



## career profile

Mike Wood is a landscape architect, environmental scientist and golf course architect. He has more than 20 years of professional experience in the public and private sector in Scotland during which time he has compiled a substantial portfolio of project work covering environmental design, planning and impact assessment.

Mike has particular expertise in rural landscapes, having been involved with a wide range of issues including wind farms, golf courses, transport, housing, forestry, recreation and tourism, mineral extraction, and coastal zone management. In recent years, he has prepared Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments for several windfarm developments, and reviewed numerous others on behalf of SNH. He has contributed to Landscape Capacity studies for wind farms and housing in the north of Scotland, continuing a long-term interest in Landscape Assessment, having completed three of the original regional-scale assessments as part of the SNH national programme.

In parallel with landscape architecture, Mike has developed a specialist expertise in golf course architecture, and between 2000 and 2005, set-up and successfully ran the world's first dedicated academic programme in golf course architecture, the MSc at Edinburgh College of Art. He has worked closely with the Scottish Golf Environment Group in preparing several best practice guidance publications relating to golf development. He was appointed Chair of the Environment Committee of the European Institute of Golf Course Architects in January 2005.

## professional experience

1998 to present	independent environmental consultant
2000 - 2005	Programme Director, MSc in Golf Course Architecture, Edinburgh College of Art
1990 to 1998	Associate, ASH Consulting Group, Glasgow and Edinburgh
1989 to 1990	Principal landscape architect, Landscape Development Unit, Lothian Regional Council
1985 to 1988	Senior landscape architect, Landscape Development Unit, Lothian Regional Council

## qualifications

1978	BSc (Hons, First Class) Environmental Science, University of Ulster
1981	BPhil Landscape Design University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne
1984	Member of the Landscape Institute
2006	Associate Member, European Institute of Golf Course Architects

## areas of expertise **GOLF COURSE DESIGN**

- European Institute of Golf Course Architects** Currently Chairman of Environment Committee, appointed 2005. Prepared Institute's Statement of Environmental Policy (2006). Representative on Golf Environment Europe Forum for Golf and Environment, as Chairman of Working Group on New Development Guidance. Awarded Professional Diploma in Golf Course Architecture April 1998. Graduate Membership of Institute awarded April 1999. Associate Membership awarded April 2006.
- Loch Lomond Golf Club, Dunbartonshire**  
**Client: Loch Lomond Golf Club**  
**2003-** Preparation of Reserved Matters Planning Submission for proposed 2<sup>nd</sup> Golf Course. Includes adjustments to the existing design in consultation with Nicklaus Design, both of the routing plan and of detail design of certain holes and green sites. Work ongoing.
- Edinburgh College of Art**  
**Director of Golf Course Architecture**  
**2000-2005** Academic programme director and senior lecturer. Designed and administered first ever academic programme in Golf Course Architecture (MSc in Golf Course Architecture) within School of Landscape Architecture, Edinburgh College of Art. Students from wide range of countries including USA, China, South Korea, Canada, Mexico, EU and UK.
- Scottish Golf Environment Group**  
**2000-** Preparation of guidance publications:  
Landscape Guidelines for Golf Course Development  
Nature Conservation and Golf Course Development  
Environmental Issues in Golf Course Construction  
Producing Management Plans for Golf Courses
- Rowallan Castle, Ayrshire**  
**Client: Alexander George & Co.**  
**2000** Preparation of Landscape and Visual Effects chapters for Environmental Statement accompanying planning application for housing, a hotel, and a golf course. The site is listed in *The Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland* and the work involved consideration of Landscape Capacity criteria in close co-operation with SNH.
- "The Carrick", Loch Lomond**  
**Client: EDAW/De Vere Hotel Group**  
**2005** Contribution to Landscape and Visual assessment documentation coordinated by EDAW, as part of overall EIA process.
- Easter Moffat Golf Club, North Lanarkshire**  
**Client: Easter Moffat Golf Club**  
**2003-** Preparation of Course Appraisal report on improvement options, including prioritisation and outline budget costs. Ongoing design advice on projects including new bunkering, additional tees, etc.

