



TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

MINUTE OF WATER AND WETLANDS SUB-GROUP MEETING
2.00pm - Thursday 27 February 2003
SEPA, Perth

Attending: Catherine Lloyd (TBP), Alastair Stephen (SSE), Christine Hall (SAC), John Whyman (DCC Rangers), Jo Long (SEPA).

1. Apologies

Iona MacDonald, Ross Gardiner, David Summers

2. The way forward – prioritising writing v implementation

Now in the implementation phase of the LBAP so need to look into how actions other than those covered by statutory duties will be achieved. All to look through spreadsheet (previously emailed by JL, if you need a copy let her know) and bring ideas/solutions for actions with deadlines up to 2004 to next meeting. **ACTION: ALL**

An initial look identified that the '4 point plan' for farms fulfils 'best practice' actions for rivers and burns. CH to pass copy to JL. **ACTION: CH**

AS drew attention to the successful use of the bathing waters directive in the south west to secure funding to provide farmers with free fertiliser/slurry advice and so reduce discharges – this approach could possibly be used in Tayside.

3. 2nd & 3rd Tranche HAPs – priorities/timescales

Ponds and Pools HAP awaiting consultation responses for final edit – comments to be discussed at next meeting.

Agreed that both remaining 3rd tranche HAPs should be pursued:

Lowland Wetlands & Reedbeds by Peter McPhail if he's still available, if not then preferably by someone from SNH: JL to contact Peter and Iona. **ACTION: JL**

Eutrophic Lochs by JL, with input from all regarding lochs to be included – everyone to re-read standing open waters HAP and provide ideas for sites and actions for inclusion. **ACTION: ALL**

4. Urban Watercourses HAP – links with Ponds & Pools

No conflict with ponds and pools HAP, as specifically 'watercourses'.

Agreed that this would be best written through the water and wetlands group, and may best sit alongside rivers and burns HAP rather than in Urban section. CL to check with Urban group that this is acceptable. JL to pursue author in SEPA.

ACTION: CL & JL

5. Implementation of published LBAP – actions and projects

Salmon in the Classroom: Crown Estates to fund the setting up of this project.

SNH (Denise Reed) may co-ordinate the project (JL to check).

ACTION: JL

The project will have to start in August/Sept (meeting with teachers), introduction of project to classes in autumn term, eggs into classrooms after Christmas to be cared for through spring term, eggs released before Easter break and rivers re-visited in summer term.

Have to get DS involved, to provide the eggs. AS to contact DS.

ACTION: AS

Needs one person per school - SNH may be able to help with school visits (JL check with IM), as should SEPA (JL to check) and possibly DCC rangers (JW to check), and AS will be able to provide limited guidance and advice.

ACTION: JL & JW

2-3 schools involved in first year (one in each of P&KC, AC and DCC areas?).

Identify schools through Education Angus and Education P&KC: CL to find out who replaced Coral Bell in P&KC.

ACTION: CL

Educational material is copyrighted to Dumfries & Galloway education department – would Crown Estate part-fund getting it updated and into CD-rom format as part of the setting up funding? This would enable Tayside to use it freely. **Who can follow this up?**

CL suggested Perth Lade as a potential project, possibly with River Restoration Centre input. JL informed the group that SEPA has access to free advice from RRC so any projects needing advice could be routed through SEPA.

6. Group membership

Suggested that Allan Ross (water vole SAP author), otter SAP author, local angling groups, Education Angus and Education P&KC be invited to meetings covering relevant subjects. Suggestions for other attendees welcome.

7. Date of next meeting

In around 2 months, to coincide with distribution of consultation responses. JL to arrange meeting once responses available and to pass on all relevant responses to group prior to meeting.

ACTION: JL