

From: Mcdonnell T (Tim) <Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot>

Sent: 09 October 2019 09:49

To: Mark Bilsby <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot; Palmer MR (Mike) <Mike.Palmer@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot;

Subject: AST Smolt Tracking

Mark,

Following our meeting on 26 April and subsequent telephone call please find a letter from Marine Scotland concerning the Year 2/3 funding position for the ground breaking West Coast smolt tracking project, possible industry contributions and a suggestion for future governance arrangements. I trust this provides the information you need to inform your Board meeting and reduce direct financial liability to the Trust.

I have copied [redacted] to facilitate discussions on we might assist in the receiver deployment phase. [redacted] is our Scientific Ship lead and can help factor in the deployment requirements of the project into our cruise programme.

Happy as always to discuss.

Kind regards

Tim

Tim McDonnell OBE
Head Marine Scotland Science
Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB
Telephone: 0131 244 8971



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Mark Bilsby
Chief Executive Officer
Atlantic Salmon Trust
Battleby House
Redgorton
Perth
PH1 3EW

Dear Mark,

9 October 2019

Partnership working between the Atlantic Salmon Trust and Marine Scotland Science

It was a pleasure to meet you and Robbie Douglas Miller in Pitlochry on 26 April. The partnership working between the Atlantic Salmon Trust and Marine Scotland Science is helping to protect and sustain Scotland's iconic wild salmon species.

I am delighted that Marine Scotland is enabling the ground-breaking smolt tracking project on the West Coast via £750k of 'Gove monies'. Our teams are working closely to scope the annual budget and project deliverables, including how MSS might help with the receiver deployment phase.

We spoke about the multi-year nature of the project. The project's scale and ambition is such that one year will not be sufficient to deliver the West Coast data that all stakeholders so desperately require for conservation and planning purposes. While I cannot yet promise Government funding for future years I can commit to considering the case for Year 2 funding in April/May 2020. I think it would be reasonable to assume that the Government would look favourably on supporting the AST to fund recovery of the Year 1 capital assets and begin the analytical phase in FY 2020/21. A planning assumption of £500k of expenditure in Year 2 seems broadly sensible. However, I must stress that expenditure for Year 2 that relies on Government funding should not be committed in advance of funding surety. It is also the case that the Government would intend to run a competitive bidding scheme for Year 2 of the 'Gove' monies so this project would need to compete with other priorities. I suggest the tracking and tagging elements that AST are content to fund independently via donor/industry contributions are prioritised and contracts that fall later in the financial year await a 'Gove monies' funding decision.

I am hopeful that matched industry funding via the SSPO will enable the project to deliver more in future years. We discussed industry funding in the order of hundreds of thousands of pounds per

annum. Such a commitment would be a powerful statement of industry support and could form part of the communications plan and announcement in due course.

We discussed the establishment of a formal governance Board to guide the delivery of the project. I suggest such a Board involve MSS, Marine Scotland colleagues, AST, SEPA and the aquaculture industry.

I am copying this letter to Dr John Armstrong and Mike Palmer, Head of ACRE.

Yours,

Tim

Tim McDonnell OBE
Head Marine Scotland Science

From: [redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: 10 October 2019 22:29
To: Mark Bilby <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot; McDonnell T (Tim) <Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot>
Subject: Re: MFFS

Hi Mark,
If there is a quirk in the form then I will trust that Mr [redacted] is content that the figures tally. Clearly it is not possible to use the sub totals to cross check.
Thanks again Mark and have a good holiday.
Best
[redacted]

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Mark Bilby <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>
Sent: 10 October 2019 22:07
To: [redacted]@gov.scot
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot; McDonnell T (Tim) <Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot>
Subject: Re: MFFS

Evening [redacted],

All being well there will not be a shortfall in the funding and it was a quirk in the form that [redacted] helped us with. The money from the aquaculture industry, if and when confirmed, should cover the shortfall. The noises from the industry have been positive so far and we should have a better idea when I meet them all tomorrow.

If you need clarification on any of the information then please let me know.

