

CONTENTS

Chairman's Welcome	
Conference Programme 4	1-7
Awards Programme 8	3
Sponsors 9	9
Speakers – Thursday 16th November 1	10-13
Workshops 1	14-15
Speakers – Friday 17th November 1	16-25
Lunchtime Displays and Demonstrations 2	26-27
Delegate List	28-33
Notes 3	34

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We would really appreciate your feedback on this year's NBN Conference. Please complete the form online at: tinyurl.com/yc7unssf or scan the QR code to go straight to the survey.

Wi-fi – free public access is available in the Lecture Theatre and no code is needed to connect

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME



Professor Michael Hassell

Welcome to Cardiff for the National Biodiversity Network's annual conference, which this year has the theme of:

"Data - what is it good for?"

We would like to thank you for attending this year's two day event, which continues to move around the country and which brings us to Wales for the first time.

It has been a significant year for the NBN with the launch of the NBN Atlas, NBN Atlas Wales and NBN Atlas Scotland and this will be discussed in greater detail within the workshops on Thursday afternoon. We have included workshops again this year as we feel it is important to allow people the chance to give feedback and put across their views to the wider Network. I hope that you will find these useful and worthwhile.

In addition to the workshops, we have a full programme of presentations so, I hope that you will find this a valuable event. We also have the ceremony for the UK Awards for biological recording and information sharing, which will see us recognise those on whom we rely so deeply, our network of recorders.

As we come together to hear more from our Network colleagues at this Conference, we thank you for your ongoing support and hope that the next two days will once again allow us to celebrate our combined successes and to look forward to future developments positively.

With warm regards,



THURSDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

09:30	Registration and coffee			
Morning session: NBN progress and partnership Chair of morning session: Jen Ashworth, NBN Trustee				
10.00	Welcome and introduction by NBN Trust Chairman, Professor Michael Hassell			
10.05	Keynote address "Why I joined the Twitterati - Making entomology and natural history visible using social media" – Professor Simon Leather, Harper Adams University			
10.35	"Through partnership, a lot <i>can</i> be achieved in 12 months!" – Jo Judge, NBN Chief Executive			
10.55	"The SBIF Review: reimagining our data infrastructure" – Ellen Wilson, Chair of the Scottish Biodiversity Information Forum			
11.15	Tea / coffee break			
11.45	"A bold step: building on the past to meet new approaches in Wales" – Helen Wilkinson, Manager, Knowledge and Information Management and Barnaby Letheren, Specialist Adviser, Enterprise Data Management, Natural Resources Wales			
12.05	"LERC Wales: Delivering an Evidence Base Fit for Wales" – Adam Rowe, Manager, South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre Limited (SEWBReC)			
12.25	"Verification - next steps and an opportunity to feedback to the partnership" – Jo Judge, NBN Chief Executive			
12.35	Q&A			
12.45	Lunch, posters, displays and demonstrations			

Afternoon session: How is the NBN Atlas supporting your data needs?

Chair of afternoon session: Andrew Wood, NBN Trustee and Treasurer

14.00 **Discussion workshops**

Five parallel sessions. At the end of each workshop a set of clearly defined actions will be made, with responsibility for taking the actions forward determined and agreed by the group.

- How can the NBN Atlas work better for marine data?
 Workshop lead Paula Lightfoot
- 2. An Atlas for all is the NBN Atlas supporting different uses and different users? Workshop lead Tom Webb
- 3. How can the NBN Atlas better support the NBN Data Flow Pathway? Workshop lead Barnaby Letheren
- 4. The NBN Atlas a demonstration and future development discussion Workshop leads Holly York and Jo Judge
- 5. What are the barriers to sharing data on the NBN Atlas and how can we overcome them? Workshop lead Ben Deed

15.45 - 16:15 Tea / coffee break

16:15 – 16.45 Workshop feedback to the auditorium – what are the next actions?

