



Conference goers get to see how it's done

TRAIL MANAGEMENT MEETING IS MASSIVE SUCCESS

# IMBA's first trail conference pulls them in

IMBA-UK's first national mtb trail management conference at Kielder Forest Park was so popular that a bigger venue had to be found — and even then the limit of 80 delegates meant that late applications had to be turned away.

The first day was held in an informal atmosphere to encourage debate and discussion between professional trail managers. Speakers from projects as diverse as the 7stanes and the Pennine Bridleway emphasised the need for good project planning and trail design if the trail is to survive the machinations of the weather and countless 26in tyres.

Day two focused on trail building, with two workshops run by trail guru Dafydd Davis and north-eastern trail-builders, followed by site visits to the Kielder skills area and Newcastleton.

"The feedback is really positive," reported IMBA-UK chairman Colin Palmer. "And IMBA is already planning a similar event for 2007," — draft information from [imba@branchline.demon.co.uk](mailto:imba@branchline.demon.co.uk)

A free 40-page conference booklet can be obtained by sending an email to [alex.maclennan@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:alex.maclennan@forestry.gsi.gov.uk).