**Find new opportunities from catastrophes**

**Thursday 17th December 14.00-15.30pm**

**Case Study 1:**

**A Yorkshire UK drought:** Your field site is a rare (1 of only 5 globally) upland peat sites, most years its permanently wet.

But an 8 week drought means that rivers have run dry and the local waterfall has stopped (rare enough itself to make national news). The field site you’re meant to be using for your work is dry and the plant species distribution is significantly damaged. Your expertise may be plant soil interactions/ entomological interactions, carbon/ nitrogen cycling

What new opportunities might you consider?

**Case study 2:**

**Personally unplanned:** Your research is focused on pollinating insect species and your primary focus is on tropical species. Your planned field sites are international, often remote. You have however had a change in your physical circumstances which will change your risk assessments (e.g. you are pregnant, a significant injury with longer term consequences)

How do you start to adapt your research? Ask the same or similar questions without placing yourself at risk?

**Case study 3:**

**Epidemic or pandemic?** We have to include some time to talk about the current global pandemic and it may be too soon to discuss how exactly we’re adapting our research, but they are not uncommon and likely to become more common. 2014-2016 travel restrictions across the world were imposed when Ebola cases in several western African countries rose rapidly. Researchers found themselves isolating, unable to travel, working from home, distracted by 24 hour news. Where are the new opportunities?

**Case study 4:**

If your catastrophe is not similar to the above and you would like to raise it with the group discussion to get their feedback, please do so