<p><b>North Gables Golf Course, Troon, Ayrshire</b>  <b>Client: Gables Sports and Leisure Ltd.</b>  <b>1999 -2001</b></p>	<p>Feasibility, detailed design, and construction supervision of a new 9-hole course. The course is part of a complex including a driving range and golf equipment retail outlet.</p>
<p><b>Muckhart Golf Club, Clackmannanshire</b>  <b>Client: Muckhart Golf Club Ltd.</b>  <b>1994-95</b></p>	<p>Feasibility study and detail design, in conjunction with Simon Gidman of the British Institute of Golf Course Architects, for a 9-hole extension to an existing 18-hole layout situated on an attractive rolling site underlain by fluvioglacial sands and gravels.</p>
<p><b>Prestonfield Golf Club, Edinburgh</b>  <b>Client: Prestonfield Golf Club</b>  <b>2001</b></p>	<p>Upgrading of 1<sup>st</sup> tee area and clubhouse externals in conjunction with clubhouse refurbishment. Design of remodelled greens as part of ongoing renewal programme.</p>
<p><b>Belfast Harbour Forum</b>  <b>Client: DoE (NI)</b>  <b>1990-93</b></p>	<p>Design of indicative course layout and landform for a proposed new 18-hole layout on an 83 hectare site on Belfast Lough, formerly used as the city's main domestic refuse landfill site. Work with the Forum also included coordination of design work for the creation of a new wetland habitat reserve in partnership with RSPB.</p>
<p><b>Dundonald Links, Ayrshire</b>  <b>Client: Loch Lomond Golf Club</b>  <b>2004-07</b></p>	<p>Preparation of Environmental Management Plan for recently-completed links course as prescribed in planning conditions.</p>
<p><b>Golf Course Environmental Plans</b>  <b>Client: City of Edinburgh Council</b>  <b>1997</b></p>	<p>Preparation of integrated Environmental Plans for Craigentenny, Portobello, and Silverknowes public golf courses. The plans were drawn up in accordance with the methodologies developed by SNH and SGCWG published in "Golf's Natural Heritage".</p>
<p><b>The Golf Bag</b>  <b>Client: Scottish Golf Course Wildlife Group</b>  <b>1998-99</b></p>	<p>Handbook written to accompany the Bag, a key source of environmental information to be distributed to golf clubs and organisations throughout Scotland in 1999. The Bag was launched with an event at SGU Headquarters at Drumoig in June 1999.</p>

areas of expertise **COASTAL ZONE  
PLANNING  
AND MANAGEMENT**

**PAN 53 Classifying the Coast for Planning  
Purposes  
Client: Scottish Office  
1998**

Project Manager / Author  
Study to develop and test a new methodology for classifying the coast for planning purposes. The Pilot Study of part of the Aberdeenshire coastline is reproduced in full as an Annex to the PAN.

**Coastal Dunes of the Atlantic Biogeographical  
Region  
Sefton Coast LIFE Project European  
Symposium  
1998**

Presented paper on Coastal Erosion and Tourism, based on 1993 study for SNH *et al* (see below). The symposium was a major 5-day event attended by more than 130 delegates from countries throughout Europe, focussing on the sustainable management of dunelands. Also wrote a review of the event which was published in "Landscape Design".

**Belfast Harbour Forum  
Client: Department of the Environment for  
Northern Ireland (DOE NI)  
1990-1998**

Environmental Co-ordinating Consultant.  
Responsible for environmental issues relating to implementation of proposals contained in the Belfast Harbour Local Plan, including project management of a £4.5 million programme of environmental renewal and management projects. The programme was supported by ERDF Urban Pilot Project funding, and achieved co-operation between conservation and development interests in Belfast Lough, a RAMSAR site.

**Coastal Erosion and Tourism in  
Scotland  
Client: SNH, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish  
Tourist Board  
1993**

Project Manager/Author  
A pioneering study which reviewed the range of options available to combat small-scale coastal erosion. Evaluated 15 case study sites around the Scottish coast, and put forward recommendations for best practice. Team members included Dr Bill Carter, University of Ulster, and George Lees, SNH.

**Beach Litter Management in Scotland  
Client: SNH, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish  
Tourist Board  
1994**

Project Manager/Author.  
Comprehensive national survey and assessment of existing procedures for beach litter management throughout Scotland. Proposed recommendations for the adoption of current best practice.