

Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the "Project Reporting Information Note"
(<https://dplus.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources/information-notes/>).

It is expected that this report will be a **maximum** of 20 pages in length, excluding annexes)

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2022

Darwin Plus Project Information

Project reference	DPLUS128
Project title	Safeguarding Cayman's Sister Islands from invasive species
Territory(ies)	Cayman Islands
Lead partner	RSPB
Project partner(s)	Cayman Islands Government Department of Environment (DoE); Department of Agriculture (DoA); University of Aberdeen (UoA).
Darwin Plus grant value	£484,227
Start/end dates of project	01 July 2021 – 30 June 2024
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2021-Mar 2022) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2)	Apr 2021 – Mar 2022, Annual Report 1 (AR1)
Project Leader name	Sarah Havery
Project website/blog/social media	https://cayman.loopnews.com/content/sister-islands-benefit-uk-darwin-plus-conservation-funding
Report author(s) and date	Joe Jeffcoate, Sarah Havery, Fred Burton, Jane Haakonsson, April 2022

1. Project summary

The largely undeveloped Sister Islands (Cayman Brac and Little Cayman) are Cayman's environmental flagships, home to the Territory's only RAMSAR site and its most internationally significant wildlife. Invasive Alien Vertebrates (IAV) pose a major yet largely unmanaged threat. Feral cat predation has resulted in catastrophic native species declines whilst invasive green iguanas are spreading from Grand Cayman. This project will strengthen Territory-wide biosecurity and implement IAV management with local communities, building knowledge, capacity and support for effective and sustainable action.

IAV are a major driver of biodiversity loss and have already caused several extinctions in the Cayman Islands (three bird and two mammal species). Active management of IAV through control and/or eradication, coupled with biosecurity controls to prevent new arrivals, are the most effective tools available for reducing this threat.

On Cayman's Sister Islands, the Critically Endangered Sister Islands rock iguana is under severe threat from feral cat predation and green iguana hybridisation and competition. Three range restricted but poorly known endemic reptiles (two dwarf boa species and Cayman Brac blind snake), the Western Hemisphere's largest red-footed booby colony and several other nationally important seabird colonies are also all threatened by predation from feral cats and rats.

Invasive green iguanas are already established on Grand Cayman. The population skyrocketed to an estimated 1.6 million individuals, with such severe impacts that the Cayman Islands

Government has to date spent over GBP £8.6million on their control. Unfortunately, the Cayman Islands lacks a coordinated multi-agency biosecurity policy and there are almost no effective inter-island biosecurity controls. This has led to the arrival of green iguanas to both Sister Islands, but their populations remain very low. Urgent control measures and eradication planning are needed to prevent population expansion in both islands, which would have severe impacts on native species and currently unmodified forest habitats. A combination of DoE and volunteer resources is currently proving insufficient to overcome this threat.

Detailed engagement indicates that high percentage of population of Little Cayman are supportive of reducing the impacts of IAV on their native wildlife, with community members writing to Government Ministers requesting action. Technical and resource constraints are the main barrier. In Cayman Brac, the need for biosecurity is recognised but further community collaboration is required to enable long-term IAV management.

The project has been designed to the IAV contexts of each of the Sister Islands and represents Cayman's first cross-sector holistic approach to biosecurity. Little Cayman (82ha, human population c.160), has robust data on native iguanas, robust data on large seabird colonies, limited data on cryptic reptiles and strong community support for both green iguana and feral cat control/eradication. Cayman Brac (3,527ha, human population c.2,003), has limited native iguana data, robust data on a declining seabird colony, limited data on cryptic reptiles and variable community support for IAV management, with strong support for green iguana control but limited support for feral cat control¹.

2. Project stakeholders/partners

The three formal partners working with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) on this project are:

(i) Cayman Island's Government Department of Environment (DoE)

Responsible for:

- Lead of operational activities on island, including surveys, IAV control measures, and on-site biosecurity efforts.
- Assisting project administration, providing in-kind support in the form of significant staff time, accommodation and on-island transportation and facilitating local stakeholder participation.

(ii) Cayman Island's Government Department of Agriculture (DoA)

Responsible for:

- Providing veterinary support during IAV control operations, collaboration in planning and implementing improved inter-island biosecurity measures within the Cayman Islands (Through partnership with DoE).

(iii) University of Aberdeen School of Biological Sciences (UoA)

Responsible for:

- Providing an institutional research base, scientific advice to ensure consistent, accurate and robust data collection by the partnership including assistance to DoE staff in survey design and implementation for IAV, and supervision of students studying at-risk cryptic endemic reptiles.

The RSPB has been working with the OTs for over 25 years. The underlying principle of our work is to establish enduring relationships with local partners in order to help support the development of sustainable and locally-lead conservation programmes. The Cayman Islands Department of Environment is a longstanding RSPB partner.

As project lead, RSPB's role is to manage project administration, partnership facilitation, and provide / coordinate advice and training on invasive alien vertebrate control and community engagement.

¹ Population estimates refined since proposal using census report (**Annex 11**)
Darwin Plus Annual Report Template 2022

Project agreements are now in place between RSPB, DoE and amendments to reflect the Dec '21 change request (approved by Darwin) completed for UoA, with DoE to follow. DoA will be sub-contracted by DoE in YR2 of the project.

The successful recruitment of Marique Cloete – Community Engagement Officer and Tanja Laaser – Biosecurity Officer (**Annex 4**) has furthered strengthened the partnership between RSPB and DoE. RSPB and DoE collaborated in recruitment, with representatives from DoE on the interview and selection panel for all three roles (Community engagement officer, Biosecurity officer, Project officer) recruited under this project.

A soft launch of the project was completed in Jan '22 by DoE and RSPB, where key stakeholders in the Sister Islands were updated about the project. Overall, there was support for the project from all stakeholders engaged with useful suggestions from the meetings being raised e.g., engaging Sister Island youth from primary schools (**Annex 5**). These took the form of small group meetings due to COVID-19 restrictions only having been recently lifted in the Cayman Islands, therefore a soft launch was more appropriate. A total of 12 informal meetings were held with c.18 individual stakeholders, including representatives from Department of Environmental Health, Humane Society and the Port Authority on Cayman Brac and District of the National Trust and District Administration office on Little Cayman. Meetings were also held on Grand Cayman with the Governor and with the Premier's office to provide an overview of the project and the anticipated outcomes (see *section 11*).

Involvement and agreement of the local communities on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac are crucial to the success of this project. The community engagement officer, Marique Cloete started in Jan '22, based on Cayman Brac. Marique was already integrated within the expatriate community on Cayman Brac prior to taking this role, having already spent >5 years based in Cayman Islands. Further engagement to reach all aspects of the community on the Sister Isles is being approached sensitively to ensure the long-term impact and success of the project, however positive engagement/attendance from residents at community events with both Tanja Laaser and Marique Cloete is an early indication of a positive reception to the project amongst residents. This will continue to be managed sensitively, and both Tanja, Marique and DoE staff will be supported by RSPB staff Karen Varnham and Jaclyn Pearson to ensure needs of the community are met and positive engagement with the project is sustained.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1 Enhance capacity of in-Territory agencies (DoE/DoA/Port Authority) to plan, manage, implement and monitor biosecurity and IAV control

1.1 Project partners provide ongoing training to project team for successful implementation of biosecurity plans re: ongoing monitoring/surveillance (native wildlife & IAVs), minimising the risk of introducing IAVs, and implementing incursion plans on sister isles.

In Jan '22 Biosecurity & invasive species expert, Karen Varnham, provided informal rat monitoring and control measure training in the form of a Q+A session for DoE staff. More formal training will be developed and delivered virtually and recorded for future use by DoE in YR2. DoE also received support from Joe Wasilewski, an expert on green iguana management from Florida, on green iguana control measures (**Annex 6**). Tanja Laaser, Biosecurity officer, is also sharing knowledge and lessons learned with DoE staff regarding green iguanas from a previous role on Little Cayman (with DoE). Marique Cloete, Community engagement officer and Tanja Laaser are receiving fortnightly mentoring/remote support from RSPB experts Karen Varnham and Jaclyn Pearson, Community engagement expert.

1.2 Recruit an experienced Biosecurity Officer.

Activity complete. Biosecurity officer, Tanja Laaser recruited in Oct '21 (**Annex 5**). She has moved from Little Cayman to Grand Cayman and is based in the DoE office as of Dec '21.

1.3 Produce biosecurity training materials and resources by end YR1.

Some progress has been made with materials being drafted. Biosecurity officer, Tanja Laaser, has begun engagement with key stakeholders (e.g., Thompson Shipping and DoA) to identify

specific capacity gaps to be addressed in the further development of training materials (activity 1.6).

Activities 1.4, 1.5 not scheduled for this reporting period

1.6 Complete a baseline questionnaire with project staff and key implementing agencies in YR1 to determine baseline biosecurity capacity.

Introductions and meetings held with Thompson Shipping and DoA to inform baseline questionnaire development (**Annex 7**).

Activities 1.7, 1.8 not scheduled for this reporting period

1.9 Implement biosecurity on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac through increased monitoring and deliver incursion responses, and building inter-agency collaboration throughout the project, to any detection of IAVs (i.e., green iguanas, feral cats/dogs).

Incursion responses continue on both Little Cayman and Cayman Brac and are being logged into a database for each island by DoE and RSPB staff. Joe Wasilewski's visit supported additional culls in Feb/March '22 and findings from his report (**Annex 6**) will support increased monitoring and incursion responses between government agencies. Green Iguana database will be standardised and compiled and provided as means of verification by end of project.

Green iguana control activity on Little Cayman is posted regularly on the [Green Iguana B'gonna](#) Facebook page and shared on the [Little Cayman National Trust](#) and [DoE](#) pages.

Activities 1.10 - 1.14 not scheduled for this reporting period

Output 2 Enhance in-Territory community capacity to implement and monitor biosecurity and IAV control

2.1 Recruit a p/t Community Engagement Officer.

Activity complete but delayed due to initial failed recruitment for reasons outside of our control. In Jan '22 Marique Cloete was hired as Community engagement officer based on Cayman Brac (**Annex 4**).

