

The
Royal Society
of **Edinburgh**

Scotland's Land



**Report of a Conference Organised by
The Royal Society of Edinburgh**

Thursday 30 September 2004



FOREWORD

The programme of events mounted by the Royal Society of Edinburgh covers a diverse range of important topics that demand public attention and debate. It seemed therefore that with so many critical issues facing the countryside, this was the appropriate time to examine these, their relationship with each other, the apparent conflicts and the different aspirations for Scotland's Land. The Scottish Executive has given early priority to legislation on Land Reform and Access and the European Community has at last grasped the nettle of radical reform of agricultural support, but what the long term impact of these measures will be is still far from clear. The closure of the countryside following the outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease was a sharp reminder that having multiple objectives for the land may be desirable but will involve difficult decisions. However, the creation of Scotland's first National Parks will give an opportunity for creative thinking on the management of our most valued country areas.

Distinguished speakers engaged these and other topics; the discussion ranged widely and many cogent points were made from the floor, but all in the knowledge that with such a layered and diverse subject it would be a contribution, rather than a solution, to the debate.

Sir Peter Hutchison CBE FRSE
Organising Committee Chairman

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INTRODUCTION

Few things are as certain as change. It was Disraeli who said, in a speech in Edinburgh on 29 October 1867, that 'Change is inevitable in a progressive country. Change is constant.'

Change may be constant, but its nature, its extent, its granularity, and where it might take us were concerns discussed by the diverse group of participants gathered at the Royal Society of Edinburgh to discuss the use and management of Scotland's land. The variety of experiences and interpretations brought to bear on the topic provided an illuminating day, generating many answers and, quite properly, many more questions for all who took part.

Sir Peter Hutchison, CBE, FRSE, Chairman of the Organising Committee, introduced the conference drawing our attention to the range of enquiry through the day. Scotland's land is rich and diverse, the landscape rugged and gentle, steep and flat, hard and soft as the result of geological, and biophysical processes. Thereafter the natural heritage is overlaid by cultural heritage, and political, economic, sociological and technological change. Such a broad topic is impossible to examine thoroughly in a day, but thanks to the ingenuity of speakers and participants, it would be possible to look across a very wide range of issues, and at many scales, from microscopic to global, and across the past, present and future.

THE PAST

The significant contribution made by innovative thinkers and practitioners in Scotland in the development of agriculture, from the Age of Enlightenment onwards, was a point emphasised by several speakers. The pace of change had accelerated markedly in the last century.

Professor Margaret Gill, in a sweeping review, provided some startling reminders of just how much change has occurred in the last century; in agriculture, with the increase from 1926 to 1986 in arable crops, from 2 million to 4.5 million hectares (with a five-fold increase in grain production) and a corresponding decrease in permanent grassland (with still a doubling of meat production); in forestry, from the planting of the new twentieth century forests to the more recent emphasis on native woodlands. In 1926, the National Trust for Scotland also came into being. There had, since that time, been a great change in attitudes and affiliations, exemplified by the growing membership of environmental non-government organisations to 377,000 in 2001, whilst NFU Scotland membership stood at just 11,000.

Using the example of the Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park, **Dr Bob Aitken** drew attention to the radical change in the ten years from 1993, away from farming and forestry driven substantially by a production imperative. He reported that the change had been more notable in forestry, because of the long time-frame of timber production as against rapid change in external market forces. Within the Lomond-Trossachs National Park this was evidenced by a markedly changed focus in the two forest parks towards provision for recreation and tourism. But in fact recreation and tourism have been substantial economic forces in rural Scotland, at least since the Industrial Revolution and its associated urbanisation. The 200th anniversary of the publication of Walter Scott's *The Lady of the Lake*, immensely influential in triggering mass tourism, is fast approaching. Tourism has taken many forms, from the deer forests so popular in Victorian

times, to excursions by rail, car, coach, boat or on foot, and a host of activities such as climbing and walking. Towns, like Moffat, were a product of tourism. In all cases, Bob considered that the principal asset upon which tourism depended was the quality and diversity of the landscape, the scenery derived from large-scale topography, rather than the vegetation or land cover, but that this crucial value was given insufficient recognition by communities and agencies. As far back as the 1970s, Sir Frank Fraser Darling had remarked that recreation would be the main land use in the Highlands to which forestry, agriculture and conservation would have to fit.

Charting the progress of nature conservation in Scotland from the implementation of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, to the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act, 2004, **Professor Michael Usher** mentioned some of the earlier steps: the 1869 Act which gave protection to the sea birds of Yorkshire; the formation of the National Trust in 1895; the subsequent formation of the RSPB, wildlife trusts, and the National Trust for Scotland as described in Chris Smout's book, *Nature Contested: Environmental history in Scotland and Northern England*. The early focus was site-based, and Scotland led the way with the establishment of the Beinn Eighe National Nature Reserve. Here, woodland was the principal interest but the entire hill was included in the purchase, such that the reserve was bought for an average of 74p per hectare. The first local reserve was also created in Scotland, at Aberlady Bay. Subsequent legislation, in 1991, provided the opportunity for strengthening the statutory basis of Sites of Special Scientific Interest, the creation of new ones, but not the removal of designations where this would have been appropriate because the conservation value had diminished (this power was included in the 2004 Act). Michael reviewed cases in which the designations or notifications by Scottish Natural Heritage had been challenged, and the decisions of the appeals committee. He pointed to the growing understanding of the effects of conservation, and also pointed to some

of the problems encountered (notably concerning the boundaries between land and sea).

