



**SOLENT FORUM RECREATION SUBGROUP MEETING**  
**New Forest National Park Authority**  
**Lymington**  
**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at 10.00 am**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Please see paper 1 for attendees**

1. **Welcome & introduction** – Chairman Paul Rivington
2. **Actions from last meeting**

All actioned.

3. **Coastal Access and Improvements Project (TBC)**

Petronella Natrass provided a presentation on Improving Access to the Hampshire Coast. See copy of presentation on Solent Forum website  
[http://www.solentforum.org/forum/sub\\_groups/Recreation\\_Group/](http://www.solentforum.org/forum/sub_groups/Recreation_Group/)

Questions/comments from the group included:

Kate Moore asked if HCC were planning to conduct any work on access to the water itself. PN answered that HCC had aspirations to do this but have no immediate plans to do so. The group discussion showed a real need for a Solent wide understanding of the access points from land to sea and associated parking, showing the type and quality of access, especially for light craft access – at present the maintenance of access points is fragmented by individual Local Authorities. There is a need for a strategic overview as the land based access often dictates the extent of the activity offshore. Sensible planning could ensure access to the water at points beneficial to the activity participants, car parking (for up to 2 weeks)/facilities available and suitable offshore areas for the activity itself. The RYA has just done a study between Selsey and Christchurch to look at access provision.

*Action: KMc to ask KM for a copy of the Solent Water access study and share this with HCC and Solent Local Authorities*

DE asked if PN had linked the project with PUSH and GI work, and PN stated that the work had been well joined up with this through strategic work that Jo Hale is working on.

The group reminded KMc to send out the first phase of the Solent Disturbance Project to the group.

*Action: KMc to send out phase 1 of Solent Disturbance Project to group*

4. **Group Accounts** –Report on finances (Paper 2 - Finances)

KM presented the Solent Forum Accounts - see Paper 2.

5. **Work programme** – (Paper 3)

KM presented progress against the Recreation Group work programme – see paper 3.

6. **Recreation Audit Project** – Project Progress

Rob Burton and Kevin Thatcher from SSU presented the draft results of the Phase 1 Recreation Audit and a methodology for the Phase 2 Audit. A copy of the presentation can be found on the Solent Forum website.

[http://www.solentforum.org/forum/sub\\_groups/Recreation\\_Group/](http://www.solentforum.org/forum/sub_groups/Recreation_Group/)

Questions/comments from the group were collated by SSU as part of the Recreation Audit Workshop. The final report is due at the end of the Autumn and it is hoped that this will incorporate many of the comments.

A summary of a few concerns about the proposed methodology for the phase 2 audit include: The recommended audit form (census) could include a question on how many days/per year boat used; concern from PR that much of the information required from the census should have been collected in phase 1; need to include the New Forest area in the survey locations; need for research to be replicable for future years; planning survey days and possibility of bad weather – need to adapt at the last minute.

*Action: SSU to provide final report on phase 1 and detailed written methodology for phase 2*

7. **Phase 2 – Recreation Audit – How to fund**

AT asked when phase 2 of the research could begin (dependent on funding). RB stated that ideally it would start this year, so that plans can be made to collect data leading up to next summer. They estimated that the next phase will cost between £20 and £90k depending on the number of survey days. A minimum of 4 is recommended and up to 12 for more robust results.

The group also asked SSU to clarify how they have built up their costings as it would be hoped that there would be better economies of scale for a greater number of days.

*Action: SSU to be more clear and specific about costings for the next stage – may need to present 2 or three options. To make it clear how many locations/and where in each survey day(land and sea) and how many researchers required etc*

Suggestions of sources for further funding included: Lottery Funding Streams, CCPRE access to EU funding, Interreg funding, Research grants, MMO. The Solent Forum could also sell the resulting data to commercial organisations to re-coup some money.

*Action: RYA and Angling Trust gain information on potential EU funding streams*

*Action: KMc to contact all Recreation Group Members and ask them if they can fund phase 2. Also to contact Defra MMO Implementation Team and ask if they can fund.*

Balanced Seas may be a potential source of funding as they require much of the information that the phase 2 audit will generate to start planning MPAs. HT from Balanced Seas need to be sure that the phase 2 timetable fits in with the Balanced Seas project.

*Action: HT to discuss with project manager whether Balanced Seas can fund the next stage of the audit.*

RYA are assisting the Balanced Seas sister project (Finding Sanctuary) in the SW by providing volunteers to help audit recreational activity. It may be possible for RYA to do this in the Solent and this could be done via the phase 2 recreation audit as an in-kind contribution.

*Action: KM to consider RYA volunteers to help Balanced Seas and whether this could be done via the phase 2 audit.*

Many members of the Recreation Audit group have offered in-kind contributions to the phase 2 audit. These contributions could reduce SSU's daily project costs for land based and sea based surveys. Offers have been made from RHHS, NFNPA, QHM, Solent Forum and ABP. SSU to collate further in-kind contribution ideas.

