

FSC Biodiversity Fellows – please join us!

FSC BIODIVERSITY FELLOWS IS FUNDED BY THE DEFRA FUND FOR BIODIVERSITY IN THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR ADMINISTERED BY NATURAL ENGLAND AND RUNS FROM 2012-2014

This is part of a strategy led by the Field Studies Council (FSC), the first part of which is a one year project funded by Defra to deliver taxonomic training on a range of difficult plant and animal groups. The FSC and Natural England have consulted partners, and used evidence gained in recent biodiversity projects such as the Biodiversity Training Project and Invertebrate Challenge (funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund) to steer this project and will be focussing attention on the following groups of taxa for 2013;

- Lichens
- Bryophytes
- Fungi
- Seaweeds
- Freshwater Algae
- Charophytes
- Diptera
- Aculeate Hymenoptera
- Arachnids
- Hemiptera
- Coleoptera
- Micro-lepidoptera
- Soil Mesofauna



We will shortly be announcing a range of courses at FSC centres, and elsewhere, in England targeting these groups and hope to offer a range of options for beginners, improvers and workshops for advanced learners in some of the critical taxa within these groups. We will also be looking at target species within Priority BAP habitats around England.

Our training courses will be a mixture of day and longer residential courses and will be led by regional and national experts. Defra funding will enable day courses to be attended free of charge* with a number of 50% discounts on longer residential courses* for FSC Biodiversity Fellows. These discounts and free events are only available to FSC Biodiversity Fellows. (* subject to availability)

To register as a Biodiversity Fellow please visit the project website and fill in the application form online or download the PDF and post it / email it back. I must emphasize that we can only accept people who have joined us via this route for consideration for these courses.

Course details should be available before the end of the year and we will be accepting bookings shortly afterwards.

Many thanks , Pete Boardman

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