

**Darwin Initiative Main/Post/D+ Project
Half Year Report
(due 31st October 2017)**

Project reference	DPLUS057
Project title	Population recovery of right whales in South Georgia waters
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	UK/ South Georgia
Lead organisation	British Antarctic Survey
Partner(s)	University of St Andrews, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, University of Utah, Instituto Aqualie, Projeto Baleia Franca, University of Barcelona
Project leader	<i>Jennifer Jackson</i>
Report date and number (e.g., HYR3)	<i>HYR1</i>
Project website/blog/social media etc.	<i>In development</i>

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) 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 to end September).

During this period I designed a yacht charter specification for the planned 2019 surveys, and have now published an invitation to quote for this charter which is open until the 8th November 2017.

I have gathered quotes for equipment for the 2019 yacht cruise which has a long lead time, and have begun the purchasing process. All should be on order by the end of December 2017.

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt 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.

During May/June we made significant changes to the project contents including some changes to the objectives, in order to increase the scope of the project in view of the additional funds provided by EU BEST towards a component of this project. This led to some changes in terms of budgetary distribution between financial years and an extension of the end of the project timetable by three months, to the end of December 2019. These changes are intended to enhance the project since with the extra funds we have been able to include the goal of conducting a population recovery assessment for the South Georgia right whales, and conduct an in-depth assessment of past exploitation levels.

2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?	
Discussed with LTS:	Yes
Formal change request submitted:	Yes
Received confirmation of change acceptance	Yes

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

Yes No Estimated underspend: £

3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully. Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project, please submit a rebudget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a rebudget so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary.

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. Additionally, if you were funded under R23 and asked to provide further information by your first half year report, please attach your response as a separate document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also** be raised with LTS International through a Change Request.

Please send your **completed report by email** to Eilidh Young at Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk . The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message e.g. Subject: 22-035 Darwin Half Year Report**