

# **DPLR1\1066**

## **Claw and Order, making Ascension Island safe for Land Crabs**

### OVERALL OBJECTIVE

This project will reduce the numbers of protected land crabs killed on Ascension Island roads by increasing public awareness and changing driver behaviour.

### CURRENT SITUATION AND PROBLEM BEING ADDRESSED

The near-endemic land crabs (*Johngarthia lagostoma*) is the largest native land animal on Ascension and only found on three other small islands off the Brazilian coast. The species was once persecuted on Ascension and even though it is now protected in law, its slow growth and late maturity (crabs typically mature at 20 years and can live up to 50 years) make the population vulnerable to any source of adult mortality.

Land crabs migrate from higher altitude areas to beaches around the island to spawn. They follow a number of historic migration routes which take them over roads and through settlements. Each year many land crabs are killed on Ascension's roads and others may face intentional or accidental harm when they come into contact with humans.

There are harsh legal penalties for anyone who deliberately kills or injures a land crab, but proving intent is difficult. The most effective means to reduce land crab deaths and injuries is to raise awareness amongst the island community and visitors about the importance of the land crabs and the steps they can take to protect them.

### HOW THIS PROJECT WILL ADDRESS THE ISSUE

This project aims to bring about behaviour change through specific actions targeting the following groups:

#### 1. DRIVERS – AIM TO REDUCE VEHICLE SPEED IN MIGRATION AREAS AND ENCOURAGE AVOIDANCE BEHAVIOURS THROUGH:

- a. Use of seasonal traffic signs at migration hot spots to remind drivers to be vigilant
- b. Light up crossing areas in areas of high crab numbers
- c. Reinforcement of good behaviour through vehicle stickers and social media
- d. Short films explaining how crabs likely to react to cars and the best methods for avoiding them displayed at airport and on social media

#### 2. GENERAL PUBLIC ON ASCENSION – AIM IS TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF LAND CRAB ECOLOGY AND INSTIL AND SENSE OF STEWARDSHIP AND PRIDE

- a. A short, animated film displayed at the cinema before showings
- b. Guided tours during the crab spawning season
- c. Social media and press campaign
- d. School field trips and lessons
- e. Red listing of the species to raise awareness

3. VISITORS TO ASCENSION – AIM IS TO ENSURE VISITORS ARE AWARE THAT LAND CRABS ARE PROTECTED IN LAW AND KNOW THE ACTIONS THEY CAN TAKE TO AVOID DISTURBANCE OR INJURY

- a. Animated film shown at the airport arrivals hall
- b. Leaflets sent with visa applications and distributed at airport and accommodation providers

IDENTIFICATION AND MEASUREMENT OF SUCCESS

This project will be successful if it results in fewer land crab road deaths and improves knowledge and status of land crabs amongst the island community.

SUCCESS WILL BE MEASURED BY ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FOLLOWING TARGETS

- 30% fewer road deaths in key migration areas by March 2024 compared to 2023 baseline data
- At least 90% of the island community report being aware of the conservation importance of land crabs and willing to actively avoid harming them by March 2024(as measured through questionnaires conducted before and after the awareness campaign).

## PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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**Title** Dr  
**Name** Diane  
**Surname** Baum  
**Organisation** Ascension Island Government  
**Website (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Tel (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Email (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Address** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## CONTACT DETAILS

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**Title** Mr  
**Name** Jonathan  
**Surname** Holt  
**Organisation** Ascension Island Government  
**Tel (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Email (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Address** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

# DPLR1\1066

Claw and Order, making Ascension Island safe for Land Crabs

## Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

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### Q1. Project Title

Claw and Order, making Ascension Island safe for Land Crabs

### Q2. Please select whether you are applying as an organisation or as an individual (Guidance section 3 and Guidance Glossary)

Organisation

#### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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Title Dr  
Name Diane  
Surname Baum  
Organisation Ascension Island Government  
Website (Work) [REDACTED]  
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]  
Email (Work) [REDACTED]  
Address [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

#### CONTACT DETAILS

---

Title Mr  
Name Jonathan  
Surname Holt  
Organisation Ascension Island Government  
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]  
Email (Work) [REDACTED]  
Address [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

#### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	Organisation
Name	Ascension Island Government
Phone (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

## Section 2 - Overseas Territory(ies)

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### Q3. Overseas Territory (Guidance section 1.3):

Which UK Overseas Territory(ies) will your project be working in? Please note that in case of a non-permanent resident population you need to demonstrate a clear, meaningful, long-term link to the territory.

