



TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

MINUTE OF WATER AND WETLANDS SUB-GROUP MEETING

2.00pm – Wednesday 22nd October 2003
Perth & Kinross Council, Pullar House, Perth

Attending: Catherine Lloyd (TBP), Nina Turner (SNH), Alastair Stephen (SSE), Ross Gardiner (FRS), Jo Long (SEPA).

1. Edits of Ponds & Pools, Salmon, and Slender Naiad

John Whyman has completed suggested edits to Ponds & Pools – Jo to email out to group for any final comments, then this HAP should be ready for publication. **ACTION: JL**

Editing of the Salmon HAP was agreed at the May meeting to be done by Alastair and Ross who will meet up shortly to start. **ACTION: AS/RG**

Input from SNH is required for the Slender Naiad SAP – Nina to look into getting Tayside distribution info, Lunan Lochs project links etc. **ACTION: NT**

In all cases, final versions need to be available to Catherine by the end of January. It was agreed that **final drafts should be passed to Jo by the end of December**, to allow circulation for final comments from W&W sub-group members before the next (January) meeting.

2. New HAPs and SAPs

Arctic Charr SAP – Alastair indicated that Ron Greer is still keen to get involved. Alastair will pass a proforma to Ron and let him know the deadline date for consultation drafts is the end of January 2004. **ACTION: AS**

Reedbeds HAP – Jo reported that Karl Munday is interested in writing this, but may struggle to find the time. Catherine suggested that others could maybe contribute to reduce the work involved for Karl – Nina to speak to Uwe Stoneman (SWT, Loch of Lowes) and Paul Brooks (SNH, Loch Leven) for info on these two important sites. JL to speak to Karl to see if he'll commit to the writing on this basis. **ACTION: NT & JL**

Eutrophic Lochs – Jo to write. **ACTION: JL**

Urban Watercourses – Jo still to identify a SEPA author for this as the person lined up has left his post. **ACTION: JL**

3. Mention of urban watercourses led to a discussion of recent problems with unsuitable river engineering works in Pitlochry. The conclusion was that a workshop for council roads and planning officers would be a good route to avoiding future problem works. The Birnam Institute was suggested as a good neutral venue – Catherine to look into costs and speak to Doug Flint about the most appropriate people to encourage to attend. This will be included in the next agenda. **ACTION: CL**

4. Invasive species

Nina circulated an updated list of sites surveyed for invasive plants, which showed that of the 26 sites invasives were found at 2 sites in 1996, but in 2003 this has risen to 10. Discussion concluded that this is a big issue best dealt with through national strategy, but the LBAP has a role in public awareness etc. Small projects were thought to be the best initial approach, e.g. the Dighty Water project being run through the Urban sub-group – Jo to contact Alison Anderson. **ACTION: JL**

Catherine mentioned that Max Wade is keen to get involved in Tayside, so the W&W sub-group will look for a small project – to be included in the next agenda.

5. Projects

Alastair updated the group on progress with Salmon in the Classroom. Three Angus schools have been identified, and the project will involve the Angus rangers, Angus Educational Advisory Service, and both the Esk and Tay DSFBs. Denise Reed (SNH) is developing a nationally agreed materials pack which should be made available through the SNH website.

6. Membership of group

John Whyman has indicated that he will no longer be able to attend meetings but is keen to remain involved, particularly in running the Salmon in the Classroom project in Dundee in future years. Thanks to John to all his efforts over the past year or so which have resulted in a high quality ponds and pools HAP.

Karl Munday was invited to this meeting but was unable to attend due to workload organising the 'Enchanted Forest' event. He will be invited to future meetings, particularly if we're able to persuade him to take on the writing of the reedbeds HAP.

Peter Cosgrove is to be invited to attend to improve links with the Cairngorms LBAP, as there is considerable overlap with areas of the Tayside LBAP.

Tom McGrath (Angus Head Ranger) and Alistair Godfrey (PKC Head Ranger) will be invited to improve involvement of the councils. Jo to contact Alison Anderson for suggestions for Dundee person.

ACTION: JL

7. Date of Next Meeting: (date to be confirmed) January 2003, 2pm at SEPA 7 Whitefriars Crescent, Perth