris Taylor, Laboratory of Vector Ecology & Applied Entomology, Joint Services Health Unit, British Forces Cyprus; Jodey Peyton, Marc Botham, Helen Roy, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology; Ioanna Angelidou, both previously named organisations; Pantelis Charilaou, Graham Johnstone, SBAA HQ Env. Dept.)

15:00 – 17:30 GMT: **Main topic 6:**

Nature-based solutions for the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration: Marine

Session team:

Amdeep Sanghera (Joint Coordinator; Marine Conservation Society); Dace Ground (Coordinator; UKOTCF); Don Stark (Turks & Caicos Reef Fund); Dr Nicola Weber (Exeter University; formerly Ascension Island Conservation Officer); Michele Christian (Pitcairn Island Divisional Manager of Environmental, Conservation & Natural Resources); Clare Brook (Blue Marine Foundation); Dr Mike Pienkowski & Catherine Wensink (UKOTCF)

Talks include:

- Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease, Turks & Caicos Islands – A UKOT’s Outbreak Case Study (Alizee Zimmermann & Don Stark, Turks and Caicos Reef Fund)
- Ascension Island marine spatial planning (Diane Baum, Ascension Conservation Department)
- Stakeholder Engagement in Marine Spatial Planning at Bermuda (Dr Tammy M Warren, Sarah A Manuel, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of Bermuda; Cheryl-Ann Mapp, Vanessa L Dick, Waitt Institute, USA)
- The Nature of Ecosystem Restoration: Smaller steps towards bigger solutions in the British Virgin Islands (Shannon Gore, Association of Reef Keepers, British Virgin Islands)
- Establishing the Tristan da Cunha marine protected area

17:30 – 20:00 GMT: **Meal-break, followed by shorter sessions**

Day 4: Wednesday 10th March

12:00 Noon – 14:30 GMT: **Main topic 7:**

Funding mechanisms – tourism and alternatives

Session team:

Dr Howard Nelson (Joint Coordinator; Fauna & Flora International & University of Cambridge); Nancy Pascoe (Joint Coordinator; Deputy Director, National Parks Trust of the Virgin Islands); Lord (John) Randall (UKOTCF; House of Lords; Catherine Leonard (International National Trust Organisation); Mike Jervis (St Helena National Trust); Dr Mike Pienkowski & Catherine Wensink (UKOTCF)

Talks include:

- Restoring tourism income - experiences from the INTO family (Catherine Leonard, International National Trusts Organisation)
- Alternatives to tourism income for conservation bodies (Nancy Pascoe, Deputy Director, National Parks Trust of the Virgin Islands & Dr Howard Nelson, Fauna & Flora International & University of Cambridge)
- Update re consequences of Brexit (Keith Bensusan, Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society)
- Long-term funding models for conservation (Clare Brook (Blue Marine Foundation)
- Can UK Government grant-funding be made more effective for UKOT conservation? (UKOTCF, bringing together comments from territories)

15:00 – 17:30 GMT: **Main topic 8:**

Plugging the gap: innovative approaches and capacity-building

Session team:

Helen Pitman (Joint Coordinator; Chagos Conservation Trust); Dr Nigel Haywood (Joint Coordinator; UKOTCF); Alison Copeland (Government of Bermuda Department of Environment and Natural Resources); Graham Johnstone (Cyprus Sovereign Base Area Administration); Dr Mike Pienkowski & Catherine Wensink (UKOTCF)

Talks include:

- Channel Islands pollinator project – Guernsey and beyond (Vanessa Crispin & Barry Wells. Guernsey)
- Plugging the Gap: With Professional Volunteers in the Cayman Islands (Cayman Islands Department of Environment)
- Recent innovations in conducting co-operative research with more-than-humans (Kathleen McNary Wood, SWA Environmental, Turks & Caicos Islands & USA)
- New research and higher education facilities in the territories (Sean Dettman & Dr Amy Hall, Jersey International Centre for Advanced Studies; Dr Rebecca Cairns-Wicks, St Helena Research Institute; Dr Darren Fa, University of Gibraltar)
- Detecting patterns of marine wildlife around islands with and without invasive rats, using long-range UAV images (Melissa Schiele, Loughborough University’s Wolfson School of Mechanical, Electrical and Manufacturing Engineering; and the Zoological Society of London)

17:30 – 20:00 GMT: **Meal-break, followed by shorter sessions**