St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha\*

\* if you have indicated a territory group with an asterisk, please give detail on which territories you are working on here:

Ascension Island

In addition to the UKOT(s) you have indicated, will your project directly benefit any other UK OT(s) or country(ies)?

No

## Section 3 - Project Partners

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### Q4. Project partners (Guidance section 3.2)

In this section, please give details of all the partners involved (including the Lead Partner) and provide a summary of their roles.

<b>Project Leader name (Guidance section 3.1):</b>	Jonathan Holt
<b>Lead Partner name (if applying as an organisation; Guidance section 3.1):</b>	Ascension Island Government Conservation and Fisheries Directorate (AIGCFD)
<b>Lead Partner Website (if applicable):</b>	<a href="https://www.ascension.gov.ac/">https://www.ascension.gov.ac/</a>

**Is the Lead Partner based in a UKOT where the project is working (Guidance section 3.1)?**

Yes

**List other partners involved and where are they based (Guidance section 3.2):**

N/A

**Summary of roles and responsibilities of each partner in the project:**

Ascension Island Government Conservation and Fisheries Directorate (AIGCFD) will take responsibility for overall project management, financial management, delivery of the project, monitoring and evaluation.

**I confirm that all listed partners are aware of this application and have indicated support:**

Checked

**Attach a Cover Letter for your application (Guidance section 4.2).**

 [Claw and Order - Covering Letter](#)

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## Section 4 - Project Summary & Description

### Q5. Project Summary (Guidance section 3.8)

**Please provide a brief summary of your project. This may be used in communication activities and/or published online, if your application is successful.**

Ascension Island's near-endemic land crab is the island's largest native land animal and protected in-law. Despite this, many are killed by traffic each year. Through the use of signage and education, this project aims to reduce the number of land crabs killed on Ascension's roads. This project will focus on warning drivers to reduce their speed while looking out for crabs in key areas, and also to educate residents and new arrivals about the importance of land crabs through outreach.

### Q6. Description (Guidance section 2.1)

**Please provide a description of your project, including:**

- the overall objective
- the current situation and the problem the project is trying to address
- what success will look like and how you will measure it

**Please be as specific as possible when describing the project, using quantified data and evidence where available. You may wish to consider: what are the specific threats to the environment that the project will attempt to address, and what should we know about these threats? What does your successful project look like? And how will you demonstrate whether and how your project has been successful?**

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Land crabs migrate from higher altitude areas to beaches around the island to spawn. They follow a number of historic migration routes which take them over roads and through settlements. Each year many land crabs are killed on Ascension's roads and others may face intentional or accidental harm when they come into contact with humans.

There are harsh legal penalties for anyone who deliberately kills or injures a land crab, but proving intent is difficult. The most effective means to reduce land crab deaths and injuries is to raise awareness amongst the island community and visitors about the importance of the land crabs and the steps they can take to protect them.

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status of land crabs amongst the island community.

SUCCESS WILL BE MEASURED BY ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FOLLOWING TARGETS

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**(Optional) Please upload any additional and supporting materials or files (such as maps of project sites, etc) below. Maximum of 5 pages:**

*No Response*

## Section 5 - Project Outcome(s)

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### Q7. Project Outcome(s) (Guidance section 1.2)

**Successful Darwin Plus Local projects must demonstrate measurable outcomes in at least one of the themes of Darwin Plus, either by the end of the project or soon after through a credible plan.**

**Please tick which theme(s) of Darwin Plus your project underpins:**

Checked	<b>Biodiversity: improving and conserving biodiversity, and slowing or reversing biodiversity loss and degradation;</b>
Unchecked	<b>Climate change: responding to, mitigating and adapting to climate change and its effects on the natural environment and local communities;</b>
Unchecked	<b>Environmental quality: improving the condition and protection of the natural environment</b>
Checked	<b>Capability and capacity building: enhancing the capacity within OTs, including through community engagement and awareness, to support the environment in the short- and long-term.</b>

**Please justify your selection.**

This project will protect Ascension's land crabs by reducing unnecessary mortality (Biodiversity) and allowing safer migration to and from their spawning sites. As a result, it will conserve a crucial part of Ascension's Biodiversity and make the population more resilient to other pressures. The development of signs, films and tours will improve the long-term community awareness ensuring the longevity of the project (Capability and capacity building).