Lord John Sewel described his period in office from 1997 to 1999, giving the conference an insight into Ministerial life where he had had the responsibility for the architecture of devolution and of land reform, whilst also looking after the rural affairs portfolio. The time taken by the House of Lords in considering the Scotland Bill prevented the passage of other legislation for Scotland such as access to the countryside, land reform and national parks. This enabled more time to be spent in developing the thinking, and preparation for the Scottish Executive to develop after devolution. Whilst the Ministers in Scotland at that time were drawn mostly from urban Scotland, a number had rural interests, and consequently rural policy was given plenty of space. In developing policy, effort was expended in looking for coherence and integration, in bridging issues. Four factors which John Sewel considered uppermost at the time were:

- rural policy was primarily about people in the country, their communities; they had similar needs to people elsewhere, but the delivery mechanisms might well be different;
- there was scepticism of the contribution that agriculture could make, and a concern that

too much focus would be an obstruction to development;

- the value of land lay not in products (or subsidies attracted) but in the physical control over the land; and,
- environment should not be too great a driver, but that it should work with other needs.

John saw that sustainable development could provide the means of integrating policy work in environmental protection, economic development and social enhancement. The development of National Parks in Scotland provided a microcosm in which to test such an approach.

Another major area was land reform, which brought together a bundle of issues, including the abolition of feudalism. The greatest controversy was over ownership of land. Sustainable development again provided the framework for a solution which would focus on land as a key development resource for local communities, providing communities with a right to buy.

These proposals were passed on to the incoming Executive and Parliament, and became the focus of much of the legislative effort of the early Parliament.

THE PRESENT

The making of good policy required underpinning with sound evidence. **Dr Andrew Moxey** described some of the basic tenets of economics which could help. Scotland's stock of 7.9 million hectares of land (of which 7.7 million is rural) was mostly farmland (70%) and forestry (17%). He pointed out that the chief economic values depended on the flows of benefits, or the propensity for such flows. Just as there is considerable variation in the capabilities of the land to deliver benefits, so there is a variation in the demand, dependent on accessibility of the various benefits generated. For assets, commodities and services governed by markets, the mechanisms are well understood, but for non-market benefits the position is more complex. As the wealth of societies and groups increases, it seems the relative values of non-market benefits increase. This seems logical enough, but adds to the challenge in using conventional economic tools to support policy making in this area, although some interesting work is currently underway. The numbers can be very large and this is important.

In answer to a question from **Mr Jamie Farquhar** about the reticence to use figures for non-market benefits, Andrew urged caution in interpreting the results, and counselled against blind use of headline figures, which might on their own be misleading.

While **Dr James Irvine** was concerned that insufficient note was taken of the achievements of farmers, Andrew suggested that the public support through grants indicated that society did indeed value the benefits produced.

We are living in a period of great change.

Michael Usher described how we moved from our earlier focus on sites to a consideration of the underpinning systems. As evidence he cited the reference to the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy in the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act, 2004. Many questions were identified as still outstanding, such as how much biodiversity should we have and where, how should it be distributed (locally, nationally and internationally), whether we are striving for sustained productivity or ecological sustainability, whether we are talking

about people and nature, or nature and people. We appear to have shrunk the world through the rapid acceleration in communications and transport, and it now seems easier than ever for us to add new things, new ideas, and new complexities. As an example, Michael cited European government, which had introduced many directives which, when transposed, had increased the level of complexity in law and regulation within the devolved administrations. Meantime, the jargon and acronyms have replicated exponentially, making many of the concepts behind schemes such as the Common Agriculture Policy reform even less accessible to most of us.

A number of speakers stressed that the new Scottish Parliament had greatly enhanced opportunities for people to become involved not just in consultation but through enhanced representative democracy. **Priscilla Gordon-Duff** observed, and others agreed, how odd it was that in a period which has seen so much policy work in relation to Scotland's land, the vacuum left by the demise of Rural Forum had not been filled.

Jane Hope, drew attention to the special features of our National Parks, with reference to the aims of the Cairngorms National Park:

- To conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area.
- To promote sustainable use of the natural resources of the area.
- To promote understanding and enjoyment (including enjoyment in the form of recreation) of the special qualities of the area by the public.
- To promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities.

