From: [Redacted - Personal Details] < [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Sent: 14 November 2019 14:22

To: [Redacted - Personal Details] < [Redacted - Personal Details] @gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Briefing - Cabinet Secretary Meeting with the [Redacted - out of scope]-13 November

2019

Thanks [Redacted - Personal Details]

[Redacted – Personal Details]| Wild Salmon and Recreational Fisheries | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay (Area GB North)| Edinburgh EH6 6QQ | Scotland | UK | ☎ 0044 300 244 [Redacted – Personal Details]

From: Palmer MR (Mike) < Mike.Palmer@gov.scot >

Sent: 14 November 2019 13:05

To: [Redacted - Personal Details] < [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted - Personal Details] < [Redacted - Personal Details] @gov.scot>; [Redacted -

Personal Details] < [Redacted - Personal Details] @gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]

<[Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]< [Redacted -

Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]< [Redacted - Personal

Details @gov.scot >; [Redacted - Personal Details] < [Redacted - Personal Details] @gov.scot >;

[Redacted - Personal Details] [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Briefing - Cabinet Secretary Meeting with the [Redacted - out of scope] -13

November 2019

Excellent. Many thanks [Redacted – Personal Details].

Mike

Sent with BlackBerry Work (www.blackberry.com)

From: [Redacted – Personal Details] < [Redacted – Personal Details] @gov.scot>

Date: Thursday, 14 Nov 2019, 12:37 pm

To: Palmer MR (Mike) < Mike. Palmer@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted – Personal Details] <[Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>, [Redacted – Personal Details] <[Redacted – Person

Details]@gov.scot>, [Redacted - Personal Details] < [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>,

[Redacted - Personal Details] < [Redacted - Personal Details] @gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Briefing - Cabinet Secretary Meeting with the [Redacted – out of scope]-13 November 2019

Mike

A quick note from home as I will not be in until Tuesday.

[Redacted one paragraph out of scope]

Generally amicable meeting. Mark Bilsby opened by showing their latest video telling what they have done on the [Redacted - out of scope]. I will mail Mark to get a copy for us, but CabSec [Redacted - out of scope] She was interested in the plans for the west coast and confirmed to them they were getting the £750k - no discussion of funding going forward (yet). [Redacted - internal communications]

[Redacted two paragraphs - out of scope]

[Redacted - Personal Details]

From: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot> On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for the

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

Sent: 13 November 2019 18:29

To: Palmer MR (Mike) < Mike. Palmer@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>;

Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform <CabSecECCLR@gov.scot>

Cc: Director of Marine Scotland Mailbox < <u>Directormarinescotland@gov.scot</u>>; [Redacted -

Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal

Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal

Details @gov.scot>; Communications Rural Economy & Environment

<CommunicationsRuralEconomy&Environment@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal

Details @gov.scot >; [Redacted - Personal Details @gov.scot >; [Redacted - Personal

Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Briefing - Cabinet Secretary Meeting with the [Redacted – out of scope]-13 November

2019

Mike

Ms Cunningham is content to approve both projects referenced at Annex B.

Please note that Cab Sec expressed her approval for the smolt project directly to the [Redacted – out of scope] and it was received positively. [Redacted – Personal Details] will be able to provide a full readout of the meeting if required.

Thanks.

[Redacted - Personal Details]

[Redacted - Personal Details]to Roseanna Cunningham MSP | Tel: 0131 244 [Redacted - Personal Details] | [Redacted - Personal Details]

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From: Palmer MR (Mike) < Mike.Palmer@gov.scot >

Sent: 08 November 2019 16:24

To: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate

Change and Land Reform < CabSecECCLR@gov.scot >

Cc: Director of Marine Scotland Mailbox < Directormarinescotland@gov.scot>; [Redacted -

Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal

Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal

Details @gov.scot>; Communications Rural Economy & Environment

<CommunicationsRuralEconomy&Environment@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal

Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal

Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Briefing - Cabinet Secretary Meeting with the [Redacted - out of scope] -13

November 2019

[Redacted - Personal Details]

I just wanted to make you aware that while most of this briefing is for a meeting where Cab Sec will be largely in a listening role there is one important section of it which seeks her approval for funding of a couple of wild fisheries (at Annex B), one of which will feature in the meeting. If she is content to approve she can then confirm the funding for the smolt tracking project at the meeting, whuich will help it go positively.

