



The role of managed fire in ecosystem services of UK moorlands and heathlands

FIRES seminar series, No. 1

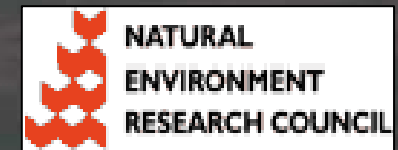
Welcome

Julia McMorro

FIRES seminar series coordinator



www.fires-seminars.org.uk



SCOTTISH
NATURAL
HERITAGE



FIRES

Fire Interdisciplinary Research on Ecosystem Services



Fire and climate change in UK moorlands and heathlands

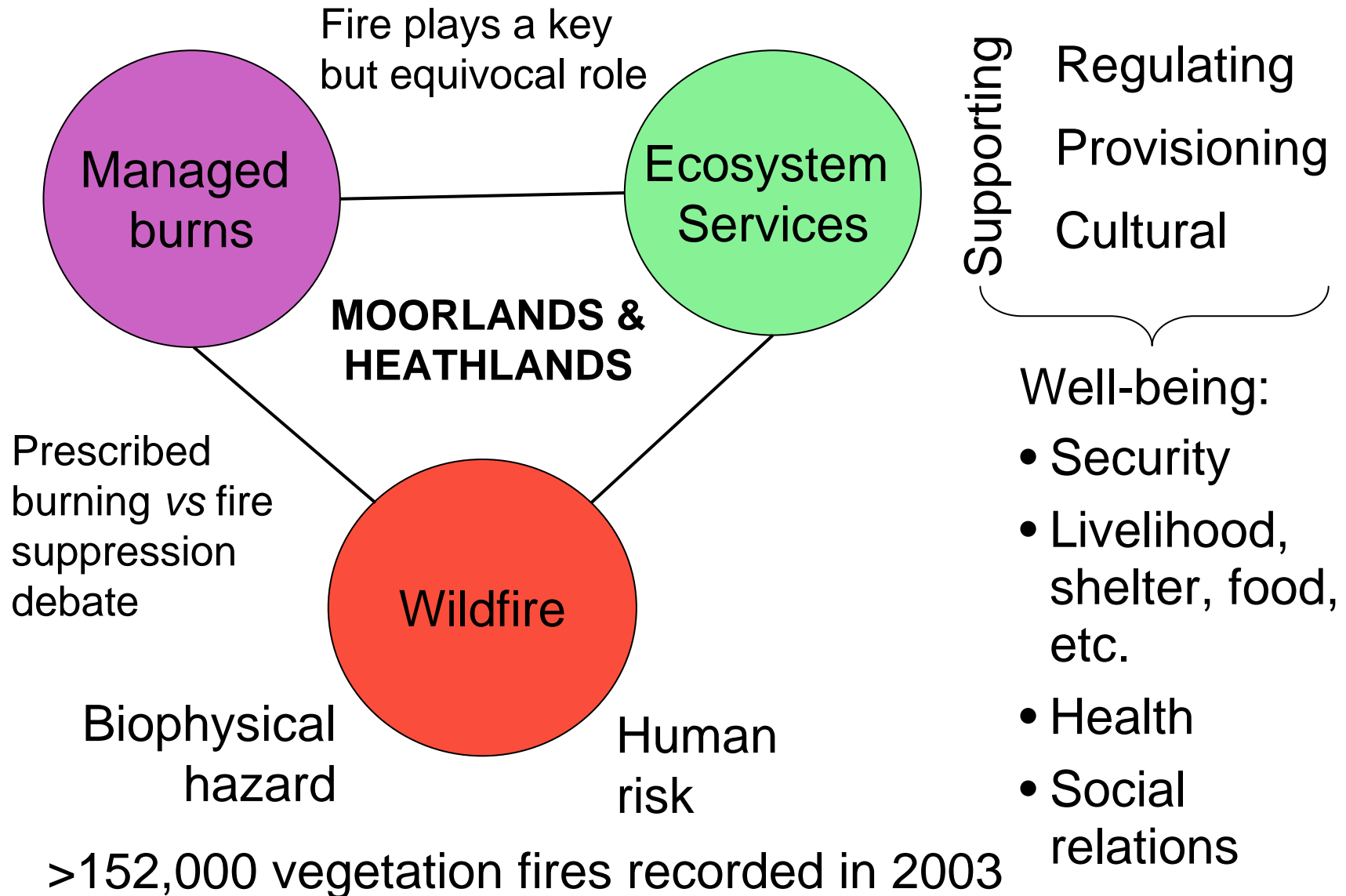
A series of four transdisciplinary seminars on the effects of moorland and heathland wildfires and managed fires on ecosystem services.

March 2008 to June 2009

E·S·R·C
ECONOMIC
& SOCIAL
RESEARCH
COUNCIL



Three inter-related concerns



Aims of FIRES series

- To *build capacity* for inter-disciplinary research on fire and its impacts on ecosystem services of UK heathlands and moorlands.
- To establish a cross-cutting interdisciplinary *research agenda* on the relationships between ecosystem services, managed fire and wildfire, especially implications of increased wildfire risk under climate change scenarios.
- To incorporate the needs of policy makers, moorland managers and other stakeholders by facilitating *knowledge transfer* and contributing to effective and *responsive management*.

