

HUGHES, Jonathan (United Kingdom)

Current employment and/or position/title:

Jonathan is Director of Conservation with the Scottish Wildlife Trust, one of 47 UK Wildlife Trusts which together form one of the largest non-governmental conservation organizations in Europe. Jonathan's role is to lead a department of c80 staff delivering major conservation projects, education programmes, nature reserve management and campaigns. Jonathan also plays a lead role in developing strategy and monitoring the performance of the organization.

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

In 2009, Jonathan co-founded the IUCN National Committee of the UK **Peatland Programme**, a three year £500,000 project which has successfully raised the profile of peatland conservation with decision-makers and mobilized restoration projects on the ground. The programme has successfully promoted the importance of these carbon-rich wetlands at global level within both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UNFCCC

In addition to his wetland conservation interests, Jonathan is a former advisor to the Forestry Commission England on native woodlands and would bring in-depth knowledge of **forest management** and governance to the IUCN Council. Jonathan also has specialist knowledge on **urban sustainability** issues from an urban design as well as an ecological perspective. In this capacity he was recently appointed by government ministers to the board of the government agency Architecture and Design Scotland.

Jonathan is author of several scientific papers, policy reports, parliamentary briefings and press articles and regularly appears on radio and television. His most recent policy outputs are on subjects very relevant to the IUCN global programme, including work on **ecosystem-based conservation, marine renewables** and **nature-based solutions** to climate change (available on the CEM website).

Jonathan remains a dedicated and experienced field **botanist, ornithologist** and **entomologist** and gets out into the field whenever possible.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Jonathan has a proven track record of ensuring **governance** processes and structures achieve **cohesion** and **collaboration** within a complex membership organization as a Board member of Scottish Environment Link, an umbrella body of over 30 environmental organizations. He is also an active member of the **IUCN National Committee of the UK** and the **Commission on Ecosystem Management**. In addition, Jonathan brings experience of working with a range of organizations and EU institutions through his role as **European Affairs** Representative for Scottish Environment Link (an IUCN Member).

One of Jonathan's key skills is in bridging the gap between science, policy, and practice and translating ideas into real **conservation action**. He has a history of **building partnerships** outside the conservation world to mainstream biodiversity into other sectors, particularly construction and development industries.

Jonathan's other key strength is his exceptional **strategic planning** skills developed over 20 years working largely at senior level in the third sector, the civil service and local government. During this time, Jonathan has developed into a politically astute environmental **communicator** with extensive networks of influential government, parliamentary and media contacts.

Jonathan is passionate about the mission of IUCN from local to global level. He would bring a freshness, dynamism and an unwavering commitment to representing the interests of IUCN Members on Council.