## Section 6 - Project Timeline

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### Q8. Project timeline (Guidance section 2.2)

Please provide anticipated dates for the start and end of your planned project here. Please use the Darwin Plus Local Project Implementation Timetable Template (which can be downloaded below) to provide a list of the individual activities you have planned for this project, a brief description of what each activity entails, and the months in which the activities will be carried out. If the project involves only one activity (e.g. a purchase), please still provide project start and end dates (noting estimated times for procurement). **Please note that your project will need to be completed by 31 March 2024.**

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 3 months):
01 April 2023	31 March 2024	12 months

Please upload the completed Darwin Plus Local Project Implementation Timetable template with your proposed project activities below.

-  [R1-DPlus-Local-Implementation-Timetable-Claw and Order ASI3 2](#)
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## Section 7 - Costs

### Q9. Costs (Guidance section 2.2 and please read the Finance Guidance)

Please provide a breakdown of costs to be funded through Darwin Plus Local (in GBP).

**Are you seeking any matched funding for this project? (Please note that this is optional and there is no requirement to seek matched funding for Darwin Plus Local projects).**

Yes

**How much matched funding are you seeking and where from?**

AIGFD costs will contribute a total of 34 days of staff time as an in-kind contribution valued at £ [REDACTED]

Warden staff who will contribute 18 days to organise and deliver tour events, producing outreach materials and manage the project

Invertebrate Project Coordinator Dr Adam Sharp contribute 4 days to advise on data analysis and Red Listing.

A total of 12 staff days will needed to place posts, erect signage and solar lighting units

Budget line	Explanation	Cost in GBP
<b>Staff costs:</b>	N/A	[REDACTED]

<b>Overhead costs:</b>	N/A	████
<b>Travel &amp; subsistence costs:</b>	N/A	████
<b>Operating costs:</b>	N/A Other Costs Leaflets, stickers, shipping, and an animated film (£6,875.00)	████
<b>Capital equipment:</b>	Signs and lighting	████
<b>Consultancy costs:</b>	N/A	████
<b>Total:</b>		████

This section provides more information on the budget to help evaluators understand how you will use the funds you are requesting. You do not need to list all costs, but please list and detail costs of more than £1,000 per item below, under the appropriate budget line.

**Details of staff costs over £1,000 (if relevant)**

N/A

**Details of overhead costs over £1,000 (if relevant):**

N/A

**Details of travel and subsistence costs over £1,000 (if relevant):**

N/A

**Details of operating costs over £1,000 (if relevant):**

N/A

**Details of capital equipment costs over £1,000 (if relevant):**

Flashing Warning Lights █████  
30w Solar Panel Kit █████

**Details of consultancy costs over £1,000 (if relevant):**

N/A

**Details of other costs over £1,000 (if relevant)**

Animated Film █████

If your project budget was prepared in another currency and converted to GBP, please provide the exchange rate, its source, and the date it was accessed:

Other currency:	Exchange rate:	Source of this exchange rate:	Date exchange rate accessed:
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No Response

No Response

No Response

No Response

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**Darwin Plus Local has been created to build capacity and contribute to local economies in-territory.**

What % of the total will be spent in the OTs?

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**If less than 80% of the total project spend is to be spent within the OT(s), please explain why.**

N/A

## **Section 8 - Local and National Priorities**

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### **Q10. Local and national priorities**

**Please explain how this project aligns with local and national priorities? You may wish to consider the project in the context of national environmental laws, objectives, strategies, territory specific agreements, action plans or policies.**

-Awareness Campaign

Through outreach, education and public engagement this project aims to encourage safer driving to reduce the number of road deaths by 30% by 2025.

-Public tours during crab spawning

Through tours, 40 people will be engaged throughout the project. This first-hand engagement aims to spread awareness and create a sense engagement with their local species.

1.No-native species or genetically distinct populations are lost from Ascension and the size and distribution of native populations is maintained or increased.

This project aims to conserve populations Ascension island's land crabs throughout their island-wide distribution.

2.Habitats are improved to support self-sustaining populations of endemic species that require little or no ongoing management

This project will improve the Land Crabs survival rate during migration, ensuring improved recruitment rates.

3.Everyone living on Ascension is aware of the island's biodiversity and has opportunities to input into decision-making and take action to protect it.

A aim of the project is to educate and engage the public allowing them to take an active role.

4.The knowledge and value of Ascension's biodiversity are shared with the Ascension and global community.

Media produced will be targeted at the community but will be also distributed globally via social media.