*Action: SSU to include in-kind contributions to project and adjust project costs. Offers from QHM, ABP, NFNPA, RHHA. Many more ideas.*

Gemma Conway from the Solent Forum is currently working on the new State of the Solent Indicators. A set of these indicators include measurement of Recreational Activity. GC's time can be used to help phase 2 of the project.

*Action: KMc to put GC on contact with SSU team so that SOS Review can be tied up with the phase 2 audit*

## 8. **Any Other Business**

Parves Khan from Tourism SE explained a project that they are undertaking. This project is entitled: The significance of the Solent and Sailing to South Hampshire and the Isle of Wight's Visitor Economy.

### **RECREATION AUDIT WORKSHOP**

The audit workshop divided Recreation Group members into 2 groups to discuss the phase 1 work and potential contributions to phase 2. The findings of this workshop will be incorporated into the phase 1 final report and written methodology for phase 2.

**Date of Next Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2010**

## **Paper 1 - Membership**

Y = yes attending a = apologies

<b>Recreation Group Paying Members in bold</b>		
<b>Paul Rivington (PCC and Chairman)</b>	y	
<b>Andrew Bateman (HCC Tourism)</b>	y	
<b>Phil Halliwell (HCC Access)</b>		
<b>Petronella Natrass (HCC Coastal Access Improv. Project)</b>	y	
<b>David Evans (RHHA)</b>	y	
<b>Allison Thorpe (EA)</b>	y	
<b>Danny Lee</b>		
<b>Bob Russell (RYA Southern)</b>		
<b>Viv Rance (FBC)</b>	y	
<b>Saira Evans (NFNPA)</b>	y	
<b>Gerald Smart (SPS)</b>		
<b>Alan Inder (SPS)</b>	y	
Tony Williams (Angling Trust/Vectis Boating and Fishing Club)	y	
Kate Mills (Balanced Seas Project)	y	
Hannah Thomas (Balanced Seas Project)	y	
Roger Davies (QHM)	a	
Susie Tomson/Kate Moore (RYA HQ)	y	
Jenny Anderson (SSU)	y	
Rob Burton (SSU)	y	
Alan Scrase (SSU)		
Nicky Horter (CHC)		
Tim Goodhead (UoP)		
Kieran McEwan (UoP)		
Graham Horton (NE)	y	
Brian Clark (BMF HO)		
Debbie Burns (MDL/BMF South)		
Graham Rabbitts (BMF South)		
Sue Simmonite (ABP)		
Kathryn Hampson (W Sussex Council)		
Alison Hamer (HWTMA)		

Guests:

Parves Khan (Marine SE)  
Sarah Regan (Marine SE)  
Petronella Natrass (HCC)

[Kathy.moody@solent.ac.uk](mailto:Kathy.moody@solent.ac.uk)

### Paper 3 – Current Work Programme (Tracking)

This programme is a selection agreed from Paper 3 of Solent Forum Recreation Sub-group Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> October 2007, and subsequently amended on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

	<b>Projected Costs £</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<p><b>Recreation Audit Project</b></p> <p>This research is required to build on previous research. Need to agree the approach to craft count. This will show trends in the Solent</p>	<p>Phase 1 - £5500</p> <p>Phase 2 - unknown</p>	Current	<p>Project start-up meeting held October 2008.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress Meeting held 7/09</li> <li>• Final presentation due 30/9/09</li> <li>• Workshop due 30/9/09</li> </ul> <p>Phase 1 due for completion Autumn 2009.</p> <p><b>Key contact: Paul Rivington</b></p>
<p><b>Update Recreation Chapter in Solent Forum Strategic Guidance</b></p> <p>RYA were involved in original chapter</p>			<p>Will follow the above project</p> <p><b>Key contact: Solent Forum</b></p>
<p><b>Mapping/Profiling Users</b></p> <p>Including locals and visitors. In order to prepare for tourism markets, understanding economic impact.</p>	N/A	<p>March 2009</p> <p><b>COMPLETE</b></p>	<p>Andrew Bateman to send brochure to show how HCC promotes sustainable tourism, whilst understanding different types of tourism. Tourism essential for local economy. Impacts of different types of tourism understood and managed; if applicable some tourism not encouraged.</p> <p><b>Key contact: Andrew Bateman</b></p>
<p><b>Recreation Disturbance Project</b></p> <p>To describe the nature of shore-side recreational disturbance to designated habitats in the Solent. To evaluate significance and plan mitigation if necessary</p>	<p><b>Phase 1 – Desk research</b></p> <p>22,000</p> <p><b>Phase 2 – Primary Research</b></p> <p><b>Phase 3 - Evaluation</b></p>	<p>Oct 08 Complete</p> <p>2010</p> <p>2010</p>	<p>Project being managed by SF Nature Conservation Group. Phase 1 is complete.</p> <p>Phase 2 has commenced. Bird surveys are complete.</p> <p><b>Key contact: Rhian Edwards</b></p>