



BRECON BEACONS  
NATIONAL PARK



Parc Cenedlaethol  
Arfordir Penfro  
Pembrokeshire Coast  
National Park



SNOWDONIA  
NATIONAL PARK

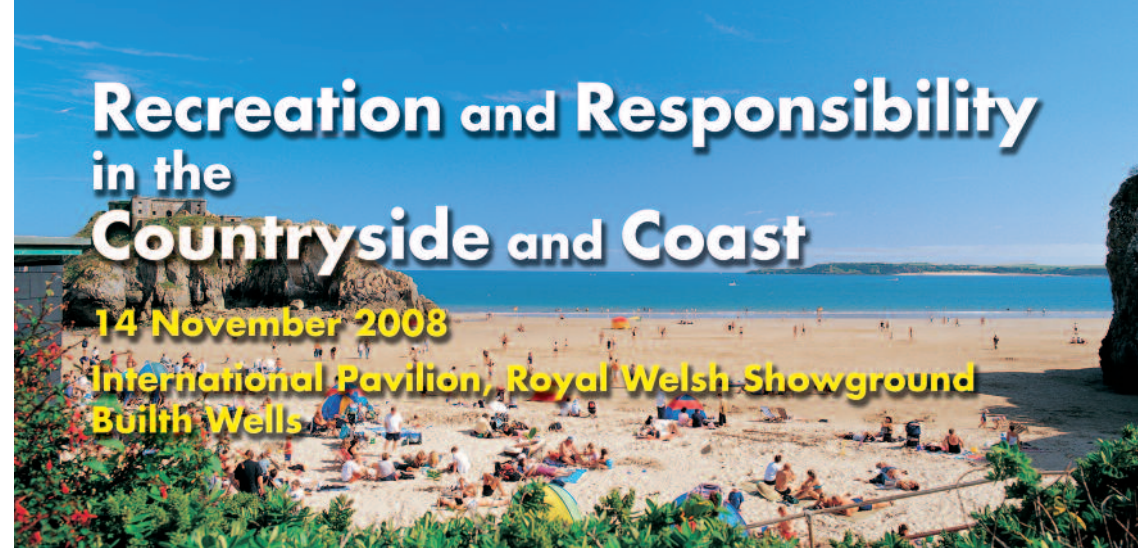


Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

# Recreation and Responsibility in the Countryside and Coast

14 November 2008

International Pavilion, Royal Welsh Showground  
Builth Wells



## Setting the scene

In recent years there has been an increasing recognition of the importance of recreation in the coast and countryside of Wales. This has been linked to the economy – (tourism strategies for coast, walking, cycling, outdoor activity), to the health of the nation (Climbing Higher, Health Challenge Wales) and to the community (Wales' Strategy for Water-Related Recreation, Community Strategies).

At the same time the growing importance of sustainability, both on the small scale - avoiding damage to the places we come to enjoy, and in the big environmental picture - climate change and peak oil for example - has also been recognised.



## Sharing experience

Aimed at those who promote, market and manage recreation in the rural public realm, this seminar will focus on best practice in Wales; recognising successful approaches and suggesting ways for collaboration and innovation that will help to make management more sustainable.



## Bring examples with you

What have you tried? What has worked? What hasn't? How do you know?





## Agenda

**10.30am - 10.40am Welcome** - Geraint George Director of Countryside Management at Bangor University: Vice chair SNPA: Chair National Access Forum: Member of the Board of the CCW: Member of the Welsh Committee of the Forestry Commission.

**10.40am - 11.00am Introduction** - Matthew Quinn Director of the Department for Environment, Sustainability and Housing.

The Assembly priority for promotion of open-air recreation and the balance of increased use and sustainability.

**11.00am - 11.20am Open to interpretation** - John Watkins Head of Recreation CCW.

Addressing barriers or responding to preferences? Implications of 'increasing participation' for responsible outdoor recreation provision and management.

**11.20am - 11.30am Questions**

**11.30am - 12.20pm Experience from the National Parks**

- **11.30am - 11.40am Pressure points and partnerships**  
Partnership working - if everyone is responsible, does that mean that no- one is responsible? **Charles Mathieson** Head of Recreation and Tourism Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority.
- **11.40am - 11.50am Enabling enjoyment**  
How and why do we manage the recreation? Managing conflict and promoting safety **Barbara Jones** Head of Warden and Access Services Snowdonia National Park Authority.
- **11.50am - 12.00pm Damage limitation**  
How do we manage the physical impacts? Are they significant? Innocent impacts: Erosion, disturbance, trampling. Deliberate impacts: vandalism, graffiti **Richard Ball** Brecon Beacons National Park Authority.
- **12.00pm - 12.20pm** Examples of projects funded by the Welsh Assembly Government in the National Parks in 2007-8.

**12.20pm - 12.45pm Questions and Discussion**

**12.45pm - 1.30pm Lunch**

**1.30pm - 3.00pm Led discussion groups**

Choose 3 of 4 sessions

10 minute presentation and 20 minute discussion

Come prepared to contribute the initiatives you/your organisation have tried: those that worked; those that seem to have worked or those that failed.

**Session 1: Protecting nature's playgrounds**

How can we influence activity promotion in a protected landscape? **Gary Davies** Regional Strategy Director of the South West Regional Tourism Partnership.

**Session 2: Managing trends and influencing people**

Influencing the operators - **Tom Luddington**, Activity Liaison Officer Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum.

**Session 3: Sharing responsibility and resources**

Managing through partnership - to be confirmed.

**Session 4: Land of our fathers, Land of our children**

Managing the impacts - Snowdonia Erosion Management; **Peter Rutherford** Access Officer Snowdonia National Park Authority.

**3.00pm - 3.20pm Feedback from groups**

**3.20pm - 3.30pm Summing up** - Emyr Williams Director of Land Management Snowdonia National Park Authority.

---

Photographs

© Visit Wales, Brecon Beacons National Park, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, Snowdonia National Park, Pembrokeshire County Council