

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2014)

Project Ref No	DPLUS017
Project Title	Lower Plants Inventory and Conservation in the Falkland Islands
Country(ies)	Falkland Islands
UK Organisation	Falklands Conservation
Collaborator(s)	National Museum Wales, Falklands Conservation, FIG Environmental Planning Office, RBGK, University of Bangor
Project Leader	Dr Andrew Stanworth
Report date	1/10/2014
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	1
Project website	N/A

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).

Project Officer [Dafydd Crabtree] spent a total of 12 weeks at National Museum Wales and Royal Botanic Gardens of Kew receiving training for the job as Lower Plants Project Officer (Output 1.1). This included mentoring in taxon found in the Falkland Islands and survey methods to be implemented (Output 2.4). There has been international leasing and contact with specialists and authorities of lower plants of the Sub-Antarctic regarding dissemination of results. This has included offers of help in identifying samples and collections and offers of help with field work (Output 3.2). Furthermore there has been various communications with the community such as information on the project through the Falklands Conservation Newsletter and a scheduled radio interview for the end of the month (Output 4.3 and Output 4.4). Preliminary logistics and sourcing specialists to come down to the Falkland Islands for the first scheduled field trip will be completed in the next 3 weeks. This has included synchronising each specialist's spare time, locations for field work and logistics such as travel and accommodation (Output 1.2).

2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

There was delayed freight shipping of a dissecting microscope, compound microscope and equipment sent from NMW, which slightly held back the creation of a lower plants lab. This has not affected project outputs as the first 3-4 months were used to facilitate and organise the January field expedition.

Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

No

Discussed with LTS: no/yes, in..... (month/yr)

Formal change request submitted: no/yes, in.....(month/yr)

Received confirmation of change acceptance no/yes in.....(month/yr)

3. Do you expect to have any significant (eg more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?

Yes No

If yes, and you wish to request a carryforward of funds, this should be done as soon as possible. It would help Defra manage Darwin funds more efficiently if you could give an indication of how much you expect this request might be for.

Estimated carry forward request: £10000

Carryforward due to a slight change in the timing of the field trips / specialist expeditions. Most of the money was allocated towards international travel.

4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

NO

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with LTS International directly.

Please send your **completed form by email** to Eilidh Young at Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk . The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 17-075 Darwin Half Year Report**