16.45 - 17.00 Q&A

17.00 – 17.05 Chairman's summing up of day 1

17.15 – 17.45 NBN AGM

As the AGM is taking place as part of the NBN Conference, anyone, including non-members, is able to join this meeting, but only the eligible members are able to cast a vote on relevant items.

As well as the resolutions, the AGM will include updates on the NBN Governance Review, NBN Membership Review, NBN Action Plan Business Priorities Update and an open Q&A session

18:00 – 19:15 UK Awards for Biological Recording & Information Sharing

FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

09:00	Registration and coffee
	ession: Data, data everywhere – sharing and using data across the NBN orning session: Jo Judge, NBN Chief Executive
09:25	Welcome and introduction by NBN Trust Chairman, Professor Michael Hassell
09:30	Keynote address "Assessing the state of nature: past, present and future" – Dr Mark Eaton, Principal Conservation Scientist, RSPB Centre for Conservation Science
10:00	"Let's Talk about Data" – Matt Postles, Bristol Natural History Consortium
10.20	"Recorder 6 and all that" – Steve Whitbread, ALERC Director
10.40	"Collection, Collaboration, Collation & Circulation of plant records in West Glamorgan" – Barry Stewart, Bryophyte Recorder for Glamorgan & Plant Recorder for West Glamorgan
10.50	"The Wet Bit Around the Edge: Are Marine Data Different?" – Dan Lear, Head of Data, Information & Technology, Marine Biological Association
11:00	Tea / coffee break
11.30	"Data Sharing – The Earthworm Perspective" – Keiron Derek Brown, Earthworm Society of Britain
11.40	"Summary of questionnaire: What do ecological consultants want from GCER?" – Linda Moore, Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records
11.50	"NBN Atlas: A Consultancy Perspective" - Dr Rachel Roberts, Associate Ecologist, The Environment Partnership (TEP)
12.00	Student speed talk "How a student-led society can inspire a community's perception on biodiversity" – Anna Moulin, University of Exeter
12.05	Student speed talk "Identification Trainers for the Future – a trainee's perspective" – Steph Skipp, ID Trainer for the Future
12.10	"Bridging the skills gap in UK species identification – lessons learnt and next steps" – Stephanie West, UK Biodiversity Training Manager & John Tweddle, Head of Centre, Angela Marmont Centre for UK Biodiversity, Natural History Museum
12.30	Q&A
12.35	Lunch, posters, displays and demonstrations

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	session: Looking forward – opportunities for data and the NBN ternoon session: Professor Michael Hassell, NBN Trust Chairman
13:45	Award of NBN Honorary Membership
13.50	The Sir John Burnett Memorial Lecture, 2017 "Data – what is it good for? Insights from network ecology" – Professor Yvonne Buckley, Chair of Zoology, School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin
14.20	"How to find Treasure" – Maria Longley, Community Manager, Greenspace Information for Greater London
14.40	"NBN as a global player enabling biodiversity research through GBIF" – Tim Hirsch, Deputy Director, Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) Secretariat
15.00	Tea / coffee break
15.30	Student Speed talk "Project Splatter: Using Citizen Scientists to Monitor Wildlife Roadkill" – Amy Schwartz, PhD Student – Cardiff University
15.35	Student Speed talk "Climate change and checklists – monitoring natural colonists through biological recording" – Jamie Cranston, NERC iCASE PhD Student, University of Exeter
15:40	"Looking forward – mammal data and its potential at a national and international scale" – Dr Graham Smith, Lead Scientist and Head of Wildlife Epidemiology and Modelling, Animal and Plant Health Agency, Defra
16.00	"FSC BioLinks – 5 more years of caring and sharing THANK YOU HLF!" – Sue Townsend, FSC Biodiversity Learning Manager, Field Studies Council
16.20	Q&A
16.25	Chairman's summing up.
16.30	End of conference

