

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 April 2013 17:29  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Rats - Black Rats - LIFE summary - [REDACTED] Shiants proposal - Concept note - 040413  
**Attachments:** LIFE+ Concept Note [REDACTED] Island Restoration Project#2.doc

They are listed in the concept note – attached. Apologies, I had not seen this until today due to some sort of failure on my part to understand the new version of Outlook.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 April 2013 17:26  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: LIFE summary - [REDACTED] Shiants proposal

I'm sure you can sort out who does what. Where do you get the info that SNH are co-financing?

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 April 2013 17:15  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: LIFE summary [REDACTED] Shiants proposal

Do you mean [REDACTED] lead on the bird side and me lead on the rat side? SNH will have given this all some thought as they are the co-financier of the project – would it be simpler to choose one of us to lead and act as point of contact with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Wildlife and Protected Areas | Natural Resources Division | Directorate for Environment and Forestry  
The Scottish Government | 1-D North | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ | T: 0131 244 [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 April 2013 17:06  
**To:** [REDACTED] (even)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: LIFE summary [REDACTED] Shiants proposal

[REDACTED]

Please get comments from [REDACTED] on both the ornithological aspects and on the black rats' status as rare, but invasive non-native mammals.

Thoughts from [REDACTED] too please on petrels and shearwaters as qualifying features for SPA.

It's possible that support or otherwise for this bid may be a political rather than ecological decision – can't help thinking it would be better if RSPB were to kill brown rats on other islands first.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 April 2013 16:02

**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: LIFE summary - RSPB Shiant's proposal

For info, RSPB Shiant's LIFE proposal

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 April 2013 12:05  
**To:** EC LIFE+  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** LIFE summary - [REDACTED] Shiant's proposal

Dear ScotGov

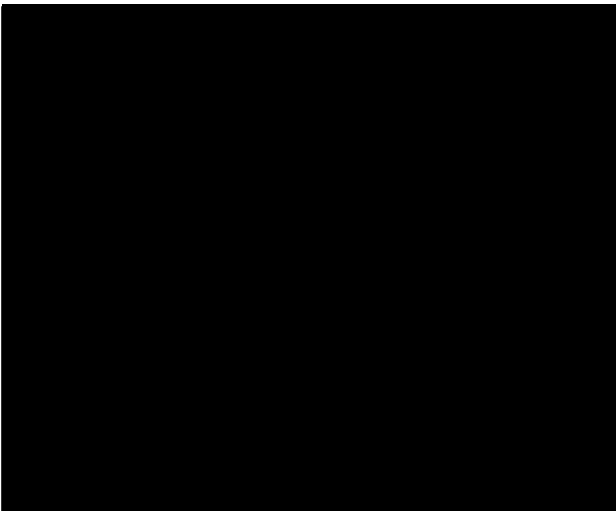
Please find attached Forms B1 and B2 for a LIFE+ Nature proposal centred on restoration of the Shiant Islands SPA. We hope that the concept meets with your approval, and look forward to receiving your Form A8 in due course.

SNH has already given us some useful comments on the concept – for which we are very grateful. Few of these comments are directly relevant to the attached summary, but we will (of course) take full account of them as we develop the rest of the proposal.

One element of the concept perhaps requires a little additional explanation. This is the proposal to actively promote (re-)colonisation of the Shiant's by storm petrels and Manx shearwaters. We are aware that this is likely to be funded by LIFE only if we provide an undertaking from yourselves to add these species to the list of qualifying features for the SPA if/when this becomes appropriate. We plan to discuss this with you over the next couple of months (i.e. before the final submission date of 25 June), but have included it in the concept for now – partly because we hope that you will feel able to provide such an undertaking, and partly because it accounts for only a tiny part of the project budget (just a few thousand Euros) so will not cause problems if it has to be taken out.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I am on leave next week but back from Monday 15 April.

Thanks and best wishes



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Scottish Natural Heritage  
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

All of nature for all of Scotland  
Nàdar air fad airson Alba air fad



## CONCEPT NOTE

### APPLICATIONS FOR LIFE+ NATURE & BIODIVERSITY IN SCOTLAND

You are advised to read all relevant guidance material that is provided at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/lifeplus.htm> before completing this form. Concept Notes for all projects that are proposed for submission in June 2013 **MUST** be completed and returned to Scottish Natural Heritage by **22nd February 2013**. Only those proposals approved by the Scottish Government can be submitted to the UK Authority, Defra through their consultants BETA technology, for onward submission to the European Commission.