2.2 In YR1 hold project launch community events on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac.

Biosecurity Officer, Tanja Laaser was initially based on Little Cayman prior to moving to Grand Cayman in Dec '21. Tanja engaged with communities on Little Cayman whilst community engagement officer was being recruited. Launch events were delayed as a result of COVID-19 restricting inter-island travel but were completed in Feb/March '22 in conjunction with Joe Wasilewski's visit (see activities 4.6 & 4.7) and soft launch informal meetings were held during RSPB visit by Sarah Havery, project lead, and Karen Varnham, Biosecurity & invasive species expert (**Annex 5**).

Supported by RSPB staff, Joe hosted a community event on Cayman Brac on 28th Feb and presented at two resorts on Little Cayman. The project has been further communicated via informal discussions and meetings with residents on both Sister Islands (**Annex 8**).

2.3 Targeted ongoing outreach/communication on Cayman Brac to collect information on the opinions & values of the community around feral cat management, with the aim to increase awareness on (1) importance of neutering pets and (2) importance of not relocating feral cats to Little Cayman by the end of the project.

Community engagement officer, Marique Cloete, is already well connected with the expatriate communities on Cayman Brac. Integration with Caymanians and other community groups is a priority for Year 2 and is already progressing through casual engagements in the community. Marique is guided by Jaclyn Pearson, RSPB's Community engagement expert, through fortnightly catchups which will support appropriate and sensitive data collection regarding pets/feral cats.

2.4 Complete a baseline questionnaire with volunteers and community members in YR1 to determine baseline biosecurity awareness.

A draft questionnaire is available (**Annex 9**) and with the project team for comments. Marique Cloete has engaged RSPB’s social scientist, Natasha Constant to support development of the questionnaire and will be shared with Natasha for further input and guidance before carrying out surveys – expected to start from Apr/May ‘22.

Activity 2.5 not scheduled for this reporting period

2.6 Produce volunteer training materials and resources/publicity materials and project communication plan by end YR1.

A draft communication plan is available (**Annex 10**) and is with the project team for comments. This will be finalised and signed off in the next project management meeting. Training materials delayed due to recruitment delays.

2.7 Develop a volunteer work programme and schedule by end YR1.

Delayed to YR2 due to recruitment delays.

Activity 2.8 not scheduled for this reporting period

2.9 Hold six monthly community events/volunteer ‘get-together’ days to increase project awareness and community participation.

Not held yet. Community engagement officer, Marique Cloete only in post from Jan ‘22 and Covid-19 restrictions were only lifted in Nov ‘21. We expect to host the first of these in line with the implementation timetable for Q2 (July – Sept ‘22). However, communities are being regularly engaged (see 2.3, 2.11).

Activity 2.10 not scheduled for this reporting period

2.11 Complete ad-hoc feedback forms at meetings/workshops/events to monitor and evaluate community participation (including gender disaggregated data).

Community participation data is being monitored by Community engagement officer, Marique Cloete. A full summary of engagement data and census report is included in **Annex 11** and a summary provided below.

Summary of Residents Engaged - January to March 2022

Location	Total	Female	Male	Population	% of pop engaged
Cayman Brac	118	55	63	2003	6%
Little Cayman	43	17	26	160	27%

Output 3 The baseline presence of IAVs and nationally significant wildlife is better understood. Interactions and impacts of IAVs are determined and used to inform conservation management and community engagement.

3.1 Complete survey of rodents in sites of conservation importance on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac in YR1, using a variety of detection methods to establish residency/activity levels.

Rodent surveys completed at 4 priority sites on west side of Little Cayman as part of the upcoming cat control programme. Rodent control in Cayman Brac will be carried out in pockets as part of seabird mortality mitigation in YR2. Rodent assessment report and rodent presence/absence results will be provided in future reports.

3.2 Survey of feral cat population on Little Cayman in YR1, using a variety of detection methods (including motion cameras), establish residency/activity levels.

Nocturnal flashlight survey on Little Cayman established by DoE showed feral cats across Little Cayman (**Annex 12**). Preparations for camera trapping at potential hotspots identified from the survey (where anthropogenic food sources are abundant) are ongoing and expected to be deployed from YR2 Q1.

*3.3 Complete presence/absence surveys for Cayman Brac blind snake *Cubatyphlops epactias* on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac by end YR1.*

Surveys designed with monitoring taking place since Nov '21. 13 plywood stations have been distributed along the entire coastline of Little Cayman and stations have been checked 3 times by end of YR1.

Activity 3.4 not scheduled for this reporting period

3.5 Complete annual population survey of Sister Isles rock iguanas on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac. and 3.6 Complete annual breeding surveys of brown booby colony on Cayman Brac.

Little Cayman iguana population survey and brown booby colony survey (Cayman Brac) completed in March '22. Red-footed booby survey (Little Cayman) also completed. Results currently being analysed.

Activities 3.7 – 3.10 not scheduled for this reporting period

Output 4 Reduced impact of IAVs on globally threatened Sister Islands species through effective management.

4.1 Determine and implement an appropriate trapping schedule for a targeted feral cat control programme around priority sites on Little Cayman in YR1.

Implementation has not been possible in YR1 due to a restriction on DoE and DoA placed by the courts. This legal block has been resolved and removed in late April '22.

A detailed operational plan for nocturnal feral cat control on Little Cayman has been developed to cover all the road-accessible area of Little Cayman with a 200m trapping grid, in two separate one-month sessions with two trappers (DoE), one veterinarian (DoA) and one support person (DoE) working at any one time. Traps will be set from dusk to dawn and checked every 3 hours. Pre-set trapping zones will be trapped on consecutive nights long enough to enable a removal estimation to indicate remaining (trappable) population size. Western zones will be trapped in the first month to give some relief to the densest rock iguana populations and the red-footed booby colony.

Activities 4.2 – 4.5 not scheduled for this reporting period

4.6 Develop a plan for invasive green iguana eradication within Action Plan for Little Cayman in YR2 and 4.7 Develop a plan for invasive green iguana eradication within Action Plan for Cayman Brac in YR2.

In Feb/March '22 green iguana eradication and control expert, Joe Wasilewski - president Natural Selections of South Florida and member IUCN Iguana SSG - was brought to the Sister Isles to inform green iguana eradications on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac, visiting green iguana sites and seaports, conducting searches and culls with DoE and engaging residents (e.g., farmers, landowners) and partners/stakeholders (DoE, DoA, NTCI). With support of Marique Cloete and Tanja Laaser, Joe presented at community project launch events on both Sister Isles.

A full trip report is provided in (**Annex 6**). The report has been shared with the project team and will be used to support development of Action Plans for Little Cayman and Cayman Brac and will inform activity 4.8 – enhance green iguana control on both islands (YR2 Q1).

Activity 4.8 not scheduled for this reporting period

Output 5 Project managed and monitored effectively

5.1 In YR1 Q1 develop and agree project monitoring plan and use it as a project management tool to monitor implementation progress.

M&E plan yet to be developed due to recruitment delays. In the interim, the project is monitored against logframe at project meetings (one virtually in Sept '21 and the other at the annual meeting in Jan '22 on Grand Cayman) and has so far proved sufficient. Newly recruited project officer, Joe Jeffcoate, will provide a project management support role and will lead the development of

the M&E plan to be agreed at the next virtual project management meeting as project activities increase. In addition, we expect to establish a MS SharePoint site to support project monitoring and reporting between partners. The project remains mostly on track, and we fully expect to be in line with the project schedule by YR2 Q1 (see section 6).

5.2 Quarterly conference call for core project team to update on progress and plan forthcoming work schedule.

1st conference call was held in Sept '21 and another face-to-face meeting was held on Grand Cayman in Jan '22 with RSPB/DoE (**Annex 13**). A regular schedule for these meetings will be agreed and established from YR2 now that the project management support role has been recruited.

5.3 Six monthly internal (project team) technical and financial reporting to RSPB.

So far, DoE reporting has been sufficient through quarterly meetings and 1:1 calls with key project staff based in the Cayman Islands. As UoA postponed the visit (see section 12) there has not been a need for written reports in YR1. We will provide technical reporting templates to DoE and UoA to aid efficient reporting from YR2 as activities increase. We expect to receive YR1 financial reports from partners by end of April '22 (see section 14) and will update Darwin accordingly.

5.4 3x annual meeting of project team and management in Grand Cayman for planning and sharing of data between all project partners from subsequent years.

Sarah Havery, Project lead and Karen Varnham, Biosecurity & invasive species expert, visited Cayman in January '22 and the first annual project management meeting was held between partners (**Annex 14**).

In addition, RSPB conducted site visits with support of DoE across the Sister Isles and held meetings/informal discussions with stakeholders; incl. Dpt. for Environmental Health, Dpt. Agriculture (DoA), Port Authority, National Trust Cayman Islands (NTCI), Humane Society and Sister Island District Administration offices. The trip indicated general support for the project amongst stakeholders. There were some divided opinions concerning feral cat control as to be expected, which highlighted the value of the way this project has been designed, i.e. with a strong community engagement focus. Multiple parties highlighted the need to engage youth (primary schools) to engage communities successfully and to make significant effort to engage the Humane Society (**Annex 5**), which is the intention as the project develops.

Activities 5.5, 5.6 not scheduled for this reporting period

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: Enhance capacity of in-Territory agencies (DoE/DoA/Port Authority) to plan, manage, implement, and monitor biosecurity and IAV control

Baseline condition: Government partners have limited capacity/necessary expertise to plan, manage implement and monitor biosecurity and IAV control on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac.

Indicator 1.1 Sister Islands biosecurity capacity increased within key local implementing agencies (DoE/DoA/Port Authority) by YR1 Q3 through recruitment of a Biosecurity Officer.

Biosecurity officer recruited ahead of schedule (Oct '21) (**Annex 4**).

