

Taylor Wildlife

Course Brochure
2019

INTRODUCTION TO UPLAND SURVEYING

Course Duration: Two Day

Course Cost: £199

Course Dates: 25th & 26th May 2019, 15th & 16th June, 20th & 21st July*

Overview

This two-day intensive course is intended to provide participants with the unique skills and knowledge required to conduct fieldwork in upland habitats. A combination of classroom and outdoor sessions will allow participants to learn the underlying concepts of successful upland surveying before practicing these techniques carrying out a series of tasks in the field. We have exclusive access to a variety of upland sites and will use 4x4s to head out into the hills, with the aim of spending as much time as possible outdoors so that we can visit a range of habitats and observe a wide variety of upland flora and fauna.

Learning outcomes:

1. Understanding the definition of the uplands and recognising common upland habitat types.
2. Developing basic navigation skills using a map and compass, GPS, and by reading the ground.
3. Understanding the key concepts of safe working in the uplands.
4. Understanding the theoretical concepts behind different survey techniques and when to use them.
5. Planning surveys and covering the ground effectively.
6. Storing and interpreting survey data using QGIS.

Includes:

- Self-catering accommodation for Saturday night
- Pick-up and drop-off from Montrose train station if required
- Tea, coffee and a packed lunch on Saturday and Sunday, and breakfast on Sunday

Excludes:

- Accommodation for Friday prior to the course and Sunday after the course. If desired, accommodation for the extra nights can be arranged at an additional fee of £25 per night.
- Dinner on Saturday evening

No prior knowledge is required for this introductory course, however a large proportion of the course takes place outside and therefore a reasonable level of fitness is assumed.

*Courses require a minimum of 6 participants to run and dates that fail to meet this quota may be subject to change. Bespoke courses for groups of 6 or more can also be arranged outwith these dates.

To book a place please visit <http://www.taylorwildlife.co.uk/training/4594215797> or contact info@taylorwildlife.co.uk for more information.

INTRODUCTION TO CAMERA TRAPPING

Course Duration: One-day

Course Cost: £90

Course Dates: 4th May or 1st June 2019

Overview

Camera trapping has become an increasingly useful tool to monitor the presence of elusive and nocturnal mammals, and to observe their behaviour. This course will provide participants with the knowledge required to set up camera traps in the field to optimise the probability of detecting wildlife, as well as how to analyse the resulting data.

Participants will be given a brief introduction into the ecology of selected British mammals and we will discuss when it might be appropriate to camera trap different species, and any legislation or licensing to be aware of. Participants will learn how to get the most out of camera trapping by learning how to optimise their chances of capturing good quality images.

This course is largely classroom based but will incorporate a short outing to look at positioning camera traps correctly to capture the target species

Learning outcomes:

1. Understanding how the use of camera traps developed.
2. Understanding survey design for camera trapping studies.
3. Differentiating between the different options when setting up camera traps.
4. Identifying suitable sites for placing camera traps in the field.
5. Avoiding common mistakes.
6. Storing and analysing data.

Includes:

- Pick-up and drop-off at public transport facilities if required
- Basic refreshments

Excludes:

- Lunch

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UPLAND HABITAT IDENTIFICATION

Course Duration: Full day

Course Cost: £90

Course Dates: 14th June, 21st July, 22nd July, 17th August 2019*

Overview

Two thirds of Scotland is classed as uplands. This course will teach participants how to identify the plant species that make up various upland habitat types. Our experienced ecologists and botanists will discuss the historical and current threats to upland habitats, as well as restoration and habitat management techniques. This course is ideal for recent graduates in the environmental sciences or those new to ecology, as well as those who enjoy spending time in the uplands and want to know how to identify what they see around them. This course is based outdoors (weather permitting) and we use our exclusive 4x4 access to allow participants to examine different habitats and see a range of upland flora and fauna.

Learning outcomes:

1. Understanding how to identify a range of upland vascular plants.
2. Learning how to define broad upland habitat types.
3. Understanding the threats to upland habitats.
4. Learning the theory behind upland restoration and management techniques.

Includes:

- Pick-up and drop-off at public transport facilities if required
- Basic refreshments

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UPLAND BIRD IDENTIFICATION

Course Duration: Full day

Course Cost: £90

Course Dates: 24th May or 17th June 2019*

Overview

Upland birds in general are suffering a long-term population decline, and are currently the focus of many conservation efforts. The Scottish uplands hold important breeder wader sites and monitoring of these species is important for local stakeholders and to implement wider scale conservation measures. This course is designed to give participants the skills needed to identify a range of important upland species by sight and by call. This course is ideal for recent graduates in the environmental sciences or those new to ecology, as well as those who enjoy spending time in the uplands and want to know how to identify what they see around them, as well as upland users who wish to voluntarily collect data on upland birds for monitoring programmes such as those run by the BTO.

Learning outcomes:

1. Understanding the historical and current issues facing upland bird species.
2. Learning how to identify a range of upland bird species visually and by call.
3. Learning how to record upland bird species.
4. Understanding management techniques to help upland bird populations.

Includes:

- Pick-up and drop-off at public transport facilities if required
- Basic refreshments

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UPLAND BUTTERFLY AND DAY-FLYING MOTH IDENTIFICATION

Course Duration: Full day

Course Cost: £90

Course Dates: 18th July or 18th August*

Overview

Scotland's upland habitats are home to a range of specialist butterfly and moth species which have adapted to live in what may appear to be an inhospitable environment. This course is ideal for recent graduates in the environmental sciences or those new to ecology, as well as those who enjoy spending time in the uplands and want to know how to identify what they see around them. Monitoring the distribution and population size of upland species is difficult, and organisations such as Butterfly Conservation welcome records from those who use the uplands for work or leisure.

Learning outcomes:

1. Understanding the ecology of upland butterflies and moths and how they relate to upland habitats.
2. Learning how to identify a range of upland butterflies and moths.
3. Understanding the threats to upland butterflies and moths, and management techniques to improve conservation measures.

Includes:

- Pick-up and drop-off at public transport facilities if required
- Basic refreshments

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