

DPLUS116 Falkland Wetlands PMG meeting
Skype
21 February 2022

Attendees: Deborah Barlow (DB) (FIG), Steffi Carter (SC) (SAERI), Rachel Cooper (RC) (FIG), Chris Evans (CE) (UK CEH), Roger Flower (RF) (Independent & UCL), Julian Thompson (JT) (UCL), David Stroud (DS) (Independent)

Apologies: Al Baylis (AB) (SAERI), Tara Pelembe (TP) (SAERI)

Time: 9.30 – 10.45 am (Falklands) / 13.30 – 14.45 (UK)

Minute taker: Steffi Carter

1. Wetlands Action Plan

The main purpose of this PMG meeting was to discuss the outline and contents of the project's Wetland Action Plan recommendations. Beforehand SC circulated a proposed outline (Annex 1), which was used as the basis for the discussions.

It was agreed that the scope of the Action Plan will be aligned with the initial project brief and will focus on freshwater aquatic wetlands. The main audience of the Action Plan will be the Falkland Islands Government (FIG), especially the Environment Department and the Natural Resources Department.

RC and DB highlighted that the best way for the Action Plan to be implemented into policy will be for individual aspects to be incorporated into current work streams, which may be managed by different people and departments. In order for this to happen FIG would like to see management recommendations that include the reason why they should take place alongside considerations and constraints of their implementation. FIG would also like to see priorities of either issues / threats or habitats.

The PMG agreed that the draft outlined by SC can be used as a template, with the exception of section 5, which should be changed so that it lists issues and threats identified in section 4 and addresses these with actions under the headers of 5.1 to 5.4, whereas 5.4 will be split to separate 'Monitoring' and 'Research' into different headers.

SC will write up a draft and will circulate this for comments around the PMG.

2. Remaining Project Timeline

SC would like to complete both the Action Plan recommendations and the Indicator Monitoring Plan over the next two weeks and will circulate these for comments to the PMG. The final

project report will have to be produced by the end of March. SC will schedule another PMG meeting for the end of March to wrap up any outstanding issues.

Annex 1 – Draft Outline Compiled by SC

Wetlands Action Plan Recommendations

1. Scope
2. History
3. Habitats
 - 3.1 Description of all habitats
 - 3.2 Example Sites
4. Status, (Trends) and Threats
 - 4.1 Physical, chemical & biological status
 - 4.2 Legal status
 - 4.3 Threats / Factors affecting the habitats
5. Action Plan Objectives & Targets
 - 5.1 Policy & legislation
 - 5.2 Habitat Management
 - 5.3 Action for species
 - 5.4 Monitoring & Research
6. Future & Vision