Jane stressed that it was this last aim which set Scotland's National Parks apart from those in other parts of the UK. Our systems recognise that man and environment are inextricably linked, that our National Parks are not just about wrapping areas in cotton wool, and they should not be seen in isolation. It is not intended that they offer a representative sample of what we have, nor rep-

resent some pinnacle of value. Rather, our National Parks are management solutions to particular problems, created to add greater value, by encouraging better joined-up thinking, talk, and action. Whether in the Cairngorms National Park (the UK's most remote and largest at 14,000 square miles) or in Loch Lomond and Trossachs which has 70% of Scotland's population within an hour of the Park, the great challenge is bringing the different stakeholders together, exposing and resolving differences, and implementing palatable and therefore workable solutions. In the Cairngorms, education and interpretation are important, whereas on Loch Lomond, the competition for access and use of the water is the paramount issue. For both Parks, a crucial aspect is that where public benefits are paid for by public funds, we need too have a better understanding of values. We need a concerted effort to find out what visitors and residents want.

The role of recreation and tourism has steadily increased in recent years, and **Bob Aitken** described how planning its management had to take in an increasing diversity of public goods. Catchment management planning is important for the water, whether for potable supply, hydro-power, or conservation. Implementing the Water Framework Directive will require a more holistic approach than in the past. There is a need for breadth of vision to include social and economic issues – retirement, migration, long-distance commuting, changes in recreation and tourism too.

Bob suggested that we have now shifted from a position where farming and crofting could claim to be the mainstay of the wider rural economy to the converse; but he also pointed to a crucial discrepancy, that although the production of public goods now seems more important than core rural industries, revenues do not necessarily flow to those who create the goods. Our system of land use does not yet recognise that the values are focused elsewhere. Bob reflected on our culture, and suggested that a Calvinist emphasis on making productive use of the land, perhaps prevented a more holistic "Aldo Leopoldian" land ethic from taking hold. Set-aside is seen by some

as something almost sinful, or wasteful. Managers and communities still largely ignore the prominent role of tourism. Whilst surveys have shown that the quality and diversity of landscape is our main asset, such a view seems to be ignored by communities and agencies. Bob expressed concern that there has not always been a coincidence of interest between land managers and local people, and land managers have not always been good at attending meetings in the community, putting further distance between them and the rest of the community. But it was important to bridge this gap, as tourism is now worth more than twice as much to Scotland as agriculture. More discussion is important. The development of the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Plan provides a model to encourage integration, producing a balanced solution, and one which applies public funding to deliver public benefits.

Margaret Gill described how there are multiple objectives associated with the different interest groups, whether agriculture, environment or communities. The systems are themselves complex, dynamic and therefore full of change, for example in relation to climate, legislation, and globalisation.

An important factor referred to by **Professor John Hillman** was that the developing world is expected to account for a doubling of consumption over 25 years, as the world's population rises from the 6 billion in 1999 to an estimated 9.8 billion in 2050. This seemed easy to predict, but some of the changes will be extensive, rapid and unpredictable. Nevertheless, as Margaret made clear, we can be better prepared by making the most of the information we have, and mapping the capabilities whether for agriculture, forestry, or anything else. When we identify problems, we need to consider from whose point of view we are making the analysis. To develop policies that balance the different objectives, we need to understand the processes, and of course the purpose behind the objectives. We need information on extensive livestock systems, on conservation and other benefits, information on soils, land cover maps, remote sensing. As Margaret emphasised, we need to detect the

appropriate scale at which to work, which for some issues might be at the catchment scale, and for others at the microscopic level.

Margaret illustrated the scope we have to present people with more useful information on which to make decisions, for example by associating virtual with real information in the case of presenting what a windfarm development might look like, and by providing a booth, 3-D effects and sound could be added, and surveys incorporated to explore the degree of resistance to change. Scotland is a small country, with its own distinct culture, and it was recognised that we must develop structured consultation so that all sectors are included, and that those groups who are affected participate in the process.

That the path to participation was not always easy to secure, was demonstrated in a cautionary tale by **Priscilla Gordon-Duff**, based on practical experience in the proposed development of 1.5 hectares of community woodland. The tale involved the three 'Rs': Response (that participation can make people feel better), Recreation (increasing emphasis on the recreational role of the countryside with limited local authority resources), and Restraint (the need to slow down and recognise that some people need longer to adjust to the idea of change), as well as the supplementary 'Rs' of Rights and Responsibilities. Priscilla described the trials and tribulations of a community working at learning together how to resolve apparently different objectives when insufficient financial resources and changes in personnel increased the pressure, and tended to divide the community. The tale had a heartening end, with Forestry Commission Scotland and Keith Grammar School working together with a community recovering its ability to integrate the different objectives of its stakeholders.

Ian Fernie, showed how spatial planning could be the key to integrating much of the development in the countryside, but, that the planning had limitations, especially in relation to developments associated with farming and forestry. Whilst acknowledging the contribution of forest strategies and plans, and the scope for including

people's views, Ian indicated that part of the problem was that some of the structures used today were intrusive because of the sheer scale involved (up to 465 m²) - barns, sheds, silage storage, poly-tunnels amongst them, as well as upland vehicle tracks and drainage. Stressing the role of planning of integrating proposals in a spatial concept, Ian pointed to the value of such planning in helping to deliver the six principles drawn up by SNH for Scotland's Future Landscape, especially in recognition of the shared responsibility for landscape.

