



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

Provisional Programme (as at 16 February 2021)

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

Note: This is a preliminary programme, and does not include any late poster submissions (see <https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/ukotcf-online-conference-2021-poster-presenters/>), nor the contents of possible additional short sessions in the main breaks. We are inviting territory music etc. to play in some of the breaks (see link on <https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/onlineconference2021>).

Each topic session will end with a general discussion, focussed on confirming the draft conclusions and recommendations, 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. 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.)

Day 1: Tuesday 2nd March

12:00 – 13:00 GMT: **Opening of the conference:**

- 12:00 Welcome and conference arrangements
- 12:20 Statement by The Rt Hon Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park, Minister of State for Pacific and the Environment at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- 12:40 Address by Hon. Professor John Cortés, HM Government of Gibraltar's Minister for the Environment, Sustainability, Climate Change, Heritage, Education and Culture, and Chairman of the UK Overseas Territories & Crown Dependencies Environment Ministers' Council

UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum is pleased to acknowledge support for this conference from the following sponsoring organisations, Peter Flockhart and anonymous donors. (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.)



13:00 Break

13:15 – 15:50 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*); Dr Mike Pienkowski (*UKOTCF*)

13:15 Introduction

13:25 UKOTCF assessments of progress in Environment Charter implementation, Aichi Targets & Sustainable Development Goals: setting the scene for the future (Catherine Wensink, Mike Pienkowski, Sarah Barnsley & Emma Cary, *UKOTCF*)

13:40 Q&A

13:45 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*)

14:00 Q&A

14:05 Restoring St Helena's Internationally Important Cloud Forest for Wildlife, Water Security and Socio-economic Development through developing and implementing an integrated Management Plan (*Peaks Project Development Group*: Isabel Peters, Vanessa Thomas-Williams, Steve Coates, Dr Rebecca Cairns-Wicks, *St Helena Government*; Martina Peters, *St Helena National Trust*; Lawrence Muranganwa, *Connect St Helena*; Sarah Havery, *RSPB*)

14:20 Q&A

14:25 Break

14:30 Producing and maintaining a dynamic catalogue of the endemic taxa of the UKOTs and CDs (Dr Jamie Males, Dr Mike Pienkowski, Catherine Wensink, Ed Lim & Ashleigh Atkinson, *UKOTCF*)

14:45 Q&A

14:50 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 (Dr Jane Stratford, *Head of UK Delegation to the CBD, Defra*).

15:05 Q&A

15:10 Discussion

15:45 **Conference photo**

16:00 Session end [there may be extra material included in the topic session, in which case the session-end would be at 16:20]

Related posters

1.07P. The Importance of Marine Biodiversity across the United Kingdom's Overseas Territories (Owen Hallett, *University of Exeter*)

1.08P. Cayman Islands Red-listed endemic plants: rediscovery and research towards conservation goals (Christine Rose-Smyth & Stuart Mailer, *Verdant Isle Orchid Research*)

16:00 (or 16:20) – 17:10 GMT: Meal break and possible very short session

17:10 – 20:00 GMT: Main topic 2:

Engaging people; the wider benefits of conservation and healthy ecosystems

Session team:

John Pinel (*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*)

17:10 Introduction

17:20 Nature conservation priorities in a changing world (John Pinel, *Jersey*)

17:35 Q&A

17:40 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*)

17:55 Q&A

- 18:00 Floras of Gibraltar, old and new: botany and public engagement on The Rock (Keith Bensusan, Leslie Linares, Michael Grech, Charles Perez, Albert Gonzalez & Rhian Guillem, *Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society & Gibraltar Botanic Gardens*)
- 18:15 Q&A
- 18:20 *Buy Back Bermuda* (Andrew Dobson, for *Bermuda Audubon Society & Bermuda National Trust*)
- 18:35 Q&A
- 18:40 Break
- 18:45 Behaviour Change for Conservation - approaches and tactics to inspire/enable more people to do something positive for nature (Leigh Morris, *Manx Wildlife Trust*)
- 19:00 Q&A
- 19:05 Championing UK's most special species: the wildlife of the UKOTs & CDs (Lord [John] Randall, *UKOTCF & House of Lords*)
- 19:20 Q&A
- 19:25 Discussion
- 20:00 Session and conference-day end

