



**MULTI FOR Conference
(Multifunctional forest management)**

Date: Friday 9th September 2011

Time: 10.00 – 16.00

Venue: Hatfield Forest, Near Stansted Airport, Essex
<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-vh/w-visits/w-findaplace/w-hatfieldforest/w-hatfieldforest-gettingthere.htm>

The purpose of the conference is:

- For Essex County Council to present the results of a research project into the saproxylic quality of sites between known high quality wood pasture
- To communicate and share new systems of biological recording with other specialists.
- To discuss the implementation of “More Woods” in Essex
- To report of progress of Multi For in Essex and in Europe

Speakers will include:

- Duncan Fisher and Peter Hammond
- Nadia Barsoum of Forest Research
- Mary Atkins of ECC

The conference is free of charge to delegates and part funded by Interreg

People who should attend: Woodland managers, foresters, ecologists, people working or volunteering in conservation or biodiversity who have an interest in forests, natural landscapes and/or saproxylics from the UK and France.



PROGRAMME

Morning refreshments, lunch and an evening barbeque will be provided for all delegates attending. Vegetarian and special diets will be available

09.30 – 10.00 Delegates arrive. Refreshments available

10- 10.15 - Welcome and introductions

10.15– 11.00 Duncan Fisher
Power point report and findings of Saprophilic Coleoptera survey in Essex

11.00 – 11.45 Peter Hammond
Placing the results into a regional and international context

11.45 – 12.30 Nadia Barsoum
The influence of a 'diversification' of forest stands on within-stand biodiversity

12.30 – 1.30
Lunch and informal networking. Meeting room available for formal meetings

1.45 – 2.15 Mary Atkins
Update on Essex and Europe project progress

2.15 -3.45
Site visit to trapping and access improvement areas lead by the National Trust

3.45 - 4.00
Close of conference and summary remarks

4.00 onwards Delegates depart or stay for early evening barbeque and overnight camping on site in order to visit the wood festival

Transport : the nearest railway and airport is STANSTED where there are taxi's available for the short journey to Hatfield forest

Please see link for driving instructions

Accommodation: Camping (in tents or vans) for delegates is available on 9th September if booked in advance to enable them to visit the wood festival being held over the weekend



Background

The MULTI FOR project groups are undertaking activities in regions of Northern France and South Eastern England. In England, 14 counties are involved, in France 5 departments have been chosen to participate. There are 4 *English partners*: Forestry Commission Research Agency (Forest Research), Kent County Council (Kent Downs AONB Unit), Essex County Council, East Sussex County Council (High Weald AONB Unit) and 4 *French Partners*: The Federation of Municipalities of Canche and Authie Valley, The Regional Center of Forestry Property Nord Pas De Calais Picardie (Co-ordinator – Lead Partner), PEFC Nord Picardie (European label for sustainable forestry), The French Forest Office (ONF)

Multi For is based on 4 cross border objectives

To improve the understanding of the impact of global changes which include the effects of climate change, forest management and pest diseases in forests.

To adapt and optimise sustainable forest management practices by experimental actions conducted in the field and by increasing awareness of forest owners and other forest users.

To reconcile the economic with the ecological and social role of forests through investigating how woodland sites might provide a sustainable source of renewable energy, whilst continuing to manage biodiversity and allow public access.

To disseminate the results and knowledge collected during the lifetime of the project, between local stakeholders, academics and the general public.

Project funding

The MULTI FOR project is 50% funded by the ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) within the framework of the European INTERREG IV A 2 Seas Zeeën program. The remaining 50% of the budget is financed by national public institutions and the Project Partners themselves. The project's actual lifespan is from 2008 to 2012 but it is anticipated that the outcomes of the project will be of benefit to the European community for years to come