



Participant Information

The Scottish Policy Group (SPG) and Edinburgh Conservation Science (ECoS) Pie and a Pint debate on “Meeting the Challenge of 30% of Scotland as Protected Areas.”

Zoom, 21st April 5-7pm

Event Agenda

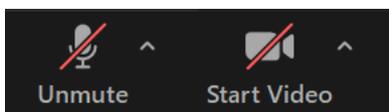
17:00	Opening and Welcome Chris Pollard (SPG Vice-Chair)
17:05	Introduction to SPG: Celebrating 10 Years Isabel Jones (SPG Chair)
17:10	Introduction to ECoS Sílvia Pérez-Espona (University of Edinburgh)
17:15	“Protected Areas –Biodiversity Straitjacket or Path to a Nature Rich Future?” Brian Eardley (NatureScot)
17:20	“The Scottish Marine Protected Area Network – Uncertainty, Recovery and Success.” Charlotte Hopkins (University of Hull)
17:25	“Examining the connectivity benefits of Protected Areas.” Jane Hill (University of York)
17:30	“Conservation Targets: Lessons from the Global Experience” George Holmes (University of Leeds)
17:35	“Protected Areas within a Protected Area – do they work?” Peter Mayhew (Cairngorms National Park Authority)
17:40	Questions & Answers Jessica Hogan (SPG Early Career Representative)
17:55	BREAK
18:00	Break-out Groups (see further information and questions below)
18:50	Feedback and Wrap-up Chris Pollard (SPG Vice-Chair)

General Information

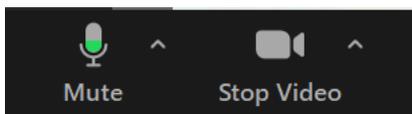
- The session will begin with a series of short talks to set the scene for the breakout sessions.
- Please keep your microphone muted and camera off whilst in the main room.
- Please ask questions in the main chat box.
- When we head into the breakout rooms please turn your camera on and unmute your microphone.
- Just after 18:00 we will automatically assign you all into breakout rooms. If you do not want to join the discussion, please make sure you leave the Zoom during the break.

Main Zoom Controls

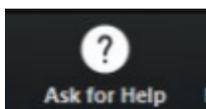
Microphone and video off:



Microphone and video on:



Ask for help button:



Breakout Room Instructions

The most important thing about Pie and a Pint is that it is an informal and interesting discussion! Below are four questions we've selected, with some things to consider and background for each. But please feel free to go off on a tangent and follow wherever your interest takes you!

It would be fantastic to collect some of the discussion taking place in the breakout groups, so if possible please follow the instructions below for brief note-taking:

- If you would like to participate in the breakout rooms, please make sure you have this link open in your browser: [breakout room questions](#)
- When you enter the breakout room please nominate one person to take notes for the group in the google form (everyone else can leave the form blank, unless they'd like to submit their own responses).
- Adding notes to the google form is not mandatory! We would just really like to get a flavour of what's being talked about, so please do have a go.

- You can set your own pace but we will be sending messages to remind groups of the time (there are four main questions - we suggest spending 10-12 minutes on each question).
- If anyone is experiencing any technical difficulties, they can press the call for help button and someone will join the room.

Breakout Room Questions

1. Why 30%?

Things to think about:

- Is having a fixed target of 30% useful?
- Is 30% enough?
- How should 30% be shared between public land (government), private land (private owners), community land etc?
- Is it better to safeguard 30% of Scotland's land and seas which hosts the most biodiversity or to ensure what is protected at the moment is better connected?

Background:

The target for achieving at least 30% of land sea area within protected areas for biodiversity is one of the key objectives for the European Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2030. The 30% target is intended to move member states closer to an:

ecologically coherent and representative network of protected areas that covers the full range of ecosystems and their characteristic biodiversity across EUs land and seas (EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020)

It is likely that the 30% target will be adopted as a global target through the Convention on Biological Diversity at COP-15 in Kunming, China.

2. What are Protected Areas for?

Things to think about:

- What does 'protected' mean?
- Do protected areas benefit the wider countryside/habitats?
- Do protected areas preserve the past or create the potential for the future?
- What role do PAs play in conserving biodiversity? What do they miss?

Background:

There are a range of protected areas in place in Scotland which are either solely or partially concerned with the safeguard of nature. Such sites would include Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), European sites (Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas), Ramsar, National Parks, Regional Parks, National Nature Reserves and Local Nature Reserves. The IUCN categorises protected areas in [Guidelines for applying protected area management categories](#), meaning that for the purposes of 2030 targets, in Scotland SSSI, European sites, Ramsar sites fall within the IUCN definition of protected areas.

The legislation in Scotland for nature protected areas is based around the notification of *natural features*. These can be habitats, species populations or earth science interests which are of national or international importance.

3. How do we get to 30% Protected Areas?

Things to think about:

- What wider policy is needed to ensure that PAs are effective at conserving biodiversity and enhancing resilience?
- What components will 'Other Effective Conservation Measures' require to be effective?
- What role will 'Other Effective Conservation Measures' have?

Background:

[Current terrestrial Protected Area in Scotland is 22% \(including for example SSSI, European sites, RAMSAR and national parks\) or 17.6% without including national parks.](#) In recognising the resources which are required to identify and designate new protected areas, the IUCN has recommended that '[Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures](#)' (OECMs) could be used alongside current protected areas in reaching the 30% target.

OECMs are defined as: *A geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in situ conservation of biodiversity, with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values*

4. How are Protected Areas working?

Things to think about:

- Do protected areas preserve the past or create the potential for the future?
- How should "success" for protected areas be defined and assessed?
- What does "protected" mean?
- Do protected areas benefit local communities of people?

Background:

As the focus of protected areas legislation in Scotland is on individual natural features, management and monitoring is focussed on achieving and maintaining favourable conditions for all natural features on a site. At a national level, progress with achieving this goal is reported through the 'Condition of Protected Nature Sites' National Performance Indicator, which currently shows 78.4% of natural features in either favourable condition or recovering under sympathetic management towards favourable condition.