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UK AWARDS TO CELEBRATE BIOLOGICAL RECORDING AND INFORMATION SHARING





Thursday 16th November 2017

National Museum Cardiff



18:00	Welcome drinks
18:30	Introduction to the Awards by NBN Chairman, Professor Michael Hassell
The following	awards will be presented:
18:35	Terrestrial and freshwater Awards
	Gilbert White, Adult Award
18:40	Terrestrial and freshwater Awards
	Gilbert White, Youth Award
18:45	Marine and coastal Awards
	David Robertson, Adult Award
18:50	Marine and coastal Awards
	David Robertson, Youth Award
18:55	Adult Newcomer Award
19:00	Lynne Farrell Group Award
19:05	John Sawyer NBN Open Data Award
19:15	Event close

Sponsors of the Awards







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Conference lunch sponsor

Habitat Aid Ltd. promotes and sells British native trees, hedging, aquatic plants, wildflower seed and heritage fruit trees, which we buy from a community of small specialist UK nurseries and growers. We think local provenance and distinctiveness isn't just important for biodiversity, but also culturally.

We have close links to a number of UK conservation charities, to whom we donate half of profits from online sales. Many of these are also clients, including Buglife, the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, British Beekeepers' Association and Butterfly Conservation.

Habitat Aid also works with corporate clients and landscape and ecology professionals. These include the Co-op, Hillier's Nurseries, Nestle, M&S, Noble Foods and Good Energy. We also supply a number of government organisations and NGOs, including Friends of the Earth and various Wildlife Trusts.

www.habitataid.co.uk



Student sponsors

The Environment Partnership (TEP) is an award-winning consultancy providing multi-disciplinary environmental services to our clients in the private, public and voluntary sectors. Established in 1997 we provide independent high-quality ecology, environmental planning and design advice with a strong emphasis on personal service. We have grown steadily by sticking to our core skills and we now have a track record of over 7,000 projects, large and small, which demonstrate high-quality and sustainable development. Our ecologists work with colleagues from a wide range of disciplines to identify practical solutions on complex projects. We believe in the power of teamwork, both in the way we organise ourselves, and in the way we work with our clients and the communities affected by our project.

To find out more about our work, please visit our website www.tep.uk.com.



Ranked amongst the top universities in the world, research at the University of Exeter focuses on some of the most fundamental issues facing humankind. The Centre for Ecology and Conservation at the Penryn Campus, delivers cutting-edge teaching and research to address factors influencing biodiversity and complexity in the natural world.

www.exeter.ac.uk

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If you are interested in sponsoring next year's NBN Conference or wish to donate to the NBN, please contact us for more information at support@nbn.org.uk





SPEAKERS

₩ @Entoprof

THURSDAY 16TH NOVEMBER



Professor Simon Leather

"Why I joined the Twitterati – Making entomology and natural history visible using social media"

Tweeting, blogging and other social media are seen by many scientists as being of no relevance to their work. I too once held a similar opinion. Using personal examples I show that the use of social media platforms by scientists and organisations can play a valuable role in bringing science to a wider audience and encouraging wider participation in citizen science projects.

Professor Simon Leather is Professor of Entomology at Harper Adams University, where he has been since 2012.

He is an applied entomologist, focusing mainly on problems in agricultural, horticultural and forest crops, but with an additional interest in urban biodiversity and insect conservation. He graduated from Leeds University with a First Class Honours degree in Agricultural Zoology in 1977 and completed his PhD in aphid ecology at the University of East Anglia in 1980. He has worked in Finland, the Forestry Commission, Imperial College London before taking on his current role at Harper Adams University.

He believes passionately in outreach and regularly speaks at schools as well as to local Natural History Societies, the WI, U3A and others. He blogs at Don't Forget the Roundabouts.

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Jo Judge, NBN Chief Executive

"Through partnership, a lot can be achieved in 12 months!"

We take a look at what the Network has achieved over the last 12

months, and look forward to the next 12.