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 0367 Mob:+44 (0)7788 564830

email: mike.palmer@gov.scot

w: http://www.gov.scot/marinescotland

From: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Sent: 08 November 2019 15:05

To: Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

<CabSecECCLR@gov.scot>

Cc: Director of Marine Scotland Mailbox < Directormarinescotland@gov.scot >; Palmer MR (Mike)

< <u>Mike.Palmer@gov.scot</u>>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal

Details | @gov.scot>; | Redacted - Personal Details | @gov.scot>; | Redacted - Personal

Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; Communications Rural Economy

& Environment < CommunicationsRuralEconomy&Environment@gov.scot >; [Redacted - Personal

Details @gov.scot >; [Redacted - Personal Details @gov.scot >; [Redacted - Personal Details]

Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Subject: Briefing - Cabinet Secretary Meeting with the [Redacted - out of scope]-13 November

2019

Dear Private Office,

Please find attached Briefing ahead of next Wednesday's meeting with Ms. Cunningham and the [Redacted – Out of Scope]
Best Regards,

[Redacted - Personal Details].

[Redacted - Personal Details]

[Redacted - Personal Details]

Scottish Government.
Area G-B North, Victoria Quay, EH6 6QQ.
Telephone:0131 244 [Redacted – Personal Details]
[Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot

From: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Sent: 11 February 2020 16:53

To: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; Mcdonnell T (Tim) <Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot> Cc: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: West Coast smolt tracking

Hi [Redacted - Personal Details],

Thanks for your note.

Regarding the first point, I recognise that the cruise timings were made available early. Initially AST thought that they could not manage those timings due to delivery date for equipment and need to prepare moorings. Hence, [Redacted – Personal Details] looked at options for charters. Then when prompted by [Redacted – Personal Details], and because equipment was delivered early, AST did plan to use the Scotia slot (and it was this late arrangement that has led to deficits in detailed plans). Then they decided to use a Mowi vessel instead to secure better deployment times (to reduce risk of equipment loss).

I will discuss general details further with you when in Aberdeen to understand more fully whether or not we need staff trained to deploy kit and how costs are budgeted. No doubt [Redacted – Personal Details] will consider operations options more generally in his review.

Please do retain the Scotia deployment time in the schedule. It is too early to finalise what resources will be required as the West Coast Tracking project develops.

[Redacted - Personal Details]

From: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Sent: 05 February 2020 18:59

To: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; Mcdonnell T (Tim) < Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot> Cc: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Subject: FW: West Coast smolt tracking

Importance: High

[Redacted - Personal Details],

Please note that correspondence relating to the AST mooring deployment, confirming the operational MSS window from MRV Scotia did **not change** since my initial notification e-mail to you of **22 November 2019** which gave a **three** month window to facilitate the equipment delivery (all

correspondence can be forwarded). This has always been given as the **only** opportunity to deploy the equipment other than from a charter. Follow up e-mails were forwarded on 16 January 2020 to clarify that this deployment was still required......and confirmed by 21 January for inclusion in the vessel programme.

The DCF survey I earmarked for the deployment has two additional days (including contingency) for time allocated to service six COMPASS moorings, allowing a sufficient 12hr window to deploy all 70 moorings. The mooring deployment had been discussed **and planned** in November 2019 with the SIC for the survey and the vessel, but I only awaited the confirmation from **FL** (as the AST **west coast** contact) that the service was required and equipment available. Follow up e-mails sent to [Redacted – Personal Details] on 16 January confirmed that the moorings could be deployed and would be ready in time, but only facilitated after [Redacted – Personal Details] contacted AST directly. Information was given in January that AST would prefer to use Mowi rather than Scotia.....this could not be facilitated by MS without an open tender for which other bidders would be available.