ESRC/NERC remit

- Balance of natural and socio-economic sciences; sectors and career stages.
- Invited workshops small enough to enable effective discussion and deliverables.

Implications

- Balance required in composition of steering group and invited participants ∴ today's open meeting.
- Outside the 'comfort zone' of our discipline & sector.

Opportunities

- A forum for exchange of knowledge
- An opportunity to develop a cross-cutting research agenda which can provide an evidence-base
- A contribution to coordinated policy-making.

Common goals e.g. Reducing likelihood of severe wildfires which would threaten ecosystem services.

Organisation

Steering Group

- Julia McMorrow, University of Manchester (Coordinator)
- Colin Legg, University of Edinburgh (Co-I)
- Jonathan Ayles, University of Manchester (Co-I)
- Jon Walker, Moors for the Future Partnership (Co-I)
- Mark Jones, Chief Fires Officers' Association
- Simon Thorp, Heather Trust
- Claire Quinn, Sustainable Uplands, Rural Land Use and Economy (RELU) University of Leeds
- Klaus Hubacek, RELU, University of Leeds
- Gina Cavan, University of Manchester

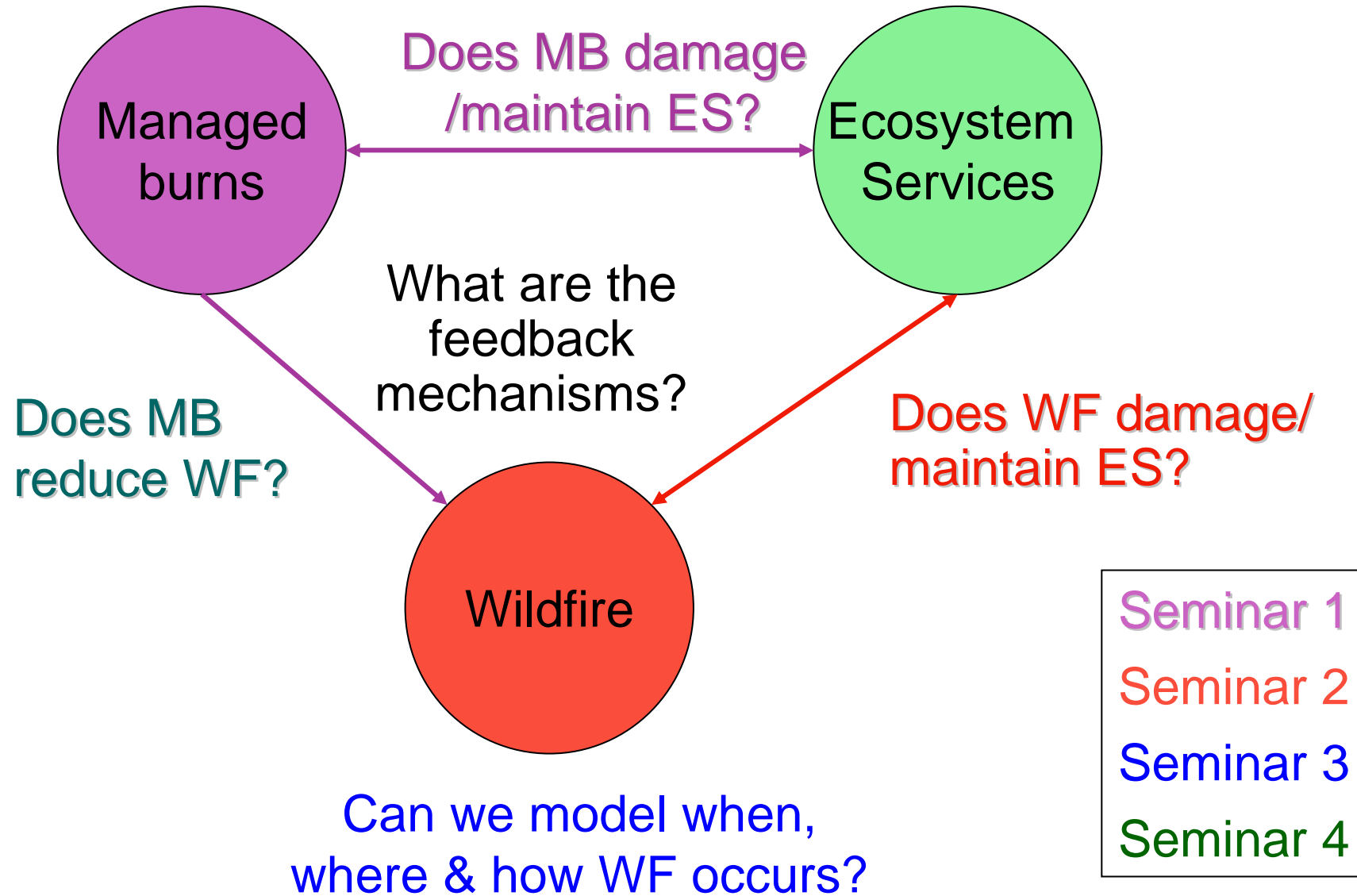
FIRES programme

1. The role of managed fire in ecosystem services of UK moorlands and heathlands
Edinburgh, 31 March – 1 April 2008
2. The impact of wildfire on ecosystem services: relationships between wildfire, climate and people
Manchester, 24 June 2008
3. Forecasting and modelling wildfire risk in UK moorlands and heathlands
Manchester, Easter 2009
4. Adaptive management of wildfire risk: implications for moorland and heathland ecosystem services
Peak District National Park, June 2009