The National Planning Framework for Scotland helps to set Scotland within a European context, guiding spatial development to 2025, and emphasises the importance of Land Management Contracts in seizing on the character and economic opportunities afforded by the diverse parts of Scotland. There are still issues which need to be resolved, and Ian cited the need for a policy to guide the development of renewable energy. There is also a need to integrate the many strategies and plans, the different processes. The River Basin Management Planning associated with the Water Framework Directive has tremendous potential, but we need to integrate this thinking into the revision of such strategies as the Framework for Economic Development in Scotland, and the Scottish Forestry Strategy. With the need for development planning to take account of such processes, it would be helpful if there was more reciprocity in the development of these strategies to take account of the needs of the planning authority.

Dr Lesley Macinnes, made a point, from the floor, that much of our cultural landscape and heritage has survived because of its extensive use and value to people. We should recognise the scope for safeguarding this link, by integrating the mapping of our cultural heritage with mapping of the potential for different forms of land use. Lesley also suggested that a different approach may well have emerged because, within Europe, cultural heritage is seen as state level issue, whereas natural heritage is seen as a matter for the European Union, from which directives flow.

THE FUTURE

Pressures on our environment at state level, for Europe, and for the global community have been well documented, and arise from change and our ability to adapt.

Speakers kept returning to the nature of change, not just for us here but for humankind across the globe, identifying the threats and the opportunities. Climate change is one issue, which had been identified by several speakers as of great relevance, but **John Hillman** spoke about the potential in further developing the technology of agriculture. He urged participants to recognise the potential which we were now in danger of losing through disinvestment in research and development. We would surely need all the help we can get to meet the burgeoning demand for food from the developing populations of India and China. These countries will not be in a position to meet their own domestic needs. Stressing the likely scenarios of continuing food shortages, John said it was extraordinary that we should be cutting the funding of agricultural sciences in Scotland.

In a wide sweep of the exciting developments in genetics and farming, and the benefits which second and third generation transgenic crops could bestow on society, John gave an illuminating insight into our capabilities to adapt to change. We can now breed plants that yield efficiency and quality, are tolerant of biotic and abiotic stresses, reduce anti-nutritional and allergenic factors, provide industrial feedstocks, lead to phytoremediation of contaminated land and water, the production of nutraceuticals and pharmaceuticals, and much more. The future could look very bright, if we can overcome the concerns of consumers and the constraints. Unless we make people aware of the potential benefits and the need to continue to invest in agronomy, we risk ignoring the dominant position which agriculture will have by 2020, economically, scientifically, socially and politically. We need a positive outlook and something equivalent to the US Science Roadmap for Agriculture. For that we need investment.

Bob Aitken had also drawn attention to the need to invest in Scotland's land, to address some of the side effects of tourism, which some projections indicated would be providing 15% of GDP by 2015. He provided some statistics to indicate the scale: within the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Park, tourism provides about 6000 jobs and generates £200m of revenue, by contrast there are 537 jobs in agriculture and some 300 in forestry, about half those workers being resident in the Park area. In the Highland Council area, tourism already generates about 30% of local GDP, and landscape is increasingly recognised as the primary attraction for visitors. While tourism and recreation are not generally seen as productive activities, in the sense of producing tangible outputs, there are nevertheless tangible side effects - impacts on the physical fabric, be it loch-shores or hill paths - which need to be managed. Highlands and Island Enterprise and Forestry Commission Scotland have been proactive in addressing resource issues, but more needs to be done. In tackling these issues we are handicapped by knowing too little about how people relate to landscape, although we do know that what attracts people seems to be the underlying scenery or structure and that visitors have limited sensitivity to change in vegetation, or fine detail. Bob found it difficult to contemplate how the new Land Management Contracts can be harnessed to achieve landscape enhancement, when it is the existing, old paradigm, forms of farming which have produced such landscapes.

Andy Robertson gave a presentation on why Scotland's Land needs a thriving agriculture industry for the future and outlined what actions were required: a focus on agreeing industry priorities, working for a fairer supply chain and establishing an appropriate support framework. Andy identified priorities as cutting costs, where substantial progress had already been made, the need to capture the market by meeting specifications, and embracing the wider political agenda to reflect rising public interest in the environment, in animal welfare and in tourism. He stressed that farming

was a business; it must be profitable if people are to deliver the outputs and outcomes desired.

In discussion, **John Hillman** made the point that while the focus for support may be on the public sector at the moment, given some of the changes discussed, it may be very different in ten years. The position is already very complex, with powerful environmental NGOs and the hegemony of supermarkets exerting considerable influence. In addition, advances are likely to mean that, by 2020, one person will be able to look after 1,000 hectares.

