

Dr James H C Fenton

**PUBLICATIONS TO DATE** (excluding internal reports and papers)

& **SUMMARY CAREER HISTORY** (on page five).

[ecology@fenton.scot](mailto:ecology@fenton.scot), 12 November 2024

## 1) SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

1978: **The growth of Antarctic moss peat banks.** *PhD thesis.*

1980: **The rate of peat accumulation in Antarctic moss banks.** *Journal of Ecology* Vol.68.

1982: **Vegetation re-exposed after burial by ice and its relationship to changing climate in the South Orkney Islands.** *British Antarctic Survey Bulletin* Vol. 51.

1982: **Distribution, composition and general characteristics of the moss banks of the maritime Antarctic.** *British Antarctic Survey Bulletin* Vol. 51. Written jointly with R I Lewis Smith.

1982: **The formation of vertical edges on Antarctic moss peat banks.** *Arctic & Alpine Research* Vol. 14.

1983: **Concentric fungal rings in Antarctic moss communities.** *Transactions of the British Mycological Society* Vol. 80.

1985: **Regeneration of native pine in Glen Affric.** *Scottish Forestry* April issue.

1985: **The state of Highland Birchwoods.** *Scottish Wildlife Trust Publication.*

1997: **Native Woods in the Highlands: Thoughts and Observations.** *Scottish Forestry* Vol.52 No.1.

2001: **Native Woods in the Highlands: Doubts and Certainties.** Proceedings of the 2001 Scottish Woodland History Discussion Group.

2003: **Restoration of Woodlands: The National Trust for Scotland Approach.** in *The Restoration of Wooded Landscapes: Conference Proceedings.* FC Research Papers/Reports 001. A summary also in *Views* (National Trust).

2003: **Deciding on the Balance Between Moorland and Woodland in the Scottish Uplands: an Overview at the Landscape Scale.** *La Cañada*, No 17.

2005: **Ecology and Nature Conservation in Britain.** *Biological Sciences Review*, 18 No.1.

2008: **A Postulated Natural Origin of the Open Landscape of Upland Scotland.** *Plant Ecology and Diversity*, Vol.1, No.1, 115-127. A review paper.

2009: **A Field Guide to Ice.** Illustrated booklet, 20pp. Revised and reprinted 2015.

2010: **The Special Qualities of the National Scenic Areas of Scotland.** *Landscape Character Network News*, Issue 37, Autumn 2010, pp.12-14.

2011: **The Special Qualities of the National Scenic Areas.** *The Scottish Planner*. February 2011.

2011: **Towards a New Paradigm for the Ecology of Northern & Western Scotland.** A5 landscape booklet, 48 pages, 108 photographs. Reprinted with revisions June 2016.

2011: **Identifying the Special Qualities of National Scenic Areas** (lead author, with K Campbell and A Simmons). In *The Changing Nature of Scotland*, pp.83-90, Scottish Natural Heritage conference proceedings.

2012: **Penguins and Problems.** An interview with Pan European Networks about the possible future threats facing the many penguin colonies situated in the Falkland Islands. *Pan European Networks: Science & Technology*. Issue 03, June 2012 pp.156-60.

2015: **A Future for Moorland in Scotland: The need for a locational strategy.** Booklet, 36 pages. Published by the Scottish Gamekeepers Association, December 2015.

2015: **How much of Scotland was ever covered by forest?** In *Scottish Native Woodlands Discussion Group, Notes XX: Woodland History Conference: Tracing the decline of the 'Caledonian Forest' over six millennia*. October 2015.

2015: **Is rewilding destroying the remaining naturalness of the Scottish Highlands?** Proceedings of the Wild Thing Conference, Sheffield.

2016. **Rewilding our Uplands – how much grazing is appropriate?** *Conservation Land Management*, Spring 2016, Vol.14 No.1, 16-19.

2018: **Notes on the woodland history of Argyll**. *Historic Argyll* 23, Lorn Archaeological and Historical Society.

2021: **An Illustrated Book of Peat. The life and death of peat bogs: A new synthesis**. In two volumes: Vol.1 Text & illustrations 144 pp., Vol.2. Appendices & references 68pp. Published March 2021.

2022: **The contribution of Antarctic moss peat to the understanding of global peatland processes**. *Antarctic Science* 34, Issue 3, 266-278.

2023: **A Field Guide to Ice** (3rd edition), February 2023, Fenton Publishing, 138pp.

2023: **The role of grazing in maintaining open landscapes in temperate regions**. *International Journal of Environmental Sciences and Natural Resource*, 31(3), January 2023, 177pp. A review paper.

2023: **Is forestry compatible with biodiversity conservation in Scotland?** *Scottish Forestry*, 77(2), 29-33.

2024: **Landscape Change in the Scottish Highlands: Imagination and Reality**. Published by Whittles (Dunbeath), 2024, 185 pages.