Kind regards

Mark

On 10 Oct 2019, at 21:22, [redacted]@gov.scot wrote:

Hi Mark,
Well...how few words are required for such a sum of money ! I have not worked through the finance items in detail- but just a query as to the discrepancy between the £803260 (sum of MFF and national funding) and £750000 to draw down. Is this a £53260 shortfall?
Thanks
[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: 10 October 2019 19:29
To: 'Mark Bilby' <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>; [redacted]@gov.scot;

Cc: Mcdonnell T (Tim) <Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: MFFS

Great- it didn't work through the gateway on our own Intranet but this oink is good.
[redacted]@gov.scot

From: Mark Billsby <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>
Sent: 10 October 2019 19:21
To: [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot;
Subject: Fwd: MFFS

Evening

This is the account set up by [redacted] that we have been using today. Login details and password below.

Mark

Begin forwarded message:

From: Atlantic Salmon Trust Administrator <[redacted] >
Date: 10 October 2019 at 11:40:20 BST
To: Mark Billsby <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>
Subject: **FW: MFFS**

<https://mffs.marinemanagement.org.uk/MFFS/Public/Home.aspx?ctxid=>

Username is : [redacted – out of scope]
Password is : [redacted – out of scope]

If you click on 'My Applications' and the 'Application' it will allow you to continue to complete the form. Some of the sections are showing as complete but they are not – its just because I have started and saved some information in those sections.

Thanks
[redacted]

Putting #WildSalmonFirst

<image001.png>

Putting #WildSalmonFirst

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Registered Charity No. England 252742 & Scotland SCO 37902

From: Mark Bilby <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>
Sent: 10 October 2019 16:21
To: [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot
Cc: alan@fms.scot; Mcdonnell T (Tim) <Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Budget

Hi [redacted],

The password is [redacted – out of scope]

Kind regards

Mark

From: [redacted]@gov.scot;
Sent: 10 October 2019 16:02
To: [redacted]@gov.scot; Mark Bilby <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>
Cc: alan@fms.scot; Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Budget

Hi Mark,

I'm due to leave now but can you double-check the password as it didn't work on the EMFF website. If it is different, please re-send to [redacted]; and I'll have a look early tomorrow.

Many thanks

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: 10 October 2019 15:37
To: Mark Bilby <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>; [redacted]@gov.scot;
Cc: Alan Wells <alan@fms.scot>; Mcdonnell T (Tim) <Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot>
Subject: Re: Budget

Dear Mark,

Well done on pulling this bid together in such short time. I will aim to run through it late evening and will email any issues I spot for you to pick up first thing tomorrow.

Best

[redacted]

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Mark Bilby
Sent: Thursday, 10 October 2019 15:19
To: [redacted]@gov.scot (MARLAB); [redacted]@gov.scot;
Subject: Budget

Dear [redacted] and [redacted],

Attached is a summary of the budget and three key bits of additional information below:

1. We will apply to the Gove Fund for £729,294 for expenditure incurred prior to March 31st 2020.
2. We will use the aquaculture donation to cover costs in the Phase 1 element post March 31st 2020
3. We will apply to the Gove fund for the retrieval costs in the next round. Tim McDonnell has provided us with a letter that gives sufficient reassurance to proceed. However we note that it is a risk to phase 1 if we can't recover the receivers!

If you would like to look at the application then please log on to the EMFF system using our login [redacted – out of scope], with the password [redacted – out of scope]. As we are the legal signatory to this please do not change anything but rather send me an email with any detailed changes.

Please note that we are currently struggling to get the figures to add up on the application and I will resolve this with [redacted] this afternoon.

I have also added the array map from [redacted] that was used to generate the costings.

My aim is to submit this at 9:00 am tomorrow morning as I will then be on leave.

Thank you for all your magnificent help with this and it looks like it will be a good project.

Kind regards

Mark



Mark Bilsby

Chief Executive Officer

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From: Palmer MR (Mike) <Mike.Palmer@gov.scot>
Sent: 13 August 2019 11:41
To: [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot
Subject: FW: DDs Funding Discussion

[redacted]
[redacted]

As mentioned at Team Leads this morning, see attached proposals from MSS for spending the £3m 'Gove' monies. A large chunk relate to salmon and freshwater fisheries.