The deployment of the moorings would have been undertaken by the crew, with oversight and setup from the scientific complement.

Scotia's multidisciplinary (24hr) survey operations always require staff to be adaptable and responsive to wider requirements, and maximise the utilisation of the vessel, data collection and daily staff time, but working together as a team facilitates the most effective delivery platform. Components of this delivery were not initially supported from specific experienced MS programmes, but were covered from the existing 0320S scientific survey team.

Re the suggestions below:

Information booklets are available for each vessel.

Ship time requests are forwarded from myself in October each year through the Programme Managers to co-ordinate the scientific requirement for the following financial year. External stakeholders are also contacted with the same requirements at this time for which only joint programme work is undertaken. To date this process works well.

Berths are set and co-ordinated via the SIC and the Ships / Logistics group once a requirement is known.

Vessel crew undertake all ship operations including navigation and deployment / recovery of scientific equipment. Scientific crew co-ordinate the scientific sampling, equipment set-up and provide the technical expertise for specific operations.

Survey communications are co-ordinated with the Scientific Ship Liaison, SIC and also Ships and Logistics Group.

Personal certification and external BPSS clearance requirements are available on Saltire (as they are the same for any SG visitor), where additional ship specific documentation is also available. http://saltire/orgspaces/Marine-Scotland-Directorate/Resources/All-Marine-Scotland/Pages/Forms.aspx

http://saltire/orgspaces/Marine-Scotland-Directorate/Resources/Science/Pages/Ship-Information-and-Contact-Details.aspx

- 2. This is the requirement of the scientific project head that requests the ship time and feeds in via the SIC to create a survey programme.
- 3. Clearly this is always area for improvement, but the fundamental requirement must come from the project lead or group head with experience and support from myself and specialist staff supplied as required. Only an experienced MSS SIC can head a survey.

We undertake up to fifty surveys per year and over 650 days at sea per year, many of which support external visitors undertaking the required certification and clearance requirements as specified above.

As we will not be undertaking the deployment this calendar year there are few directly comparable opportunities to train staff for further deployments, but shore side equipment set up procedures and training may be available from experienced MS groups?

Staff can undertake non-specific sea time, but additional sea allowances would be required on top of the existing requirements to facilitate any request and only if additional berths are available.

If you wish to arrange an away day for staff from Pitlochry, I would be happy to facilitate a tour of Scotia whilst berthed in Aberdeen, where I can give a briefing of all operations and requirements. Please let me know if this would be of interest and I will provide suitable dates.

Please could you advise whether the 2021 Scotia allocated west coast AST deployment time will be required, if this is not the preferred platform and strengthened Mowi links are advantageous to both AST and FL?

Regards,

[Redacted - Personal Details]

[Redacted – Personal Details] [Redacted – Personal Details]

Marine Scotland - Science

Scottish Government, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen AB11 9DB

Tel: +44 (0)131 244 [Redacted - Personal Details]

S/B: +44 (0)131 244 2500

Mob:+44 [Redacted – Personal Details]
e: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot
w: http://www.scotland.gov.uk/marinescotland



From: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Sent: 03 February 2020 19:29

To: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>;

[Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>;

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

Subject: Re: West Coast smolt tracking

[Redacted - Personal Details]

[Redacted – Personal Details] took this issue forward in close liaison with [Redacted – Personal Details] from 7/11. None of the MSS vessel options were suitable until 23/1 when early delivery of kit opened up an opportunity to use Scotia. The issue then was that although ship time for deployment was identified, there was evidently no plan for how the kit would be deployed, which [Redacted – Personal Details] quickly identified.

I have identified opportunities for improvements in procedures and documentation to reduce potential for risk of such errors and to make the system more accessible to new users.