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## 2) ESSAYS, MAGAZINE & NEWSPAPER ARTICLES, &c

1983: **Report of the Brathay Spitsbergen Expedition 1982**. *Brathay Expedition Report*.

1983: **The Search for the Countryside**. *Ecos* Vol.4 No. 3.

1984: **Even More about the Purpose of Nature Conservation**. *Ecos* Vol. 5 No. 4.

1986: **Alien or Native?** *Ecos* Vol. 7 No.2.

1987: **Beyond the Faustian Bargain**. *Ecos* Vol.8 No.1.

1987: **The ecology of environmentalism: some ideas for discussion**. *Ecos* Vol.8 No.4

1987-91: Launched, edited and published the monthly news digest **SCENES: Scottish Environment News**. In print until 2017.

1989: **Democracy & Habitat Protection**. *Ecos* Vol.10 No. 2.

1989: **The Conservation Debate - an emotional outburst**. by James Fenton. *Scottish Wildlife* Winter 1989/90.

1992: **Man's relation to Nature**. In *Wilderness with People, Proceedings of John Muir Trust Conference* 1992.

1992: **Wildlife Valuation**. *Ecos* Vol.13 No.4. Reprinted as "Nature's Cost of Living" in *Town & Country Planning* March 1995.

1993: **No More Aliens**. 'As I See It' column in *Scots Magazine* Sept 1993.

1995: **25 Years of Countryside Change in Wester Ross.** *Ecos* Vol. 15 No. 3/4. Reprinted as "Change in Wester Ross" *Wester Ross Life* Autumn 1995.

1995: **Wildlife Haven or Wet Desert?** Last Word column in *Scottish Wildlife*.

1995: **The Grassroots of Grazing Management.** *Heritage Scotland*.

1996: **Out of Site, Out of Mind.** *Ecos* Vol.17 No.1.

1997: **Svalbard: Portrait of an Arctic Summer.** Published by footprints. ISBN 0 9530069 0 5. 60pp.

1997: **Getting Bugged Down in Peat.** *Heritage Scotland*.

1997: **Wild Land or Wilderness - Is There a Difference?** *Ecos* Vol.17 No.2.

1997: **Woodlands in Trust.** *Heritage Scotland*.

1998: **Sustainability: A Valid Concept?** *Views* (National Trust). No.29.

1998: **Shifting Sands.** *Heritage Scotland* Vol.15 No.4.

1999: **Basically Bryophytes.** *Heritage Scotland* Vol.16 No.4.

1999: **Scotland: Reviving the Wild.** *Ecos* Vol.20 No.2.

2004: **Wild Thoughts... and Wild Thoughts Followed Up...** *Ecos* Vol.25 No.1.

2004: **Peat and Global Warming.** *Wild Land News* No 59 Winter 2003/4.

2005: **A Walk up Beinn Dubh.** *The Scottish Mountaineer*, Issue 25, June 2005.

2006: **What is natural?** *Ecos* Vol.27 No.1.

2009: **The Scottish Uplands: Allowed to be wild?** *Wild Land News*, 73, 8-12.

2013: **The Dark Side of Woods.** *Sunday Herald, Essay of the Week*, 24 October 2013. An essay questioning the current drive to 'restore' native woods.

2013: **The Deer-forest Divide.** *Shooting Times*. 14 November 2013.

2014: **Wild Land and 'Re-wilding'.** *Wild Land News*, Summer 2014 issue, pp.18-19.

2014: **Hunting, Shooting, Saving Our Moors.** *Sunday Herald, Essay of the Week*, 11 August 2014. An essay in praise of moorland.

2015: **Is Rewilding Destroying the Remaining Naturalness of the Scottish Highlands?** Presentation to the 'Wild Thing Conference' September 2015. Published in the conference proceedings.

2015: **Why we need a Moorland Strategy in Scotland.** *Scottish Gamekeeper*, Issue 65, Summer 2015, 18-19.

2015: **The Wildness of the South Atlantic.** *Scottish Wild Land News*, Spring/Summer 2015, 36-38.

2016: **Rewilding our Uplands – how much grazing is appropriate?** *Conservation Land Management*, Spring 2016, Vol.14 No.1, 16-19.

2016: **Should Scotland be like Norway?** *Scottish Gamekeeper*, Issue 69, Summer 2016, 27-28.

2017: **Wild Land Areas.** *Wild Land News*, Issue 91, Autumn 2017, 12-21.

2018: **National Scenic Areas and Wild Land.** *Wild Land News*, Issue 92, 15-24.

2018: **Wildness in Scotland: A case study.** *Wild Land News*, Issue 93, 25-33.

2018: **How Wildness is Lost.** 250 years of encroachment into the hills. *Wild Land News*, Issue 94, 18-33.