Mike Palmer
Deputy Director for ACRE – Aquaculture, Crown Estate, Recreational Fisheries, EMFF and Europe
marinescotland
Scottish Government | Area 1B-South | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

Tel: +44 (0)131 244 [redacted]
Mob:+44 (0)[redacted]

email: mike.palmer@gov.scot
w: <http://www.gov.scot/marinescotland>

From: Mcdonnell T (Tim) <Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot>
Sent: 12 August 2019 17:10
To: [redacted]@gov.scot
Cc: Palmer MR (Mike) <Mike.Palmer@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: DDs Funding Discussion

[redacted],

Please see 'Gove' suggestions from MSS.

Happy to discuss.

Tim

From: [redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: 05 August 2019 16:26
To: [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; Gray H (Helena) <Helena.Gray@gov.scot>; Mcdonnell T (Tim) <Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot>
Cc: Palmer MR (Mike) <Mike.Palmer@gov.scot>; Director of Marine Scotland Mailbox <Directormarinescotland@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot
Subject: DDs Funding Discussion

All

Understand there was a discussion at DD's this this morning regarding the additional cash from UKG. To clarify the situation, we have taken £3m of the allocation in 19/20, due to the short period left to commit and spend. [redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

Happy to discuss any potential project that can deliver and be fully spent by the end of March. It would also be useful if any multiyear projects could be highlighted however I am not yet clear how we will treat these prior to any outcomes from the SG or UK SR. I expect that once we understand the various proposal we will seek clearance through Ministers to proceed.

[redacted]
Head of Marine Grants Team
ACRE Division
Marine Scotland
Victoria Quay
Area 1B North
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

Phone: +44 (0)131 244 [redacted]
[redacted]@gov.scot

[redacted – out of scope]

2 Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries

2.1 Large-scale salmon smolt tracking (highest priority)

A large-scale salmon smolt tracking project in support of aquaculture planning. The project would be run through Fisheries Management Scotland. It would involve the Atlantic Salmon Trust moving their acoustic buoys to the west coast between mainland and Hebrides together with other strategic areas. Large numbers of salmon smolts would be tagged in six-ten rivers, perhaps 1-2000 fish. Data collected would be compared with modelled smolt movement trajectories (Ounsley et al., in press) and feed directly into aquaculture planning at this critical stage in the development of the industry as more offshore locations are sought. In view of decreasing numbers of salmon on the west coast, taking this opportunity to get on with the work before there indeed are insufficient fish is an appealing option. MSS would assist in deploying equipment. Costs probably in the **£0.5-1.0M** region this FY (to include administrative and finance resources in the 3rd sector). It would run for several years ideally, or could be a one-off.

The work for this project could be split between a number of west coast trusts, DSFBs, FMS, AST, Glasgow Uni and, maybe others, to get up to between 15 - 20 partner organisations, giving grant payments to each £50k to £67k each (if funding £1m) or half that (if funding £500k). Acoustic tags, for example, could be ordered by a partner by Autumn and delivered by end Jan for smolt tagging to be conducted over March. Receivers could be deployed in February.

[redacted – out of scope]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot

Sent: 06 August 2019 17:10

To: [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; Mcdonnell T (Tim) <Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot;

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot; Palmer MR (Mike) <Mike.Palmer@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: DDs Funding Discussion

Colleagues,

I have discussed with [redacted] and we suggest a large-scale salmon smolt tracking project in support of aquaculture planning. The project could be run through Fisheries Management Scotland. It would involve the Atlantic Salmon Trust moving their acoustic buoys to the west coast between mainland and Hebrides together with other strategic areas. Large numbers of salmon smolts would be tagged in six-ten rivers, perhaps 1-2000 fish. Data collected would be compared with modelled smolt movement trajectories (Ounsley et al., in press) and feed into aquaculture planning at this critical stage in the development of the industry as more offshore locations are sought. MSS might need to be involved in deploying equipment. Maybe there would also be benefits for Marine Renewable Energy planning? Costs probably in the £0.5-1.0M region. It could run for several years ideally, or be a one-off.

[redacted]