©jo_judge

notes



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Ellen Wilson, Chair of the Scottish Biodiversity Information Forum

"The SBIF Review: re-imagining our data infrastructure"

@EllenrWilson

The SBIF Review of the biological recording infrastructure in Scotland: latest progress and findings from 2017, and plans for taking forward key recommendations in 2018.

notes





Helen Wilkinson, Manager; Knowledge and Information Management and Barnaby Letheren, Enterprise Data Management; Specialist Adviser at Natural Resources Wales

"A bold step: building on the past to meet new approaches in Wales"

A reflection on the use of biodiversity data in Wales and the changes required to deliver new legislation which has the environment and sustainability at its core.

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Adam Rowe, Manager of South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre Limited (SEWBReC)

"LERC Wales: Delivering an Evidence Base Fit for Wales"

Looking at the unique aspects of the LERC Wales consortium and how we work with Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales to support the new Welsh environmental policies and their commitment to evidence-based decision-making.

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Jo Judge, NBN Chief Executive

"Verification – next steps and an opportunity to feedback to the partnership"

We present the outcomes from the most recent working group meeting which discussed the display of verified and unverified data on the NBN Atlas and ask for your feedback on the proposals.

🄰 @jo_judge

y @jo_juuge		
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Wildcare is the UK and Europe's foremost equipment supplier for professional ecologists and environmental managers.

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Echo Meter Touch 2 PRO is an innovative combination of hardware and software that lets you listen to, record and identify bats in realtime – on your Android or Apple iOS device.

The new Echo Meter Touch 2 PRO is based on over three years of customer feedback and extensive fieldwork. It offers the most advanced features and highest quality recordings of any handheld bat detector on the market today.

REPAIRS

Wildcare are proud to be the European Warranty Centre and the only authorised service and repair centre in Europe for Wildlife Acoustics' range of bioacoustic monitoring products. We can also service: Pettersson, Batbox Duet, Clulite torches, Dataloggers, Anabat SD1/2, Extension Cables, Edirol Roland, Magenta, and Endoscopes.



WORKSHOPS

THURSDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

Delegates will have signed up to a workshop when registering. The five workshops are as follows:

1. How can the NBN Atlas work better for marine data? Lead - Paula Lightfoot

Workshop aim:

To understand how the NBN Atlas is dealing with marine data. How can we improve? Is it dealing with the data accurately? Are there any necessary future developments? Are there gaps to be filled in record provision? How can we fill gaps?

2. An Atlas for all – is the NBN Atlas supporting different uses and different users?

Lead – Tom Webb @tomjwebb

Workshop aim:

To get the views of a cross-section of users and to understand how it is supporting their work. Is it meeting business needs and requirements? Are there any future developments that could help work priorities? Is data licensing helping in supporting the openness of data?

Workshop aim:

To get the views of a cross-section of users and to understand how it is supporting the NBN Data Flow Pathway. Have the data flows within the Network improved? Where are blockages occurring and which stages of the data flow pathway need improvement? What changes to the NBN Atlas could help further support the NBN Data Flow Pathway?

Workshop aim

To show some of the main ways of searching and interrogating the data on the NBN Atlas, which delegates may not be familiar with. To show that it is intuitive and easy to use. To explain the planned developments for the future and when these are due to be implemented. To understand what other developments our users would like.

5. What are the barriers to sharing data on the NBN Atlas and how can we overcome them? Lead – Ben Deed ● @NMBiodiversity

Workshop aim:

To understand what is preventing data sharing? Are the issues real or perceived? Can we give any case studies to satisfy concerns? To understand if the licences are trusted and if not, why not? To show that more data are being shared through the NBN Atlas than the NBN Gateway and why this is a good thing. Has data licensing helped with lowering the barriers? Do people really understand what is involved in sharing data through the NBN Atlas? Do people really understand the NBN Atlas? Do people accept the positive benefits of sharing data?

NOTES

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SPEAKERS

FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER



Dr Mark Eaton, Principal Conservation Scientist, RSPB Centre for Conservation Science

"Assessing the state of nature: past, present and future"

This talk will review the progress we have made in reporting upon the state of the UK's nature, discuss future directions, and highlight the role of biological recording and surveying at the heart of these plans.

