

## CLAD Newsletter 1 (February 2010)

### 1<sup>st</sup> CLAD annual meeting

The CLAD project has been initiated and had its first Network Meeting (20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> of Oct 2009) in Glasgow.

The soil carbon research community met during the first day to present recent research findings and discuss a consensus position regarding the importance of carbon lost as DOC from carbon-rich soils via aquatic pathways. These discussions will feed into a review paper to be submitted in 2010.

On the second day researchers were joined by other CLAD stakeholders including representatives from windfarm developers, water companies, environmental consultants, landowners, regulators and conservationists. Presentations covered current activities and concerns of these groups.

The final day, attention turned to the Carbon & Water Guidelines (or Carbon and Water Guidance Handbook) which will be one of the major outputs of CLAD. The full minutes of the meeting will soon be available on the CLAD web page.

### Equipment

CLAD has taken delivery of a S::CAN Spectrolyser. This device has the ability to monitor uv-absorbance at multiple wavelengths in the field, which in turn can be calibrated to output dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentration. This equipment will be demonstrated during the Catchment Monitoring Workshops (see *CLAD Diary*, below)

### CLAD Diary



This year we will be hosting a number of workshops including one to share best practice in monitoring C losses and associated water quality parameters in catchment drainage systems. Details of these will be announced shortly via CLAD emailing lists and on the CLAD website.

### Other Projects



The IUCN is running a UK peatland conservation and advocacy [project \(www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org\)](http://www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org) concurrently with CLAD. They are currently advertising an open competition to write six brief technical reviews which

will feed into an IUCN Commission of Inquiry on Peatlands. Details can be obtained from their research manager Dr Aletta Bonn ([aletta.bonn@iucn.org.uk](mailto:aletta.bonn@iucn.org.uk))

### Noteworthy publications



The Whitlee windfarm, Europe's largest onshore windfarm near Eaglesham, south of Glasgow.

Can carbon offsetting pay for upland ecological restoration? Worrall F, Evans MG, Bonn A, et al. SCIENCE OF THE TOTAL ENVIRONMENT 408(1): 26-36: DEC 15 2009

DOC budgets of drained peat catchments: implications for DOC production in peat soils Gibson HS, Worrall F, Burt TP, et al. HYDROLOGICAL PROCESSES 23(13): 1901-1911 JUN 30 2009

The significance of organic carbon and nutrient export from peatland-dominated landscapes subject to disturbance, a stoichiometric perspective : Waldron S, Flowers H, Arlaud C, et al. BIOGEOSCIENCES 6(3): 363-374. 2009

### Peat in the press

In what we expect to become a new trend in environmental protection Canada has recently protected a huge area of forest and peatlands as a carbon vault. There is potential for other countries with important carbon landscapes to move in this direction in the near future.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/oct/29/canada-boreal-forest-carbon-vault>

Peat issues raised during Shetland Windfarm development. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/jul/28/shetland-windfarm-protest-rspb>

### CLAD in the news

<http://news.scotsman.com/thescotsmansciencepages/Weighting-up-the-damage-against.5620136.jp>

The CLAD newsletter:

We aim to publish this every three months, so if you have interesting items that you think are newsworthy and would like included please contact Dr. Simon Drew at [S.Drew@stir.ac.uk](mailto:S.Drew@stir.ac.uk)