

# Symposium

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON  
REGENTS PARK, LONDON, NW1 4RY



16 April 2015

## THE CONSERVATION SCIENCE/POLICY INTERFACE: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Organised by Nathalie Pettorelli, Zoological Society of London and  
Ceri Margerison, British Ecological Society

Good communication between policy makers and scientists is a crucial requirement for developing policies that cost-effectively achieve measurable outcomes in conservation. Yet science and other forms of knowledge are not used effectively in policymaking; and policymakers do not always effectively inform scientists about their needs for scientific knowledge. Why is this so?

One of the biggest misconceptions when thinking about the science-policy interface is that science policy communication follows a 'linear model', which assumes that policy makers pose questions, and then scientists feed in the appropriate evidence so that policy makers can make well informed decisions. This type of situation is largely uncommon, as science and policy are both complex activities that are not straightforward in their approaches to solving problems.

This event will bring together ecologists, conservation practitioners and policy-makers to discuss case-studies showing how science – policy interactions work in practice. Experts who work at the interface between science and policy will show, through a series of presentations, how good communication and excellent working relationships are crucial to successfully influencing or initiating change. Our speakers and interactive discussions will also explore the cross-sectorial and interdisciplinary approaches required to address biodiversity loss and ecosystem service degradation.



16 April 2015

**08.30 REGISTRATION OPENS**

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**INTRODUCTION** – Chair: *Nathalie Pettorelli, Zoological Society of London*

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**09.00 Bill Sutherland, British Ecological Society**

**09.15 Jonathan Baillie, Zoological Society of London**

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**SESSION I: ENGAGING WITH POLICY MAKING – A SCIENTIST'S PERSPECTIVE**

Chair: *Sheila Wren, John Muir Trust*

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**09.30 Scientific evidence in the control of bovine TB: a black and white issue?**

*Rosie Woodroffe, Zoological Society of London*

**10.00 Scientists into policy: getting involved in the Environmental Audit Committee Inquiry on Invasive Species**

*Helen Bayliss, Bangor University*

**10.30 POSTER SESSION (TEA/COFFEE)**

**11.00 When wording does matter – the infrastructure Bill as a case study**

*Sarah Durant, Zoological Society of London*

**11.30 The role of evidence in developing the England biodiversity strategy *Biodiversity 2020***

*Peter Brotherton, Natural England*

**12.00 Science evidence in marine environments is not just another stakeholder input**

*Charles Sheppard, University of Warwick*

**12.30 LUNCH**

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**SESSION II: PERSPECTIVES FROM THE SCIENCE/POLICY INTERFACE PROFESSIONALS**

Chair: *Richard Jenkins, IUCN*

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**13.30 NERC and the science/policy interface**

*Sasha Leigh, Natural Environment Research Council*

**14.00 Scientific evidence and the scrutiny of policy in the UK Parliament**

*Jonathan Wentworth, Parliamentary Office for Science and Technology (POST)*

**14.30 Policy isn't made in a vacuum: incorporating natural science, social science and value judgements**

*Abigail Bunker, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds*

**15.00 POSTER SESSION (TEA/COFFEE)**

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**CONCLUSIONS** – Chair: *Ceri Margerison, British Ecological Society*

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**15.30 The role of argument, evidence, ideas and advice in policy formation and change**

*James Wilsdon, University of Sussex*

**16.00 Utilising ecosystem assessments to build effective science-policy interfaces**

*Claire Brown, World Conservation Monitoring Centre*

**16.30 Panel debate – key recommendations to improve communication between science and policy**

*Claire Brown, Sasha Leigh, Jonathan Wentworth and Abigail Bunker*

**17.00 End of Symposium**

*Draft programme 05/03/2015 – subject to change*

# REGISTRATION

## The Conservation Science/Policy Interface: Challenges and Opportunities

16 April 2015. The Meeting Rooms, Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park (Outer Circle), London NW1 4RY, UK.

**Symposium Attendance**                      **Full rate**                      **Discounted rate**                      (applicable for ZSL Friends & Fellows<sup>1</sup>,  
For one day or part day                      £20                      £10                      and students<sup>2</sup>)

**Deadline for Registration 10 April 2015**

**REGISTER ONLINE:** Online registration will open shortly

To pay by cheque or card, please complete and return this form to: Jennifer Howes, ZSL Scientific Events, Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY, UK; e-mail: jennifer.howes@zsl.org; tel: +44 (0)20 7449 6227.  
Please complete one form per delegate.

### REGISTRATION

I AM / AM NOT a Fellow or Friend of the Zoological Society of London<sup>1</sup>  
I AM / AM NOT a registered graduate/undergraduate student<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Please provide your ZSL Membership number .....

<sup>2</sup>Please provide a supporting statement from your course supervisor or a copy of your student card.

#### Your details

**Title:** ..... **First name:** ..... **Surname:** .....

**Name** (as you would like it to appear on your badge): .....

**Position:** ..... **Organisation:** .....

**E-mail:** ..... **Tel:** .....

**Special dietary requirements** (please specify, including vegetarian): .....

**Mailing address (billing address should be provided for card payments):** .....

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**Delegate list:** We would like to make a list of delegates available to all attendees. Please indicate here if you **do not** want your information (name, position, organisation, e-mail address) to be included [ ]

### PAYMENT DETAILS

**Cheque**                      I enclose a cheque for £..... payable to: The Zoological Society of London.  
Please note that cheques can only be accepted in Sterling drawn against a UK bank.

**Card**                      Please complete all details below and return by fax or by post:

Please debit my Visa / MasterCard (delete as appropriate)

Amount                      £.....  
Card Number                      ..... / ..... / .....  
Expiry Date                      ..... / .....                      Card security code .....                      (last three digits printed on or just  
beneath card signature strip)  
Name on Card                      .....                      (capital letters please)  
Signature of Card Holder                      .....                      Date .....

**Cancellations** must be received in writing before 10 April 2015 and will be refunded.. Substitutions may be made at any time without charge; please notify Jennifer Howes of any change in attendee details.

## LOCATION



The Zoological Society of London's Meeting Rooms are next to the ZSL Main Office, on the Outer Circle, Regent's Park. Cars may be parked in the ZSL London Zoo visitors' car park – please contact Jennifer Howes (details below) to arrange a special parking rate. The nearest public transport is by the 274 bus (to ZSL London Zoo), or by Underground (to Camden Town).

## NOTES

**Attendance** All places must be booked in advance. **Full rate:** £20; **Discounted rate:** £10 (for students and ZSL Friends and Fellows).

Registration deadline: 10 April 2015

**Meals and refreshments** Coffee, tea and a buffet sandwich lunch will be served during breaks and are included in the ticket price. Please state if you have any special dietary requirements, including vegetarian.

### Booking and enquiries

Please contact: Jennifer Howes, ZSL Scientific Events  
Zoological Society of London,  
Regent's Park (Outer Circle)  
London NW1 4RY, UK.

E: [jennifer.howes@zsl.org](mailto:jennifer.howes@zsl.org) ; T: +44 (0)20 7449 6227 ; F: +44 (0)20 7449 6411  
<http://www.zsl.org/science/whats-on>



The Zoological Society of London (ZSL) is a charity devoted to the worldwide conservation of animals and their habitats.