

## River Basin Processes and Management Cluster News: April 2011

04/04/2011

### *News*

#### **PTES UK mammal and invertebrate internships**

There are some upcoming internship opportunities at Natural England which may be of interest to some individuals: see [here](#) for more information

#### **Field trip to Malham Tarn for members of the River Basin Processes and Management and Ecology and Global Change clusters**

Andy Baird and Graeme Swindles will be leading a trip to Malham Tarn on 13 and 14 May. The trip will consider aspects of the hydrology and palaeoenvironmental history of the bog and tarn. Among other things, we will consider (i) the current hydrological behaviour of the bog, how water moves through peat, and how to measure such movement, and (ii) reconstructions of hydrological changes in the bog over the last few thousand years using testate amoebae and other proxies. There will be ample time for research discussions. The trip is for anyone in physical geography and involves an overnight stay. We need to confirm numbers for accommodation and have provisionally booked for 15 people in shared rooms at the local Field Studies Council centre. Please let Andy or Graeme ([a.j.baird@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:a.j.baird@leeds.ac.uk); [g.t.swindles@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:g.t.swindles@leeds.ac.uk)) know by close on 8 April whether you would like to attend. We are considering hiring a minibus to take people to and from the site but you are also welcome to find your own way there. If you cannot stay overnight but would like to attend on Friday only, then please let us know. **Andy Baird** and **Graeme Swindles**.

### *Cluster meeting*

For the cluster meeting this week, **Richard Grayson** and **Jihui Gao** will discuss big issues, and there will be a PhD presentation from **Yanan Jiang**. Wednesday 06 April 2011, 2 pm - 3 pm in room 1.40. All are welcome to attend.

11/04/2011

### *News:*

Toward the end of last year the Government's Chief Scientific Advisor, Sir John Beddington, began the development of UK Water and Innovation Research Framework (UKWRIF) with the objective of providing an overarching framework and mechanism for commissioning, prioritising and delivering water research and innovation across the UK and globally, and provide a high level strategic focus for water. The UKWRIF aims to connect water research, policy and practitioners and draw together and synthesise the current evidence base through mapping the water research landscape, and identifying exemplars of success and critical gaps. **Professor Adrian McDonald** has been invited to join the group and is tasked with: "Identifying UK Capacity and Capability in Water Research and Innovation at both national and international scales".

**Adrian McDonald** gave the invited keynote address to the Waterwise Conference at Keble College, Oxford.

**Adrian McDonald** accepted the invitation to attend the launch of the outcome of a joint UK Canada research initiative concerned with resources of the arctic north. The event was held at the Locarno Suite at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

**Adrian McDonald's** keynote lecture on 'Virtual Catchments' to the Rivers Conference in Swansea will be presented by Professor Robert Gurney of the Earth Systems Science Centre, Reading University. Adrian and Robert with Bridget Emmett lead the NERC virtual observatory.

**Paula Micou** attended Efficient 2011, the 6th IWA Specialist Conference on Efficient Use & Management of Water (Dead Sea, Jordan) from 29 March to 02 April 2011. Paula submitted a paper and gave a presentation on Sustainable Homes: A methodology for assessing influence on regional water demand.

**Joseph Holden** presented a paper at the EGU in Vienna on the role of natural pipes in peatland carbon fluxes with co-authors **Pippa Chapman**, **Richard Smart** and **Andy Baird**, plus he presented three posters on other topics.

***New paper:***

Reed, M.S., Buenemann, M., Atlhopheng, J., Akhtar-Schuster, M., Bachmann, F., Bastin, G., Bigas, H., Chanda, R., Dougill, A.J., Essahli, W., Evely, A.C., Fleskens, L., Geeson, N., Glass, J.H., Hessel, R., **Holden, J.**, Ioris, A., Kruger, B., Liniger, H.P., Mphinyane, W., Nainggolan, D., Perkins, J., Raymond, C.M., Ritsema, C.J., Schwilch, G., Sebege, R., Seely, M., Stringer, L.C., Thomas, R., Twomlow, S., Verzandvoort, S. (2011) Cross-scale monitoring and assessment of land degradation and sustainable land management: a methodological framework for knowledge management. *Land Degradation and Development* 22, 261-271, [DOI: 10.1002/ldr.1087](https://doi.org/10.1002/ldr.1087).

***Cluster Meeting this week:***

For the Rivers meeting this week, **Clare Woulds** and **Jonathan Carrivick** will give a presentation entitled "Recent research at the ends of the Earth". Tuesday 12 April, 2-3pm in Room 1.36. All are welcome to attend

**18/04/2011**

***News***

**Andy Baird** spent the week commencing 03 April at a field site in west Wales taking measurements of the physical properties of bog peat. This is part of a wider project looking at the modelling of bog/peatland development. The project involves former Leeds Geography PhD student **Alice Milner** (now a postdoctoral researcher at UCL) and **Antony Blundell**.

***New papers accepted***

**Baird, A. J.**, Morris, P. J., and Belyea, L. R. (2011) The DigiBog peatland development model 1: Rationale, conceptual model, and hydrological basis. *Ecohydrology*, in press.

Morris, P. J., **Baird, A. J.**, and Belyea, L. R. (2011) The DigiBog peatland development model 2: Ecohydrological simulations in 2-D. *Ecohydrology*, in press.

***New publication***

Wilson, L., Wilson, J., **Holden, J.**, Johnstone, I., Armstrong, A., Morris, M. (2011) Ditch blocking, water chemistry and organic carbon flux: evidence that blanket bog restoration reduces erosion and fluvial carbon loss. *Science of the Total Environment*, 409, 2010-2018.