[Redacted – Personal Details]

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: [Redacted – Personal Details]
Sent: Monday, 3 February 2020 08:38

To: [Redacted - Personal Details]; [Redacted - Personal Details]; [Redacted - Personal

Details]; [Redacted - Personal Details]; [Redacted - Personal Details]

Cc: [Redacted - Personal Details]; [Redacted - Personal Details]; Mcdonnell T (Tim)

Subject: RE: West Coast smolt tracking

[Redacted - Personal Details]

Most of the processes that you list in your first two points are carried out by the relevant PI and/or SIC of the cruise. Advice is available from experienced SICs and from the Ships' Coordinator.

I think your third bullet is very pertinent to what has happened recently. It seems that Tim's letter to Mark Bilsby of 9 October (copied to you), and my note to you on 7 November were not sufficient to stimulate the necessary response from an appropriate PL in SFF to grasp the requirement and take it forward. This fits well with recent conversations about the need for clearer coordination of work carried out on our vessels on behalf of externals.

[Redacted - Personal Details]

[Redacted – Personal Details]
[Redacted – Personal Details]
Scottish Government
Marine Laboratory
P O Box 101
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

Tel: +44 (0)131 244 [Redacted - Personal Details]

S/B: +44 (0)131 244 2500

e: email : [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot

w: http://www.gov.scot/marinescotland

From: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Sent: 03 February 2020 07:27

To: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>;

[Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>;

Mcdonnell T (Tim) < <u>Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot</u>>

Subject: RE: West Coast smolt tracking

Adding [Redacted – Personal Details] in to the chain as he is drafting a document that sets out a process that covers some of the points below.

[Redacted - Personal Details]

[Redacted – Personal Details] [Redacted – Personal Details] Marine Scotland Science

From: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Date: Sunday, 02 Feb 2020, 8:38 pm

To: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>, [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>,

[Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>, [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>, [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: West Coast smolt tracking

[Redacted - Personal Details] et al.,

This project was shoe-horned in at short notice, so not surprising that there were issues. Also, I know that [Redacted – Personal Details] was looking for an opportunity to use a Mowi vessel and I am not clear how much effort had been invested in planning to deploy from Scotia. Nevertheless my impression is that we can usefully clarify procedures. Some areas that may need consideration include:

- 1. It would be useful to produce, or identify, a document describing how ships are used in MSS, including: process for competing for ship time, process for agreeing on how many berths are allocated, process for agreeing what components of projects are conducted by scientists and by crew; process for communicating between Project leads and ship-coordinator, process for enabling non-MSS staff (including external organisations) to engage with the MSS system, generic training/certification/security clearance required for staff.
- 2. For any given project, there should be a document produced at the outset detailing plans, including staffing, staff responsibilities, timing, contact details of key staff, deployment schedule, equipment list etc. Normally, a planning meeting would be held to ensure clarity as to responsibilities and expectations. The planning document would be submitted well in advance to the ship-coordinator and SIC of the cruise. A nominated MSS staff member would be responsible for ensuring submission of such documents by external contractors.
- 3. Particularly for projects managed from Pitlochry and by external contractors, it is essential that there is a clear communications plan that includes an MSS lead, external lead and ship-coordinator and/or SIC.

If such procedures/documentation already exists then let me know where they are lodged and I will make sure that folks in SFF are aware.

[Redacted – Personal Details] and I have discussed the need for several of his staff to spend some time on Scotia to familiarise themselves with operations on the vessel in preparation for any future activities around smolt tracking. It would be helpful if we can identify some suitable opportunities this year.

Thanks.

[Redacted - Personal Details]

From: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Sent: 31 January 2020 19:12

To[Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>;

[Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: West Coast smolt tracking

[Redacted - Personal Details]

Thank you. I think the experience shows that externals need to have a clear internal "sponsor" to make sure that everything's is dealt with in good time and in appropriage ways.