Indicator 1.2 10 in-Territory staff develop and demonstrate improved skills in biosecurity and IAV control against YR1 baseline by end of project.

Limited progress to date i.e., trainings delivered, but training materials being developed by Biosecurity Officer for future trainings with support of RSPB Biosecurity & invasive species expert, Karen Varnham.

Indicators 1.3 – 1.5 not expected in this reported period

Output 2: Enhance in-Territory community capacity to implement and monitor biosecurity and IAV control

Baseline condition: Community on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac have limited capacity/necessary expertise to implement and monitor effective biosecurity and IAV control.

Indicator 2.1 not expected in this reported period

Indicator 2.2 Capacity within key local implementing agencies (DoE) increased to deliver effective community engagement on Cayman Brac by Q3 Yr1 through recruitment of a part-time Community Engagement Officer.

Indicator delayed but achieved. Marique Cloete hired and in place by Jan '22 (Q4).

Indicator 2.3 Increased awareness against YR1 baseline within Cayman Brac community on (1) the importance of neutering pets and (2) the importance of not relocating feral cats to Little Cayman by the end of the project.

Delayed progress resulting from delay in recruitment of Community engagement officer. Draft questionnaire and communications plan developed (**Annex 9 & 10**).

Indicators 2.4, 2.5 not expected in this reported period

Output 3: The baseline presence of IAVs and nationally significant wildlife is better understood. Interactions and impacts of IAVs are determined and used to inform conservation management and community engagement.

Baseline condition: Little Cayman has robust data on native iguanas, robust data on large seabird colonies, limited data on cryptic reptiles and strong community support for both green iguana and feral cat control/eradication. Cayman Brac has limited native iguana data, robust data on declining seabird colonies, limited data on cryptic reptiles and variable community support for IAV management, with strong support for green iguana control but limited support for feral cat control.

Indicator 3.1 Rodent assessment completed at at least six priority rock iguana, seabird and residential sites (that might be impacted by cat control) across the Sister Islands by end YR1.

Rodent assessment complete at 4 sites on Little Cayman, data being analysed (available in future report). Further 2 sites not assessed as Cayman Brac rat control did not take place in YR1. We expect this can be achieved in YR2.

Indicator 3.2 Residency levels and distribution of feral cats are quantified on Sister Islands by end YR1.

Initial flashlight survey completed by DoE on Little Cayman in '21(**Annex 12**).

Indicators 3.3 - 3.6 not expected in this reported period

Output 4: Reduced impact of IAVs on globally threatened Sister Islands species through effective management.

Baseline condition: Effective control of IAVs is insufficient to address globally threatened sister island species decline.

Indicator 4.1 Feral cat management effectively planned and implemented by local partners on Little Cayman in YR1 with feasibility for eradication from Little Cayman determined by end YR2.

Operational plan for nocturnal feral cat control on Little Cayman has been developed to cover all the road-accessible area of Little Cayman. Implementation has not been possible in YR1 due to a restriction on DoE and DoA placed by the courts. This legal block has been resolved and removed in late April '22 so we expect this to progress from YR2 Q1.

Indicators 4.2 – 4.5 not expected in this reported period

Output 5: Project managed and monitored effectively

Baseline condition: RSPB has strong capacity to engage and deliver the project leading multiple Darwin Plus projects in the past (DPLUS121 and DPLUS055), and working in the UK, UKOTs and Caribbean on invasive species management.

Indicator 5.1 Project monitoring plan developed in first 3 months and reviewed twice per year.

Behind schedule. Expect to have a complete M&E plan in place before end of YR2 Q1 now that project management support role, Joe Jeffcoate, is in place. This will be signed off at the next project management meeting.

Indicator 5.2 Regular communication maintained between the team; six monthly skype calls and annual visits and reports from managers

On track. First call held in Sept '21 and first annual meeting held on Grand Cayman (**Annex 13**). Newly recruited project officer will establish regular meeting schedule in agreement with partners.

Indicator 5.3 Annual face to face project meetings take action to address any challenges and maintain engagement of senior managers within project partners

On track. First meeting held on Cayman Islands with Sarah Havery, Project lead and Karen Varnham Biosecurity & invasive species expert in Jan '22 (**Annex 13**).

Indicator 5.4 Technical and financial reporting to RSPB and Darwin accurate and on time and to high standard.

Technical reporting provided in meetings and via 1:1s with staff based on Cayman Islands in YR1. HYR1 and AR1 submitted on time – we look forward to receiving comments on this report.

Financial reports expected from partners by end of April '22 and we expect to meet end of May financial report deadline to Darwin.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: *Locally led biosecurity and Invasive Alien Vertebrate (IAV) management in the Sister Islands is established and implemented effectively, via sustainably increased capacity, improved knowledge, and community engagement.*

Baseline condition: The largely undeveloped Sister Islands are Cayman's environmental flagships, home to the Territory's only RAMSAR site and its most internationally significant wildlife. IAV pose a major yet largely unmanaged threat. Feral cat predation has resulted in catastrophic native species declines whilst invasive green iguanas are spreading from Grand Cayman. There is no coordinated multi-agency biosecurity policy and almost no effective inter-island biosecurity controls are in place.

IAV are a major driver of biodiversity loss and have already caused several extinctions in the Cayman Islands (three bird and two mammal species). Active management of IAV through control and/or eradication, coupled with biosecurity controls to prevent new arrivals, are the most effective tools available for reducing this threat.

On Cayman's Sister Islands, the Critically Endangered Sister Islands rock iguana is under severe threat from feral cat predation and green iguana hybridisation and competition. Three range restricted but poorly known endemic reptiles (two dwarf boa species and Cayman Brac blind snake), the Western Hemisphere's largest red-footed booby colony and several other nationally important seabird colonies are also all threatened by predation from feral cats and rats.

Little Cayman community are supportive of taking action to reduce threats, but technical and resource constraints are the main barrier whilst on Cayman Brac further community collaboration is required to enable long-term IAV management.

Indicator 0.1 Critically Endangered Sister Islands rock iguana population becomes stable on Little Cayman (currently declining with 2019 baseline of c.1,786 individuals); and becomes stable on Cayman Brac against a YR1 baseline (status currently unknown but suspected declining) by the end of the project.

Data collected on Little Cayman population in Mar '22 and being analysed.

Indicator 0.2 Invasive green iguanas are no longer sighted on Little Cayman and detection rates on Cayman Brac are reduced by 50% against a YR1 baseline by the end of the project and incursions on both islands are effectively responded to during and beyond the project.

Too early to report.

Indicator 0.3 The invasive feral cat population on Little Cayman is reduced by at least 25% from YR1 baseline by the end of the project, and incursions are effectively responded to during and beyond the project.

No progress resulting from legal block. Operational plan for nocturnal feral cat control on Little Cayman has been developed.

Indicator 0.4 Annual breeding surveys of the brown booby colony on Cayman Brac show productivity increases by 25% by the end of the project as a result of effective targeted feral cat and rodent control.

Brown booby colony breeding survey (Mar '22) completed and data to be analysed to establish baseline.

Indicators 0.5 - 0.7 not expected in this reported period

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1 *The project has been designed to address the individual contexts of the two islands appropriately.*

This has held true over YR1.

Assumption 2 *IAV control and Biosecurity plans are properly implemented by management authorities.*

Partially held true. Implementation of feral cat control held up by legal block (removed in late April '22). DoE now have improved capacity (Biosecurity officer) and are receiving ongoing support from RSPB Biosecurity & invasive species expert, Karen Varnham, as well as improving knowledge of effective green iguana control and incursion prevention/biosecurity from Joe Wasilewski's visit. Government partners and stakeholders including DoA, NTCI and Port Authority remain supportive of the project.

Assumption 3 & 8 *CI Government continue to see importance of biosecurity to CI's native wildlife and related industries and adopt Invasive Species regulations post project.*

Has held true. DoE have significantly advanced the Invasive Species Regulations (now known as National Conservation Alien Species Regulations 2022) which are now on final draft and due to be presented to the Ministry.

Assumption 4 *COVID-19 restrictions do not increase significantly to the point where it impacts the project teams' ability to complete project activities.*

Cayman Islands were mostly COVID-19 free until Sept '21 when cases increased significantly (likely as a result of the more transmissible Omicron variant). However, restrictions on inter-island travel and international travel have been lifted and international project team visits have taken place. The 7-day case average has reduced significantly from its peak in early Feb '22 with new cases reported also on the decline. We will continue to monitor the situation and address any changes necessary amongst the project team and adapt project activities accordingly.

Assumption 5 *Biosecurity measures are not stalled by delays in Cabinet approval to proceed, given that biosecurity implementation requires a multi-agency approach.*

No change. Government partners, including at Ministry level, are supportive of the project.

Assumption 6 *Team members are always available for fieldwork and willing to learn new techniques.*

No change.

Assumption 7 *Staff retention and progression allows them to implement and share skills.*

Staff recruited under this project were already based in Cayman Islands for >5 years prior to taking these roles. As well as clear career and professional development plans agreed together with their line manager, both Tanja and Marique are being supported/mentored by Karen Varnham and Jaclyn Pearson respectively to ensure their development needs are being met.

Assumption 9 & 16 *Local community members continue to volunteer to support conservation efforts on Little Cayman and Little Cayman community remain supportive and committed to feral cat control/eradication.*

No change. Little Cayman volunteers are still receptive to engage.

Assumption 10 *Cayman Brac citizens engage in volunteer opportunities and are open to engaging with the project around feral cat management.*

Cayman Brac volunteers are still receptive to engage evidenced by participation at community events and participation in green iguana culls with Joe Wasilewski and DoE staff in Feb/Mar '22.

Assumption 11 & 17 *RSPB able to replicate communications lessons from; previous successful and widely supported community based/public outreach project across the UK Overseas Territories (including Turks & Caicos Islands) and eradication/biosecurity projects in the UK and recent successful and widely supported feral cat eradications in the Turks & Caicos Islands.*

No change.

