



BERWICKSHIRE & NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND
COAST EUROPEAN MARINE SITE

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Management Group Meeting

9.30 am – 10.30 am 3rd November 2011
Berwick Guild Hall

Present:

John Elliot	JE	Chairman BNNC EMS (former)
Tom Cadwallender	TC	Chairman BNNC EMS
Claire Carey	CC	EMS Implementation Officer
Chris Burgess	CB	Northumberland County Council
Jon Green	JG	Northumberland Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority
Jodie Royal	JR	Northumberland Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority
Catherine Scott	CS	Natural England
Richard Kehoe	RK	Scottish Natural Heritage
Karen Rentoul	KR	Scottish Natural Heritage
Henry Lima	HL	Scottish Natural Heritage
David Feige	DF	Northumberland County Council
Ivan Stevenson	IS	Eyemouth Harbour Trust
Kate Wilson	KW	English Heritage
Steve Lowe	SL	Northumberland Wildlife Trust
John Walton	JW	National Trust
Neil Wellum	NW	Marine Management Organisation
Vivian Ord	VO	Marine Management Organisation
Emma Dixon-Lack	EDL	Marine Management Organisation
Eamon Murphy	EM	Marine Scotland
Liza Cole	LC	National Trust for Scotland

Apologies:

Janet Khan-Marnie	JKM	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Georgia Conolly	GC	St Abbs & Eyemouth VMR
Andy Tharme	AT	Scottish Borders Council
Jill McCormick	JM	Environment Agency
Stuart Pudney	SP	Northumbria Water Ltd
Julie Brooker	JB	Environment Agency
Phil Brabbon	PB	North Sunderland Harbour Commissioners
Andrew Panter	AP	Scottish Natural Heritage
Chris Miles	CM	Scottish Natural Heritage
Thomas Arculus	TA	Trinity House
Ian Webster	IW	Northern Lighthouse Board
Duncan Wood	DW	Berwick Harbour Commissioners
Nick Yonge	NY	River Tweed Commissioners

Adam Ferguson	AF	Marine Management Organisation
John Aitchison	JA	Burnmouth Harbour
Leonard Crowe	LC	St Abbs Harbour Trust

1. Welcome & Introductions

The group members introduced themselves.

2. Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference was moved from item 4 to item 2 on the agenda and the Terms were ratified by the Management Group. JE then made reference within the Terms to Section 2 which outlines the process for nominating a new chair.

3. Election of EMS Chair

All Management Group members had received earlier correspondence regarding the nomination of TC to the position of chair and all supported his appointment. JE presented a speech reminiscing of his time as EMS Chair and was presented with a thank-you gift from CC on behalf of the Management Group. TC said a few words of introduction and continued to chair the proceedings.

4. Minutes of last meeting

CC explained the reason for the large amount of time since the last Management Group meeting; this was due to the lack of an EMS officer in post between the end of 2009-2010, and the amount of time needed by CC to catch up with the authorities and their actions within the management plan since starting in post last year. The previous minutes were accepted and no actions were carried forward.

5. EMS officer update

CC highlighted some of the main points from the update report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. SL referred to a project to look at data that already exists for the EMS. SL expressed the importance of communicating with the regional record centre at the Great North Museum to ensure that any data collected could be made available at a central point for future reference. CC confirmed that the deposition of data at the record centre would be a priority of any project of this nature.

SL asked whether there would be an EMS response to the proposed Marine Conservation Zones within an adjacent to the EMS. CC explained that a socio-economic impact assessment is currently being produced and that the most appropriate time to provide comments would likely be during the formal public consultation which is due to be published next summer. There was debate over the release data of the consultation. CC has since checked the timetable and the consultation is likely to be published in summer 2012. The current timescales are as follows:

August 2011	Final recommendations sent to Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP)
September 2011	SAP assess recommendations against ecological network guidance
January 2012	Natural England and JNCC provide their statutory advice to Government The regional projects also submit an impact assessment to Government
February 2012	Ministers consider the advice and impact assessment and decide which sites to take forward
Summer 2012	Public consultation
End 2012	Designation of MCZs

For more information please see: [MCZ Factsheet - Timing](#)

Action: CC to coordinate a joint EMS Management Group response to the formal MCZ consultation when it is published. Keep members up to date with timescales and any changes.