**Will the project take place on Government owned land or water?**

Yes

**Please attach evidence that you have Government support i.e. Letter of Support.**

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 [AIG Letter of support - Darwin Local R1 - Claw and Order](#)  
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## Section 9 - Project Risks

### Q11. Project Risks

Please demonstrate your consideration of any risks involved in this project and how you intend to manage them. Depending on your project, you may wish to consider:

- Biosecurity risks – particularly for projects involving external equipment.
- Safeguarding risks – particularly for projects involving vulnerable groups such as children, older people or people with disabilities.

Risk	Mitigation
Harm to personnel and the public during tours and outreach	Site visits and risk assessments will be conducted before the tours and outreach. Tools used will be checked and spares will be provided when necessary. Tool safety talks will be provided to those using them. For the public, a health and safety talk will be provided before the tour as well as a signed risk assessment. Children under 16 need to you accompanied by an adult
Potential harm to land crabs	Training for personnel will be provided. Only trained personnel will handle the crabs and only when necessary.
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>

Do you require more fields?

No

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## Section 10 - Terms & Conditions

### Q12. Terms and conditions (Guidance section 3.10)

By applying for Darwin Plus Local you are adhering in full to the grant Terms and Conditions in full (available at: <https://dplus.darwininitiative.org.uk/apply> and as referenced in the Guidance at section 3.10). For information, the Terms and Conditions include requirements for all applicants to (amongst other requirements as per the full Terms and Conditions):

- Uphold a zero tolerance for inaction approach to tackling sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment.
- Where appropriate, make all reasonable and adequate efforts to address gender inequality and other power imbalances.
- Notify all cases of fraud and theft (whether proven or suspected) relating to the project to the Grant Administrator as soon as they identified.

**Please indicate you have read, and understood, and will adhere to the Terms and Conditions.**

Checked

**If your application is successful:** If your project application is successful, the Fund Administrator (NIRAS) will ask you to provide some financial evidence for due diligence checks before you receive your project grant. (Please see section 3.3 of the Darwin Plus Local Finance Guidance). Please be ready to provide this evidence promptly.

**Financial evidence for organisations:** Year-end financial statements, the latest management accounts or audited accounts (if you have these).

**Financial evidence for individuals:** Proof of identity such as a passport, ID card or driving licence and solvency (such as bank statements) and a police check.

## Section 11 - Certification

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### Certification

**I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the statements made in this application are true and the information provided is correct.**

Checked

**I have the authority to submit an application on behalf of my organisation.**

Checked

**Name:** Diane Baum

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**Position in the organisation: (if applicable)** Director of Conservation, Ascension Island Government Conservation & Fisheries Directorate

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**Signature (please upload e-signature)**

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**Date:** 14 February 2023

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## Section 12 - Submission Checklist

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### Checklist for submission

	Check
<b>I have read the Guidance documents, including the “Darwin Plus Local Guidance” and the “Darwin Plus Local Finance Guidance”.</b>	Checked
<b>If my proposed project takes place on public lands or water, I have uploaded a Letter of Support from Government.</b>	Checked
<b>I have uploaded a cover letter that details the information requested in the guidance (Guidance section 4.2 has information on what this cover letter should include).</b>	Checked
<b>I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided my summary budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP in the application form.</b>	Checked
<b>I have uploaded my project implementation timetable using the specific template provided.</b>	Checked
<b>(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.</b>	Checked
<b>The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).</b>	Checked
<b>I have checked the Darwin Plus website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.</b>	Checked
<b>I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Plus website.</b>	Checked

### We would like to keep in touch!

**Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under Darwin Plus. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share project news. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.**

Unchecked

### Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the [Forms and Guidance Portal](#).

This **Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals** whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising Darwin Plus including project details (usually title,

lead partner, project leader, location, and total grant value).

Project Title:

## Darwin Plus Local

Provide a **Project Implementation Timetable** that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project. Projects are based on UK Financial Years (**1 April – 31 March** - therefore starts April 2023).

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and shade only the months in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

Activity #	Description (max 25 words)	No. of months	UK Financial Year 2023/24											
			Calendar Year 2023									Calendar Year 2024		
			Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
1	Order equipment	3 months												
2	Organise and run guided tours	1 month												
3	Don't Run Over land crabs awareness campaign over social media and press	6 months												
4	School trips and lessons	1 month												
5	Construct and place light up crossing areas	3 months												
6	Production and showing of animated film	12 months												
7	Red listing Ascension Island land crabs	3 months												