



Press Release: 09 August 2016

Get outside this month! Free dragonfly and peatland wildlife workshops coming up in Reay and Wick

Good news for those who would like to get outdoors and do something fun this Saturday and also on Saturday 20 August. The Flows to the Future Project is offering two events that will get you outside, meeting people with similar interests and learning about the Flow Country.

On Saturday 13 August a workshop about dragonflies and damselflies will be held in Reay, to introduce you to these marvellous creatures. It will provide the essential knowledge and skills for observing and identifying them and you'll get to learn about the species that you are most likely to encounter in this region. An indoor session will be followed by an outdoor session to find dragonflies.

The workshop is in Reay Village Hall from 9.30 am to 1.00 pm. Those coming along should dress in warm and waterproof clothing and bring welly boots if you have them.

On Saturday 20 August you are invited to be a peatland scientist for the day, helping to investigate an area of peatland at Newton Hill Croft Community Woodland near

Wick. You will learn how to identify and record peatland plants and animals and find out more about peatland habitats, so no prior knowledge is needed. Information gathered at this event will be passed on to the Friends of Newton Hill Community Woodland to help them manage the site. When we have finished recording we will look at what we have been able to find over a cup of tea and cake.

The event is at Newton Hill Croft Community Woodland from 1 pm to 4 pm. Warm and waterproof clothing is recommended, along with sturdy shoes or welly boots.

Everyone is welcome and both events are free of charge, funded through the Heritage Lottery Fund. Booking a place is not essential but recommended. To do so, please contact The Flows to the Future Communities Officer Jenny Middlehurst - 07860927839 or Jenny.Middlehurst@rspb.org.uk.



NOTES TO EDITORS

The Peatlands Partnership includes Scottish Natural Heritage, Forestry Commission (Scotland), Highland Council, RSPB Scotland, Plantlife Scotland, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, The Highland Third Sector Interface, The Flow Country Rivers Trust, The Northern Deer Management Group and The Environmental Research Institute. It liaises with local community groups, , the Scottish Government's Rural Payments and Inspections Directorate and the North Sutherland Community Forest Trust. It is independently chaired by John Henderson of Scrabster Farm, Caithness.

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WREN, Scotland Rural Development Programme, Scottish Government, Scottish Natural Heritage and The Tubney Trust.

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