Assumption 12 & 15 *Fieldwork is not rendered impossible through hurricanes or other natural phenomena.*

No change. We continue to plan field work outside of hurricane seasons and will monitor accordingly to adjust schedules where necessary. DoE are experienced in managing this risk.

Assumption 13 *Local community members continue to volunteer time and effort to support conservation work on endangered reptiles.*

No change.

Assumption 14 *DoA, DoE, Ports Authority adopt and implement management recommendations for Little Cayman and Cayman Brac.*

No change.

Assumption 18 *Animal rights organisations based on Grand Cayman (who are not directly involved on the Sister Islands) do not block project activities.*

Has not held true. The legal block has led to delays in feral cat management over YR1. However, there has been some successful positive engagement with the local Humane Society, who are receptive to the project's aims, and we are beginning to find common ground between DoE and the Humane Society. This is a key relationship for future development over YR2.

Assumption 19 *Projects partners continue to work in the spirit of the project proposal and partnership agreements, resolving challenges and differences through project meetings.*

No change. Partners are engaging well with one another.

4. Project support to environmental and/or climate outcomes in the UKOTs

The project delivers against Sustainable Development Goals 15 (Life on Land) and 17 (Partnerships).

There are no updates in this reporting period.

The Cayman Islands are party to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). This project supports the UK and Cayman Islands' responsibilities under the CBD (Article 8(h) on alien species; Article 12 on research and training; and Article 13 on public education and awareness. It will also implement key actions in the Cayman National Biodiversity Action Plan (2009), as well as actions in 5 underlying Habitat Action Plans and 4 Species Action Plans.

The project supports implementation of UK & Cayman responsibilities under the RAMSAR convention (& specifically Resolution V.III.18 'Invasive Species & Wetlands') via reducing IAV impacts at 'Booby Pond & Rookery' RAMSAR site on Little Cayman.

No progress to report towards these in YR1.

Alongside implementing priorities in the Cayman Islands' National Biodiversity Action Plan and 9 underlying Species & Habitats Action Plans, the project delivers priorities under the Cayman Islands' Environment Charter 2001 (specifically commitments 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 10 & 11). It enables further implementation of various legal requirements arising from the Cayman Islands' overarching National Conservation Act 2013 (NCA). This is the centrepiece of the Territory's environmental conservation legal framework and is still in the process of being fully executed by the Cayman Islands Government. Specifically, it will deliver:

- Draft of National Conservation Alien Species Regulations 2022 (previously Invasive Species Regulations) as provided for by the NCA, including a draft national biosecurity policy;
- Draft of domestic animals' regulations for Little Cayman under the Animal Law (2015);
- Fulfil the legal requirement to develop Species Conservation Plans for three Schedule 1 species (Cayman Brac Blind Snake *Cubatyphlops epactias*, Cayman Dwarf Boa (*Tropidophis parkeri* on Little Cayman, and *Tropidophis schwanzi* on Cayman Brac);

Final draft of National Conservation Alien Species Regulations 2022 due to be reviewed by Premier in May '22, following which DoE will likely need to present to Caucus before it is considered by Cabinet.

5. OPTIONAL: Consideration of gender equality issues

At the start of the project, our overall project team comprised 40% women, ranging from technical delivery of biosecurity and awareness raising to Director-level project steering support. Following recruitment of biosecurity and community engagement officers in Cayman Islands (indicators 1.1 & 2.2, **Annex 4**) and the project management support role, the core project team is now >60% women.

Where possible, we fully expect to adhere to strict 50:50 gender-balanced sampling in community questionnaire. We have enlisted support of RSPB social scientist, Natasha Constant to inform the design of project questionnaires (see section 3.1, activity 2.4).

6. Monitoring and evaluation

There is not currently a specific M&E plan in place as it has so far been sufficient to monitor the project against the logframe/workplan during project management meetings (one in Sept '21 and another on Cayman in Jan '22) and during 1:1s with RSPB staff based on Cayman. The project is mostly on track and any delays resulting from COVID-19 and recruitment are expected to be rectified from the start of YR2.

As activities increase in YR2 a more robust and concise, M&E plan is to be developed outlining roles/responsibilities of project staff regarding project indicators and means of verification and meeting and reporting schedules. This will be coordinated by the newly recruited Project officer with support of the Project lead and agreed by key project staff at the next project management meeting. In addition, a MS SharePoint site is to be set up to aid data collection, project management and reporting between partners.

7. Lessons learnt

Recruitment of 3 roles on this project took a significant amount of time. Though this was planned for in the project workplan we feel that staggering the recruitment of roles would have been beneficial as well as allowing for additional time for recruitment to accommodate any delays.

Seconded posts at DoE are working well. This is the first time RSPB has done this with a government agency in the Caribbean and staff are integrating well. This is aided by recruiting staff already based on the Cayman Islands and ensuring staff inductions take place early and employing staff with previous experience working with DoE.

8. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

This is the first annual report for this project. Two points raised in the offer letter from Darwin have been addressed in HYR1.

9. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

[REDACTED]

10. Sustainability and legacy

The project profile has been raised significantly with the continued engagement of community members and key stakeholders, supported by the Community engagement officer and Biosecurity officer and during RSPB visit to the islands in Jan '22

Multiple agencies/stakeholders were engaged during the project leaders visit in Jan '22 with overall support given to the projects aims/objectives. The Community engagement officer is integrating well into the Sister Islands whilst the Biosecurity officer continues to engage key agencies crucial to ensuring long-term success of improved biosecurity measures.

Furthermore, the project was presented to the governor and ministry (see section 11) and positively received. These relationships with communities, stakeholders and government will be crucial to the long-term sustainability of the project.

11. Darwin identity

Promotional flyers for project launch events in Feb/Mar '22 on both Little Cayman and Cayman Brac included the Darwin logo and this was also used during biosecurity stakeholder engagement meetings (**Annex 7 & 8**).

HE The Governor of Cayman Islands has made two posts on Facebook about the project:

- Following a meeting in January with RSPB and DoE, [here](#).
- After a visit to Little Cayman with the Minister and Premier of Cayman Islands, [here](#).

During the RSPB visit to Cayman, project lead, Sarah Havery presented the objectives, partners, and desired outcomes of the Darwin Plus project and Darwin as a donor at each meeting. Darwin is well understood amongst partners and the project has received explicit support at most meetings during the visit (**Annex 5**).

We will produce short media segments for posting on a new Facebook page (to be set up by May '22) to support promotion of the project and its objectives. This will include further use of Darwin logos and recognition of Darwin's support for the project (**Annex 10 & 14**).

The project was included in issue 54 of the DoE Terrestrial Resources Unit’s quarterly newsletter, *Flicker* (**Annex 16**), received via email by c.100-150 with stories picked up by various local news sources for their own stories once published.

12. Impact of COVID-19 on project delivery

Lifting of international and inter-island travel restrictions by the Cayman Islands government in Nov '21 has meant that our timelines and project implementation have not been significantly affected and the planned visit in YR1 Q4 to Cayman Islands was able to take place.

However, though these restrictions were lifted, this came quite late for the University of Aberdeen (UoA) and, due to organisational policies relating to travel during the pandemic, UoA were not able to send students to Cayman. The visit has been postponed to YR2 (expected for June '22) and we fully expect these activities to go ahead.

We do not expect COVID-19, at this time, to have a significant impact on project delivery. The 7-day case average has reduced significantly from its peak in early Feb '22 with new cases reported also on the decline. We will continue to monitor the situation and address any changes necessary amongst the project team and adapt project activities where necessary.

13. Safeguarding

Please tick this box if any safeguarding violations have occurred during this financial year.

If you have ticked the box, please ensure these are reported to ODA.safeguarding@defra.gov.uk as indicated in the T&Cs.

We have shared our latest safeguarding policy with downstream partners for reference. There are no additional changes for partners to implement (**Annex 15**).

14. Project expenditure

We have not yet received all financial information from project partners, so a complete detail of expenditure will follow in the expense claim for the fourth quarter of the project.

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022)

Project spend (indicative) in this financial year	2021/22 D+ Grant (£)	2021/22 Total actual D+ Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs	██████			
Consultancy costs	██			
Overhead Costs	██████			
Travel and subsistence	██████			
Operating Costs	██████			
Capital items	██████			
Others (Please specify)	██████			
TOTAL	██████			

15. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

N/A

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2021-2022 – if applicable

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2021 - March 2022	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>The unique biodiversity of the Cayman Sister Islands can thrive in the absence of invasive predators, safeguarded from further detrimental introductions, and cherished by residents as a long-term community asset.</p>		<p>Steps have been taken towards management of IAVs (notably green iguanas) and building on island capacity for effective biosecurity measures and engagement of sister island community.</p>	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Locally led biosecurity and Invasive Alien Vertebrate (IAV) management in the Sister Islands is established and implemented effectively, via sustainably increased capacity, improved knowledge, and community engagement.</p>	<p>0.1 Critically Endangered Sister Islands rock iguana population becomes stable on Little Cayman (currently declining with 2019 baseline of c.1,786 individuals); and becomes stable on Cayman Brac against a YR1 baseline (status currently unknown but suspected declining) by the end of the project.</p> <p>0.2 Invasive green iguanas are no longer sighted on Little Cayman and detection rates on Cayman Brac are reduced by 50% against a YR1 baseline by the end of the project and incursions on both islands are effectively responded to during and beyond the project.</p> <p>0.3 The invasive feral cat population on Little Cayman is reduced by at least 25% from YR1 baseline by the end of the project, and incursions are effectively responded to during and beyond the project.</p>	<p>0.1 Data collected in Mar '22</p> <p>0.2 Too early to report</p> <p>0.3 No progress</p> <p>0.4 Data collected in Mar '22</p> <p>0.5 - 0.7 not expected this reporting period</p>	<p>0.1 Analyse data and establish baseline</p> <p>0.2 Advance and implement green iguana control measures</p> <p>0.3 To be picked up following closure of legal case</p> <p>0.4 Analyse data and establish baseline</p> <p>0.5 Action in YR3</p> <p>0.6 UoA field visit planned for YR2 Q1</p> <p>0.7 Action in YR3</p>