As speakers agreed, there are many uncertainties which we face in respect of the land, not least the effects of CAP reform. Global instability and energy futures certainly play on the big picture, but they affect the local picture too. As **Bob Aitken** pointed out, rural populations in Scotland are by no means homogenous; within the Loch Lomond and Trossachs Park some residents work out of Aberdeen, on the rigs. Similarly, the rural issues faced by those in the peri-urban belt are different to those in more remote locations. Whilst change was an important issue to address, the concerns about the new right of responsible access seemed, in Bob's view, unwarranted. He expressed the view that the habits of visitors would be unlikely to change wholesale or overnight. Surveys show that for many urban Scots the countryside remains a strange and forbidding place, and it is likely that change will take decades to occur; the development of Core Path Networks will be crucial both in providing a reassuring mode of access and in minimising conflict for land managers. The evidence from other countries with such rights is that familiarity is a key aspect of enjoyment of the countryside - people tend to use the same walks time and time again.

People's behaviour changes with their values. By means of new techniques and refinements in methodologies, economists can attach monetary values to non-market benefits, which are attached to many of the benefits associated with Scotland's Land. There are complications associated with

multifunctionality, benefits being jointly produced, substitutes & complements, and trade-offs. Where benefits are not traded, then government must provide rewards, but this is difficult, with 88% of land private, 40% of farmland rented, and 5% let out on a seasonal basis. There are many strategies which urge actions of one kind or another, designations, and policies such as land reform, CAP reform, decoupling, cross-compliance, and Land Management Contracts. These mechanisms need to be integrated.

Andrew Moxey also posed the question as to what land and resources overseas were used by Scotland; what was its ecological footprint? In answer to a question about what measures there would be to reduce the use of energy, Andrew explained that demand was traditionally managed by raising prices, or through changes in tax, (but that the latter was reserved to the Treasury). If neither of these routes was feasible then exhortation was the only mechanism left, such as through the DALCAL (Do-A-Little-Change-A-Lot) campaign.

Better communication, following better analysis, will lead to more effective policy development and implementation. There are some problems, such as those which **Michael Usher** and **Ian Fernie** identified in relation to the coast and marine environment. Changes will occur where people share a common goal or value system, in which they believe, and **Andrew Moxey** had shown how economics could be used to help identify values and priorities. Developing the policies which find favour needs effective consultation, and **Margaret Gill** pressed for a more inclusive consultation process, making sure that those affected were consulted. Ian explained how spatial planning could help in developing plans. As many speakers had said, we can only make real progress if we do so working together. Developing systems that integrate all our various plans and strategies for the optimal solution would provide the Utopian solution, and we should strive for nothing less.

Reflecting on the day, **Professor Jeff Maxwell** said that we were on the brink of a new era, when the vision, imagination and innovative capability of those responsible for land use and management could rise to the challenges and opportunities that markets and land policies presented to them. We can unleash the wealth-creating potential of our primary producers within the framework of continuing improvements that research, technology, and science gives us, within an appropriate reform of CAP, if:

- use and management of the land respects its inherent worth and value;
- local communities benefit where possible, and ownership does not constrain development opportunities within these communities;
- there is an acceptance of the inalienable right to enjoy and benefit from the exercise of responsible access;

- the taxpayers' contribution is used wisely and contributes to securing high environmental quality; and,
- bureaucracy is simplified!

To resolve the conflicting desires, and balance the economic, environmental and social goals, Jeff stressed the need for the principles of sustainable development to be implemented. He suggested this would need a strategic enabling framework, full use of our capacity for innovative research and technology, and the integration of the needs of different sectors and groups in society to include local communities. In his closing remarks he made a plea for moving on from analysis, towards implementing solutions by enabling those who live and work in rural communities to secure their future, whilst also providing for those who choose to use our countryside for the benefits of recreation and an enhanced quality of life, for all our sakes.

APPENDIX ONE - ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Royal Society of Edinburgh would like to thank the Conference Organising Committee

Dr John M Francis FRSE

Consultant to UNESCO Paris

**Sir Peter Hutchison Hon FRGS CBE FRSE
Organising Committee Chairman**

Deputy Convenor, Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park; Former Chairman Forestry Commission; Former Vice-Chairman British Waterways; First Chairman, Royal Botanic Garden Trustees, Edinburgh

Professor Jeff Maxwell OBE FRSE

Former Director, Macaulay Land Use Research Institute

Professor Bruce Proudfoot CBE FRSE

Emeritus Professor of Geography, University of St Andrews

Professor Philip C Thomas FRSE

Chairman, Central Scotland Forest Trust and Emeritus Professor of the Scottish Agricultural College

Professor Ian Stevenson FRSE

Programme Convener, The Royal Society of Edinburgh

Ms Susan Walker

Events Officer, The Royal Society of Edinburgh

Finally the Committee and the RSE would like to extend their thanks to the following organisations for their support of this Conference:

The Forestry Commission

Historic Scotland

Macdonald Hotels

Scottish Natural Heritage

And to the many other organisations who have provided support .

