



BERWICKSHIRE & NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND
COAST EUROPEAN MARINE SITE

www.xbordercurrents.co.uk

Management Group Meeting

9.30 am – 10.30 am 18th October 2012
Berwick Guild Hall

Present:

Tom Cadwallender	TC	Chairman BNNC EMS
Claire Hedley	CH	EMS Implementation Officer
Chris Burgess	CB	Northumberland County Council
David Feige	DF	Northumberland Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Jon Green	JG	Northumberland Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority
Martin Kerby	MK	Natural England
Andrew Panter	AP	Scottish Natural Heritage
Karen Rentoul	KR	Scottish Natural Heritage
Ivan Stevenson	IS	Eyemouth Harbour Trust
John Walton	JW	National Trust
Liza Cole	LC	National Trust for Scotland
Andy Tharme	AT	Scottish Borders Council
Jill McCormick	JM	Environment Agency
Sarah Jennings	SJ	Environment Agency
Euan Gibson	EG	St Abbs Harbour Trust
Kevin Kelly	KK	Marine Scotland
Jack Laws	JL	St Abbs & Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve
Laura Johnson	LJ	St Abbs & Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve/St Abbs Marine Station

Apologies:

Liza Cole	LC	National Trust for Scotland
Eamon Murphy	EM	Marine Scotland
Kate Wilson	KW	English Heritage
Steve Lowe	SL	Northumberland Wildlife Trust
Janet Khan-Marnie	JKM	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Georgia Conolly	GC	St Abbs & Eyemouth VMR
Stuart Pudney	SP	Northumbria Water Ltd
Phil Brabbon	PB	North Sunderland Harbour Commissioners
Thomas Arculus	TA	Trinity House
Paul Duffy	PD	Maritime & Coastguard Agency
Ian Webster	IW	Northern Lighthouse Board
Duncan Wood	DW	Berwick Harbour Commissioners
Nick Yonge	NY	River Tweed Commissioners
John Aitchison	JA	Burnmouth Harbour
Catherine Scott	CS	Natural England
Sean Douglas	SD	Marine Management Organisation

1. Welcome & Introductions

Group members introduced themselves and CH announced apologies.

2. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

CH updated the group with the status of previous actions.

A coordinated response to the public consultation on Marine Conservation Zones has not been done as the consultation will not be published until December 2013.

ACTION: Coordinate EMS response to MCZ consultation when published.

WHO: CH

WHEN: Dec 12-Mar 13

CH explained that 'cross-border issues' will be added as a standing agenda item for all subsequent Steering Group meetings. This is instead of the establishment of a separate meeting, which was proposed at last year's Management Group meeting. Linking these discussions to existing meetings will be less resource intensive for those involved. The Management Group agreed this approach.

All other actions from last year's meeting are complete. The minutes were accepted.

3. Implementation Update & Future of EMS Management

The above titled paper was discussed. Members were asked to consider if there are any documents or content that they would like to see posted on the EMS website to help them understand more about their responsibilities.

ACTION: Contact CH if they have suggestions about which documents they want loaded onto the website, or shared by other means.

WHO: All members

WHEN: December 2012 and ongoing

CH informed members that an inventory of all site condition monitoring would be established over the coming months to help co-ordinate data collection within the EMS, to inform the management of the site and to identify data gaps.

ACTION: Design template to store information and to contact all authorities to discuss monitoring contributions.

WHO: CH

WHEN: March 2013. Populate template by June 2013.

4. EMS Officer Update & Future Work Programme

The EMS Officer update paper was discussed. MK enquired about the Marine Non-Native Study that CH is undertaking with the Big Sea Survey. CH reported that fouling panels have been in place in harbours and marinas since Feb 2012, they are monitored monthly and will be removed in Feb 2013. CH is working with Heather Sugden to process and analyse the data. It is hoped that results will be available mid-2013.

CH emphasised that although very few marine non-natives are being recorded along the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast, there is a need for monitoring and early warning indicators to understand potential impact to the EMS, and due to the difficulty of eradication once species are established. A proactive,

preventative approach is promoted by UK Government and European drivers, particularly in the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Japanese Skeleton shrimp (*Caprella mutica*) has been recorded on the north shore of Holy Island by the Big Sea Survey and further monitoring will be carried out under this project to understand the abundance, distribution and possible implications for the EMS. We await further information and CH will consider what management measures need to be put in place, if any.