2019: **Musings on the meaning of wild land.** *Wild Land News*, Issue 95, 21-29.

2020: **The Wildness of the Galloway Hills.** *Wild Land News*, Issue 97, 27-32.

2020: **The Scottish Hills are Natural!** *The Munro Journal*, No.5, 186-192.

2020: **A Landscape Lost.** *Stravaig#8*, 16-21. The magazine for the Scottish Centre for Geopoetics.

2021: **Deidre (The Homecoming).** *Stravaig#10*, 42-44. The magazine for the Scottish Centre for Geopoetics.

2022: **Scotland's Wild Land is Under Threat.** UKHillwalking.  
[https://www.ukhillwalking.com/articles/opinions/scotlands\\_wild\\_land\\_is\\_under\\_threat-14364](https://www.ukhillwalking.com/articles/opinions/scotlands_wild_land_is_under_threat-14364)

2022: **The State of Wild Land in the Scottish Highlands.** *Wild Land News*. A summary of the commissioned report into the state of wild land.

2022: **Wildness in the Arc? Wildness in Scotland. Is it the same?** *Wild Land News*, Issue 101, 13-20.

2023: **Telecom Masts and Wild Land.** *Wild Land News*.

2023: **Rewilding Highlands grows on a myth.** Opinion piece in *The Press and Journal*, July 10, p.29.

2023: **Best thing we can do the climate is to stop planting trees on peat.** Open Forum piece in the *Stornoway Gazette*, August 31, p.6.

2024: **Loch na h-Earba Pumped Storage Scheme.** *Wild Land News*.

2024: **The Wagons are Rolling: Bandwagon after Bandwagon destroying the Highland landscape.** *Wild Land News*, Issue 105.

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**3) PUBLISHED BY JAMES FENTON, AND AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD FROM [www.fenton.scot](http://www.fenton.scot)**

2014: **The Upland Ecology of Scotland: A Review of the Favourable Condition Approach in Relation to Grazing and Carbon Storage.** pdf file, A4 portrait, 30 pages, 13 photographs, 5 diagrams. October 2014.

2016: **Towards a New Paradigm for the Ecology of Northern & Western Scotland.** pdf version, A4 landscape, 48 pages, 108 photographs. (revised edition, originally published in 2011)

2018: **Essays 2013-2017.** A selection of both published and unpublished essays on Scottish environmental topics. A4, 44 pages.

2020: **Global Warming, Carbon Emissions & Land Use in Scotland: a simplified guide.** A4 6 pages.

2020: **Land-Use and Climate Change in the UK: The Need for a Strategic Ecological Overview.** A4, 6 pages.

2021: **Introduction to Landscape.** A guide for the non-specialist to aid the understanding, assessment and future planning of rural landscapes, with a focus on Scotland. 53 pages.

2023: **Restoration of upland peats: A discussion document.** A critique of the current approach to peatland restoration. May 2023, 18pp.

#### 4) IN PRODUCTION

2024 (in prep): **Ten Ecological Principles to Guide the Conservation Management of the Moorland and Upland Landscapes of Britain and Ireland.** To be published by the Future Landscapes Forum.

2025 (in prep): **The Wagons are Rolling: Bandwagon after Bandwagon destroying the Highland landscape.** Provisional title of a paper to be presented to the conference *A Wilder Future for the Uplands: Unleashing the Power of Nature to Recover & Restore the Countryside*, Sheffield. Organised by the Landscape Conservation Forum & S Yorks Biodiversity Research Group.

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#### SUMMARY CAREER HISTORY

2016-2024

**Editor** of *Wild Land News*.

2015-2023

**The National Trust for Scotland:** elected Trustee (Board Member). Two 4-year terms (the maximum).

2013-2017

**Self-employed ecological consultant** specialising in upland conservation management in Scotland.

2011-2013

**Falklands Conservation:** Chief Executive Officer, based in Stanley, Falkland Islands.

2005-2011

**Scottish Natural Heritage,** Inverness HQ: Policy & Advice, Landscape. Mainly work on National Scenic Areas.

1991-2005

**The National Trust for Scotland:** the organisation's first Ecologist. Latterly, Senior/Regional Nature Conservation Adviser (Highlands).

1985-91

**Self-employed ecological consultant** based in Scotland. In 1987, launched the news digests *SCENES: Scottish Environment News*; in print until 2017. Also leading Arctic expeditions during this period.

1980-84

**Brathay Hall Trust,** Ambleside, Cumbria. Field Studies Tutor.

1978

**PhD from the University of London** on Antarctic peat.

1973-78

**British Antarctic Survey,** Antarctic & Cambridge. Terrestrial ecologist studying moss peat.

1970-73

**University of Durham,** BSc (Hons) Grade 2.1 in Botany. One year zoology & geology also studied.