

**23rd National Biodiversity Network Conference**  
**Thursday 23 November 2023**  
**National Museums Scotland, Edinburgh**  
**“Making data work for nature”**

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08:45 - 09:25 Registration

**Morning session**

**Chair of morning session: Lisa Chilton, NBN Trust CEO**

09:30 Welcome and introduction by Neil Hodges, NBN Trust Chairman

09:40 Welcome to the Museum by Chris Breward, Director, National Museums Scotland

09:45 Opening address  
Mairi McAllan MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition

**Session 1: The NBN Atlas is the ‘go to’ place for sharing, finding and accessing UK biodiversity data**

10:00 Helen Manders-Jones, NBN Atlas Lead Developer, NBN Trust - *“NBN Atlas 2023 update”*

10:15 Charlotte Bolton, National Seasearch Coordinator, Marine Conservation Society and  
Iain Dixon, Seasearch Scotland Coordinator, Marine Conservation Society. –  
*“35 years of Seasearch – building on volunteer data into the future”*

10:30 Simon Rolph, Data Scientist, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology – *“Assessing NBN Atlas comprehensiveness and the impact of data providers: Insights from a Data Study Group”*

10:45 Kyle Copas, Communications Manager, Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) - *“Transmitting the value of GBIF at national scale”*

11:00 Q&A

**11:05 Tea / coffee break**

**Session 2: Biodiversity data is providing the evidence needed for nature’s recovery**

11:30 Dr Michael Tetley, Better Biodiversity Data project – Scotland Programme Manager –  
*“The Better Biodiversity Data Project”*

11:45 Dr. Ben Rowson, Honorary Non-marine Recorder, Conchological Society of Great Britain & Ireland / Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales – *“Non-marine mollusc distribution mapping by the Conchological Society of Great Britain & Ireland: a citizen science project in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries”*

12:00 Dr Steph Bradbeer, Senior Ecologist (Biosecurity and Invasive Species), Yorkshire Water – *“INNS Mapper – recording invasive non-native species sightings, survey and management”*

12:15 Adam Fraser, Monitoring Ecologist, Cairngorms National Park Authority - *“Monitoring biodiversity in the Cairngorms National Park”*

12:30 Q&A

**12.35 – 13.30 Lunch, posters and displays**

## Afternoon session

Chair of afternoon session: Neil Hodges, NBN Trust Chairman

### 13.30 The Sir John Burnett Memorial Lecture 2023

Natalie Prosser, Chief Executive Officer, The Office for Environmental Protection -  
“Tackling the biodiversity crisis through effective environmental governance – the role and work of the OEP”

### Session 3: Citizen science is valued, supported and expanded as a major source of biodiversity data

14.00 Lisa Chilton - NBN Awards 2024

14.05 Celebrating the NBN Awards 2015 - 2022

14.25 John Sawyer NBN Trust Open Data Award presentation

14.30 John White, CEO, Birda – “Birda: The birdwatching community and citizen science tool”

14:40 Lucy Robinson, Citizen Science Manager, Natural History Museum, London –  
“Boosting biodiversity in education: linking community science with action”

14:55 Q&A

**15:00 Tea / coffee break**

### Session 4: The National Biodiversity Network is a well-connected and highly collaborative community with a united voice on key issues

15:25 Panel discussion – “*The State of Nature – how can our Network show the value of data in contributing to nature’s recovery?*” Panellists are:  
Fiona Burns - RSPB/State of Nature 2023 Report Partnership,  
Deb Muscat - Association of Local Environmental Records Centres (ALERC)  
David O'Brien - Biodiversity Evidence and Reporting Manager, NatureScot.  
The session will be chaired by NBN Trust Patron, Sir John Lawton

16:00 Lisa Chilton, NBN Trust CEO – “*The Art of Data - harnessing creativity to maximise the impact of biodiversity data*”

16:15 Q&A

16:20 Chairman’s summing up

**16.25 End of NBN Conference**

**16:35 – 16:50 NBN Trust AGM**

**17:00 End of event**

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