


TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP
MINUTE OF WATER AND WETLANDS SUB-GROUP MEETING

10am Tuesday 14th December 2004
SEPA 7 Whitefriars Crescent, Perth PH2 0PA

Attending: Catherine Lloyd (TBP), Richard Averiss (AC Rangers Service), Alistair Stephen (SSE), Jo Long (SEPA).

Apologies: Ross Gardiner (FRS), David Summers (TDSFB)

1. Review of Tranche 1 actions

Discussions on the published actions schedule concluded that many are not relevant as they refer to core activities for some agencies that would be happening anyway. Removal of these could be qualified by including a paragraph on the Water Framework Directive as these activities will be carried out as a result of this legislation.

- **Jo** and **Alistair** to write a paragraph on the Water Framework Directive for inclusion in text
- **ALL** to review actions schedules in published document and highlight all their actions that would be happening anyway for removal plus any suggested wording changes to make all actions SMARTer – please send a photocopy with any alterations highlighted/annotated to Jo at address above.
- **ALL** to suggest any project type actions their organisations could include as additional actions e.g. bat policy for SSE grounds
- **Jo** to collate comments and return to Catherine **BY 15th JANUARY, SO PLEASE SEND YOUR REVIEW COMMENTS TO ME BEFORE THEN!**

(If there is anyone without access to the published document, let me know and I'll post you a copy of the actions schedules.)

2. Update on Website

The website should go live in early 2005. It will include drafts of tranche 2/3 HAPs and SAPS for public consultation.

3. Update on HAPS and SAPs

Slender Naiad still being edited so should be ready for inclusion by April website update.

Urban Watercourses won't be available for inclusion in the website in January, but could be by April as a new member of SEPA staff with a council ranger background may be able to help (both complete it and ensure a wider partnership approach).

Salmon not yet received from David, although Alistair and Ross have already commented on it so it shouldn't be far off being ready to go out for public consultation.

Ponds and Pools HAP should go on the website in January, but Catherine is chasing up a newt vignette for inclusion. The actions schedule for this HAP will still require revisiting by the group before publication.

- Jo to contact David to chase up Salmon SAP
- Jo to endeavour to get help with Urban Watercourses HAP

4. Update on engineering workshop

Catherine has had several indications of interest from council roads dept and planners. Alistair suggested that fisheries organisations should also be encouraged to attend, and that Ronald Campbell from the Tweed Foundation should be approached to speak at the event. He also suggested that the Institute of Fisheries Management could be approached to share the chairing of the event, and possibly contribute toward costs. Jo suggested that recent SEPA in-house training about the incoming Controlled Activities Regulations would also be relevant, especially later next year once they are in place as these affect all in-river works so equally relevant to councils and fisheries. Jo also mentioned Angus Councils in-house guidance currently being developed 'best practice guidance for working in and around watercourses' as this covers the way works are carried out by contractors. Birnam Institute is still the favoured venue.

- **JL** to contact colleagues involved with the Tweed Foundation who will canvass Ronald Campbell.
- **Alistair** to approach IFM re: chairing and funding of workshop
- **Jo** to contact WFD engineering guidance specialists in SEPA to request they speak at the event
- **Jo** to contact Angus Council to see if anyone would be willing to talk about their guidance for council operatives. [note since meeting I've found out that this guidance was originally contracted to an environmental consultant by Aberdeen Council, with Angus Council becoming involved later. It is their hope that the document could be used as a basis for other Councils to produce similar guidance so think there could well be someone who'd speak at the workshop. The first draft is due in January, when I'll be involved with the SEPA input to it, so I'll discuss the possibilities with them then].

5. AOCB

- **Alistair** to lend copy of 'Working with Wildlife' to Catherine. This document is a guide for engineers by engineers, useful for the 'planning manual for planners, developers and land use managers' currently in production by Catherine.