# Seagrass Restoration in North Wales

# ToR: Develop a Project Activity Plan for NLHF funding opportunity

1st November 2021

**BACKGROUND**

For the last 2 years WWF UK has been working in partnership with Swansea University and Project Seagrass to demonstrate the feasibility and create a blueprint for large scale seagrass restoration in the UK to support ocean recovery and restore vital ecosystem services provided by healthy seagrass meadows, services that have diminished with the loss of up to 92% of the UK‘s seagrass over the last century. Our aim is to provide a blueprint for both the physical restoration process, as well as community and stakeholder involvement in the design, implementation and management of seagrass restoration projects. In turn, we believe this will help inform approaches of other coastal habitat restoration projects.

To date the partnership, Seagrass Ocean Rescue, has planted over a million seeds in Dale, Pembrokeshire, in what was the UK’s first large scale seagrass restoration trial, with the objective of restoring 2 hectares of seagrass in the locality. The Dale community and local stakeholders participated in the design of the project, and along with local schools helped with the physical restoration work. The Dale community continue to be involved in seagrass management through a seagrass stakeholder group.

The next phase for the partnership is to scale up seagrass restoration at new sites, building on the lessons learned in Dale, improving the restoration model, as well as building further public awareness as to the importance of seagrass restoration and other nature based solutions to addressing the climate and nature crisis. Our partners at Swansea University identified that the north of Wales, in particular the Anglesey and Pen Llyn areas, could be suitable for seagrass restoration and so the partnership has begun exploring the potential of doing a restoration project there. The aim is to build on existing seagrass conservation work already being done in the area, for example the work of Pen Llyn a’r Sarnau (PLAS) SAC at Porthdinllaen, as well as other related coastal conservation and awareness work being done/planned by other agencies e.g. the North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT). Both NWWT and PLAS SAC are local partners to this project.

The project ambition is to restore 10has of seagrass in North Wales. The project has just entered a development phase (until end June 2022), during which time the project will undertake various habitat suitability evaluations, stakeholder scoping and engagement planning, and early stakeholder engagement to identify any local support for restoration and collaboration in project design. If the development phase is successful and suitable sites with stakeholder support are identified, then the project will aim to restore 10has over 4 years in North Wales.

The intention of this contract is to engage a local contractor based in North Wales to work with the project partners to develop a detailed Project Activity plan, meeting NLHF funding specifications, mapping the restoration and engagement work required to deliver 10ha of restored seagrass by 2025.

**REQUIREMENTS**

WWF requires the expertise of a contractor to help develop a Project Engagement Activity Plan. The Contractor should have extensive experience working with Pen Llyn and Anglesey coastal stakeholders in marine natural resource management. The contractor should have extensive experience in stakeholder scoping, engagement planning, project design and planning and preferably in NLHF funding applications. The Activity Plan will focus on the engagement component of the Project and must meet NLHF funding requirements as described in depth here: <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/good-practice-guidance/activity-plan-guidance>

The contractor will be expected to work closely with WWF, Swansea University, Project Seagrass, PLAS SAC and NWWT to incorporate work to date on stakeholder mapping and initial engagement into project planning and develop a coherent agreed plan for the Project.

**SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES:**

The Contractor will work with the project partners to write a project engagement activity plan, the work will include the following three key tasks:

Task 1: Assessment of current situation

Including: assessment of skills and resources of project partners to deliver the plan; review of existing stakeholder and community mapping work and information already available on user groups’ interaction with local coastal habitats and seagrass; identify groups having minimal engagement with seagrass and the barriers to this.

Task 2: Determine Project engagement activities

Identify project audiences; the activities needed to reach these audiences based on the established project outcomes; resources required and costs; monitoring criteria; and long term sustainability considerations of project.

Task 3: Action planning

Develop and write a detailed project engagement action plan. This should include: planned activities in detail; target audiences; project outcomes and measurements; resources needed; costs; timetable; and monitoring plan.

The Contractor will be expected to gather the information and write the Activity plan to NLHF standards with Project Partner input. For more details on expected Activity Plan process and content please see: <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/good-practice-guidance/activity-plan-guidance>

**Expected Deliverables:**

1. Brief report assessing the current situation (Task 1) and identifying key audiences for project to engage in order to meet project expected outcomes
2. Draft strategy (Task 2) identifying costed project activities needed to deliver project outcomes to target audiences. Include draft monitoring plan.
3. Completed detailed project engagement activity plan to NLHF standards (Task 3)

**Timeframes**

The contract duration will be from 1 December 2021 to 31st May 2022. Preferred timeframe for work delivery(some flexibility is possible)

* Delivery of Task 1 – 31st January 2022
* Delivery of Task 2 – 1st April 2022
* Delivery of Task 3 – 31st May 2022

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

The successful consultant will be issued with a contract and/or purchase order through WWF’s Panda Purchasing system.

Delivery of Task 1 - 30%

Delivery of Task 2 - 30%

Delivery of task 3 - 40%

Payments will be made to the contractor after delivery of agreed key milestones.

**Contracting process**

Please provide a detailed written quote for the work described above by **29th November 2021.** Please include information on your experience to deliver the work.

The quote should include any expected travel costs. The contractor will be expected to provide all their own office and communication facilities.

Please contact us if you require clarification or would like to discuss potential solutions in advance of the above deadline.

Please email your response to rzanre@wwf.org.uk & sclement@wwf.org.uk