



10th October 2007

Invitation to the seminar:

LAND-USE PLANNING IN A CLIMATE CHANGE CENTURY

Wednesday 28th November 2007

The Merchants' Hall, Hanover Street, Edinburgh

There is an increasing imperative to make our landscapes and habitats better connected and more robust to allow biodiversity adaptation to our changing climate. Recent advances in spatial map-based modelling techniques now mean that changes in land use – from agricultural improvements to forestry operations, from development proposals to habitat improvements – can be assessed on the landscape scale and targeted to the maximum effect for the benefit of people, wildlife and the public purse.

This modelling approach – known by the acronym BEETLE (Biological and Environmental Evaluation Tools for Landscape Ecology) – has been developed by Forest Research for SNH and the Forestry Commission, it complements on-the-ground knowledge, allowing robust and best value land-use decisions to be made at the strategic, regional and local scales.

This seminar is being held for policy and decision makers, land-use advisors, and key stakeholders and will:

- *give an overview of the spatial planning approach and how its application has been used to date*
- *show how the modelling is currently being refined and developed for a potentially wide range of uses and applications – from the strategic to on-the-ground action*
- *provide a forum to address and discuss its continued role, scope and ways forward*

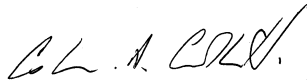
Interest is proving to be extremely high for this event, and we would be grateful if you could confirm attendance by **31st October** to Morag Elliott (contact: 01463 725325, by post to the above address, or email morag.elliott@snh.gov.uk) confirming:

- name and title of person attending;
- any special dietary requirements; and
- contact email address (or postal address if none) where final details of the event can be sent.

For further details about the content of the day, please don't hesitate to contact Phil Baarda, Policy and Advice officer (at the above address, or on 01463 725 208; phil.baarda@snh.gov.uk.)

I hope you will see this as an opportunity to examine how land use decisions can be made to best effect for the future in the face of our rapidly changing climate, and I look forward to meeting you and/or your colleagues on the day.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. A. Galbraith'.

Professor Colin A Galbraith
Director of Policy and Advice