

Project Plan

Regional Delivery Plan (RDP) for Biodiversity in the South West

‘Securing biodiversity – A new framework for delivering priority habitats and species in England’

(<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/framework.aspx>) sets a new framework in place to enhance delivery of actions for priority habitats and species. A key part of this framework is the emphasis placed on local and regional delivery. Within this a key regional role is outlined as: ‘Develop a regional delivery plan for high priority actions with agreed accountabilities, ensuring that these plans are integrated as far as possible with those of the Biodiversity Integration Groups and the national Targeted Species Recovery process.’

The challenge for us is to develop a comprehensive, realistic and challenging Regional Delivery Plan that:

‘identifies spatially, key priority landscapes for successful delivery of integrated habitat and species targets by 2015, with organisations accountable for this delivery.’

This then will set out a c5 year work plan, that builds on past BioSW/LBAP activity, outlines and profiles the future challenge and delivery need and aligns this with and prioritises Nature Map as the main delivery ‘tool’.

There is a need to define how we will deliver national priorities within the region, integrate with the BIGS and take account of and be sensitive to the past/current work of LBAPs whilst working to integrate their work better with regional delivery needs and promote more effective delivery.

Key to its success will be open and transparent discussion across the whole partnership. We will need to develop a common understanding of our aim, and the steering group will need to be advocates within their own organisations and for BioSW. There will be a particularly role for the statutory partners to link in with the role being taken by these nationally.

The plan would need to reflect regionally priorities – our 45 priority habitats and prioritised spatial delivery of these regionally, Nature Map and climate change, GI and planning. All regionally, and local partners would need input into this piece of work and a ownership/stake in the outputs. We will also need to be mindful of our national responsibilities. The table below outlines the main activities/milestones for this project.

Phase	Project	Due Date	Who?
Phase 1 – Evidence Gathering	Contractor to collate evidence about current BAP delivery (delivered in last two years) and committed/planned delivery. This will be mapped spatially and analysed against 44 Priority BAP habitats in region, our regional targets and Nature Map. Priority will be given to landscape scale projects and organisations noted where appropriate. Gap analysis will be completed.	End of August (contract now let)	Contractors – LUC BioSW support – primarily Steering Group to advocate within own organisations and wider partnership to provide data.
Phase 1- Inception event	Regional event to explore RDP with partnership to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outline RDP concept; - Discuss challenges/opportunities presented by RDP; - Test & develop project plan & generate buy-in - Chance to meet contractors undertaking Phase 1 – Evidence Gathering and outline data request. - Sign off ‘inception’ with clarity about next steps 	June 25 th	BioSW Co-ordinator and Steering Group.
Phase 2 – Scope Plan	Scope modules for Delivery Plan – aim to identify a maximum of ten modules. Begin to draft priorities statement as one of the modules.	End of August.	BioSW Co-ordinator and Steering Group initially
Phase 3 – draft Delivery Plan	Draft RDP. This to include liaison with BIGS, data and gap analysis from phase 1, match with Nature Map and setting spatial and organisational targets. This will need negotiation and potentially an offering up process from LBAPs and delivery org’s based on analysis of findings of phase 1	End Of October	B BioSW Co-ordinator and Steering Group initially and consultation with LBAPs and delivery organisations.
Phase 4 - consult and get sign-off to final version	Identify and implement an intensive process to share the draft, attract improving inputs, and get sign off from the partnership.	End of November	
Phase 5- completion	Complete Delivery Plan	End of December	BioSW Steering group to sign off
Phase 6 - Launch	Launch Delivery plan and ‘public’ event to get sign up from originations to deliver to meet accountability element and to highlight what we hope to achieve – press? This will tie in nicely with International Year of Biodiversity and debate that is bound to happen around the 2010 targets and future.	End of January 2010	Up to 2015
Phase 7 – Monitor deliver	There will be an ongoing need to monitoring delivery of the plan, take advantage of any new opportunities, identify and remove blockages and work with LBAPs/delivery org’s to ensure all on track for delivery by 2015.	Ongoing to 2015	BioSW