Mark is responsible for much of the RSPB's involvement in the monitoring of biodiversity in the UK and overseas, and for work synthesising the results of such monitoring in order to assess the health of our avifauna and biodiversity more widely, and, by inference, the wider environment.

@Mark_A_Eaton

notes			



Matt Postles, Senior Programmes Manager, Bristol Natural History Consortium

"Let's Talk About Data"

People are the source of (almost) all data, and for people communication is key. Explore communications principles for the wildlife recording sector with a new crowd sourced resource.

● @BioBlitzUK notes	
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Steve Whitbread, Director, Association of Local Environmental Records Centres

"Recorder 6 and all that"

Specialist databases have transformed biological record sharing and access, but evolving demands, new possibilities and funding cuts highlight the need to consider next steps.

❤️ @_ALERC_
notes

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Barry Stewart, Bryophyte Recorder for Glamorgan & Plant Recorder for West Glamorgan

"Collection, Collaboration, Collation & Circulation of plant records in West Glamorgan"

A case study of plant recording in a small area of Wales focussing on what motivates recorders to become data hogs.

y @Gowermoss
notes
Dan Lear, Head of Data, Information & Technology, Marine Biological Association
"The Wet Bit Around the Edge: Are Marine Data Different?"
Exploring the history and current state of marine data on the NBN Atlas and looking at some of the unique challenges faced in the marine domain. © thembauk
notes



Keiron Derek Brown, Recording Officer, Earthworm Society of Britain

"Data Sharing – The Earthworm Perspective"

The National Earthworm Recording Scheme presents its views on open data and data sharing, and what happens to earthworm records once they've been submitted.

notes



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Linda Moore, Development Manager, Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records

"Summary of questionnaire: What do ecological consultants want from GCER?"

Some results from an online survey carried out by Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records in March 2017. We asked ecological consultants about what they want most from our commercial data service. What happened next will astound you!!

 ■ @Glos Records

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Dr Rachel Roberts, Associate Ecologist, The Environment Partnership (TEP)

"NBN Atlas: A Consultancy Perspective"

Dr Rachel Roberts, Associate Ecologist, will summarise how consultants use NBN Atlas and its use in determining survey and mitigation

requirements.	
y @TEP_Ltd	
notes	
Anna Moulin, Zoology Student, University of Exeter	
"How a Student-led society can inspire a community's pon biodiversity"	erception
EcoSoc is a student led society that aims to enthuse and ed students and the community to conserve the local environm biodiversity monitoring.	
notes	



Steph Skipp, ID Trainer for the Future, Natural History Museum

"Identification Trainers for the Future – a trainee's perspective"

Steph Skipp, one of the final cohort of trainees, will give an update on her experiences of this Natural History Museum-led UK species identification and training delivery skills programme.

y @StephSkipp		
notes		



"Bridging the skills gap in UK species identification – lessons learnt and next steps" As the Identification Trainers for the Future project draws to a close, we

for UK Biodiversity, Natural History Museum

Steph West, UK Biodiversity Training Manager, Natural History Museum and John Tweddle, Head of Centre, Angela Marmont Centre

take this opportunity to reflect on what we have learnt from the project and where the Natural History Museum is heading next in terms of supporting UK natural history skills development. ■ @BatGirlSteph78 ■ @NHM_ID

g @battomotophiro g @rtrim_ib
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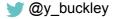
SIR JOHN BURNETT MEMORIAL LECTURE

Professor Yvonne Buckley, Chair of Zoology, School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

"Data - what is it good for? Insights from network ecology"

Population and community ecology has advanced significantly through dispersed networks of ecologists working together on surveys and experiments with shared data.