The Society would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the speakers who participated in this event.

APPENDIX TWO -PROGRAMME

09.00	Registration & Coffee	14.00	Chair: Professor Roger Wheeler OBE FRSE, Chairman, The National Trust for Scotland
09.30	Chairman's Welcome Sir Peter Hutchison CBE, Hon FRSGS, FRSE, Organising Committee Chairman		
09.35	Session 1 – Scotland's Land: Lessons from the Past and Opportunities for the Future Professor Margaret Gill FRSE, Chief Execu- tive and Director, The Macaulay Institute		Session 7 - The Future of Scottish Agriculture Professor John Hillman FRSE, Director, Scottish Crop Research Institute
10.05	Session 2 – Can Sustainable Land Use Pay its Own Way? Mr Andrew Moxey, Head, Analytical Services Division, Scottish Executive Envi- ronment & Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD)	14.30	Session 8 A. Learning to Work Together - the 3 Rs of Country Life Mrs Priscilla Gordon-Duff, Rural Re- source Manager
10.35	Coffee Break		B. Planning and the Countryside Mr Ian Fernie, Planning Consultant and member of SNH's West Areas Board
11.05	Session 3 - Recent Government Legis- lation Lord John Sewel, House of Lords		C. National Parks and Countryside Management Ms Jane Hope, Chief Executive, Cairn- gorms National Park Authority
11.35	Session 4 - Nature Conservation in Scotland: Along the Path from 1949 to 2004 Professor Michael Usher OBE, FRSE, University of Stirling		D. Why Scotland's Land Needs a Thriving Agricultural Industry Mr Andy Robertson, Chief Executive Officer, NFU Scotland
12.05	Session 5 - Recreation, Land Use and Tourism Mr Bob Aitken, Scottish Countryside Activities Council	15.30	Coffee Break
12.35	Session 6 - Panel Discussion Morning Speakers	15.50	Session 9 - Panel Discussion (All speakers Session 8)
13.00	Lunch	16.20	Session 10 - Panel Discussion (Some morning session speakers)
		16.50	Summary and Closing Remarks Professor Jeff Maxwell OBE, FRSE, Former Director, Macaulay Land Use Research Institute
		17.00	Close

APPENDIX THREE - SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Mr Bob Aitken

Scottish Countryside Activities Council

Bob Aitken is an Edinburgh-based consultant in recreation and tourism research and survey, planning and management, with a particular interest in mountain country. He was Chair of the Scottish Countryside Activities Council for over 15 years, and has served on the Research Board of Scottish Natural Heritage, the Cairngorms Partnership, and the National Access Forum. He is currently a member of the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority and Chairs its Leisure and Recreation Committee.

Mr Ian Fernie

Planning Consultant (and member of SNH's West Areas Board)

A former Director of Planning and Environmental Services with two Scottish local authorities, he worked for 27 years for five Councils in West Central Scotland. He has for the past four years been a member of Scottish Natural Heritage's West Areas Board; holds Directorships in a number of environmental charities and sits on the Scottish Executive Committee of the Royal Town Planning Institute. He has lectured and tutored part-time in Planning and Environmental Law at the University of Strathclyde and has recently taken up a part-time appointment as a Planning Appeals Commissioner for Northern Ireland.

Mrs Priscilla Gordon-Duff

Rural Resource Manager, Drummuir Estate

Priscilla Gordon-Duff obtained a degree from Durham University in Anthropology and Sociology in 1973 followed by a short period of study at Aberdeen University in the Sociology Dept with Ian Carter, looking at an area in Banffshire, 'The Cabrach'. Priscilla has lived in Banffshire since 1974 and Drummuir since 1978. More recently Priscilla has completed a Diploma in Land Economy at Aberdeen University in 1991 and gained the MRICS via Smiths Gore and Drummuir Estate. Priscilla has worked with a number of organisations related to Scotland's land on various issues: Tourism, Agriculture and Access, with a current focus on Forestry in one form or another.

Professor Margaret Gill FRSE

Chief Executive and Director of Research, The Macaulay Land Use Research Institute

Margaret Gill was born in Edinburgh. She graduated with a BSc in Agricultural Science from Edinburgh University and with a PhD focusing on sheep nutrition from Massey University, New Zealand. She worked as a researcher in ruminant nutrition at the Grassland Research Institute in the UK from 1976 to 1989, spending 1980 on secondment to the UK Government's Overseas Development Administration (ODA), working in the Dominican Republic. In 1989 she moved jobs to work in the research arm of ODA, the Natural Resources Institute (NRI), ending up as Research Director. NRI was privatised in 1996, when she became Chief Executive of a research and consultancy services company spun out of that privatisation. Since 2000, she has been Chief Executive and Director of Research of the Macaulay Institute in Aberdeen. She was elected an FRSE (Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh) in 2003.

