



1 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this environmental policy is to provide guidance regarding the management of UKCEH environmental impacts in order to:

- protect the environment local to UKCEH sites;
- support the achievement of strategic objectives;
- improve UKCEH environmental performance.

2 Scope

This policy applies to both the Commercial and Charitable arms of UK CEH, and all staff, students, fellows, stakeholders and external providers working in or for UK CEH.

3 Policy Statement

The UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH) is an independent, not-for-profit research centre carrying out excellent environmental science with impact. We seek to understand the environment, how it sustains life, and the human impact on it so that together, people and nature prosper. Our scientists specialise in investigating, monitoring and modelling environmental change, contributing the evidence-driven solutions needed to create a productive, resilient and healthy environment.

UKCEH is committed to protecting the environment and preventing pollution from our activities. We aim to conserve biodiversity and support the protection and enhancement of ecosystem functions through our scientific research. We ensure that our activities, products and services meet applicable compliance obligations and have implemented a documented Environmental Management System, certified to ISO14001, which we are committed to continually improving in order to enhance our environmental performance.

Through the delivery of our independent research, survey, training and knowledge transfer, from our main sites in Wallingford, Bangor, Edinburgh and Lancaster, we have identified the following key activities as having a significant environmental impact:

- **Energy:** UKCEH seeks to minimise the use of non-renewable fuels and to continually seek to reduce energy consumption across our operations. Between 2010 and 2015 we achieved a 27.7% reduction in kWh energy use on our fully controlled sites and plan to reduce this further across all main sites by 2020.
- **Transport:** UKCEH seeks to reduce the environmental impacts of its travel by the use of alternative communications methods, public transport and a fit-for-purpose, fuel efficient fleet. Between 2010 and 2015 we achieved a 21.4% reduction in overall fleet CO₂e emissions and plan to reduce this further across all business travel emissions by 2020.
- **Resources & Waste:** UKCEH seeks to reduce total waste generated and the impacts of waste by considering the waste hierarchy throughout its operations. Between 2010 and 2015 we achieved a 19.5% reduction in overall waste tonnes and plan to further reduce waste to landfill and implement additional sustainable procurement measures by 2020.

Objectives are set by the UKCEH Executive Board, with oversight from the UKCEH Board, and regularly reviewed to enable us to improve our environmental performance. All staff are made



aware of the objectives of the EMS and are expected to adhere to its requirements. Staff are provided with training, education and facilities to help control their environmental impacts in the workplace and to support this policy.

UKCEH displays this policy in reception areas for visitors and communicates this policy to all staff through the Intranet, notice boards and staff induction. Contractors to UKCEH are required to acknowledge and adhere to this policy and the relevant operating procedures. The policy is available on our website <http://www.ceh.ac.uk/sites/default/files/ceh-environmental-policy.pdf>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Bailey'.

Mark Bailey, Executive Director UK CEH

November 2019