Members confirmed the future work programme for CH as listed below (priorities in bold):

- Complete 2012 progress report and publish by end of February 2013.
- **Secure funding for 2013-14 by April 2013.**
- **Management Plan review - ongoing until publication in April 2014.**
- **Work with Defra, Natural England, Marine Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage to define future marine protected area management – ongoing.**
- **Commercial fisheries – work with Northumberland Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority and Marine Scotland to implement changes involving the need for an Appropriate Assessment under the Habitat Regulations.**
- **Renew links with South East Inshore Fisheries Group (SE IFG) in Scotland.**
- Compile list of condition monitoring within EMS by June 2013.
- Marine non-native project and other Big Sea Survey joint working – ongoing.
- Peregrini Board - until Jan 2013, involvement after Jan 2013 will be reviewed.
- Promote understanding and deliver awareness raising activities – ongoing.
- Continued partnership working and authority support – ongoing.

AT asked if CH was still working with the South East Inshore Fisheries Group (SE IFG) in Scotland. CH explained that there had been little opportunity to engage with this group but that comments had been provided for their draft fisheries management plan. CH will try to re-engage.

ACTION: Provide new contact details for Marine Scotland's SE IFG coordinator.

WHO: KK

WHEN: End of November 2012

ACTION: Re-engage with SE IFG

WHO: CH

WHEN: December 2012

5. Management Plan Review

Discussion was held over the merits and drawbacks about integrating the EMS management plan with that of the Northumberland Coast AONB. CH recommended that although there are some issues with the current plan, such as a need for greater clarity about what the plan needs to achieve for each designation, and a need to streamline a lot of the content, that these issues could be addressed and that the next plan should also be integrated with the AONB. Members agreed to progress with a joint plan and to review its success at the next review phase.

CH informed members that an engagement and consultation programme would be drawn up over the coming weeks and that it might be beneficial for the Management Group to meet twice a year instead of annually. JM asked if sessions could be tied in with Steering Group meetings to reduce the time burden. This was agreed and CH will align meetings where possible.

TC reminded members that the Management Plan is a tool to help them and encouraged members to engage with the review process.

ACTION: Design engagement and consultation programme so Management Group members can contribute towards the management plan review.

WHO: CH

WHEN: End December 2012

6. Steering Group

CH informed the group that seats are available on the EMS Steering Group and that letters of invitation to join, along with Terms of Reference would be sent out to all members not currently represented on the group. It was decided that NGOs should be offered an observer position on the group. It was also decided that a cap would not be placed on numbers and that if the majority of members wish to take a seat on the group, then consideration would be given as to whether to hold quarterly Management Group meetings. This will be considered and discussed when CH has a better idea of numbers.

ACTION: Revise Terms of Reference (TOR) to show that NGOs may sit on the Steering Group as an observer with no voting powers. Send letter and TOR to members.

WHO: CH

WHEN: End of November 2012

ACTION: Respond to CH whether your organisation wishes to accept a seat on the Steering Group.

WHO: All members who receive an invitation

WHEN: End of December 2012

7. Finance

CH advised the group that Natural England has committed to funding EMS Management Schemes in 2013-14 but that figures have not yet been confirmed. Last year CH secured a three-year grant with Scottish Natural Heritage and 2013-14 will be the second year of the funding period. Other funding partners have also made encouraging remarks about next year's funding. As usual CH will send funding request letters to each authority before the end of the calendar year.

CB thanked authorities for their contributions and stressed that the smaller contributions were just as crucial as the larger ones. CH also thanked the authorities for their support to date.

CH updated members about the recommendation from a recent Defra review that central funds should be made available for EMS where they require an officer to coordinate management. It is not clear whether this recommendation will be implemented or what the timescales might be, but this is an encouraging message. This would not mean 100% funding, but a contribution with remaining funds coming from local relevant authorities. CH will keep members informed.

8. AOB

No AOB reported.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting has not been set but an authorities workshop will be held in Spring 2013 to look at the Management Plan review and current issues for EMS management.

Table of Actions

Actions	Who	When
Coordinate EMS response to MCZ consultation when published.	CH	Dec 12-Mar 13
Contact CH with suggestions about which documents to upload to EMS website or other media.	All members	December 2012 and ongoing
Design template to store information and to contact all authorities to discuss monitoring contributions.	CH	June 2013
Provide new contact details for Marine Scotland's SE IFG coordinator.	KK	End Nov 2012
Re-engage with SE IFG.	CH	End Dec 2012
Design engagement and consultation programme so Management Group members can contribute towards the management plan review.	CH	End Dec 2012
Revise Terms of Reference (TOR) to show that NGOs may sit on the Steering Group as an observer with no voting powers. Send letter and TOR to members.	CH	End Nov 2012
Respond to CH whether your organisation wishes to accept a seat on the Steering Group.	All invited members	End Dec 2012