Professor John Hillman FRSE

Director, Scottish Crop Research Institute

Professor Hillman began his career as a lecturer in physiology and environmental studies at the University of Nottingham in the late sixties before moving to Glasgow University in 1971 where he took up a position as a lecturer in Botany. Professor Hillman has written a number of books and received many prestigious awards. He is a visiting Professor at a number of Scottish Universities including Dundee, Strathclyde, Edinburgh and Glasgow. The Scottish Crop Research Institute appointed Professor Hillman as Director in 1986.

Ms Jane Hope

Chief Executive, Cairngorms National Park Authority

Jane Hope read Natural Sciences at Cambridge, followed by research and development in the animal health commercial sector, and then a number of years on the family farm in Northumberland. After a PhD in Agricultural Economics, she joined the Department of the Environment in

the early 1990s. This led to a variety of interesting jobs, including CAP Reform (first time round), hedgerows legislation, local government reorganisation, and regional development agencies.

In 1999 devolution attracted her to Scotland and she joined the (then) Scottish Office, and was given, in her own words, 'the best job going', namely the preparation of policy and legislation on National Parks for Scotland. She was Interim Chief Executive for the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority in 2002, and then for the Cairngorms National Park Authority in 2003, in each case bringing the new organisations into being. She is now Chief Executive of the Cairngorms National Park Authority.

Dr Andrew Moxey

Head, Analytical Services Division, Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD)

Dr Andrew Moxey is currently the Head of Analytical Services Division, Scottish Executive Environment & Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD). Prior to this he was the Head of Economics and Statistics within SEERAD. Before joining the Executive, Dr Moxey spent ten years at the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne as a Research Associate, Lecturer and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Agriculture, Economics and Food Marketing. As an academic, he published and presented research on a variety of rural topics including river catchment management, agri-environmental indicators, regional food marketing, rural microbusinesses and international trade liberalisation. Since joining the Executive, he has contributed to policy formulation and implementation across a range of issues including Foot and Mouth Disease, the decommissioning of fishing vessels, the Water Framework Directive, the Less Favoured Area Support Scheme and reform of the Common Agricultural Policy. He is also currently President of the Edinburgh Agricultural Economics Discussion Circle.

Professor Jeff Maxwell OBE FRSE

Former Director, Macaulay Land Use Research Institute

Professor Maxwell is a member of the Agriculture, Environment and Biotechnology Commission, a Council Member of the National Trust for Scotland, Chairman of the Tenant Farming Forum (Scotland), past Director of the Macaulay Land Use Research Institute, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and a member of the Conference Organising Committee.

Mr Andy Robertson

Chief Executive, NFU Scotland

Andy Robertson graduated with a BSc (Hons) in Agriculture from Edinburgh University in 1977. Having worked on a number of farms in Scotland before, during and after university, he then joined DAFS (now SEERAD) in 1978, working in Ayr, Aberdeen and Kirkwall before moving to Headquarters in 1994 and becoming Chief Agricultural Officer in 1998. He joined NFU Scotland as Chief Executive in November 2003. He is married with two sons and enjoys watching rugby and motor-cycling.

Lord John Sewel CBE

House Of Lords

Lord Sewel studied at Durham University before taking his MSc at University College of Wales, Swansea and studying for his PhD at Aberdeen University. He began his career as a Research Assistant in the Department of Anthropology, University College of Wales, Swansea before devoting a large part of his career to research and lecturing at Aberdeen University, where he is currently Senior Vice-Principal. Lord Sewel has written extensively on politics and development in Scotland. In his spare time he enjoys hillwalking and skiing.

Professor Michael Usher OBE FRSE

Leverhulme Emeritus Fellow, University of Stirling

Michael Usher graduated from the University of Edinburgh with a degree in Forestry, and continued by undertaking research on soil arthropods in the Black Wood of Rannoch for a PhD degree. Between completing this and commencing as Lecturer in Biology in the University of York, he wrote the first management plan for Aberlady Bay Local Nature Reserve. Throughout his subsequent career he has researched and taught aspects of both soil biology and nature conservation.

After 24 years in York, Michael returned to Scotland as Chief Scientist at Scottish Natural Heritage. He is an honorary Professor in the Universities of Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Stirling. The duality of his interests has continued, with a focus on biodiversity in Scotland (with input to the recently-published Scottish Biodiversity Strategy) and the soil (Chairing the Steering Committee for the £6m research programme on 'Soil Biodiversity'). He is a Trustee of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

APPENDIX FOUR - PARTICIPANT LIST

Mr B Aitken

Scottish Countryside Activities Council

Mr A Aitkenhead

Solicitor, Morrisons Solicitors

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Factor, Wemyss and March Estate

Mr R Balfour

Board Member, Elmwood College

Mr A Barton

Factor, Kinpurnie Estate

Mr W Beattie

Woodland Officer, The Forestry Commission

Ms H Betts-Brown

Assistant Director, Rural Affairs, Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations

