

**WWF-UK**

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Seagrass Restoration in North Wales

ToR: Stakeholder scoping and engagement planning

20 April 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. We hope to provide a blueprint not just for the physical restoration process, but also for community and stakeholder involvement in the design, implementation and management of seagrass restoration projects, which we believe will also help inform other coastal habitat restoration projects.

To date the partnership, Seagrass Ocean Rescue, have just finished planting 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 lesson learned at the first trial 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 eg. 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 Wales to work with the project partners supporting project development phase stakeholder scoping, planning and early engagement work.

REQUIREMENTS

WWF requires the expertise of a contractor, ideally with experience working with Pen Llyn and Anglesey coastal stakeholders in natural resource management. Experience working in seagrass conservation or coastal restoration is desirable but not essential. The contractor should have extensive experience in stakeholder scoping, engagement planning, awareness raising, running community engagement activities and facilitating engagement work that provides input into project design. The contractor will be expected to lead the piloting of a community seagrass awareness camp and family activity weekend (with seagrass technical support from the project partners). The information gathered will be used to inform the development of a stakeholder engagement strategy.

The contractor will be expected to work closely with WWF, Swansea University, Project Seagrass, PLAS SAC and NWWT to incorporate their existing understanding of stakeholder networks.

It is essential that the contractor is Welsh language speaking.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES:

The work will include the following 6 key tasks:

1. Assist the Project in understanding key marine and coastal stakeholders in the Pen Llyn and Anglesey areas.
2. Assist the Project in determining potential threats and opportunities for seagrass restoration.
3. Help facilitate early engagement with key stakeholders, including dealing with information requests in the Welsh language.
4. Provide input into the development of a stakeholder engagement strategy and plan for the project.
5. Organise and run a 5 day community awareness and activity camp related to seagrass conservation and restoration
6. Organise and run a family weekend awareness and activity event related to seagrass conservation and restoration

Task 1:

Provide input into stakeholder mapping by helping to identify key marine and coastal stakeholders in the Anglesey & Pen Llyn area. Advise on power/influence mapping of identified stakeholders. Identify any information gaps on relevant local stakeholders.

Task 2:

Determine potential threats and opportunities to achieving the seagrass restoration goal based on experience working in the area and from any existing reviews, reports, studies on stakeholder engagement in the area. This will include past and on-going projects; recommendations resulting from those studies; information on attitudes, knowledge and perceptions; and occasions when people in Anglesey & Pen Llyn have made significant contributions to marine management.

Task 3:

Work with project partners to facilitate early engagement with local stakeholders with the aim of socialising the seagrass restoration work and seeking early input into project design. Provide a communication contact point for Welsh language enquiries to the project.

Task 4:

Drawing on the results from the above tasks help the Project partners develop a stakeholder engagement strategy and plan to help achieve the seagrass restoration goal.

Task 5:

Organise and run a 5-day residential summer seagrass awareness and activity camp targeting young people of secondary school age, with technical input on camp programme provided by the Project partners. The camp will be a trial camp to test camp structure, educational materials and activities with a view to replicating the camp as an awareness and engagement tool should a seagrass restoration project go ahead in the region in the future. The camp should be in the Anglesey/Pen Llyn area for up to 15 students from the North Wales region. The camp costs should include accommodation, food and transport. Project partners would provide the curricula, awareness materials and activities.

Task 6:

Organise and run a 2-day weekend (no stay overnight) activity workshop targeting local families, with technical input on workshop programme from the Project partners. The activity weekend will be a trial to test structure, educational materials and activities with a view to replicating the activity workshop as an awareness and engagement tool should a seagrass restoration project go ahead in the region in the future. The workshop should be in the Anglesey/Pen Llyn area for up to 15 people from the North Wales region. The workshop costs should include food. Project partners would provide the curricula, awareness materials and activities.

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES:

1. Stakeholder list in the target region (respecting GDPR) with a measure of stakeholder power/influence.
2. Brief report on potential threats and opportunities to achieving the seagrass restoration goal in the target region.
3. Meetings arranged and facilitated with key stakeholders and enquiries responded to.
4. Stakeholder engagement strategy and plan (as a contributor to) for the Project
5. Trial summer camp run in September
6. Trial family weekend workshop run in July/August

TIMEFRAMES

The contract duration will be from 15 May 2021 to 30 June 2022. Preferred timeframe for work delivery (some flexibility is possible)

- Successful contractor appointed & start – May 15th
- Delivery of Task 1 – 30th June 2021
- Delivery of Task 2 – 1st December 2021
- Delivery of Task 3 – Throughout contract period
- Delivery of Task 4 – 1st April 2022
- Delivery of Task 5 – 30th September 2021
- Delivery of Task 6 – 1st September 2021

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

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

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

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Please provide a written quote and written method statement for the work described above by 7th May 2021. Please also detail your relevant experience.

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

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