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NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



# Engaging with **geodiversity** –why it matters

Speakers include:

**Roseanna Cunningham MSP**  
Minister for Environment

**Iain Stewart**  
Plymouth University

**Stuart Monro OBE**  
Our Dynamic Earth

*An exploration of the concept, its relationship to biodiversity, and its integration in environmental management, planning, tourism and education*

Supported by



**1 December 2010**  
**Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh**

British Geological Survey | British Society of Soil Science  
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Geodiversity provides the essential underpinnings of the natural environment and thus is fundamental to the support of all Biodiversity functions. Geodiversity has wide relevance to landscape, habitats, species and to the economic activities and cultural heritage that it supports, as well as to mitigation of the impact of climate change.

Geodiversity supports ecosystem services in both rural and urban settings and provides the basis for truly sustainable management of the environment in the face of change. In a wider sense, Geodiversity exerts a basic influence on the health and well being of Scotland's people.

This one-day conference will be of interest to professionals in the environmental and ecological services sectors as well as to those in planning, government agencies and tertiary education involved in the fields of environmental, geographical and applied earth science.

The conference sessions are themed around:

- Geodiversity underpinnings of the natural and cultural heritage
- Geodiversity, sustainable management and ecosystem services in a changing climate
- Engaging with people – geotourism, geoparks, greenspace and geoeducation
- Integrating geodiversity within the national policy framework

*Other confirmed speakers:*

**Hugh Barron**

British Geological Survey

**Andrew Black**

Wallingford HydroSolutions Ltd

**Mike Browne**

GeoConservationUK

**Colin Campbell**

Macaulay Institute

**John Gordon**

Scottish Natural Heritage

**Murray Gray**

University of London

**Jim Hansom**

University of Glasgow

**Matthew Hawkins**

Cairngorms National Park Authority

**Simon Rennie**

Central Scotland Green Network

**Mike Thomas**

University of Stirling

**Des Thompson**

Scottish Natural Heritage

**Chris Woodley-Stewart**

North Pennines AONB Partnership



09.00–09.30	<b>Registration</b>	
09.30–09.35	<b>Welcome</b>	
09.35–09.50	<b>Opening address</b>	<b>Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Minister for Environment</b>
<b>Theme 1: Geodiversity underpinnings of the natural and cultural heritage</b>		
09.50–10.20	Scotland's geoheritage and why it matters to Scotland's people	Iain Stewart (University of Plymouth)
10.20–10.45	Geodiversity and landscape sensitivity: international and Scottish perspectives	Mike Thomas (University of Stirling)
10.45–11.10	Valuing geodiversity in an ecosystem services context	Murray Gray (Queen Mary, University of London)
11.10–11.20	Discussion	
11.20–11.45	COFFEE/TEA—POSTER DISPLAY	
<b>Theme 2: Geodiversity, sustainable management and ecosystem services in a changing climate</b>		
11.45–12.05	River processes, catchment management and ecosystem services in a changing climate	Andrew Black (Wallingford HydroSolutions Ltd/University of Dundee)
12.05–12.25	Coastal processes, management and ecosystem services in a changing climate	Jim Hansom (University of Glasgow)
12.25–12.45	Geodiversity, biodiversity and landscape in a changing climate	Des Thompson (SNH)
12.45–13.05	Soil processes, management and pedodiversity in a changing climate	Colin Campbell (Macaulay Institute)
13.05–13.15	Discussion	
13.15–14.00	LUNCH—POSTER DISPLAY	
<b>Theme 3: Engaging with people</b>		
14.00–14.20	Education and raising public awareness of geodiversity	Stuart Monro (Our Dynamic Earth)
14.20–14.40	Geotourism, Geoparks and other cultural services	Chris Woodley-Stewart (North Pennines AONB Partnership)
14.40–15.00	Geodiversity, greenspace & communities: Local Geodiversity Sites, health and wellbeing	Simon Rennie (Central Scotland Green Network)
<b>Theme 4: Integrating geodiversity within the national policy framework</b>		
15.30–15.50	Integrating geodiversity and land management	Matthew Hawkins (Cairngorms National Park)
15.50–16.10	Geodiversity and the role of the planning system in Scotland	Mike Browne (GeoConservationUK)
16.10–16.30	Towards a geodiversity framework for Scotland	John Gordon (SNH) and Hugh Barron (BGS)
16.30–16.50	Discussion on way forward	
16.50–17.00	Summing up and Close	

[Register here](http://calendar.agi.org.uk/ViewItem.html?cal_item_id=733)

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Posters welcome—maximum size A0.

Please send 100 word abstract to Jim Hansom (jim.hansom@glasgow.ac.uk) by 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010