

Curriculum Vitae
Ben Balmford

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

I am an environmental economist with a background in natural sciences. My current research focuses on the intersection of these two disciplines: designing mechanisms to incentivise more efficient use of natural resources. I approach this question through the application of economic theory, experiments (both in the laboratory and RCTs) and with quasi-experimental methods. I have experience working with business and governmental organisations, creating on-the-ground change in institutions in both sectors.

POSITIONS HELD

Current position

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

October 2022 - present

Dragon Capital Research Programme on Biodiversity Economics
LEEP Institute, Economics Department, University of Exeter Business School

Previous positions

Postdoctoral Research Associate

September 2021 - September 2022

Dragon Capital Research Programme on Biodiversity Economics
LEEP Institute, Economics Department, University of Exeter Business School

EDUCATION

LEEP Institute, University of Exeter Business School *September 2017 - September 2021*
PhD in Economics: “Mechanism Design in Payment for Ecosystem Service Schemes”
Supervisors: Prof Brett Day, Prof Ian Bateman, Dr Amy Binner, Dr Greg Smith

University of Oxford
BA in Biological Sciences

October 2013 - June 2016
First Class

GRANTS

Research grants - external

£1m NERC Economics of Biodiversity grant - *The Economics of Biodiversity Additionality*. Co-I. Awarded July 2022.

£65k NERC seed corn grant - *Simultaneous Multiple Service Markets*. Co-I. Awarded February 2022.

£50k NERC synthesis grant - *Synthesising understanding of the economics of biodiversity*. Co-I. Awarded December 2021.

£90k South West Water - University of Exeter Business School funded PhD studentship (awarded September 2017)

Research grants - internal

£19k Impact Accelerator Account grant - *Exploring auction design in the context of water quality improvements*. Co-I. Awarded June 2019.

Funding for conferences organised

£20k (£12k external) for BIOECON September 2022

£30k (£6k external) for LEEP in and HMT-Defra “How to make decisions in policy and practice: Applying Natural Capital the Green Book way” conference, June and April 2019, respectively

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles:

6. **B. Balmford**, J.D. Annan, J.C. Hargreaves, M. Altoé, I.J. Bateman (2020). Cross-Country Comparisons of Covid-19: Policy, Politics and the Price of Life. *Environmental and Resource Economics*, **76**, 4, 525-551, available [online](#).

Featured in the *Harper's Index*, November 2020.

5. **A. Balmford, B. Fisher, G.M. Mace, D.S. Wilcove, B. Balmford** (2020) COVID-19: Analogues and lessons for tackling the extinction and climate crises. *Current Biology*, **30**, 17, R969-R971, available [online](#).

4. **B. Balmford**, I.J. Bateman, K. Bolt, B.H. Day, S. Ferrini (2019) The Value of Statistical Life for Adults and Children: Comparisons of the contingent valuation and chained approaches. *Resource and Energy Economics (SI in honour of Greg Poe)*, **57**, 68-84 available [online](#).

3. **B. Balmford**, R.E. Green, M. Onial, B. Phalan, A. Balmford (2019) How imperfect can land sparing be before land sharing is more favourable for wild species? *Journal of Applied Ecology*, **56**, 1, 73-84, available [online](#).

2. **I.J. Bateman, B. Balmford** (2018) Public funding for public goods: A post-Brexit perspective on principles for agricultural policy. *Land Use Policy*, **79**, 293-300, available [online](#).

Discussed on *Countryfile*, *BBC 1*, March 17th 2019.

1. **B. Balmford**, J. Balmford, A. Balmford, S. Blakeman, A. Manica, R.M. Cowling (2006) Diurnal versus nocturnal pollination of *Brunsvigia gregaria* R.A. Dyer (Amaryllidaceae) at a coastal site. *South African Journal of Botany*, **72**, 2, 291-294, available [online](#).

Book chapters:

1. D.W. Smith, K.A. Cassidy, D.R. Stahler, D.R. MacNulty, Q. Harrison, **B. Balmford**, E.E. Stahler, E.E. Brandell, T. Coulson (2020). Population Dynamics and Demography in D.W. Smith, D.R. Stahler, D.R. MacNulty (Eds.), *Yellowstone Wolves: Science and Discovery in the World's First National Park*(pp. 77-92). The University of Chicago Press, Chicago and London.

WORKING PAPERS

- *Pricing rules for PES auctions: evidence from a natural experiment*. With J. Collins, B. Day, L. Lindsay, J. Peacock. **R&R at Journal of Environmental Economics and Management**
- *Incentivising efficient effort with minimal monitoring costs*. With I.J. Bateman, B. Day, G. Smith. **Under review**
- *Comparing sealed-bid and clock multi-unit reverse auctions*. With L. Lindsay.
- *Bidding in auctions with divided attention*. With L. Lindsay.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant for:

Environmental Economics (2nd year undergraduate course)

2019 - 2021

Microeconomics (1st & 2nd year undergraduate courses)

2017 - 2020

CONFERENCES AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Conference presentations:

2022: EAERE, AERE. 2021: BIOECON, SWELL Seminar Series, SWAN. 2020: Queensland-Exeter seminar series, ESA, EnvEcon. 2019: EAERE. 2018: REECAP.

CONFERENCES ORGANISED

- **BIOECON 2022**, University of Exeter Business School, 3rd-6th September 2022 - Lead organiser. See [here](#) for more details.
- **LEEPout**, Online webinar series in environmental economics, 2020-22 - Lead organiser (*with Michela Faccioli, and then Frankie Cho*). See [here](#) for more details.
- **LEEPin2019**, University of Exeter Business School, 24th-25th June 2019 - Lead organiser. See [here](#) for more details.
- **How to make decisions in policy and practice: Applying Natural Capital the Green Book way**, The Royal Society, London, 26th April 2019 - Organiser. An invite-only conference organised with HM Treasury and the Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs
- **Providing for the planet without costing the earth**, Oxford Martin School, The University of Oxford, 12th November 2016 - Lead organiser. See [here](#) for more details.

FURTHER DETAILS

Journal Special Issues Edited:

Environmental and Resource Economics S.I.: Frontiers in Environmental Economics *August 2021*

Professional Service:

Representative for Economics Postgraduate Research students *January 2020 - September 2021*
 Organiser, LEEP's Journal Club *April 2020 - June 2021*

Ad-hoc reviewing:

Agriculture, Ecology and Evolution, Environmental and Resource Economics, Health Economics, International Journal of Health Economics and Management, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Land Use Policy, Scientific Data

Software:

Proficient: R, STATA, L^AT_EX, zTree; Basic: Python

REFERENCES

Professor Brett Day
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 University of Exeter Business School
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Professor Paul Ferraro
 Bloomberg Distinguished Professor
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Professor Ben Groom
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