	<p>0.4 Annual breeding surveys of the brown booby colony on Cayman Brac show productivity increases by 25% by the end of the project as a result of effective targeted feral cat and rodent control.</p> <p>0.5 Sister Islands Biosecurity Plan agreed by DoE/ DoA/Port Authority, adopted by Cayman Islands Government and under implementation by end of YR3 and thereafter.</p> <p>0.6 Scientific knowledge gaps filled for cryptic reptile species (blind snakes, boas) to monitor impact of IAV management and biosecurity and to inform Species Action Plans by end of project.</p> <p>0.7 Drafted Invasive Species Regulations, including biosecurity policies, submitted to cabinet by the end of the project.</p>		
<p>Output 1</p> <p>Enhance capacity of in-Territory agencies (DoE/DoA/Port Authority) to plan, manage, implement and monitor biosecurity and IAV control</p>	<p>1.1 Sister Islands biosecurity capacity increased within key local implementing agencies (DoE/DoA/Port Authority) by Q3 Yr1 through recruitment of a Biosecurity Officer.</p> <p>1.2 10 in-Territory staff develop and demonstrate improved skills in biosecurity and IAV control against YR1 baseline by end of project.</p> <p>1.3 At least one funding application submitted to Cayman Islands Government in YR3 by in-Territory</p>	<p>1.1 Indicator achieved - Biosecurity officer recruited ahead of schedule (Oct '21)</p> <p>1.2 Limited progress. Materials being drafted to support future training</p> <p>1.3 – 1.5 Not expected in this reporting period</p>	

	<p>partners to continue biosecurity/IAV control priorities beyond the end of the project.</p> <p>1.4 Two policy documents (National Biosecurity and Sister Islands Domestic Animals' Policy) drafted and submitted to cabinet by the end of the project.</p> <p>1.5 A government approved, stakeholder led, Sister Islands Biosecurity Plan is jointly developed and approved by DoE/DoA/Port Authority for the Sister Islands in YR3 and implemented beyond the project</p>		
<p>1.1 Project partners provide ongoing training to others within the project team to undertake the tasks needed for successful implementation of biosecurity plans in each of the following areas: monitoring (native wildlife and IAVs), ongoing surveillance, minimising the risk of introducing IAVs through the transport of goods and people, and implementing incursion plans should new arrivals of IAVs be detected on Little Cayman or Cayman Brac.</p>		<p>Informal training provided by RSPB to DoE re: rat monitoring and control.</p> <p>GI control expertise bought to island (see 4.6/4.7) and ongoing knowledge sharing from Biosecurity officer with DoE.</p> <p>Ongoing fortnightly mentoring for Biosecurity officer and Community engagement officer via RSPB expertise.</p>	<p>RSPB to provide formal training session re: rodent monitoring and control/biosecurity and record for future use by DoE</p> <p>Review findings from Joe Wasilewski's trip report and implement increased GI control measures</p> <p>Continue mentoring sessions</p>
<p>1.2 Recruit an experienced Biosecurity officer in YR1 Q2 to be seconded to DoE by end December 2021 for 2 years to coordinate biosecurity efforts, training, staff development support and project delivery.</p>		<p>Biosecurity officer in post</p>	<p>Biosecurity officer continues to integrate into DoE and support biosecurity project activities on Sister Isles</p>
<p>1.3 Produce biosecurity training materials and resources by end YR1.</p>		<p>Training materials drafted</p>	<p>Following further stakeholder engagement (1.6) training materials can be refined and developed.</p>
<p>1.4 Develop a biosecurity training programme and schedule by integrating into existing staff induction/training programmes by end YR2.</p>		<p>Not scheduled for this reporting period</p>	<p>Scheduled for YR2 Q4 (post activity 1.3)</p>

1.5 Biosecurity signage developed and installed in key areas on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac by end YR2.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR2 Q4
1.6 Complete a baseline questionnaire with project staff and key implementing agencies in YR1 to determine baseline biosecurity capacity.	DoA and Thompson Shipping engaged	Continue stakeholder engagement. DoE to facilitate further introductions e.g., Port Authority (PACI)
1.7 Repeat biosecurity capacity questionnaire with project staff and key implementing agencies at the end of YR3.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR4 Q1
1.8 Facilitate a biosecurity planning workshop with key implementing agencies, stakeholders, and local community representatives to produce a Biosecurity Plan for the Sister Islands by the end of YR3.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR3 Q3
1.9 Implement biosecurity on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac through increased monitoring and deliver incursion responses, and building inter-agency collaboration throughout the project, to any detection of IAVs (i.e., green iguanas, feral cats/dogs).	Incursion responses ongoing and logged in DoE database for Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. Culls supported by Joe Wasilewski in Feb/Mar '22	Standardise GI database and continue logging incursion responses. Use Joe Wasilewski report to inform effective GI management
1.10 Facilitate a cabinet level meeting in YR3 with key stakeholders to establish a plan for building human resources for biosecurity within key partners by demonstrating the value of the Biosecurity Officer role, resulting in a new post request to Cayman Islands Government.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR3 Q1
1.11 In YR3 and beyond the project, biosecurity training led by key DoE/DoA staff.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR3 Q1
1.12 Draft domestic animals' Regulations for Little Cayman under the 'Animals law' (DoA) that ensures all new domestic cats arriving in the Little Cayman are neutered and microchipped by mid-YR3.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR3 Q2
1.13 Draft a national Biosecurity Policy by the end of the project.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR3 Q2
1.14 Write a draft cabinet paper for feedback on the drafted Little Cayman domestic animals' Regulations and national Biosecurity Policy by the end of the project.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR4 Q1
Output 2 Enhance in-Territory community capacity to implement and monitor biosecurity and IAV control	2.1 By end of project, at least 10 Sister Islands citizens volunteer their time and resources towards implementing both biosecurity measures and responding to	2.1 Not expected this reporting period 2.2 Indicator delayed but achieved 2.3 Delayed progress due to recruitment delays. Draft questionnaire and communications plan developed.

	<p>incursion of IAVs rapidly and effectively.</p> <p>2.2 Capacity within key local implementing agencies (DoE) increased to deliver effective community engagement on Cayman Brac by Q3 Yr1 through recruitment of a part-time Community Engagement Officer.</p> <p>2.3 Increased awareness against YR1 baseline within Cayman Brac community on (1) the importance of neutering pets and (2) the importance of not relocating feral cats to Little Cayman by the end of the project.</p> <p>2.4 At least 75% of Little Cayman's citizens (c.203 people) and 25% of Cayman Brac's citizens (c.882 people) engaged during the project, with increased awareness against YR1 baseline of the need for biosecurity in order to safeguard Sister Isle species.</p> <p>2.5 50% of Little Cayman's citizens and 10% of Cayman Brac's citizens actively participated, learnt and value biosecurity in order to safeguard Sister Isles' species.</p>	2.4 - 2.5 Not expected this reporting period	
2.1 Recruit a p/t Community Engagement Officer in YR1 Q2 to be seconded to DoE by end December 2021 for 2 years to coordinate volunteer programme, training, staff development support and project delivery.		Community Engagement officer recruited in Dec '21	Continue with agreed work programme
2.2 In YR1 hold project launch community events on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac.		Launch events delayed but completed in Feb/Mar '21 with newly recruited project staff and green iguana expert	Continue project sensitisation with communities and stakeholder meetings where necessary

	on both Little Cayman and Cayman Brac 'Soft launch' informal meetings held with stakeholders in Jan '22 during RSPB visit	
2.3 Targeted ongoing outreach/communication on Cayman Brac to collect information on the opinions & values of the community around feral cat management, with the aim to increase awareness on (1) importance of neutering pets and (2) importance of not relocating feral cats to Little Cayman by the end of the project.	Community engagement officer successfully integrating with communities since Jan '22	Community engagement officer to continue integration on Cayman Brac, especially with Caymanian community members. RSPB to continue providing expertise and guidance to community engagement officer/DoE staff
2.4 Complete a baseline questionnaire with volunteers and community members in YR1 to determine baseline biosecurity awareness.	Draft questionnaire developed and with project team for comment. Input provided by RSPB Social Scientist, Natasha Constant	Finalise questionnaire with input from RSPB social scientist, complete surveys and establish baseline
2.5 Repeat biosecurity capacity questionnaire with volunteers and community members (end of project awareness survey) by the end of YR3.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR3 Q4
2.6 Produce volunteer training materials and resources/publicity materials and project communication plan by end YR1.	Communication plan drafted	Project team to input into communication plan and finalise Develop training materials for volunteers and publicity materials identified in comms plan
2.7 Develop a volunteer work programme and schedule by end YR1.	Delayed to YR2	Community engagement officer to begin in YR2 Q1
2.8 Recruit at least 10 biosecurity volunteers by the end of the project.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Begin recruitment of volunteers from YR2 Q1 to end of project
2.9 Hold six monthly community events/volunteer 'get-together' days to increase project awareness and community participation.	Delayed as a result of COVID-19 inter-island travel restrictions. Informal engagements with community engagement officer ongoing.	Establish schedule for community events and set up first 'get-together' event days in YR2 Q1
2.10 Expand the invasive green iguana response network through training a volunteer 'rapid response' team by the end of YR2.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled YR2 Q2

