



# VALUING NATURE

## Designing PES schemes in the South West

Ben Balmford ([bb372@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:bb372@exeter.ac.uk))

PhD candidate

Land, Environments, Economics and Policy Institute

Department of Economics, Business School, University of Exeter

# Payment for Ecosystem Service scheme design

- PES – pay agent for ecosystem service gain
- Focus on water services in SW UK, with SWW
- Problem of group outcomes
- Interests in:
  - Co-design
  - Outcome based payments

# Why attend?

- Focus of my PhD, and hopefully further research
- To see why, and how, other businesses include Natural Capital in decisions
- Understand information/tools businesses need to make efficient decisions
- Meet other people tackling similar problems from different angles

# Opportunities and challenges

- Opportunity:
  - Working directly with SWW
    - Hopeful lessons can help other water companies
    - Brexit means government interest too
- Challenges:
  - Co-benefits/trade-offs between services
    - Co-ordination problem
    - Perverse incentives
  - More general uptake by businesses