

***Wales Coastal Ecosystem Group – draft notes of third meeting, 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2010, CCW Aberystwyth***

***Present:*** Peter Rhind Chair of CEG (CCW), Sean McHugh (WBP), Kate Collins (EAW), Quentin Grimley (CCW), Richard Ellis (NT), Mike Bailey (CCW), Steve Moon (Bridgend CBC), Chris Wynne North Wales Wildlife Trust –WTW), Mike Howe (CCW); Matty Murphy (CCW); Mark Winder (City and County of Swansea); Steve Chambers (WAG)

***Apologies:*** Alec Taylor (CCW), Nicola Rimington (CCW); Kerry Seaton (CCW); Sarah Perry (Wildlife Trusts Wales)

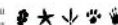
**Actions points from meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2010.**

<b><i>Action / discussion point</i></b>	<b><i>Discussion</i></b>	<b><i>Immediate action</i></b>	<b><i>Additional notes</i></b>
<b><i>1. Introductions</i></b>			
	Peter Rhind gave a brief summary of the ecosystem chairs meeting. Good coverage of species in the CEG. CEG offered grant from WAG –no takers? Sean M mentioned the grant went to Kenfig for dune slack work	1) Action Sean M to clarify CEG grant award.	Link to chairs meeting notes: <a href="http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/bap_in_wales-27.aspx">http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/bap_in_wales-27.aspx</a> (scroll down to Policy section)
<b><i>2. Minute of last meeting</i></b>			
	SMPs. Kerry Seaton sent an update on SMP progress in Wales. Peter Jones (WAG) has offered to assist in SMP plans	2) Peter Rhind to contact Peter Jones re: SMP 3) Sean M to circulate SMP notes from Kerry	
	Peter Rhind has contacted Chris Tucker (Forestry Commission) about issue of forestry on sand dunes e.g Newborough, Pembro, Morfah Harlech. FCW will issue policy position re: forestry stance on sand dunes	4) Peter Rhind contact Christ Tucker for FCW policy position re: forestry on sand dunes & circulate to the group	
	Broad description of coastal habitat discussed but the group felt it was not a priority to produce. Coastal habitat management guidance was recognised as useful.	5) Peter Rhind to source description of Atlantic Dune habitat 6) Peter Rhind to produce coastal habitat guidance	Link to WBP coastal EG resource page: <a href="http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/bap_in_wales-27.aspx">http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/bap_in_wales-27.aspx</a> (scroll down to coastal section)



	<p>Atlantic dune woodland (ADW). Potential sites discussed, group agreed that site would be better placed on site where habitat previously existed &amp; a definition of the features of ADW where required.</p> <p>Noted that LBAPs have access to specialist habitat guidance as &amp; when required.</p> <p>Saltmarsh target is with Marine EG. Need to clarify who owns the actions for this habitat.</p> <p>Non-statutory sites monitoring seen as important to compliment the work of the O21 Actions database work on statutory sites. SINCS can feed into the process also.</p> <p>Sand Dune draft plan is available in Coastal EG resources page</p>	<p>7) Peter Rhind to liaise with Marine EG to clarify role of coastal EG in saltmarsh actions.</p> <p>8) Peter Rhind to talk to Peter Guest re: Non-statutory sites monitoring</p> <p>9)CCW monitoring on Dee ?</p> <p>10)Chris Wynne to investigate coastal SINCS GIS layer.</p>	
	<p>National Trust - BARS progress requires clarification.</p>	<p>11) Sean M to liaise with WBP BARS technical officer for update on NT</p>	
	<p>EAW completed North Wales Salt Marsh project &amp; draft report will be published soon. Kate Collins is unable to circulate report due to landowner confidentiality issues. 6 priority areas recognised &amp; projects funds are available. In South Wales, a saltmarsh opportunity GIS layer has been drawn up &amp; an infrastructure layer</p>	<p>12) Kate will investigate if there is any scope for releasing a subset of the data without breaching confidentiality issues</p>	