Contact julia.mcmorrow@manchester.ac.uk if you would like to be involved

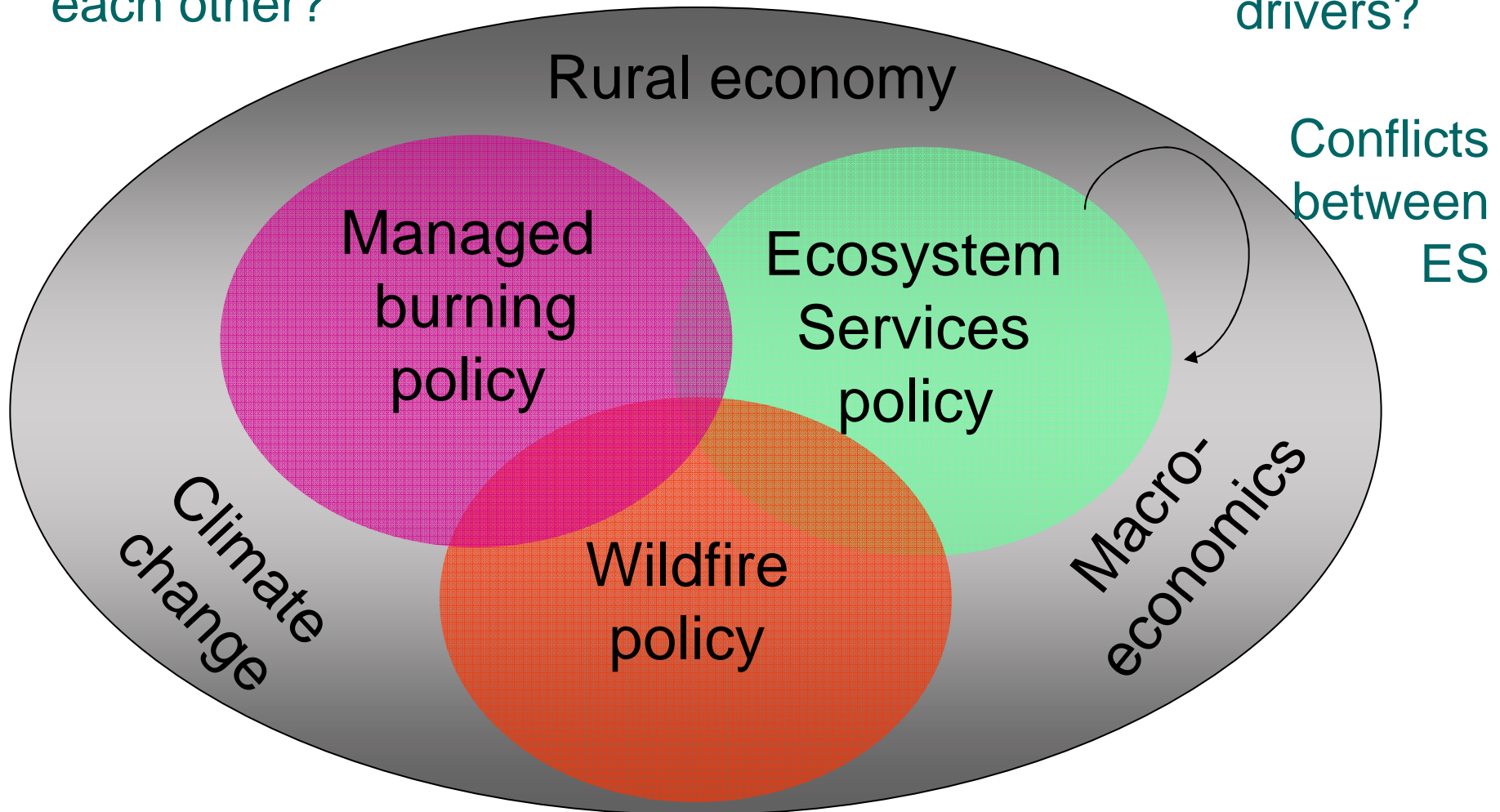
Basic questions

To what extent



How do policies affect each other?

What are the external drivers?



e.g. How can management of WF risk, or a particular ES, adapt to climate change with minimal impact on the others?

FAO 2006. *Fire management: voluntary guidelines. Principles and strategic actions.*

Questions for this meeting

4. How will ES policy and other rural policies affect MB regime, and *vice versa*? (*Plenary discussion. Day 2 – how will specific scenarios of changes in fire regime affect ES?*)