[Redacted - Personal Details]

[Redacted - Personal Details]

Sent with BlackBerry Work (www.blackberry.com)

From: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Date: Friday, 31 Jan 2020, 5:17 pm

To: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>, [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>
Cc[Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>, [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>,
[Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot>, Mcdonnell

T (Tim) < <u>Tim.Mcdonnell@gov.scot</u>> **Subject:** RE: West Coast smolt tracking

All,

Further to our recent discussions regarding logistics and as information:

AST have now secured use of a vessel from Mowi for deploying acoustic arrays this spring on the West Coast in preference to the opportunity on Scotia. My understanding is that the Mowi vessel will also be available for retrieving the gear. This move allows a tighter time window that will no doubt reduce losses of equipment. It is also very good to have Mowi involved in supporting the work.

Thanks for efforts to accommodate the project within the tight Scotia schedule, and enjoy some relief that there will be no need for further work on logistics.

[Redacted - Personal Details]

From: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Sent: 14 January 2020 16:06

To: 'Mark Bilsby' <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@fms.scot' [Redacted – Personal Details]@fms.scot>

Subject: RE: West Coast Tracking Governance

Great, Monday morning would work well for me. Thanks [Redacted - Personal Details]

From: Mark Bilsby < mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org >

Sent: 14 January 2020 15:57

To: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@fms.scot;

[Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot> Subject: RE: West Coast Tracking Governance

Afternoon [Redacted - Personal Details],

I am actually at Faskally seeing [Redacted – Personal Details] this coming Monday and it would appear to work for Alan, so are you available? David and I are meeting in the morning at 11 but it should take no more than an hour. The afternoon is also possible if that is more convenient.

Mark

From: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot]

Sent: 14 January 2020 15:29

To: Mark Bilsby <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@fms.scot;

[Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot Subject: West Coast Tracking Governance

Dear Mark, Alan, [Redacted - Personal Details],

I am aware that we have been running at full tilt to sort plans and logistics with no time to formalise our Governance arrangements for the West Coast Tracking work. As outlined by Tim Mcdonnell at the inception, we need a Tripartite Governance Board comprising Fisheries Management Scotland, Marine Scotland Science and Atlantic Salmon Trust. It would be good to meet to discuss governance and review planning, with a focus on clarifying who does what as we progress.

In terms of publicising the work, we should be consistent that it is a collaboration between our three organisations (AST, FMS and MSS) based on funding from Scottish Government (as well as any other support from other groups). We should jointly agree the programme of work and any documented outputs. I think that it is extremely important to emphasise the pilot nature of the work and to manage expectations within a general context of what is required to answer our questions of interest fully.

I hope this is acceptable and that we can organise a meeting reasonably soon. If you indicate your general availabilities then we can home in on a suitable date.

All the best for 2020

[Redacted - Personal Details]

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From: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>

Sent: 14 January 2020 16:05

To: 'Mark Bilsby' <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>; [Redacted – Personal Details]@fms.scot' [Redacted – Personal Details]@fms.scot>

Subject: RE: West Coast Tracking Governance

Thanks Mark,

I think we should retain the three-way high level Governance arrangement and bring in other partners, such as Universities and SSPO, as an operational group. We are happy to work with all necessary collaborators (and the number is likely to grow as we progress), but I think our three organisations have a particular role to play in overall strategy and assurance of delivery.

Best

[Redacted - Personal Details]

From: Mark Bilsby <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>

Sent: 14 January 2020 15:48

To: [Redacted - Personal Details]@gov.scot>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@fms.scot;

[Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot> Subject: RE: West Coast Tracking Governance

Dear [Redacted - Personal Details],

Thank you for this and I agree that we should get this in place as soon as possible. I would also suggest including [Redacted – Personal Details], from Glasgow University, as they will be a key partner in helping us to deliver the project.

In terms of dates I am currently available on:

January 20, 27, 28 and 30 February 3-7 and 18

Once we have a date perhaps we can look to put together a suitable agenda.

Kind regards

Mark

From: [Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot]

Sent: 14 January 2020 15:29

To: Mark Bilsby <mark@atlanticsalmontrust.org>; [Redacted - Personal Details]@fms.scot;

[Redacted – Personal Details]@gov.scot Subject: West Coast Tracking Governance

Dear Mark, Alan, [Redacted - Personal Details],