



Summing up and conclusions

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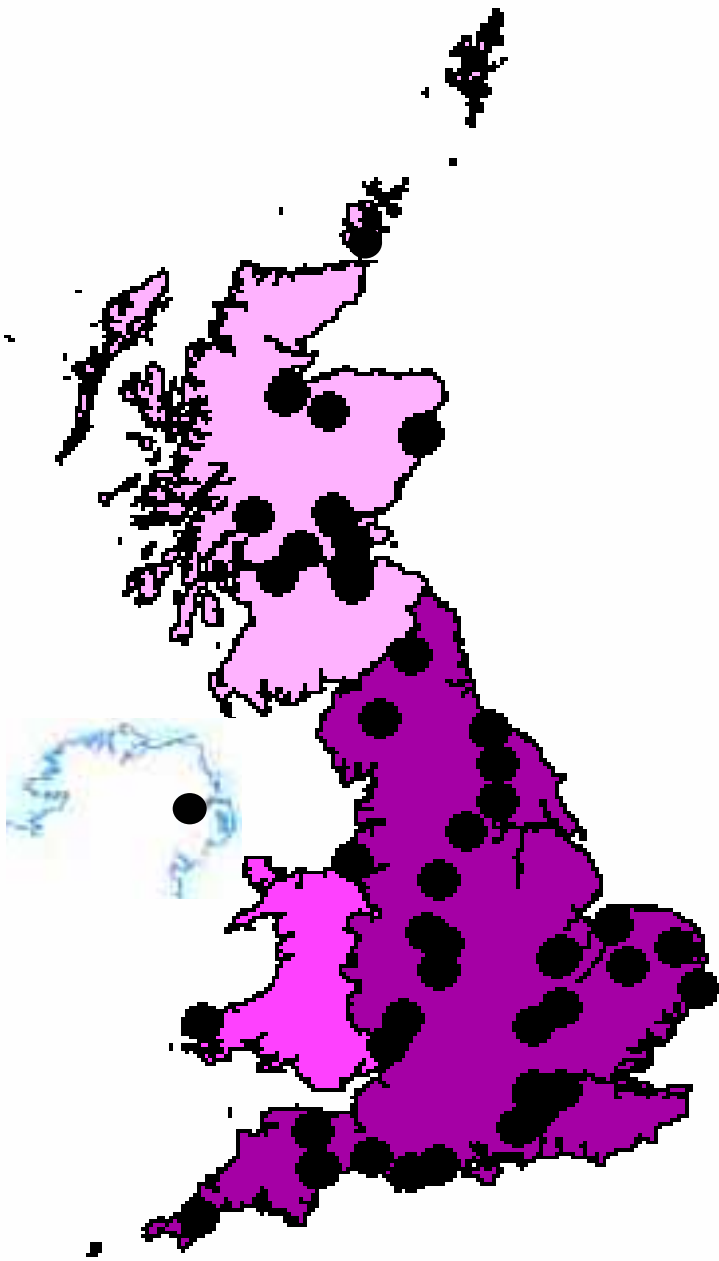
9th National Heathland
Conference

8 - 10 August 2006 at the University of Aberdeen

Attendees

- Scotland – 24
- England – 52
- Wales – 1
- N Ireland – 2
- Norway – 1

TOTAL = 80



Networking

- Discussions during breaks and evenings
- Discussion groups
- On-going projects – request for help with questionnaires
- Funding opportunities for new projects

The social geography of Scotland's heathlands

- The British heaths within the context of European heaths
- Common land
- Impact of historic events on the landscape

Drivers of change

- Most important drivers
 - climate change,
 - nitrogen deposition
 - legislation and incentives
- Archive data
- CAP and agri-environment schemes

Managing cultural landscapes

- No published evidence
- Lessons from restoration projects
- Dogs!

Looking to the future

- Tools to target re-creation
- (Relative) Costs of projects
- Behavioural study of *Homo sapiens*

Posters

- 12 posters on a variety of subjects
 - Management
 - Ecological networks and habitat potential maps
 - Condition of heathland sites and impacts
 - Information sharing
 - EHW in Norway
 - Hebridean lamb initiative
 - GAP

Discussion groups

1. Connecting people with heathland

- Place heaths in local context
- Education
- Non-verbal **communication** to work with people

2. Restoration & re-creation

- Re-create some features is relatively easy but...
- Whole community are not so much
- How to fund projects

Discussion groups

3. Management techniques

- Objectives, Partnership, app. monitoring
- Consideration of environmental costs
- On-going review a-e schemes

4. Past to inform future

- Making money from products, eg grazing
- Public involvement & volunteers
- Better objectives, dedicated staff

Discussion groups

- Communication, verbal and non-verbal
- Partnerships, dedicated staff
- Maximising economical benefits
- Re-creating whole communities
- Monitoring progress

The three points to take...

- Improve our knowledge of our patches
 - Research
 - Experience exchange
 - Benefits
- Try to solve more problems face-to-face and *in situ*
- Be ambitious in our initiatives

Acknowledgements

- Session chairs and speakers
- Discussion group leaders and field trip guides
- Organisers: CEH, English Nature, NT, RSPB, SNH (Lynne Farrell & Helen Forster)
- Expotel
- Aberdeen University

Before you go...

- Feedback form
- Taxis

Where next??