Brief Project Title (50 characters)	Seabird Island Restoration and Protection
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Participant	Name
1. Co-ordinating beneficiary	[REDACTED]
2. Associated beneficiary	
3. Associated beneficiary	
4. Associated beneficiary	
5. Associated beneficiary	
6. Associated beneficiary	
7. Co-financier	[REDACTED]
8. Co-financier	
9. Co-financier	
10. Co-financier	

Project Title (100 characters)	Protecting and restoring the Shiant Isles SPA and safeguarding other seabird island SPAs in the UK
Main aim(s) of project (300 characters)	Remove invasive rats from the Shiant Isles SPA, improving breeding conditions for the seabird colony  Promote establishment of Manx shearwater and storm-petrel colonies on the Shiant Isles

	<p>Establish best practice for island biosecurity and implement programme of biosecurity training for island managers</p> <p>Use these actions to build UK-based expertise</p>
<p>Outline and quantify the 'concrete conservation actions' proposed (2000 characters)</p>	<p>1. Eradication of black rat on the Shiant Isles and intensive monitoring</p> <p>We propose to undertake a ground-based black rat eradication on the Shiant Isles Special Protection Area, improving the breeding success and increasing the population size of the Atlantic puffin colonies on the islands, with additional benefits expected for European shag and razorbills. This action will also improve breeding conditions for Manx shearwater and European storm petrel and will allow both species to colonise the SPA, addressing they key issue affecting their conservation status (breeding population constrained to small number of locations). To ensure invasive predators do not recolonise, appropriate biosecurity measures will be in put in place.</p> <p>This action will be undertaken by an experienced contractor following best practice established in other eradication projects, with assistance from project staff and volunteers.</p> <p>£405,739 (43% of total project costs)</p> <p>2. Set-up playback attraction systems for European storm-petrel and Manx shearwater</p> <p>Through dedicated call playback systems, we will attract Manx shearwater and European storm-petrel to the islands to breed.</p> <p>£3,508 (0.4% of total project costs)</p> <p>3. Implement programme of biosecurity training</p> <p>Biosecurity best practice guidelines for UK seabird islands will be developed during the course of the project, alongside a desk-based prioritisation exercise, identifying the most important seabird islands in the UK requiring robust biosecurity measures. A programme of practical biosecurity training, led by the project manager alongside other experts, will be initiated for island managers and conservation practitioners from across the country.</p> <p>£36,704 (4% of total project costs)</p>

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LIFE Nature bid*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LIFE Biodiversity bid*	<input type="checkbox"/>
Best practice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demonstration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for selecting strand chosen	LIFE+ Nature has been selected as a significant proportion of the work proposed is targeted at SPAs - particularly protecting and enhancing the Shiant Isles SPA. The biosecurity training will be targeted at SPAs for sensitive seabird species initially, but will be more broadly applicable and beneficial to all UK island ecosystems. .		

\* tick one box only

Expected start date	Expected end date	Duration (years/months)
01/06/2014	31/07/2017	4/0

## PROJECT COSTS

Exchange Rate used throughout	0.814
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European Central Bank website:

<http://www.ecb.int/stats/exchange/eurofxref/html/index.en.html>

Project Costs	£s	€s	% of total costs
Estimated total project cost	933729	1147087	
Estimated total eligible cost	933729	1147087	

Contributions	£s	€s	% total eligible costs
LIFE+ grant requested	466864	573544	50
1. Co-ordinating beneficiary	266864	327844	29
2. Associated beneficiary			
3. Associated beneficiary			
4. Associated beneficiary			
5. Associated beneficiary			
6. Associated beneficiary			
7. Co-financier	200,000	245700	21
8. Co-financier			

9. Co-financier			
10. Co-financier			

**CONTACT DETAILS**

Co-ordinating beneficiary		
Contact persons name		
Position		
Address		
Post Code		
Telephone		
e-mail		
Fax		
Mobile (if possible)		
Website		

<b>DECLARATION</b>	
Name of certifying officer (if different than above)	
Address	
Position in Organisation	
e-mail	
Date submitted	/ /

Please complete and return this form to [REDACTED].gov.uk

If you have any difficulties please email us at the above address

<b>FOR SNH USE ONLY</b>	
Date received	8 <sup>th</sup> February 2013
SNH contact for proposal	<span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span>
Comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Short Titles should indicate the location of the project.</li> <li>2. LIFE Nature projects must implement known, state of the art Best Practice.</li> <li>3. Care should therefore be taken regarding wording such as "developing best practice" within project actions.</li> <li>4. Project currently appears to have a high monitoring focus. Although some limited monitoring during a project is obligatory, must clearly be to assist with delivering the outputs and not seen as a recurring activity (which are Ineligible)</li> </ol>



	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Nature projects must target species and habitats covered by the designations.</li> <li>6. LIFE generally will only fund external assistance upto 35% anything above this has to be clearly justified.</li> <li>7. There are strict tendering rules within LIFE</li> <li>8. Dissemination of results is now an obligatory action particularly for demonstration projects.</li> <li>9. LIFE projects should offer additionality and be able to show EU added value</li> <li>10. Projects of this nature should clearly show long term sustainability.</li> </ol>
Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Add UK or similar to Title</li> <li>2. Ensure all actions are current Best Practice</li> <li>3. Re think wording so use “consolidating” rather than “developing”</li> <li>4. Project clearly needs to show that monitoring is to help deliver and to assess the projects success. See p25 of N&amp;B guidance</li> <li>5. See guidance on p32.</li> <li>6. Project needs to clearly show justification for high external assistance costs.</li> <li>7. Tendering rules must be complied with.</li> <li>8. Dissemination actions should be clearly laid out.</li> <li>9. Project needs to clearly show EU added value.</li> <li>10. Project will need to clearly show a robust afterlife plan.</li> </ol>
Date response returned to applicant	29 <sup>th</sup> February
Date SG advised of application	29 <sup>th</sup> February