<p>2.11 Complete ad-hoc feedback forms at meetings/workshops/events to monitor and evaluate community participation (including gender disaggregated data).</p>	<p>Data monitored from Jan '22. Cayman Brac – 55 f, 63 m (6% of population) engaged Little Cayman 17 f, 26 m (27% of population) engaged</p>	<p>Refine data collection forms and continue ongoing data collection</p>
<p>Output 3 The baseline presence of IAVs and nationally significant wildlife is better understood. Interactions and impacts of IAVs are determined and used to inform conservation management and community engagement.</p>	<p>3.1 Rodent assessment completed at at least six priority rock iguana, seabird and residential sites (that might be impacted by cat control) across the Sister Islands by end YR1.</p> <p>3.2 Residency levels and distribution of feral cats are quantified on Sister Islands by end YR1.</p> <p>3.3 Presence/absence of Critically Endangered Cayman Brac blind snake determined via systematic spatial sampling using refugia on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac by the end of YR2. Surveys will involve local citizens, DoE staff and student researchers.</p> <p>3.4 Detailed surveys of Sister Islands' Cayman dwarf boas with baseline population estimates and habitat preferences quantified by end YR2. Surveys will involve local citizens, DoE staff and student researchers.</p> <p>3.5 Impacts of IAV's upon target species quantified by end of the project and a repeated questionnaire evaluation of local citizen participants (at start and end of project) demonstrates</p>	<p>3.1 – On track/delayed. Rodent surveys completed at 4 priority sites on west side of Little Cayman as part of the upcoming cat control programme. Rodent control in Cayman Brac will be carried out in pockets as part of seabird mortality mitigation in YR2.</p> <p>3.2 – Initial flashlight survey on Little Cayman complete in '21.</p> <p>3.3 – 3.6 Not scheduled for this reporting period</p>

	<p>increased understanding of Sister Island species and the negative impacts of IAVs.</p> <p>3.6 Species Conservation Plans developed for the two species/species groups of Sister Islands' cryptic reptiles by end of project.</p>		
3.1 Complete survey of rodents in sites of conservation importance on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac in YR1, using a variety of detection methods to establish residency/activity levels.		Rodent surveys completed at 4 priority sites on west side of Little Cayman as part of the upcoming cat control programme	Start rodent control on Cayman Brac during seabird breeding season. Produce Technical rodent assessment report and compile database.
3.2 Survey of feral cat population on Little Cayman in YR1, using a variety of detection methods (including motion cameras), establish residency/activity levels.		Nocturnal flashlight survey completed on Little Cayman for initial baseline in '21	Deploy camera traps from YR2 Q1
3.3 Complete presence/absence surveys for Cayman Brac blind snake <i>Cubatyphlops epactias</i> on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac by end YR1.		Surveys designed with monitoring taking place since Nov '21. 13 plywood stations have been distributed along the entire coastline of Little Cayman and stations have been checked 3 times by end of YR1	Continue surveys. UoA trip with student(s) planned for June '22
3.4 Complete detailed surveys for Cayman ground boas (<i>Tropidophis parkeri</i> on Little Cayman, and <i>Tropidophis schwartzi</i> on Cayman Brac) by end YR2.		Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR2 Q1, UoA visit June '22
3.5 Complete annual population survey of Sister Isles rock iguanas on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac. [co-funding]		Surveys completed in Mar '22	Analyse data.
3.6 Complete annual breeding surveys of brown booby colony on Cayman Brac. [co-funding]		Surveys completed in Mar '22	Analyse data.
3.7 Analyse data to assess impacts of IAV's upon target species (reptiles and seabirds) by end of the project		Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR3 Q3
3.8 Complete Species Conservation Plans for the species above by the end of the project.		Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR3 Q3
3.9 Update IUCN Red List Assessments for Sister Isles' boas by the end of the project.		Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR3 Q3

3.10 Draft at least one peered review paper on the interactions between IAV's and native species (reptiles and seabirds) by end of the project	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR3 Q3
<p>Output 4</p> <p>Reduced impact of IAVs on globally threatened Sister Islands species through effective management.</p>	<p>4.1 Feral cat management effectively planned and implemented by local partners on Little Cayman in YR1 with feasibility for eradication from Little Cayman determined by end YR2.</p> <p>4.2 Feral cat management schedule and protocol approved on Cayman Brac & implemented by local partners in YR2.</p> <p>4.3 Enhanced control programme in place for invasive green iguanas, reducing estimated population to <5% for Little Cayman by the end of the project from existing annual baselines.</p> <p>4.4 Invasive green iguana eradication plan by local partners produced for Little Cayman and Cayman Brac by the end of the project.</p> <p>4.5 Rodent control programme established by local partners in at least six priority areas across the Sister Islands by end YR2</p>	<p>4.1 Operational plan for nocturnal feral cat control on Little Cayman. Implementation not been possible in YR1 due to legal block. Legal block cleared by end April '22.</p> <p>4.2 - 4.5 Not scheduled for this reporting period</p>
4.1 Determine and implement an appropriate trapping schedule for a targeted feral cat control programme around priority sites on Little Cayman in YR1.	<p>Delayed due to legal block (cleared late April '22).</p> <p>Operational plan has been developed.</p>	To be actioned in May '22 following legal block clearance.
4.2 Complete a feasibility study for the eradication of feral cats from Little Cayman in YR2.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR2 Q4

4.3 Determine and implement an appropriate trapping schedule for a targeted feral cat control programme around priority sites on Cayman Brac in YR2.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR2 Q2
4.4 Develop and implement a rodent control programme in priority areas (identified in Action 3.6), building into Action Plan for Little Cayman by YR2.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR2 Q4
4.5 Develop and implement a rodent control programme in priority areas (identified in Action 3.6) building into Action Plan for Cayman Brac by YR2.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR2 Q1
4.6 Develop a plan for invasive green iguana eradication within Action Plan for Little Cayman in YR2.	Green iguana expert visit completed in Feb/Mar '22	Take findings from visit forward with project team to inform GI control on Little Cayman and develop action plan
4.7 Develop a plan for invasive green iguana eradication within Action Plan for Cayman Brac in YR2.	Green iguana expert visit completed in Feb/Mar '22	Take findings from visit forward with project team to inform GI control on Cayman Brac and develop action plan
4.8 Enhance green iguana control on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac (with aim for future eradication) from YR2.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Review findings from report and implement improved GI control on sister isles
Output 5 Project managed and monitored effectively	<p>5.1 Project monitoring plan developed in first 3 months and reviewed twice per year.</p> <p>5.2 Regular communication maintained between the team; six monthly skype calls and annual visits and reports from managers</p> <p>5.3 Annual face to face project meetings take action to address any challenges and maintain engagement of senior managers within project partners</p> <p>5.4 Technical and financial reporting to RSPB and Darwin accurate and on time and to high standard</p>	<p>5.1 Behind schedule. Expect to have a complete M&E plan in place before end of YR2 Q1.</p> <p>5.2 On track. First call held in Sept '21 and first annual meeting held in Cayman Islands. Newly recruited Project officer, Joe Jeffcoate, to establish regular meeting schedule.</p> <p>5.3 On track. First meeting held in Cayman Islands with RSPB/DoE in Jan '22</p> <p>5.4 Technical reporting provided in meetings and via 1:1s in YR1. HYR1 and AR1 submitted on time. Financial reports expected from partners by end of April '22.</p>
5.1 In YR1 Q1 develop and agree project monitoring plan and use it as a project management tool to monitor implementation progress.	M&E plan yet to be developed due to recruitment delays, project sufficiently monitored against workplan at project meetings.	Project officer to lead development of M&E plan and establish MS SharePoint site to support project monitoring/reporting.

5.2 Quarterly conference call for core project team to update on progress and plan forthcoming work schedule	First call held in Sept '21	Project officer to establish regular meeting schedule
5.3 Six monthly internal (project team) technical and financial reporting to RSPB	Technical reporting provided at meetings. Partner financial reports for YR1 expected end of April '22	Project officer to provide partner reporting template as necessary to aid efficient reporting
5.4 3x annual meeting of project team and management in Grand Cayman for planning and sharing of data between all project partners from subsequent years.	1 st annual meeting held 1 st Feb '21.	Next visit to Cayman planned for YR2 Q4
5.5 Mid-term evaluation with project team in YR2.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Review planned for YR2 Q2. Project officer to coordinate with Project lead.
5.6 Final project evaluation with external consultant in YR3 Q4.	Not scheduled for this reporting period	Scheduled for YR3 Q4

Annex 2: Project’s full current logframe as presented in the application form (unless changes have been agreed) - if applicable

N.B. if your application’s logframe is presented in a different format in your application, please transpose into the below template. Please feel free to contact Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk if you have any questions regarding this.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: The unique biodiversity of the Cayman Sister Islands can thrive in the absence of invasive predators, safeguarded from further detrimental introductions, and cherished by residents as a long-term community asset.			
<p>Outcome: Locally led biosecurity and Invasive Alien Vertebrate (IAV) management in the Sister Islands is established and implemented effectively, via sustainably increased capacity, improved knowledge, and community engagement.</p>	<p>0.1 Critically Endangered Sister Islands rock iguana population becomes stable on Little Cayman (currently declining with 2019 baseline of c.1,786 individuals); and becomes stable on Cayman Brac against a YR1 baseline (status currently unknown but suspected declining) by the end of the project.</p> <p>0.2 Invasive green iguanas are no longer sighted on Little Cayman and detection rates on Cayman Brac are reduced by 50% against a YR1 baseline by the end of the project and incursions on both islands are effectively responded to during and beyond the project.</p> <p>0.3 The invasive feral cat population on Little Cayman is reduced by at least 25% from YR1 baseline by the end of the project, and incursions are effectively responded to during and beyond the project.</p> <p>0.4 Annual breeding surveys of the brown booby colony on Cayman Brac show productivity increases by 25% by the end of the project as a result of effective targeted feral cat and rodent control.</p>	<p>0.1 Sister Islands rock iguana population assessment report for Year 1 and 3; Updated IUCN Conservation status assessment report for Sister Islands rock iguana; Iguana database for CI Government.</p> <p>0.2 Annual technical reports, databases of green iguana control efforts on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac.</p> <p>0.3 Annual technical reports, databases of feral cat control efforts on Little Cayman.</p> <p>0.4 Annual seabird colony population reports, database of seabird counts.</p> <p>0.5 Biosecurity Plan document for Little Cayman and Cayman Brac; MoU document between key implementing agencies, annual work plans and budgets.</p> <p>0.6 Drafted peer review papers, updated IUCN Red List status assessments for endemic reptiles; technical reports from field visits, databases and maps showing survey results. Management plan updates for species and sites.</p>	<p>Green iguanas and feral cats are present on both Sister Islands but the demographics and existing biological data for the two islands are very different: Little Cayman (82 ha; human population = 270) has robust data on iguanas, large seabird colonies with limited available data and strong community support for both green iguana and feral cat control/eradication. Cayman Brac (3,527 ha; human population = 2,547) has limited iguana data, good data on a declining seabird colony and variable community support for invasive species management, with strong support for green iguana control but currently limited support for feral cat control. The project has been designed to address the individual contexts of the two islands appropriately.</p> <p>IAV control and Biosecurity plans are properly implemented by management authorities. We are confident this assumption will hold thanks to high level of competency and experience of project partners.</p> <p>CI Government continue to see importance of biosecurity to CI’s native wildlife and related industries and adopt Invasive Species regulations post project. We are confident this assumption will hold true as this project has been developed in line with current priorities.</p> <p>COVID-19 restrictions do not increase significantly to the point where it impacts the</p>

