



British Land  
Reclamation  
Society

## A Role for Ecology in Land Regeneration

### One Day Event with Site Visits

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2015

#### General introduction:

As a profession, we are getting pretty good at regenerating land to a soft end use; extremely good if we have the time and money, but can we improve further? This field day will look at whether we should focus on ecological value as a means to improve land regeneration practice and if so – how?

Given the improvements in establishment rates and yield class where regeneration practice has been sympathetic to soil ecological health or has even positively sought to improve it, what steps can we take and which are practically and economically feasible?

We will also ask if the wider ecology of a location can provide a unique selling point to a regeneration site and the rewards that this might bring.

We'll visit three landfill sites in the east end of London, one that is still to be regenerated, one that has been regenerated but perhaps could achieve more, and another that has been regenerated and is a national success story with respect to its ecological value.

Our discussions will consider a greater role for ecology in the process of land regeneration and we will be introduced to Forest Research's latest relevant publications, including the revised and updated Best Practice Guidance Notes for Land Regeneration series. Please come and make your point(s).

**Date:** Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2015

**Time:** For those travelling by Car: 09.15 departure in bus from Thames Chase Forest Centre (Broadfields, Pike Lane, Upminster, RM14 3NS). (NB. There is a £1 per car fee for parking at Thames Chase).

For those travelling by Train: 09.30 departure from Upminster Railway Station (Over-ground and District line under-ground).

We will depart the final site by 15.30 to return to Thames Chase Forest Centre by 16.30, via Upminster Railway Station.

**Speakers/Tour leaders:** Neal Armour-Chelu (Forestry Commission)  
Frank Ashwood and Kieron Doick (Forest Research)  
Sarah Henshall (Buglife)  
Simon Pile (Land Trust)  
Steven Roach (RSPB)  
Patrick West (Forestry Commission)

## Programme:

The visit will take a tour of three former landfill sites in various stages of re-development to discuss the role, implications and future considerations for ecology in land regeneration.

- 10AM** Tour of Ingrebourne Hill including talks on the history of the site and its regeneration to community woodland; the need for a unique-selling point in land regeneration and should it have been ecology or community at this site; and should we/could we make more of the ecological value of the site
- 11.30AM** Tour of Pinches Mountain with a talk/open-debate on how to balance the current and future ecological value of the site as its regeneration is planned, the status quo and the challenges and advantages of making this a site of high ecological value
- 12.30PM** Travel to Thames Chase Forest Centre for lunch (included; venue is (Thames Chase Education Room, Thames Chase Forest Centre).
- During lunch, there will be a presentation by Forest Research on their latest publications in support of land regeneration to a soft end use
- 14.00PM** Travel to and Tour of Canvey Wick, a partnership site of The RSPB, The Land Trust and Buglife; former landfill now SSSI
- 15.30PM** Return travel to Upminster Railway Station

There will be ample opportunity for Q&A and discussion of associated issues at each venue.

Hard hats and hi-vis jackets will be provided but delegates must wear sturdy, closed shoes as we will be visiting un-regenerated as well as regenerated sites.

**Registration:** The seminar is open to both BLRS members and non-members. Please register with Andy Moffat at [andyimoffat@btinternet.com](mailto:andyimoffat@btinternet.com) to book your place. Registration for members is £20, non-members is £40 and students is £10. Numbers are limited (maximum 24) so book early. Please contact Kieron Doick ([kieron.doick@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:kieron.doick@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)) for further information on the meeting.

**Note:** When booking, please state if you need collecting from Upminster Railway Station.

Payment of fees can be made by cheque (please make cheques payable to British Land Reclamation Society and post to: *Elved Gray-Jones, BLRS Treasurer, 17 Lynton Place, Brychdyn, Flintshire, N. Wales CH4 0RP*) or by electronic transfer directly to BLRS Bank Account (please use your surname as a reference when paying):

**Barclays Business Centre  
Huddersfield Branch  
PO Box B71  
17 Market Place  
Huddersfield HD1 2AB**

**Account number: 00987611      Sort code: 20 – 43 – 04**

The society welcomes new members who support our general objectives promoting sustainable land use and wish to take advantage of our future conference and seminars. Please visit [www.blrs.org](http://www.blrs.org) to find joining instructions.