

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

Lecturer

September 2024 - present

LEEP Institute, Economics Department, University of Exeter Business School

Previous positions

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

October 2022 - August 2024

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

October 2013 - June 2016

BA in Biological Sciences

First Class

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles:

10. M Mancini, R Collins, E Addicott, **B. Balmford**, A Binner, J Bull, B Day, F Eigenbrod, S zu Ermgassen, M Faccioli, C Fezzi, B Groom, EJ Milner-Gulland, N Owen, D Tingley, E Wright, I Bateman (2024). Biodiversity offsets must address the trade-offs between people and nature: Case study and general principles. *One Earth*.

9. C.A. Emogor, L. Coad, **B. Balmford**, D.J. Ingram, D. Detoeuf, R.J. Fletcher Jr, I. Imong, A. Dunn, A. Balmford (2024). Changes in wild meat hunting and use by rural communities during the COVID-19 socio-economic shock. *Conservation Letters*, e13042, available [online](#).

8. **B. Balmford**, M. Marino, O. Hauser (2024). Voting sustains intergenerational cooperation, even when the tipping point threshold is ambiguous. *Environmental and Resource Economics*, **87**, 1, 167-190, available [online](#).

7. **B. Balmford**, J. Collins, B. Day, L. Lindsay, J. Peacock (2024). Pricing rules for PES auctions: Evidence from a natural experiment. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, **122**, 102889, available [online](#).

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

- *Incentivising efficient effort with minimal monitoring costs*. With I.J. Bateman, B. Day, G. Smith.
- *Comparing sealed-bid and clock multi-unit reverse auctions*. With L. Lindsay.
- *Bidding in auctions with divided attention*. With L. Lindsay.

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 LEEPIn and HMT-Defra “How to make decisions in policy and practice: Applying Natural Capital the Green Book way” conference, June and April 2019, respectively

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant for:

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| Environmental Economics (2 nd year undergraduate course) | 2019 - 2021 |
| Microeconomics (1 st & 2 nd year undergraduate courses) | 2017 - 2020 |

CONFERENCES AND INVITED SEMINARS

Invited seminars:

2024: Kyoto University (virtual); Oxford University (Biology Dept)

Conference presentations:

2023: EAERE, BIOECON, ESA. 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 the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Land Use Policy, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Scientific Data

Software:

Proficient: R, STATA; Basic: Python

REFERENCES

Professor Brett Day

LEEP Institute
University of Exeter Business School
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Professor Ian Bateman OBE US-NAS FBA

LEEP Institute
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Professor Paul Ferraro

Bloomberg Distinguished Professor
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Professor Ben Groom

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