



Meeting 3

JNCC-NGO Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies Group

12th September 2014

To find more about JNCC's OT and CD programme visit:
<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=4079>

COVER NOTE

Paper 4: Life Lionfish project update

Type of Paper: Information

This paper provides background and an update on the progress of the preparation of a European Life Lionfish project bid that focuses on the Caribbean region. JNCC is the lead partner/co-ordinating beneficiary for this project.

Caribbean Life Lionfish Project update

Life Plus background

- The Life Programme 2014-2020 was established by [regulation \(EU\) no 1293/2013](#)¹ of the European Parliament and of the Council on 11th December 2013.
- There is some provision in the regulation for the inclusion of Overseas Countries and Territories (Article 6)
- To date, interpretation of the implications of article 6 suggest that:
 - The applicant must be from a member state or an Outermost Region (doesn't cover UK Overseas Territories – UK OCTs)
 - The core activity of the project must be in a member state or outermost region. Any action in an Overseas Country or Territory (OCT) must enable conservation action in the Outermost Region/ Member State.
- The UK National Focal Point has run a series of activities to provide information and training for those interested/potentially interested in submitting Life projects². These activities have been extended to, and attended by UK OCTs.

Background to JNCC input into Life Lionfish project

Input into Life (in general)

- To date, JNCC has supported Defra in linking to and including OCTs in the UK Life process.
- JNCC was approached by the Overseas Countries and Territories Association (OCTA) to become the lead applicant in a proposed LifeLionfish project after La Martinique (the original applicant as named in the submitted concept note) stepped down as lead applicant (but remains committed to be a beneficiary).
- JNCC agreed in principle to play this role, and is currently working with OCTA and other partners to develop a Life project bid.

Input into Lionfish management in OCTs.

- Background to JNCC's work on lionfish is available online [here>>](#) Key highlights are:
 - **In 2010** JNCC has supported a number of lionfish initiatives in the Caribbean UKOTs. These include a public awareness and lionfish survey in Anguilla (2010); Lionfish control projects in the British Virgin Islands (2010) the Cayman Islands (2010) and the Turks and Caicos Islands (2010) - all reports on these projects are available on the individual territory pages.
 - **February 2013** JNCC co-ordinated a workshop entitled Identifying a Lionfish Response Strategy for the UK Overseas Territories of the Wider Caribbean Region held in Anguilla. A detailed report is available [here>>>](#).
 - **In July 2013**, a second follow up workshop was held in the Cayman Islands. This was a technical workshop that focussed on tools to

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R1293&from=EN>

² 21st March – Logframe training; 24th March Life information day (both held in London)

implement research priorities and control measures for Lionfish. A detailed report is available [here>>>](#)

UKOCTs

- o Bermuda Anguilla, BVI, Cayman and Montserrat have confirmed that they will be involved in the Life project. Annex 1 outlines the list of all partners.

The Caribbean Life Lionfish Project Aims and key result areas.

Overall objective	Biodiversity and ecosystem services (support to fish and tourism notably) of Caribbean and West Atlantic sea waters are conserved
Project purpose	Negative implications of invasive lionfish in the Caribbean and Macaronesian waters are sustainably mitigated

The key result areas of the project

Result 1	Lionfish densities are reduced in key vulnerable areas
Result 2	Introduction and invasion risk into new areas is reduced
Result 3	Economic sustainability of LF control is increased
Result 4	Monitoring, coordination and cooperation on LF are developed at regional level
Result 5	Societal, policy and regulatory support to LF control is increased

Next steps.

- JNCC is working with partners to prepare a funding bid. A grant-writer has been contracted to assist with this process.
- The 15th September has been set as a key milestone to decide whether the bid is ready to be submitted this year (October 2014) or will need to be delayed to 2015.

Annex 1: Life Lionfish Project partners

ref	Partner name	Country/OT	Contact
AB1ANGGOV	Department of Environment	Anguilla (UK)	Rhon Connor, Karim Hodge
AB3BDAIOS	Bermuda Institute of Ocean Science	Bermuda (UK)	Gretchen Goodbody
AB14BVIGOV	Ministry of Natural Resources and Labour	BVI (UK)	Ronald Smith-Berkeley; Joseph Abbott-Smith
AB4CAYCCMI	Central Caribbean Marine Institute	Cayman Islands (UK)	Carrie Manfrino & Kristi Foster
AB7CURGOV	Ministry of Health, Environment and Nature	Curacao (NL)	Faisal Dilrosun
AB8 GUARAC	SPAW - RAC (Regional Activity Centre)	Guadeloupe (OR-FR)	Helene Souan and Franck Gourdin
AB16UKPORT	University of Portsmouth - CEMARE	UK	Pierre Failler
AB9MARNBE	Observatoire du Milieu Marin Martiniquais	Martinique(OR-FR)	Jean-Philippe Maréchal
AB10MNTGOV	Ministry of Agriculture, Trade, Lands, Housing and the Environment	Montserrat (UK)	Alwyn Ponteen
AB11SABSCF	Saba Conservation Foundation	Saba (NL)	Kai Wulf
AB12STENP	St. Eustatius National Parks	St. Eustatius (NL)	Jessica Berkel
AB14STMNF	Nature Foundation St. Maarten	St. Maarten (NL)	Tadzio
CB01UKJNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee	UK	Tara Pelembe

JNCC/NGO Overseas Territories & Crown Dependencies Group
August 2014

AB15STLOECS		OECS Secretariat - St Lucia	Paula Hippolyte- Bauwens, Shanna Emmanual , Sarita Williams- Peter
-------------	--	--------------------------------	---