



We are now three years into SWEEP, a £5m, five-year impact programme funded by NERC, and are keen to share the results and success we have achieved to date supporting the adoption of natural-capital led strategies and investments in the South West and beyond. We are therefore pleased to announce our first major SWEEP event.

Natural Capital in the South West Expo

This three-day, expo-style online event will take place from **20-22 October 2020**. The programme will contain themed sessions made up from presentations, workshops, and demonstrations of SWEEP tools and approaches, along with sessions led by our partners and stakeholders. Sessions will be themed around Natural Capital approaches for marine, land-management, coastal change and whole-catchment settings.

Key-notes will include **Luke Pollard MP**, Shadow Environment Secretary and MP for Plymouth Sutton and Devonport. There will also be a highly-requested panel session titled '*Everything you ever wanted to know about Natural Capital but were afraid to ask*'.

We're putting finishing touches to the full agenda now.
Keep an eye on your inbox for more information and your personal invitation.

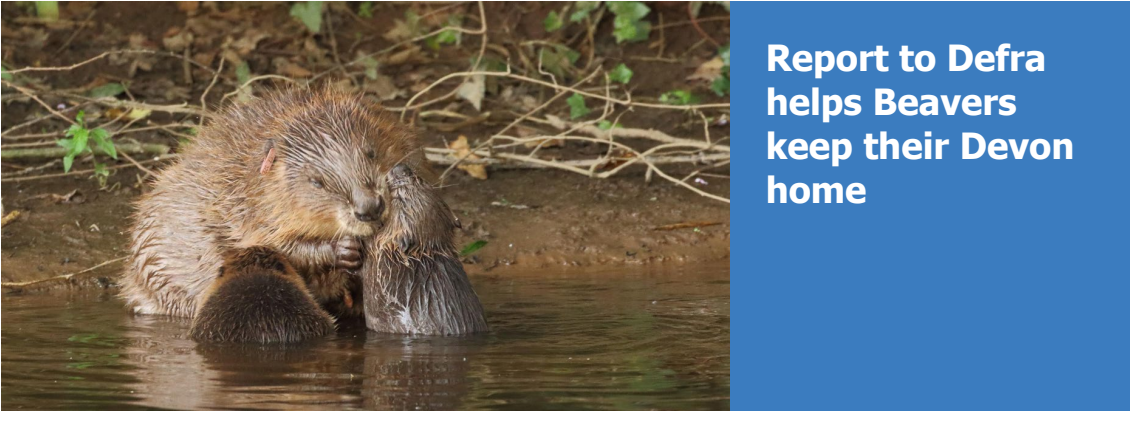


In a new interim report, the Natural Capital Committee urges the Government to put in place measurement tools to effectively monitor progress in meeting nature targets.

The Natural Capital Committee has published its response to the Government's progress report on the 25 Year Environment Plan, concluding that the Government remains off-track to achieve its commitment to 'leave the natural environment of England in a better state than it inherited' made nine years ago in the 2011 Natural Environment White Paper.

SWEEP features as a case study in relation to applying the natural capital approach to the levelling up agenda.

[Read more, and the full report >](#)



After years of uncertainty, England's first wild breeding population of beavers for 400 years has been given the permanent right to remain in their East Devon river home.

The decision comes after the successful completion of a five-year trial overseeing the animals and their impacts, led by the **Devon Wildlife Trust**. The project published a '**Science and Evidence Report**' overseen by independent researchers from the University of Exeter, including SWEEP PhD student, Roger Auster.

[Read the full story >](#)



A new paper featuring analysis led by the **Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture Futures** (a joint initiative between **Cefas** and the **University of Exeter**), has recently been published to support the Aquaculture industry - the world's fastest-growing food sector.

Co-authored by SWEEP team member, Professor Charles Tyler, the paper applies a 'One Health' approach to the industry - recognising that societal buy-in, equity of access to the food produced, and environmental protection must be adequately addressed as the sector expands over coming decades.

[Read on and access the report >](#)



The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan commits the UK planners and developers to pursue an Environmental Net Gain (ENG) approach to decision-making. In essence, this asks that environmental damages from land use or development are compensated by investment in conservation elsewhere.

Starting this month, a new SWEEP project aims to identify and address the gaps in knowledge that may hinder success in delivering ENG, and seeks to understand some of the delivery mechanisms and social preferences that would support such goals.

The project will run until October 2021 and involves a number of key partners from the public and private sectors, including Cornwall Council, North Devon Council, and South West Water.

More information will follow on the SWEEP website, and at the forthcoming expo event.



Professor Ian Bateman, Professor of Environmental Economics at the University of Exeter and Director of SWEEP, has been elected fellow of the British Academy.

Professor Bateman was among 86 new fellows elected for their work in the humanities and social sciences. Professor Bateman, of the department of Economics in Exeter's Business School, is an environmental economist with a wide array of research interests. He is also Director of the Land, Environment, Economics and Policy Institute and a member of Exeter's Global Systems Institute. Congratulations Ian.

For regular news and progress updates, please visit the SWEEP website at www.sweep.ac.uk.

We very much hope you enjoyed our round-up, and welcome your feedback.
Do feel free to share this newsletter with anyone you think would be interested.



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