Dr K Blackstock

Socio Economics RSCHR, Macaulay Land Research Institute

Mr B Boag

Ecologist, Scottish Crop Research Institute

Mr R Bryce

Producer, BBC Radio Scotland

Mr D Buglass

Agricultural Correspondent, P & J and The Courier

Mr R Cooke

Secretary, Association of Deer Management Groups, Dalhousie Estates Office

Mr R Cowe

Farmer, Duns

Mr P Cox

Retired Horticulturist, Glendoick Gardens Ltd

Judge W Crawford**Dr B Davies**

Researcher in Ecological Economics, Macaulay Land Use Research Institute

Mr S Eastaugh**Mr J Farquhar**

Director - Scotland, Forestry and Timber Association

Mr I Fernie

Planning Consultant (and member of SNH's West Area Board)

Mr I Findlay

Chief Officer, The Paths for All Partnership

Professor J Fitzpatrick

Moredun Research Institute

Dr J M Francis FRSE

Consultant to UNESCO Paris. Chairman, UK National Commission for UNESCO, 1999-2003. Former Chief Executive, Nature Conservancy Council for Scotland and Director, Scotland, Nature Conservancy Council

Professor C Galbraith

Director of Science and Advisory Services, Scottish Natural Heritage

Professor E M Gill FRSE

Director, Macaulay Land Use Research Institute

Professor C H Gimingham OBE FRSE

Former Professor of Botany, Department of Plant Science, University of Aberdeen

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Regional Agricultural Manager, Lloyds TSB Scotland

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Ms J Hope

Chief Executive, Cairngorms National Park Authority

Mr D Houldsworth

Partner, Brodies Lip

Mr J Houston

Associate Director, Adam and Company Plc

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Deputy Convenor, Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park; Former Chairman Forestry Commission; Vice-Chairman British Waterways; Honorary Fellow, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh; Honorary President, Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society

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Former Consultant Physician, Endocrine Unit/
Immunology Labs, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh

Mr I Ivory

Chairman, Scottish Agricultural College

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Scottish Natural Heritage

Mr K Legge

Chief Executive, Scottish Youth Hostels Association

Dr L Macinnes

Principal Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Historic Scotland

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Mrs K Macleod

People Too

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Former Director, Macaulay Land Use Research Institute

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Mr I Melville

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Mrs L Mercer

Projects Manager, Scottish Agricultural College

Mr I Miller

Agricultural Consultant, Innes Miller Mediations

Mr K Miller

Senior Conservationist, John Muir Trust

Mr R Milne

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Mr A Robertson

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Dr A Scott

Senior Research Officer, MLUR

Lord John Sewel CBE

House of Lords

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Programme Convener, The Royal Society of Edinburgh. Professor of Pharmacology (retired), University of Dundee

Mr P Stirling-Aird

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Mr F Strang

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Sir Toby Tennant

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Mr I Thomas

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Professor M B Usher OBE FRSE

Honorary Professor, Universities of Aberdeen, Edinburgh & Stirling. Former Chief Scientist, Scottish Natural Heritage; Leverhulme Emeritus Fellow, University of Stirling

Ms S Walker

Events Officer, The Royal Society of Edinburgh

Dr F Watson

Director, AHRB Research Centre for Environmental History, University of Stirling

Professor R J Wheeler OBE FRSE

Chairman, National Trust for Scotland. Honorary Professor, Royal (Dick) Veterinary School, University of Edinburgh. Former Director, Royal Zoological Society of Scotland

APPENDIX FIVE - CONFERENCE FACILITIES

The RSE Scotland Foundation was formed by the Society in 1996 as a charitable trust with broad-ranging educational, scientific, and cultural objectives. Its first major project was the refurbishment of 26 George Street and linking 22-24 George Street to provide first-class conference facilities, which it now manages.

Conference organisers are welcome to hold events and meetings that align with the charitable objectives of the Foundation but these facilities are not available for commercial purposes.

The theatre is equipped with the latest presentation technology. A touch screen panel enables the speaker to control all equipment and lighting or, if preferred, an audio-visual technician can operate it from the projection room at the rear of the theatre.

The equipment includes a ceiling-mounted media projector, radio microphones and a full induction loop system for those with hearing difficulties.

Contact Us

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APPENDIX SIX - THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH

The Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) is Scotland's National Academy of Science & Letters. An independent body with charitable status, its multidisciplinary fellowship of 1300 men and women of international standing represents a knowledge resource for the people of Scotland. Committed to its Royal Charter of 1783 for the "advancement of learning and useful knowledge" the Society recognises the important role it can play in today's Scotland. Working as part of the UK and within a global context, the RSE seeks to contribute to Scotland's social, economic and cultural wellbeing by:

- Organising conferences and lectures for the specialist and for the general public on topics of national and international importance.
- Providing independent, expert advice to key decision-makers in Scotland.
- Awarding over £1.5million annually to Scotland's top young academics to promote research in Scotland.
- Enabling leading Scottish-based researchers to collaborate with the best of their international counterparts.
- Inspiring school children in classrooms from the Borders to the Northern Isles and promoting their interest in science, society and culture.
- Producing academic journals of international standing.

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