	<p>0.5 Sister Islands Biosecurity Plan agreed by DoE/ DoA/Port Authority, adopted by Cayman Islands Government and under implementation by end of YR3 and thereafter.</p> <p>0.6 Scientific knowledge gaps filled for cryptic reptile species (blind snakes, boas) to monitor impact of IAV management and biosecurity and to inform Species Action Plans by end of project.</p> <p>0.7 Drafted Invasive Species Regulations, including biosecurity policies, submitted to cabinet by the end of the project.</p>	<p>0.7 Drafted Invasive Species Regulation and policy documents, cabinet paper, minutes from cabinet meeting.</p>	<p>project teams' ability to complete project activities. Given the skills and experience of the in-Territory partners, we believe the project can be appropriately adapted in the scenario of further COVID-19 restrictions without impacting the project outcome, particularly as there is no current within-country virus transmission in the Caymans due to border controls.</p> <p>Biosecurity measures are not stalled by delays in Cabinet approval to proceed, given that biosecurity implementation requires a multi-agency approach. We believe this assumption will hold true as this project has been developed in line with current priorities but are aware of the risk given the upcoming election in May 2021.</p>
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. Enhance capacity of in-Territory agencies (DoE/DoA/Port Authority) to plan, manage, implement and monitor biosecurity and IAV control</p>	<p>1.1 Sister Islands biosecurity capacity increased within key local implementing agencies ((DoE/DoA/Port Authority) by Q3 Yr1 through recruitment of a Biosecurity Officer.</p> <p>1.2 10 in-Territory staff develop and demonstrate improved skills in biosecurity and IAV control against YR1 baseline by end of project.</p> <p>1.3 At least one funding application submitted to Cayman Islands Government in YR3 by in-Territory partners to continue biosecurity/IAV control priorities beyond the end of the project.</p> <p>1.4 Two policy documents (national biosecurity and Sister Islands domestic animals' policy) drafted and</p>	<p>1.1 Staff work plans, biosecurity officer signed contract.</p> <p>1.2 Project team feedback forms on fieldwork; Team leaders/line managers assessment and annual appraisals</p> <p>1.3 Departmental plans/funding applications for future work.</p> <p>1.4 Policy documents, cabinet paper</p> <p>1.5 Plan document(s), database; MOU/statement of ongoing collaboration to maintain biosecurity DoE/DoA/Ports Authority</p>	<p>Team members are always available for fieldwork and willing to learn new techniques. We believe this assumption will hold true based on meetings held with project partners and stakeholders during the project development.</p> <p>Staff retention and progression allows them to implement and share skills. We believe this will hold true as recruited staff will be supported by experienced local staff and the location is a highly desirable place to work / be based.</p> <p>CI Government continue to see importance of biosecurity to CI's native wildlife and related industries and adopt Invasive Species regulations post project. We are confident this assumption will hold true as this project has been developed in line with current priorities.</p>

	<p>submitted to cabinet by the end of the project.</p> <p>1.5 A Government approved, stakeholder led, Sister Islands Biosecurity Plan is jointly developed and approved by DoE/DoA/Port Authority for the Sister Islands in YR3 and implemented beyond the project.</p>		
<p>2. Enhance in-Territory community capacity to implement and monitor biosecurity and IAV control</p>	<p>2.1 By end of project, at least 10 Sister Islands citizens volunteer their time and resources towards implementing both biosecurity measures and responding to incursion of IAVs rapidly and effectively.</p> <p>2.2 Capacity within key local implementing agencies (DoE) increased to deliver effective community engagement on Cayman Brac by Q3 Yr1 through recruitment of a part-time Community Engagement Officer.</p> <p>2.3 Increased awareness against YR1 baseline within Cayman Brac community on (1) the importance of neutering pets and (2) the importance of not relocating feral cats to Little Cayman by the end of the project.</p> <p>2.4 At least 75% of Little Cayman's citizens (c.203 people) and 25% of Cayman Brac's citizens (c.882 people) engaged during the project, with increased awareness against YR1 baseline of the need for biosecurity in order to safeguard Sister Isle species.</p>	<p>2.1 'Volunteer role descriptions' document; 'Biosecurity and incursion response' training materials; volunteer agreements signed; photographs of volunteer days and rapid response kits, database of IAV sightings and incursion response activities.</p> <p>2.2 Community Engagement Officer signed contract, work plans.</p> <p>2.3 Communications plan, publicity materials, completed repeated questionnaires (designed to capture gender disaggregated data), end of project awareness survey report.</p> <p>2.4 Communications plan, publicity materials, feedback forms (designed to capture gender disaggregated data), end of project awareness survey report.</p> <p>2.5 Activity Plan, community workshops (photographs, feedback forms), completed repeated questionnaires (designed to capture gender disaggregated data), technical report on community surveys.</p>	<p>Local community members continue to volunteer to support conservation efforts on Little Cayman. We believe this will hold true based on the current volunteer system and community support in place for responding to invasive green iguana sightings. Based on previous DoE community engagement efforts (community meetings), >95% of the community are supportive of feral cat control/eradication. Letters have also been sent from Little Cayman community requesting Government action on feral cat management.</p> <p>Cayman Brac citizens engage in volunteer opportunities and are open to engaging with the project around feral cat management. We believe this will hold true based on the current volunteer system and community support in place for responding to invasive green iguana sightings. The project team are also experienced in effective community engagement on previous eradication projects.</p> <p>RSPB able to replicate communications lessons from previous successful and widely supported community based/public outreach project across the UK Overseas Territories (including Turks & Caicos Islands) and eradication/biosecurity projects in the UK.</p>

	<p>2.5 50% of Little Cayman's citizens and 10% of Cayman Brac's citizens actively participated, learnt and value biosecurity in order to safeguard Sister Isle species.</p>		
<p>3 The baseline presence of IAVs and nationally significant wildlife is better understood. Interactions and impacts of IAVs are determined and used to inform conservation management and community engagement.</p>	<p>3.1 Rodent assessment completed at at least six priority rock iguana, seabird and residential sites (that might be impacted by cat control) across the Sister Islands by end YR1.</p> <p>3.2 Residency levels and distribution of feral cats are quantified on Sister Islands by end YR1.</p> <p>3.3 Presence/absence of Critically Endangered Cayman Brac blind snake determined via systematic spatial sampling using refugia on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac by the end of YR2. Surveys will involve local citizens, DoE staff and student researchers.</p> <p>3.4 Detailed surveys of Sister Islands' Cayman dwarf boas with baseline population estimates and habitat preferences quantified by end YR2. Surveys will involve local citizens, DoE staff and student researchers.</p> <p>3.5 Impacts of IAV's upon target species quantified by end of the project and a repeated questionnaire evaluation of local citizen participants (at start and end of project) demonstrates increased understanding of Sister Island species and the negative impacts of IAVs.</p>	<p>3.1 Technical rodent assessment report outlining recommendations and protocols, database of rodent presence/absence results.</p> <p>3.2 Technical report outlining control recommendations, maps showing feral cat density, database of feral cat distribution.</p> <p>3.3 Technical report on presence/absence of blind snakes, fieldwork reports and photographs of training/activities, database of recordings, photographs of community participation, feedback evaluation forms for community participants.</p> <p>3.4 Technical report on presence/absence of boas, fieldwork reports and photographs of training/activities, database of recordings, photographs of community participation, feedback evaluation forms for community participants.</p> <p>3.5 Technical report of impacts of IAVs upon Sister Islands species, completed questionnaires, evaluation report of citizen participation and understanding of IAV's impacts on species.</p> <p>3.6 Species Conservation Plan documents (legal document), recommendations for management plans</p>	<p>Fieldwork is not rendered impossible through hurricanes or other natural phenomena. We plan to mitigate this as much as possible through planning fieldwork schedules so that the vast majority of work occurs outside of hurricane season.</p> <p>Local community members continue to volunteer time and effort to support conservation work on endangered reptiles. We believe this will hold true based on the current voluntary community action taking in response to native rock and invasive green iguanas.</p>

