SFG Spring 2022 – 106th Meeting Reflections



We were delighted so many of you chose to connect with us on a lovely sunny day and take part in a virtual setting. It was a crucial opportunity to engage with a broad range of SFG members motivated to use their skills and different roles to do something meaningful for safeguarding freshwater resources and people in the face of an unprecedented climate crisis. This agenda has been a great example of how we can enable climate action by sharing valuable insights and experiences – for expanding the learning and doing opportunities amongst our wider community.

We hope that everyone felt inspired and more informed from the knowledge-bridged across a variety of SFG contributions offered on what practical action is happening, needs done, and challenges to be overcome to address climate change impacts in Scotland. There was much valuable learning that can be applied across the water landscape – as part of our individual and collective responses to the climate emergency.

Are you interested in connecting science with decision-making and maintaining a current evidence-base? We need your help recording emerging climate-related facts for SFG's Climate Factsheet. The Latest version can be accessed by SFG members and used as a day-to-day discussion support tool.

A huge thanks to those involved for making this event possible and our attendees for bringing an interactive dimension to virtual discussions! We are especially grateful to SFG's Climate Action Team (AT #4) for their deep commitment, inclusive leadership, and collaborative efforts in coordinating this agenda; Rachel Helliwell (CREW) and Sarah Halliday (University of Dundee) for excellent and enthusiastic chairing on the day; pioneering work being led by AT projects; all SFG presenters who provided superb talks and interactive material for the virtual breakout spaces. We are very appreciative for your quality preparations and highly valued membership contributions.

We are extremely grateful to UKCEH (Emma Brodie, Phil Taylor and Paulette Burns) for working together with Kerr Adams and Martin Hughes as part of our fantastic support team – much success is owed to their effective hosting and multi-tasking on Zoom ensuring the event ran efficiently and keeping our SFG website up to date.

It was also fantastic to see tangible evidence of collaborative outputs from SFG's other Action Team projects led by Roger Owen and Martin Hughes. We encourage SFG members to engage with these resources which have developed for the SFG community to use and build on by:

AT #2: Connecting with our new <u>Freshwater Citizen Science Hub on SE Web</u> and <u>Live</u>
 <u>Facebook Forum</u>. Many thanks to Roger together with tremendous support from key delivery partners at Buglife (Becky Lewis), SEPA (Linda Gallagher, Paula Brown, and Judi McDonald) and UKCEH (Gemma Nash and Laurence Carvalho).

AT #3: Sharing your ideas with <u>SFG's Innovation Hub</u>. Many thanks to Martin for successfully launching it and bringing the developmental phase to a close. This provides a safe space for members to store their brainchild(s) and frees up some capacity for progressing other SFG priorities.