Related posters

2.07P. Learning from networks of wetland educators and NGOs (Connor Walsh, *International Engagement Officer, Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust*)

2.08P. The Invasive invertebrate Project (Natasha Stevens, *Invertebrate Control Project Manager, St Helena National Trust*)

Day 2: Wednesday 3rd March

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

Facilitating local leads in conservation

Session team:

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

- Noon Introduction
- 12:10 UKOTCF/MNT terrestrial/coastal work in Montserrat *Adopt a Home for Wildlife* (Ann Pienkowski, Mike Pienkowski, Catherine Wensink, *UKOTCF*; Sarita Francis, *Montserrat National Trust*)
- 12:25 Q&A
- 12:30 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*)
- 12:45 Q&A
- 12:50 Alderney NGO working at all levels; attempting to engage all parts of an island community in the goal of nature recovery (Roland Gauvain, *Alderney Wildlife Trust*)
- 13:05 Q&A
- 13:10 Break
- 13:15 Creating and sustaining St Helena's Millennium Forest Project: reflections and aspirations (Dr Rebecca Cairns-Wicks, *St Helena Research Institute*; Martina Peters & Shayla Ellick, *St Helena National Trust*)
- 13:30 Q&A
- 13:35 Falklands Conservation's Wild Ambition, Partnerships and local leaders in the Falkland Islands (Dr Esther Bertram, *Falklands Conservation*)
- 13:50 Q&A
- 13:55 Discussion
- 14:30 Session end and Break

Related poster

3.06P. Insects matter: Take Action

A Ioanna, F Mancini, M Botham J Peyton, HE Roy & AF Martinou (*Laboratory of Vector Ecology & Applied Entomology, Joint Services Health Unit, British Forces Cyprus*; & UK

15:00 – 17:30 GMT: **Main topic 4:**

Coping with recovery after hurricanes and natural disasters by building resilience

Session team:

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

- 15:00 Introduction
- 15:10 After the volcano – 20+ years on (Sarita Francis, *Montserrat National Trust*)
- 15:25 Q&A
- 15:30 Tristan da Cunha storms (James Glass, *Chief Islander, Tristan da Cunha*)
- 15:45 Q&A
- 15:50 Caribbean coastal resilience and restoration: restoring hurricane-damaged mangrove ecosystems in the British Virgin Islands (Susan Zaluski, *Jost Van Dyke Preservation Society*)
- 16:05 Q&A
- 16:10 Building Environmental Resilience and Institutional Capacity in TCI (Bryan Naqqi Manco, *Department of Environment & Coastal Resources*; with others)
- 16:25 Q&A
- 16:30 Break
- 16:35 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*)
- 16:50 Q&A
- 16:55 Future proofing endangered species conservation in Anguilla (Farah Mukhida, JC Daltry, M Goetz, L John & Louise Soanes, *Anguilla National Trust, Fauna & Flora International, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, University of Roehampton*)
- 17:10 Q&A
- 17:15 Discussion
- 17:50 Session end

17:50 – 19:00 GMT: **Meal-break, and possible short session**

19:00 – 20:00 GMT: **Short session, linked to Main topic 7:**

Funding mechanisms – carbon capture

- 19:00 Introduction: Clare Brook (*Blue Marine Foundation*) in the Chair
- 19:10 Marine aspects (Sriram Natarajan, *Blue Marine Foundation*)
- 19:25 Q&A
- 19:30 Terrestrial aspects (James Mansfield, *Finance Earth*)
- 19:45 Q&A
- 19:50 Discussion
- 20:00 Session and conference-day end

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 (*SWA Environmental*; Joint Coordinator); Dr Jamie Males (*UKOTCF*; Joint Coordinator); 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*)