Professor Yvonne Buckley is the Chair of Zoology at Trinity College Dublin and an Honorary Professor at the University of Queensland in Australia. She is a population and community ecologist with interests in climate change ecology, environmental decision making, invasive species, natural capital management and use of shared data.



notes			



Maria Longley, Community Manager, Greenspace Information for **Greater London CIC** "How to Find Treasure" One LERC's adventures with data through Zooniverse and beyond! Exploring new tools and partnerships to find (data) treasure. 🧺 @iGiGL notes **Tim Hirsch, Deputy Director, Global Biodiversity Information Facility** (GBIF) Secretariat "NBN as a global player enabling biodiversity research through GBIF"



As the national node for the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), NBN coordinates the mobilisation of massive volumes of biodiversity data for use by researchers around the world, making the UK second only to the United States in the number of records published via GBIF.org. The new GBIF website, launched in August, enables transparent links between published datasets and citations in research, demonstrating the global value of sharing data under open licence.

y @gbif notes
notes



Amy Schwartz, PhD Researcher on Project Splatter at Cardiff University

"Project Splatter: Using Citizen Scientists to Monitor Wildlife Roadkill"

@lizardschwartz
@ProjectSplatter

Project Splatter is a research effort to quantify and map wildlife roadkill across the UK, through the use of records submitted to us by 'citizen scientists'.

notes
Jamie Cranston, NERC iCASE PhD Student, University of Exeter
"Climate change and checklists – monitoring natural colonists through biological recording"
Since 1900, over 100 species colonised the UK, arriving through natural dispersal. What are the implications of these "Natural" Colonists for British biodiversity? ©cranston_p
notes
notes



Dr Graham Smith, Lead Scientist and Head of Wildlife Epidemiology and Modelling, Animal and Plant Health Agency, Defra

"Looking forward – mammal data and its potential at a national and international scale"

Can we use NBN data to determine national population size and

distribution? How much data do we need and how do we get there?

notes



Sue Townsend, FSC Biodiversity Learning Manager at the Field Studies Council

"FSC BioLinks – 5 more years of caring and sharing THANK YOU HLF!"

SueTownsend3

FSC training and support including events in two regions with further developments in open access to share ideas and data with communities.

notes

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LUNCHTIME DISPLAYS AND DEMONSTRATIONS



Identification Trainers for the future – Natural History Museum, London

Dr John Tweddle, Chris Raper, Steph West, Nicola Lowndes, Alex Mills, April Windle, Laura Sivess, Matthew Harrow & Steph Skipp

Come and learn how the Angela Marmont Centre for UK Biodiversity is encouraging and supporting UK naturalists: from the UK Species Inventory to Identification Trainers for the Future and our citizen science programme.

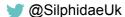
www.nhm.ac.uk/take-part



National Silphidae Recording Scheme

Ashleigh Whiffin & Matthew Esh

Scheme organisers Ashleigh and Matthew will be providing an update on the activities of the recording scheme, as well as testing delegates identification skills with their new interactive identification guides.





Natural Colonists – Ecological Refugees or Dangerous Invaders?

Jamie Cranston - University of Exeter

New species are arriving in Great Britain through natural dispersal with environmental changes. However, their potential impacts remain understudied. As part of a PhD thesis, I'm interested in addressing this as well as talking with stakeholders to investigate their perspectives, gauging interest for a workshop at next year's NBN conference.





The Environment Partnership

Dr Rachel Roberts

The Environment Partnership (TEP) is an award-winning consultancy providing multi-disciplinary environmental services to our clients in the private, public and voluntary sectors. Our ecologists work with colleagues from a wide range of disciplines to identify practical solutions on complex projects.

www.tep.uk.com.



National Forum for Biological Recording

Teresa Frost, Jodey Peyton, Martin Harvey, Graham Walley

NFBR is an independent voice for the UK's recording community; we promote the fun and value of biological recording to meet the country's biodiversity needs.

www.nfbr.org.uk



UK Environmental Observation Framework

Jodey Peyton

UK EOF is a partnership of public sector organisations with interest in providing evidence from environmental observations to understand and manage the changing natural environment.

www.ukeof.org.uk



Natural Apptitude

Dave Kilbey and Oliver Ridsdale

Natural Apptitude specialise in making citizen science based apps and websites for ecological organisations and projects.

www.natural-apptitude.co.uk

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DELEGATE LIST

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