	is in progress.		
	WTW BARS audit of sites is now complete;	13) Chris Wynne will circulate WTW BARS audit to CEG	
<b>3. CEG Action plan spreadsheet</b>			
<p>The CEG discussed each of the actions processed &amp; suggested priorities.</p> <p><b>Note: the CEG Action plan needs to be submitted to WBP in March</b></p>	<p>The actions spreadsheet function is to prioritise actions and suggesting actions/areas of habitat that and BAP partners including LBAPs could focus on.</p> <p>Opportunity maps (for restoration/expansion) would be particularly useful. GIS layers from CCW and partner organisation would assist in pulling this information together. SMP habitat maps can also be utilised.</p> <p>URBAIN – experimental trials to enhance habitats on coastal workings.</p> <p>Funding recognised as a major issue, Life + needs grant funding which is difficult to find. Cardigan Bay SMP2 has included Newgale Beach alignment in early scoping exercise &amp; will be considered in draft SMP 2 policy. Removal of roads from SACs. E.g. B4319 re-routed from Pembrokeshire dune system at Freshwater West/Castlemartin Corse is to be</p>	<p>14) Sean M to circulate the draft plan for CEG members to comment/add actions &amp; priorities</p> <p>15) Mike Howe to compile GIS coastal layers &amp; carry out a preliminary gap analysis. (Rhian Lewis is the NT contact for land holdings</p> <p>16) All-review high level coastal projects/opportunities and send to Peter Rhind for collation</p> <p>17) Kerry Seaton to provide summary of URBAIN project to the CEG</p>	



	considered in Sw&CB SMP2 in the draft policies, & a possibility of inclusion in a Life+ bid		
<b>4. Coastal Policy Actions</b>			
<b>Note: the deadline for submitting policy actions from CEG is May.</b>	<p>Alec Taylor has circulated legislation affection coastal habitats &amp; the CEG were grateful for this work.</p> <p>SMP's will feature in this &amp; CEG members have been involved in SMP process. Noted that knowledge from the wider public relating to SMP was limited</p> <p>SMP: Covered in item 2</p> <p>Glastir: Draft prescriptions submitted to WAG</p> <p>Coastal Access: Quentin updated the group on progress. Deadline for Wales's coast path route in the One Wales manifesto is 2012. Linear path utilising existing ROW rather than broader path option adopted in England. Local authorities given grant award to create path. CCW access section working with various sectors including conservation sector to reach a balanced decision. Appropriate assessment work around Severn, Dee and Dovey Estuaries so coast path may go in land here.</p> <p>Coastal access funds are not</p>	<p>18) Alec Taylor to produce draft CEG policy actions based on the policy template and to circulate.</p> <p>19) Sean M to circulate Grassland policy actions submitted to WBP</p> <p>20) All –review Marine &amp; Grassland policy issues &amp; feed back to Alec</p> <p>21) Peter Rhind will check if the status of the GlasTir submission &amp; update the group on progress.</p>	

	<p>directly applicable to benefit habitat but funds can be used for path diversion to protect habitat.</p> <p>CCW access team are available to answer queries &amp; concerns.</p>		
<b>5. Coastal Habitat Targets</b>	Covered in item 3		
<b>6. CEG Work Programme</b>			
	<p>The Coastal EG actions spreadsheet will outline the forward plan to drive coastal habitat action.</p> <p>Opportunity mapping and an inventory of potential projects will be critical to the work of the group.</p> <p>Notable projects mentioned at this meeting: WFD managed realignment opportunities in Wales; EA will appoint a staff member to take this forward. South Gower Coast initiative led by CCW (Emma Trainor is the contact) CEG should support this bid. Severn tidal energy scheme – bird mitigation report. EA saltmarsh projects &amp; Taff Estuary saltmarsh project. CCW sand dune mobilisation project.</p>	<p>22) Matty Murphy to circulate Severn tidal energy bird mitigation report</p>	<p>Link to managed realignment UK hub: <a href="http://www.abpmer.net/omreg/">http://www.abpmer.net/omreg/</a></p>
<b>7. Non-native &amp; invasive species</b>	CEG were invited to review and comment on the non-native	23) Sean M to re-circulate the spreadsheet to the group	

	spreadsheet circulated by Mike McCabe. It was noted that judging the impact of non-natives on conservation features was problematic		
<b>8. LBAP perspective</b>			
	Steve Moon updated the group on the Kenfig Dune slacks creation. LBAPS recognised as partnerships of individuals and organisations not just local authority		
<b>9. Next steps to promote coastal action</b>			
	Covered in item 6		
<b>10 AOB</b>			
	None to report		
<b>Date of next meeting – First week in Jul 2010 . Date to be confirmed.</b>			