Global themes in Human ecodynamics: Taking stock and looking forward Friday 26th March 2010

A NABO-SAGES sponsored discussion meeting hosted by the University of Edinburgh, School of GeoSciences

Venue: The Raeburn Room, Old College, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh

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The main purpose of this workshop is to discuss human ecodynamics operating in different areas and on different time scales, but with a particular focus on the last 800 years. The objectives will be to develop a better comparative understanding of the interaction of climate change, human environmental impacts, and human-human interaction and specifically consider integrative themes of rigidity, connectedness and pathway choices. The goals are to bring together members of the SAGES community with NABO and a wider evolving international community of researchers on human ecodynamics, discuss research questions of common interest and explore new alliances.

DRAFT AGENDA

10.30 Introduction: The potential for grand narratives of human-

ecodynamics: Andy Dugmore, University of Edinburgh

10.45 Keynote: Rigidity, pathway dependence and human suffering: The archaeology of the American S.W. and themes of wider human-ecodynamic importance. Peggy Nelson, Arizona State University

11.30 Keynote: Ecodynamics and the Viking occupation in Greenland and Iceland. Tom McGovern, City University of New York.

12.15 Keynote: Medieval Scotland, climate impacts and grand themes in environmental history. Richard Oram, University of Stirling.

1.00-2.00 Lunch

2.00-3.00 Discussion; key questions of the past, lead by lan Simpson (Stirling) and Tony Wilkinson (Durham)

3.00-3.30 Break

3.30-4.30 Discussion; relevance of the past for sustainable futures loan Fazey (St Andrews) Mark Rounsvell (Edinburgh)

4.30-5.00 Conclusions: Dugmore, McGovern, Nelson, Oram.