



Forth Estuary Forum 23rd Annual Conference Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in the Forth 17th November 2016

Speaker Biographies

Session 1

Chair: Ruth Briggs

Victoria Powell

Relative sea level change in the Forth and Tay Estuaries

In 2012 Vicky Powell was awarded a PhD by the University of Dundee for her research into '*Relative sea level change in the Forth and Tay Estuaries: past changes informing future trends*'. Previously specialising in coastal regeneration, the PhD candidacy launched Vicky into the world of sea level science where she spent three years engulfed in over one hundred years of tide gauge records. Wanting to go beyond the study's original remit of sea level record analysis, Vicky used the tide gauge records to analyse past sea level trends, investigate storm surge events and to adapt future projections of sea level change.

After completing her PhD Vicky moved to the University of Chester, where she taught coastal and geographical sciences, contributed to pedagogic research and now forms part of the corporate planning team. Vicky has publications in the Journal of Coastal Conservation, the Journal of Coastal Research and the Journal for Geography in Higher Education, amongst others. She co-authored a CREW-funded publication on coastal flooding in Scotland in 2012, as well as a pedagogic guide to using mobile technologies in fieldwork learning in 2016. Vicky is a member of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society and a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Aster de Vries Lentsch

Local Visions for the Inner Forth Landscape by 2040

Aster de Vries Lentsch is a Research Associate with the University of Edinburgh. She's a social scientist by training, and will start a PhD in environmental sustainability in September 2017 pending funding. Over the spring and summer this year she has been developing a new research format, called STREAMLINE, in the Inner Forth area, to get a better understanding of the way the local landscape matters to people living and working in it. Her work is part of the OPERAs project, an EU-funded research consortium with over 27 partners from across Europe.

Session 2

Chair: Dr Graham Russell

Dr Jasper Kenter

Valuing and paying for coastal ecosystem services around the Forth

Dr Kenter is Principal Investigator in Ecological Economics at SAMS. He is an interdisciplinary researcher with interests in sustainable development, conservation and environmental governance and management issues with a focus on ecosystem services. His primary research interest is in peoples' values around nature. He enjoys taking a very broad view of the notion of value and values, looking through the lenses of economics, ethics, psychology and spiritual practice, and has a particular interest in participatory approaches to valuing and managing ecosystems, how social processes shape values, and cultural ecosystem services. Dr Kenter is an Honorary Fellow of the University of Edinburgh, visiting lecturer at the University of Leicester, board member of the European Society for Ecological Economics and Guest Editor of the journal *Ecosystem Services*. Previously he was Principal Investigator for the Shared, Plural and Cultural Values chapter of the second phase of the UK National Ecosystem Assessment.

Anna Beswick

Edinburgh Adapts-a vision for a climate resilient city

Anna is Programme Manager for the Adaptation Scotland programme which supports organisations, businesses and communities across Scotland to adapt to the impacts of climate change. She set up the Edinburgh Adapts project in 2015 and has also developed urban adaptation projects in Glasgow and Aberdeen. Anna sits on the Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership Steering Group and contributes to a wide range of European, UK and Scottish climate change adaptation groups and networks.

David Anderson:

The Inner Forth Futurescape: Climate Change Adaptation for Wildlife and People

For the past three year David has been working on RSPB Scotland's Inner Forth Futurescape project that aims to deliver landscape scale conservation by creating and enhancing habitats that benefit both the wildlife and people of the Inner Forth. He is local to the area having been born and brought up in Clackmannanshire and this provides a great incentive to make the Futurescape project a success.

Prior to working on the Inner Forth project David studied at Edinburgh Napier University graduating with an MSc in Conservation and Management of Protect Areas. His degree included a research thesis that examined what may be behind the decline of Ring Ouzels in the UK. He also spent two seasons working with ospreys at RSPB's Abernethy Forest Nature Reserve and a year working on whale and dolphin conservation around the Moray Firth.

Session 3

Chair: Dr Chris Cutts

Kenny Maule

Neptune Nicked Our Sand

Kenny Maule is a member of the Dunbar's Shore Group (DSHNG) and Harbour Trust. Retired airline pilot, now busy with Shore projects & Harbour projects, especially on the Interpretation & History work for the current re-vamp of the 3 harbours in Dunbar. He also rows skiffs and sails.

Leonie Alexander

Edinburgh Living Landscapes

Leonie is currently Urban Biodiversity Project Officer at Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh as part of their contribution to Edinburgh Living Landscape which is the subject of her talk today.

For over 20 years she worked as an ecological consultant running her own business as Co Director of The Wildlife Partnership and starting in consultancy at SWT Environmental Services. As an ecological consultant she undertook a whole range of survey and assessment work – Ecological Impact Assessment, protected species survey, vegetation survey. She has been in post for 1 year at RBGE and will talk today about the ELL strategy and work done so far and planned.

Lorna King

Marine Scotland – an update

Lorna King works in the marine planning and policy team in Marine Scotland, the directorate of Scottish Government responsible for marine policy, marine science and fisheries compliance. Lorna was closely involved in the development of the National Marine Plan and is now taking forward implementation of the plan and its review. She is also responsible for invasive non-native species policy and works closely with other areas of Scottish Government and statutory bodies on INNS issues. Within government she previously worked in wildlife policy, marine nature conservation, the development of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010.