

Forestry Commission Forum, 29/01/2014

Update from the Sport and Recreation Alliance

- The Sport and Recreation Alliance is the umbrella body for the sector, representing over 300 members. Our membership includes governing bodies of outdoor recreation including the British Horse Society, the BMC and the Ramblers.
- Since 2012 the Alliance has been working closely with the Forestry Commission to promote recreational use of public and private forests:
 - A series of case studies detailing successful recreational use of private forest land can be found on our website
 - A guide for Forestry Commission staff is being finalised and will offer practical advice for delivering sport and recreation opportunities
 - The Commission's Director for England, Ian Gambles, recently met Alliance members to discuss reform of the Public Forest Estate management structure.
- The Alliance is also currently working on a document which will highlight the economic impact of outdoor recreation:
 - With the support of Liverpool John Moores University we are conducting a review of existing evidence for economic impact
 - The report, which will be published before Easter, will be used as a campaigning tool to help demonstrate the value of our members and the wider outdoor sector
 - We will also make available all the evidence we find as an additional resource.
- Details of our progress can be found by visiting www.sportandrecreation.org.uk or by emailing Simon Butler: sbutler@sportandrecreation.org.uk.