**Science in Practice Conference 8th March 2022**

**Robinson College, Grange Rd, Cambridge, CB3 9AN and virtual**

**What works? Evidence informing conservation delivery**

Natural England aims to deliver thriving nature and build partnerships for nature’s recovery. To do this as effectively as possible, we need to use science and evidence to inform our actions, decisions and delivery. Natural England’s Science, Evidence and Evaluation Strategy sets out how Natural England is moving from being evidence based to evidence led – in other words, using evidence up front to inform our options and priorities, direct our decisions, and shape our delivery. In this conference, we will look at the best newly available evidence using innovative methods to inform and update our conservation practice. This will include insights from natural science, social science and economics and will set out new approaches, methods and information for use by all of Natural England, and our partners, to enable us to get better outcomes for people and nature.

**Programme**

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| Morning Session Chair: Andy Clements, NESAC Chair | | |
| 10.30 | Arrival, tea and coffee |  |
| 10.50 | Welcome/ Introduction – **Tim Hill** | Chief Scientist |
| 11.00 | **Katie Clark and Debbie Leatherland**  Environmental monitoring: A DNA toolbox | Evidence Services, CSD |
| 11.20 | **Suzane Qassim**  Chemical and pesticide biomonitoring and monitoring in the terrestrial environment | Strategy & Government Advice |
| 11.40 | **Adam Waugh**  Essential Fish habitat for marine natural capital ecosystem assessment monitoring | Specialist Services, CSD |
| 5-minute Speed talk Session Chair: Ruth Waters, Director of Evidence | | |
| 12.05 | **James Hoggett and Beth Brockett:** Emergent findings from the Natural England culture communications and engagement social research project | Specialist Services, CSD |
| 12.10 | **Gwen McHale or Josh Mounsey**: Data Ethics | Evidence Services, CSD |
| 12.15 | **Richard Askew**: Using Earth Observation to assist with two SSSI condition assessments | Evidence Services, CSD |
| 12.20 | **Andrew Cole:** How accurate are phone apps for identifying plant species? | Evidence Services, CSD |
| 12.30 | Lunch (provided) | |

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| Afternoon Session 1 Chair: Pete Brotherton, Director of Science | | |
| 13.30 | Plenary – **Tony Juniper** | Chair - Natural England Board |
| 13.55 | **Humphrey Crick**  Systematic Conservation Planning and the Nature Recovery Network | Specialist Services, CSD |
| 14.15 | Break | |
| 10-minute speed talk session Chair: Joe Hillier, Director of Analytics | | |
| 14.35 | **Ruth Lamont**  People and Nature Survey: how to use the data | Specialist Services, CSD |
| 14:45 | **Jo Bayes**  What’s that got to do with the price of fish?  Valuing the impacts of the North Sea sandeel fishery to show how natural capital accounting can help improve our seas | Specialist Services, CSD |
| 14:55 | **Tricia Rice**  The Natural Capital Evidence Handbook: a pragmatic approach to being evidence-led. | Specialist Services, CSD |
| 15:05 | **Andy Nisbet**  The Natural Capital Ecosystem Assessment programme | Evidence Services, CSD |
| 15.15 | **Andy Clements** – Summing up | Natural England Board member and NESAC Chair |
| 15.30 | End | |