

## NOTES

### **Marine Spatial Planning for the Falkland Islands**

**Steering committee meeting #9**  
*June, 21st 2016, 9am-11pm (Falklands time)*  
*At SAERI*



This document compiles the notes taken during the last steering committee meeting for the Marine Spatial Planning project. Notes are taken only when further comments were made to what is presented in the draft final Darwin reports that was circulated to all members prior to the meeting, or new ideas of discussion emerged.

#### Attendees:

##### Project team:

- Amélie Augé (SAERI)
- Paul Brickle (SAERI)

##### Steering committee members:

- Sasha Arkhipin (FIG Fisheries Department)
- Paul Brewin (Shallow Marine Surveys Group/Sough Georgia and South Sandwich Islands Government)
- Tim Martin (Falkland Islands Petroleum Licenses Association)
- Bill Dawson (Royal Navy)
- Stephanie Middleton (FI Tourism Board)
- Chris Locke (FIG Fisheries Department)
- Ben Lascelles (BridLife International)
- Andy Pollard (Falkland Islands Fishing Companies Association)
- Nick Rendell (FIG Environmental Department)
- Andy Stanworth (Falklands Conservation)
- Phil Trathan (British Antarctic Survey)

Apologies: Stephanie Middleton, Chris Locke, Pippa Christie, Tim Martin, Phil Trathan, Paul Brewin, Roddy Cordeiro (Mineral Resources Department)

Ben Lascelles had to leave the meeting at the start due to poor skype connection.

Additional attendee: /

#### Items for this meeting were:

1. Greet
2. Action from last meeting
3. Workshop report
4. Kelp bed mapping
5. Review of final Darwin project report
6. End of Darwin project and future of MSP in the Falklands
7. Thanks to all members

## Notes

### 1. *Previous minutes, notes and actions taken*

No comment and all actions taken (public communication on kelp bed mapping was deemed unnecessary)

### 2. *Kelp bed mapping*

The coastal kelp beds were mapped by Junichi Sugishita (Otago University, New Zealand) over the last 2 months. They were digitised from Google Earth imagery. Clear satellite images were not available in a few areas (see map [here](#)). Therefore mapping could not be conducted in these areas; another source of satellite imagery is sought, and it was also suggested that some areas could be filled by using aerial photography from FIGAS planes (for areas where they regularly fly) or from military helicopters.

This kelp bed map can be used for a wide range of applications (such as originally mentioned, near-shore cetacean association) and members mentioned biomass calculation, boat traffic safety, shallow marine biodiversity mapping.

### 3. *Workshop #3 report*

The workshop report 'Framing MSP' was finalised and posted on the webpage (accessed [here](#)). This report was also sent to the fishery and environmental committees as an information document. The fishery committee met last week and there were a number of comments made (some minutes will be produced and available soon). The environmental committee's next meeting is in July.

Discussion arose about the existing temporary closure areas part of the fishing licensing and how these are already seen as MPA by the fishing industry. Although these are recognised, they are not official international-recognised MPA and, therefore, it was concluded that there could be a win-win situation if work would focus on turning the existing fishery management zones, along with consideration of shipping, boating etc, into official MPA.

### 4. *Final Darwin Plus project report*

Some comments were received prior to the meeting on the draft final report. Main comments included (with the response/comments given during the meeting):

- Timing of reporting / The report is not due until 3 months after end of project but due to the end of employment of the project staff at the same time as the end of the project, the final project report was requested before end of project
- MPA still a possible tool of MSP / In the report the wording used was changed to ensure that this idea is reflected correctly
- Steering committee and stakeholder committee / The description of having these is a recommendation for future Darwin projects tackling similar topic; having a distinction between a Darwin project steering committee and the stakeholder at large would make it easier for logistic, allow for reduce stakeholder fatigues with focusses involvement.

No further major comment was given during the meeting. In general, the report appeared to be good and summarised well what was done and produced during the workshop.

The final Darwin report will be submitted to Darwin administration on 30 June after recommended changes are made and final formatting.

5. *End of Darwin project and MSP future*

The Darwin Plus project ends 30 June 2016. ExCo has not financially committed to the recommended 2-year phase for implementation of MSP, but is instead providing £30,000 for a short-term continuity in the process (through the Fisheries Department). Paul Brickle that there was no clear indication of what the money was for but it would be for a 6-month period, but that he and Tara Pelembe were working on something. The steering committee felt that it would be good for the 6-month period proposed to have one clear task with a clear output demonstrating how MSP can be implemented and beneficial. Suggestions included developing an MPA, and this process would involve a focus on fishing companies, with political pressure from the UK possibly being used as a levy but this was seen as controversial by some members. The other suggestion was a spatial plan for Berkeley Sound which could also provide access to further funds through the FIG hydrocarbon fund that should be accessible for this task. The group proposed to have another meeting next week to come up with a small clear focus proposal of what that one task should be.

A follow up meeting to define the task that would be the most appropriate for the 6-month period is set for Wednesday 29 June 2016 at 9.30am.