Noon	Introduction
12:10	Iguanas, invasive species and the tide of humanity (Frederic J Burton, <i>Department of Environment, Cayman Islands Government and formerly Blue Dragon Recovery Program</i>)
12:25	Q&A
12:30	Rewilding as a tool to restore the biodiversity of UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies (Rob Stoneman, <i>Rewilding Europe</i>)
12:45	Q&A
12:50	Balancing the Scale: Fifteen Years of Pine Rockland Conservation and Restoration in Turks & Caicos Islands (B Naqqi Manco & Junel Blaise, <i>Department of Environment and Coastal Resources, Turks and Caicos Islands Government</i>)
13:05	Q&A
13:10	Break
13:15	Biosecurity: the key to safeguarding South Georgia's ecology (Ross James, <i>Government of South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands</i>)
13:30	Q&A
13:35	Managing the mosquito problem while protecting biodiversity at the Akrotiri wetland, Sovereign Base Areas, Cyprus (Kelly Martinou, Chris Taylor, <i>Laboratory of Vector Ecology & Applied Entomology, Joint Services Health Unit, British Forces Cyprus</i> ; Jodey Peyton, Marc Botham, Helen Roy, <i>UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology</i> ; Ioanna Angelidou, <i>both previously named organisations</i> ; Pantelis Charilaou, Graham Johnstone, <i>SBAA HQ Env. Dept.</i>)
13:50	Q&A
13:55	Discussion
14:30	Session end

Related posters

5.06P. Manx Mires Partnership (Sarah Hickey, *Manx Wildlife Trust*)

5.07P. Distribution Model for the Native *Iguana delicatissima* and Invasive *Iguana iguana* on Anguilla (Joshua Smith, *Jersey International Centre of Advanced Studies*)

5.08P. Iguanidae as a flagship taxon for the Caribbean UKOT, a collaborative approach to invasive species management across the Caribbean UKOTs (Joshua Smith, *Jersey International Centre of Advanced Studies*)

5.09P. The connecting link between wetlands and mosquitoes (Katerina Athanasiou, *BSc student, Joint Services Health Unit, British Forces Cyprus, BFPO 57, RAF Akrotiri / Department of Agricultural Sciences, Biotechnology and Food Science, Cyprus University of Technology, 3603 Limassol, Cyprus*)

15:00 – 17:30 GMT: **Main topic 6:**

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

Session team:

Amdeep Sanghera (*Marine Conservation Society*; Joint Coordinator); Dace Ground (*UKOTCF*; Joint Coordinator); 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*)

15:00	Introduction
15:10	Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease, Turks & Caicos Islands – A UKOT's Outbreak Case Study (Alizee Zimmermann & Don Stark, <i>Turks and Caicos Reef Fund</i>)
15:25	Q&A
15:30	The Nature of Ecosystem Restoration: Smaller steps towards bigger solutions in the British Virgin Islands (Shannon Gore, <i>Association of Reef Keepers, British Virgin Islands</i>)
15:45	Q&A
15:50	Ascension Island marine spatial planning (Diane Baum, <i>Ascension Conservation Department</i>)
16:05	Q&A
16:10	Break
16:15	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*)
- 16:30 Q&A
- 16:35 Establishing the Tristan da Cunha marine protected area (Fiona Kilpatrick, *Administrator, Tristan da Cunha*)
- 16:50 Q&A
- 16:55 Discussion
- 17:30 Session [there may be extra material included in the topic session, in which case the session-end would be at 17:50]

Related posters

- 6.07P. Engaging recreational fishers in Marine Spatial Planning in Bermuda (Joanna M Pitt & Tammy M Warren, *Bermuda Government Department of Environment and Natural Resources*; Canon Purdy, Cheryl Ann Mapp, Weldon Wade & Vanessa L Dick, *The Waitt Institute, a lead partner in the Bermuda Ocean Prosperity Programme*)
- 6.08P. Ensuring the sustainability of coastal small-scale fisheries at Pitcairn Island (South Pacific) within a large scale no-take MPA (Henry Duffy, *Fauna & Flora International*; Terence Dawson, *King's College London*; & Robert Irving)

17:30 (or 17:50) – 19:00 GMT: **Meal-break, and possible short session**

19:00 – 20:00 GMT: **Poster session**

Posters will be available for viewing throughout the conference, and will have the capacity for participants to post questions and the authors to post answers. In addition, for this hour, we are asking poster-authors to be available online, so that question- and answer-posting can be live.

