

## Visit from MaB Group from Sweden

The Man and the Biosphere Programme in Sweden is very well served with a paid co-ordinator for the national committee, two good quality reserves Kristianstads Vattenrike and Lake Vänern Archipelago and Mount Kinnekulle. The research for the MaB programme is underpinned by the Stockholm Resilience Centre with €50m for ecosystem service and resilience related research associated with the MaB programme internationally. A group made of the Swedish National Council for Biosphere Reserves, central authorities, research councils and from the reserves wish to visit North Devon to see how this Biosphere Reserve deals with the research and education functions.

From the UK, participants at any or all of the stages in the visit are envisaged to include:  
Research: Universities of Exeter, Plymouth and Bournemouth, North Wyke Research, members of UKMaB Committee  
Education: Petroc, Bideford, College, selected Primary Schools, Devon Learning Partnership.

The proposed visit will be from the 13<sup>th</sup> September to the 16<sup>th</sup> September.

Objectives will be:

- ◆ To see how the education remit is delivered in a range of modalities in the area.
- ◆ To see the range of research undertaken within or associated with the Biosphere Reserve by various institutions
- ◆ To gain an understanding within the UK of the research and education activities that go on within Sweden with regard to the MaB programme
- ◆ To explore options for collaborative research and education activities between Sweden and the UK linked to the MaB programme.

### **Suggested Programme:**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September

Arrive Bristol Airport 2:00 pm, transport by minibus  
Arrive North Devon: 5:00pm  
Orientation talk presentation: 7:30 pm, dinner

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>

Education day  
Bideford College; (site visit to see the new college)  
Visit to Petroc College involvement in STEM and foundation degrees;  
Lunch  
Primary school(s); looking at the new education pack and sustainability for schools curriculum  
Visit to Braunton Burrows and using the Node Explorers  
Dinner

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>:

Science Day  
Visit shoreline for examples of research activity; Pebble transport systems, habitat creation (Culm or estuary)  
Lunch  
Visit North Wyke; brief presentations from researchers and universities;  
Presentation by Swedish delegation on their work  
Discussion on opportunities for collaboration and enhancement of research in the Biosphere Reserve.  
Dinner

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>:

Breakfast meeting for debriefing  
Depart for Bristol airport 9:30 am