LC asked the group not to forget issues north of the border in the Scottish section of the site. CC expressed a wish to improve working relationships with the St Abbs and Eyemouth VMR and TC stated that he would like to come and spend some time getting to know the area and partners a little better.

Action: CC to arrange a day in St Abbs with LC, GC, TC, RK, also to seek interest from other partners, to explore opportunities for improved joint working.

6. Management Plan Progress Report

CC explained that the progress report has taken a long time to produce due to the high number of actions within the report. CC expects to circulate a first draft to the Management Group at the start of December. The group will be asked to provide feedback at the start of January and CC will publish the final report on the website and distribute it to wider stakeholders at the end of January. CC presented a summary table and chart to illustrate the progress towards the achievement of the plan to date.

Action: CC to complete first draft of report and circulate to Management Group members at start of December.

Action: All Management Group members to provide feedback to CC by 6th January 2012.

Action: CC to publish document and distribute to wider stakeholders at end of Jan 2012.

7. Finance

CC explained that funding still needs to be secured for 2012 and beyond. A three year funding agreement with Scottish Natural Heritage comes to an end in March 2012 but CC is in the process of applying for a continuation of funds. A four-year funding agreement with the Environment Agency also comes to an end in March 2012 and CC is working with the agency to look at future opportunities. CC has gone through past records to see who has contributed towards the EMS Project in the past and will be sending out funding request letters before Christmas to each authority.

CB reinforced the value for money of supporting the EMS Project and the role of an officer, stating that it was a very cost effective and efficient way for authorities to discharge their legal duties under the EU Habitats Directive and UK Habitat Regulations.

LC asked whether SEPA was in a position to contribute to the project. CC explained that SEPA has been unable to contribute over the past few years but that a request would still be made for 2012 and beyond. SL expressed some concern that the officer spends a lot of time securing funding, time which could be better spent on other projects if the funds could be secured over a longer term.

NW stated that although the Marine Management Organisation is not in a position to fund the project at present, the organisation is very keen to work with CC and fully supports the role and framework in place for managing the site. NW referred to the forthcoming Defra review which will look at the effectiveness of EMS management and believes that the work will help to raise the profile of EMS. The review should seek the opinions of the competent and relevant authorities and the report is due to be published next summer.

Action: CC to raise the funds required to support the EMS project.

Action: CC to keep the Management Group up to date on the progress of raising funds.

Action: CC to speak with NW about the possibility of a MMO statement of support to accompany funding request letters.

8. AOB

No AOB reported.

9. Date of Next Meeting

CC asked the group if they were happy to continue to meet once a year. It was agreed that CC should continue to send the e-newsletter as well as the minutes of the Steering Group meetings to Management Group members. The group will continue to meet once a year. CC will liaise with TC and will circulate a suggested date before Christmas.

Many thanks to JE for his time and support in chairing the EMS for the past 4 years.

Table of Actions

Actions	Who
Coordinate a joint EMS Management Group response to the formal MCZ consultation when it is published. Keep members up to date with timescales and any changes.	CC
Arrange a day in St Abbs with LC, GC, TC, RK, also to seek interest from other partners, to explore opportunities for improved joint working.	CC
Complete first draft of report and circulate to Management Group members at start of December.	CC
Management Group members to provide feedback to CC by 6 th January 2012.	All
Publish document and distribute to wider stakeholders at end of Jan 2012.	CC
Raise the funds required to support the EMS project.	CC
Keep the Management Group up to date on the progress of raising funds.	CC
Speak with NW about the possibility of a MMO statement of support to accompany funding request letters.	CC NW