See each topic session for related posters; posters unrelated to main sessions are:

- 9.01P. A review of pupping and site-fidelity trends in the grey seal *Halichoerus grypus* on the Calf of Man from 2009 – 2020: implications for population structure and dynamics in the wider Irish Sea region and future management strategies (Dr Lara Howe & Breeshey Harkin, *Manx Wildlife Trust*)
- 9.02P. Researching for Sustainable Solutions for *Sargassum* Inundations in Turks & Caicos (Dr Debbie Bartlett, Dr J James Milledge, Birthe Nielsen, *University of Greenwich*; Dr Heidi Hertler, *School for Field Studies, South Caicos*)
- 9.03P. The impact of *Sargassum* brown tides on native seagrass meadows in Anguilla (Anna Smith, *MSc student, Jersey International Centre of Advanced Studies*)

20:00 Session and conference-day end

Day 4: Wednesday 10th March

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

Funding mechanisms – tourism and alternatives

Session team:

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

- Noon Introduction
- 12:10 A Rock, a hard place and uncharted waters: Brexit and Gibraltar (Keith Bensusan, *Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society & Gibraltar Botanic Gardens*; & Stephen Warr, *Department of the Environment, Sustainability, Climate Change & Heritage, HM Government of Gibraltar*)
- 12:25 Q&A
- 12:30 Can UK Government grant-funding be made more effective for UKOT conservation? (*Dr Mike Pienkowski, UKOTCF, bringing together comments from territories*)
- 12:45 Q&A
- 12:50 Rethinking tourism – experiences from the INTO family (Catherine Leonard, *International*)

- National Trusts Organisation; & David J Brown, Bearden Brown LLC)*
- 13:05 Q&A
- 13:10 Break
- 13:15 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*)
- 13:30 Q&A
- 13:35 Funding models for remote UKOTs (Clare Brook, *Blue Marine Foundation*)
- 13:50 Q&A
- 13:55 Discussion
- 14:30 Session end and Break

15:00 – 17:30 GMT: **Main topic 8:**

Plugging the gap: innovative approaches and capacity-building

Session team:

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

- 15:00 Introduction
- 15:10 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*)
- 15:25 Q&A
- 15:30 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*)
- 15:45 Q&A
- 15:50 Channel Islands pollinator project – Guernsey and beyond (Dr Miranda Bane, Barry Wells, Gordon Steele & Vanessa Crispin, *Pollinator Project and University of Bristol*)
- 16:05 Q&A
- 16:10 Break
- 16:15 Plugging the Gap: With Professional Volunteers in the Cayman Islands (John Bothwell, *Cayman Islands Department of Environment*)
- 16:30 Q&A
- 16:35 Recent innovations in conducting co-operative research with more-than-humans (Kathleen McNary Wood, *SWA Environmental, Turks & Caicos Islands & USA*)
- 16:50 Q&A
- 16:55 Discussion
- 17:30 Session end

Related posters

- 8.06P. The Jersey International Centre of Advanced Studies (Dr Amy Louise Hall, *Programme Coordinator & Senior Research Fellow, JICAS*)
- 8.07P. Understanding responsibility for biodiversity in the UK Overseas Territories (Dr Jasper Montana, *Research Fellow, University of Oxford*)
- 8.08P. Developing our understanding of St Helena's Bone Sharks and the threats they may face (Beth Taylor, Kenickie Andrews & James Wylor-Owen, *St Helena National Trust*)

17:30 – 18:30 GMT: **Meal-break, and possible very short session**

18:30 – 20:00 GMT: Sir Richard and Lady Ground Lecture on Nature Conservation in UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies, and conference closing

- 18:30 Introduction to the [Sir Richard and Lady Ground Lecture on Nature Conservation in UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies](#)

18:40 Dace Ground introduces the first Lecturer, Gina Ebanks-Petrie
18:50 Three essential elements for conservation success in the Overseas Territories (Gina Ebanks-Petrie, *Director, Cayman Islands Director of Environment*), followed by questions and answers
19:45 Closing of the conference
20:00 Conference ends