26th National Biodiversity Network Conference

Thursday 19 November 2026 | Royal Armouries Museum, Leeds

> *Nature as National Resilience: Turning biodiversity data into action for people, place and a changing climate*

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

MORNING SESSION

TIME	PROGRAMME
08:45 – 09:10	Registration
09:15 – 09:20	Welcome and introduction by Pete Tomlin, NBN Trust Chairperson
09:20 – 09:45	**Keynote address – Kyle Copas** – GBIF Secretariat *"GBIF@25: Converting research relevance into policy action and impact"*
Session 1: Planning, land use and resilient places *Chair: Vanessa Neill Brown, NBN Trustee*	
09:45 – 10:00	**Deb Muscat** – Association of Local Environmental Records Centres (ALERC) *"Data to Decisions: Local Evidence in Action"*
10:00 – 10:15	**Becky Garden** – Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL) *"Delivering a Biodiversity Audit for South Kensington's Culture Quarter"*
10:15 – 10:30	**Jamie Robins** – Buglife *"Important Invertebrate Areas – Putting Bugs on the Map"*
10:30 – 10:40	Q&A
10:40 – 11:10	***Tea / coffee break***
Session 2: Data and digital infrastructure for nature recovery *Chair: Dom Aslan, NBN Trustee*	
11:15 – 11:30	**Julie Bunt** – The UK Archive for Marine Species and Habitats Data (DASSH), The Marine Biological Association *"DASSH and the NBN: Enhancing Two-Way Marine Data Integration"*
11:30 – 11:45	**Alex Rabeau, PhD** – SPHERE-PPL (Imperial College London) *"Applying AI Forecasting to Species Distribution Modelling Using the NBN Atlas"*
11:45 – 12:00	**Tree Robinson and Joe Taylor** – Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) *"Biodiversity data in action"*
12:00 – 12:10	Q&A
Session 3: NBN Trust technical updates *Chair: Dom Aslan, NBN Trustee*	
12:10 – 12:25	**Will Millard** – NBN Trust Data & Analytics Manager *"Recent enhancements to the NBN Atlas"*
12:25 – 12:40	**Phil Bysh / Joshua Keenan** – NBN Trust *"NBN Record Manager – a new system for managing, curating and sharing biological records"*
12:40 – 13:55	*Lunch, posters and displays*
12:45 – 13:00	NBN Trust AGM

26th National Biodiversity Network Conference

Thursday 19 November 2026 | Royal Armouries Museum, Leeds

Nature as National Resilience: Turning biodiversity data into action for people, place and a changing climate

AFTERNOON SESSION

TIME	PROGRAMME
Session 4: Wildlife recording and community action *Chair: Rob Cooke, NBN Trustee*	
14:00 – 14:15	**Sarah Staunton-Lamb** – Earthwatch Europe *"Community Action powered by Citizen Science"*
14:15 – 14:30	**Hollie Alhasan-Warman** – Yorkshire Wildlife Trust *"INNS Mapper – recording invasive non-native species – management, sightings, and surveys"*
14:30 – 14:40	**Katie Ayre** – The National Lottery Community Fund *"National Lottery Awards for All England Environment"*
14:40 – 14:50	Q&A
Session 5: Panel discussion	
14:50 – 15:15	**Panel: Keiron Brown (chair), Dr Abigail Lowe, David Shenton** *"Verification – Challenges and Opportunities"*
15:15 – 15:40	*Tea / coffee break*
Session 6: Research, policy and investment decisions *Chair: Dr Katie Leach, NBN Trustee*	
15:45 – 16:00	**Alison Smith** – Leverhulme Centre for Nature Recovery, University of Oxford *"Nature for resilience and security: evidence for smarter policymaking"*
16:00 – 16:15	**Emily Field** – British Standards Institution *"From ambition to action: the role of standards in building resilience through nature"*
16:15 – 16:30	**Juliette Perche** – Natcap *"Understanding Nature's ROI: Practical examples of business opportunities in nature action"*
16:30 – 16:40	Q&A
16:40 – 16:50	**Gareth Thomas**, NBN Trust CEO - Closing remarks
17:00 – 18:00	**NBN Awards for Wildlife Recording**

NBN Conference is organised by the NBN Trust

With huge thanks to our 2026 NBN Conference partners