



# Groundwater: a 2020 vision *challenges for the future*

Natural History Museum, London  
14 May 2009

*UK Groundwater Forum funded by British Geological Survey, Environment Agency, United Utilities,  
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& supported by Thames Water, Three Valleys Water, University of Birmingham, Entec, Zenith International*

Conference  
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## History of the Forum

- Strategic Study of Groundwater Issues and Research Needs in the UK - report published June 1995
- Forum promoted a coordinated approach to groundwater research and provided a focus for the identification and prioritisation of research issues
- June 2003, it was decided that the Forum would be more effective if it limited its focus to raising the awareness of groundwater





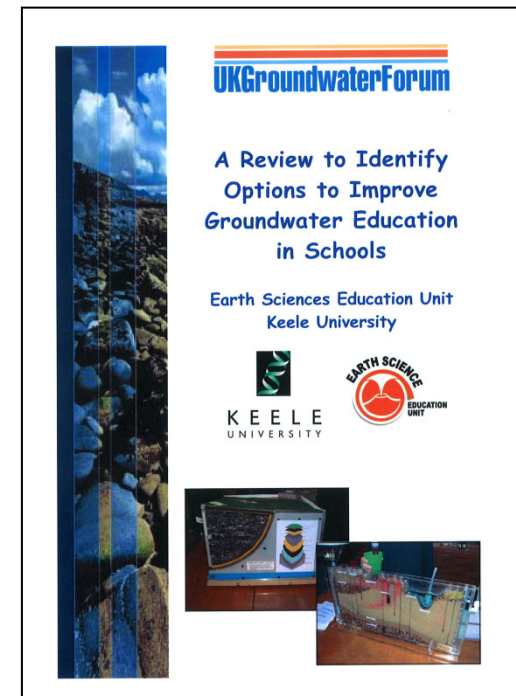
## 10 years of Forum Conferences

- Aquifer Storage Recovery, Nottingham 1997
- Risk Assessment and Management, London 1997
- Upland Groundwater, Edinburgh 1997
- Low Flows and Wetlands, London 1998
- Groundwater in Tomorrow's Europe, Donnington 1999
- Groundwater Protection in Ireland, Enniskillen 1999
- The Water Framework Directive and Groundwater in the UK, Solihull 2002
- UK Groundwater Forum Stakeholder Meeting, London 2003
- Groundwater and the Directives, Solihull 2004
- Planning for Sustainable Groundwater Resources, London 2006
- Climate Change: the Future for Groundwater Management, London 2007
- Groundwater Resources Planning: the Next 25 Years, London 2008



## Forum Activities

- Advice to DETR on Definition of Good Groundwater Status
- Review of availability of candidates for groundwater-related jobs in the UK
- Review to identify options to improve groundwater education in Schools
- Support for Groundwater Festival
- Articles in the press on groundwater



## Forum Products

- Groundwater: Our Hidden Asset
- Illustrations from the book
- How Rivers Work: the Role of Groundwater
- Forum web site
  - *Basic groundwater info*
  - *Groundwater in education*
  - *Career information*
  - *Forum products*
  - *Meetings & Events*
  - *Groundwater issues*
  - *Groundwater news*





***Morning Session: Chair, Denis Peach, Chief Scientist, British Geological Survey***

- 09:30-10:00 Registration, tea & coffee
- 10:00-10:45 The sustainable development context  
*Jonathon Porritt, Programme Director of Forum for the Future and Chair of the UK Sustainable Development Commission*
- 10:45-10:55 Introduction  
*Denis Peach, British Geological Survey/Chair of UK Groundwater Forum Steering Committee*
- 10:55-11:25 Morning tea & coffee
- 11:25-11:50 Changing groundwater priorities over the past 15 years  
*Andrew Skinner, former Chair of the UK Groundwater Forum and former Director in the Environment Agency of England and Wales*
- 11:50-12:15 Future challenges in protecting our water environment  
*Tricia Henton, Director of Environment & Business, Environment Agency*
- 12:15-12:30 Discussion
- 12:30-13:30 LUNCH



***Afternoon Session: Chair, Rob Sage, Water Resources Manager, Three Valleys Water***

- 13:30-13:55 Water industry perspective on the main groundwater management challenges  
*Luke deVial, Head of Resources, Wessex Water*
- 13:55-14:20 Independent private groundwater supplies are important too  
*James Dodds, Director, JDIH Envireau*
- 14:20-14:35 Discussion
- 14:35-15:00 Afternoon tea & coffee
- 15:00-15:25 Integrated management of groundwater and heat: the Three Heads of the Well (Aestifer, Aquifer and Foundation)  
*David Banks, Director of Holymoore Consultancy Ltd.*
- 15:25-15:50 Emerging groundwater pollution issues  
*Peter Grathwohl, Professor of Hydrogeochemistry, Eberhard Karls Universitat Tuingen, Germany & Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Contaminant Hydrology*
- 15:50-16:05 Discussion
- 16:05-16:25 Is groundwater research providing the answers to meet the environmental management challenges?  
*David Lerner, Co-Director Catchment Science Centre & Head of Groundwater Protection and Restoration Group*
- 16:25-16:35 Summing up