	<p>3.6 Species Conservation Plans developed for the two species/species groups of Sister Islands' cryptic reptiles by end of project.</p>		
<p>4 Reduced impact of IAVs on globally threatened Sister Islands species through effective management.</p>	<p>4.1 Feral cat management effectively planned and implemented by local partners on Little Cayman in YR1 with feasibility for eradication from Little Cayman determined by end YR2.</p> <p>4.2 Feral cat management schedule and protocol approved on Cayman Brac & implemented by local partners in YR2.</p> <p>4.3 Enhanced control programme in place for invasive green iguanas, reducing estimated population to <5% for Little Cayman by the end of the project from existing annual baselines.</p> <p>4.4 Invasive green iguana eradication plan by local partners produced for Little Cayman and Cayman Brac by the end of the project.</p> <p>4.5 Rodent control programme established by local partners in at least six priority areas across the Sister Islands by end YR2.</p>	<p>4.1 Control protocol document for Little Cayman, trapping schedule document/field officer logbooks, eradication feasibility study document, DoE/DoA approval letters for cat trapping, annual work plan, database of feral cat trapping effort, quarterly reports.</p> <p>4.2 Control protocol document for Cayman Brac, trapping schedule document, DoE/DoA approval letters for cat trapping, annual work plan, field officer logbooks, database of feral cat trapping effort, quarterly reports.</p> <p>4.3 Green iguana control programme plan document, database of green iguana control efforts.</p> <p>4.4 Green iguana eradication plan document(s).</p> <p>4.5 Database of rodent control effort, technical report summarising rodent control effort.</p>	<p>IAV control and Biosecurity plans are properly implemented by management authorities – i.e., local technical capacity is not lost. We believe this assumption will hold true based on meetings held with project partners & stakeholders during the project development.</p> <p>DoA, DoE, Ports Authority adopt and implement management recommendations for Little Cayman and Cayman Brac. We believe this assumption will hold true based on meetings held with project partners & stakeholders during the project development.</p> <p>Fieldwork is not rendered impossible through hurricanes or other natural phenomena.</p> <p>Little Cayman community remain supportive and committed to feral cat control/eradication. We believe this will hold true based on previous DoE community engagement efforts (community meetings) indicating that >95% of the community are supportive of feral cat control/eradication. Letters have also been sent from Little Cayman community requesting Government action on feral cat management.</p> <p>RSPB able to replicate communications lessons from recent successful and widely supported feral cat eradications in the Turks & Caicos Islands.</p> <p>Animal rights organisations based on Grand Cayman (who are not directly involved on the Sister Islands) do not block project activities. We believe this will prove to be the case</p>

			through a current Cayman Govt legal process, bolstered by community and stakeholder support for the feral cat control/eradication on Little Cayman. On Cayman Brac the project is designed to ensure effective engagement with the community in YR1 and will only focus on priority sites with the most vulnerable flagship species (e.g., booby colony).
5 Project managed and monitored effectively	<p>5.1 Project monitoring plan developed in first 3 months and reviewed twice per year.</p> <p>5.2 Regular communication maintained between the team; six monthly skype calls and annual visits and reports from managers</p> <p>5.3 Annual face to face project meetings take action to address any challenges and maintain engagement of senior managers within project partners</p> <p>5.4 Technical and financial reporting to RSPB and Darwin accurate and on time and to high standard.</p>	<p>5.1 Monitoring plan and updates.</p> <p>5.2 Team meeting minutes and project manager's reports.</p> <p>5.3 Project meeting action points completed, attendance list for annual meetings.</p> <p>5.4 Technical and financial reports and approval notes from Darwin.</p>	Projects partners continue to work in the spirit of the project proposal and partnership agreements, resolving challenges and differences through project meetings. We believe this will hold true due to the level of commitment of local partners into the project development. The project took over 2 years of development between RSPB and DoE and involved eight weekly project partner development meetings for stage 1 and six project partner development meetings for the stage 2 proposal.
<p>Activities</p> <p>Output 1: Enhance capacity of in-Territory agencies (DoE, DoA, Ports Authority) to plan, manage, implement and monitor biosecurity and IAV control</p> <p>1.1 Project partners provide ongoing training to others within the project team to undertake the tasks needed for successful implementation of biosecurity plans in each of the following areas: monitoring (native wildlife and IAVs), ongoing surveillance, minimising the risk of introducing IAVs through the transport of goods and people, and implementing incursion plans should new arrivals of IAVs be detected on Little Cayman or Cayman Brac.</p> <p>1.2 Recruit an experienced Biosecurity Officer in YR1 Q2 to be seconded to DoE by end December 2021 for 2 years to coordinate biosecurity efforts, training, staff development support and project delivery.</p> <p>1.3 Produce biosecurity training materials and resources by end YR1.</p> <p>1.4 Develop a biosecurity training programme and schedule by integrating into existing staff induction/training programmes by end YR2.</p> <p>1.5 Biosecurity signage developed and installed in key areas on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac by end YR2.</p> <p>1.6 Complete a baseline questionnaire with project staff and key implementing agencies in YR1 to determine baseline biosecurity capacity.</p> <p>1.7 Repeat biosecurity capacity questionnaire with project staff and key implementing agencies at the end of YR3.</p>			

- 1.8 Facilitate a biosecurity planning workshop with key implementing agencies, stakeholders and local community representatives to produce a Biosecurity Plan for the Sister Islands by the end of YR3.
- 1.9 Implement biosecurity on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac through increased monitoring and deliver incursion responses, and building inter-agency collaboration throughout the project, to any detection of IAVs (i.e. green iguanas, feral cats/dogs).
- 1.10 Facilitate a cabinet level meeting in YR3 with key stakeholders to establish a plan for building human resources for biosecurity within key partners by demonstrating the value of the Biosecurity Officer role, resulting in a new post request to Cayman Islands Government.
- 1.11 In YR3 and beyond the project, biosecurity training led by key DoE/DoA staff.
- 1.12 Draft domestic animals' Regulations for Little Cayman under the 'Animals law' (DoA) that ensures all new domestic cats arriving in the Little Cayman are neutered and microchipped by mid-YR3.
- 1.13 Draft a national Biosecurity Policy by the end of the project.
- 1.14 Write a draft cabinet paper for feedback on the drafted Little Cayman domestic animals' Regulations and national Biosecurity Policy by the end of the project.

Output 2: Enhance in-Territory community capacity to implement and monitor biosecurity and IAV control

- 2.1 Recruit a p/t Community Engagement Officer in YR1 Q2 to be seconded to DoE by end December 2021 for 2 years to coordinate volunteer programme, training, staff development support and project delivery.
- 2.2 In YR1 hold project launch community events on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac.
- 2.3 Targeted ongoing outreach/communication on Cayman Brac to collect information on the opinions & values of the community around feral cat management, with the aim to increase awareness on (1) importance of neutering pets and (2) importance of not relocating feral cats to Little Cayman by the end of the project.
- 2.4 Complete a baseline questionnaire with volunteers and community members in YR1 to determine baseline biosecurity awareness.
- 2.5 Repeat biosecurity capacity questionnaire with volunteers and community members (end of project awareness survey) by the end of YR3.
- 2.6 Produce volunteer training materials and resources/publicity materials and project communication plan by end YR1.
- 2.7 Develop a volunteer work programme and schedule by end YR1.
- 2.8 Recruit at least 10 biosecurity volunteers by the end of the project.
- 2.9 Hold six monthly community events/volunteer 'get-together' days to increase project awareness and community participation.
- 2.10 Expand the invasive green iguana response network through training a volunteer 'rapid response' team by the end of YR2.
- 2.11 Complete ad-hoc feedback forms at meetings/workshops/events to monitor and evaluate community participation (including gender disaggregated data).

Output 3: The baseline presence of IAVs and their impact on nationally significant wildlife is better understood and used to inform conservation management and community engagement.

- 3.1 Complete survey of rodents in sites of conservation importance on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac in YR1, using a variety of detection methods to establish residency/activity levels.
- 3.2 Survey of feral cat population on Little Cayman in YR1, using a variety of detection methods (including motion cameras), establish residency/activity levels.
- 3.3 Complete presence/absence surveys for Cayman Brac blind snake *Cubatyphlops epactias* on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac by end YR1.
- 3.4 Complete detailed surveys for Cayman ground boas (*Tropidophis parkeri* on Little Cayman, and *Tropidophis schwartzi* on Cayman Brac) by end YR2.
- 3.5 Complete annual population survey of Sister Isles rock iguanas on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac. [co-funding]

- 3.6 Complete annual breeding surveys of brown booby colony on Cayman Brac. [co-funding]
- 3.7 Analyse data to assess impacts of IAV's upon target species (reptiles and seabirds) by end of the project
- 3.8 Complete Species Conservation Plans for the species above by the end of the project.
- 3.9 Update IUCN Red List Assessments for Sister Isles' boas by the end of the project.
- 3.10 Draft at least one peered review paper on the interactions between IAV's and native species (reptiles and seabirds) by end of the project

Output 4: Reduced impact of IAVs on globally threatened Sister Isles species through effective management.

- 4.1 Determine and implement an appropriate trapping schedule for a targeted feral cat control programme around priority sites on Little Cayman in YR1.
- 4.2 Complete a feasibility study for the eradication of feral cats from Little Cayman in YR2.
- 4.3 Determine and implement an appropriate trapping schedule for a targeted feral cat control programme around priority sites on Cayman Brac in YR2.
- 4.4 Develop and implement a rodent control programme in priority areas (identified in Action 3.6), building into Action Plan for Little Cayman by YR2.
- 4.5 Develop and implement a rodent control programme in priority areas (identified in Action 3.6) building into Action Plan for Cayman Brac by YR2.
- 4.6 Develop a plan for invasive green iguana eradication within Action Plan for Little Cayman in YR2.
- 4.7 Develop a plan for invasive green iguana eradication within Action Plan for Cayman Brac in YR2.
- 4.8 Enhance green iguana control on Little Cayman and Cayman Brac (with aim for future eradication) from YR2.

Output 5: Project managed and monitored effectively

- 5.1 In YR1 Q1 develop and agree project monitoring plan and use it as a project management tool to monitor implementation progress.
- 5.2 Quarterly conference call for core project team to update on progress and plan forthcoming work schedule
- 5.3 Six monthly internal (project team) technical and financial reporting to RSPB
- 5.4 3x annual meeting of project team and management in Grand Cayman for planning and sharing of data between all project partners from subsequent years.
- 5.5 Mid-term evaluation with project team in YR2.
- 5.6 Final project evaluation with external consultant in YR3 Q4.

Annex 3 Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)

Annex #	Title/description
<i>Annex 1 - 3 included within this report</i>	
4	RSPB CI staff workplans
5	RSPB Trip Summary - Jan 2022
6	Joe Wasilewski, trip report
7	Key biosecurity implementing agencies - Stakeholder engagement
8	YR1 Supporting photos and images
9	Draft questionnaire
10	Draft communications plan
11	Community participation data (Jan-Mar 22) & CI 2021 census report
12	Little Cayman Feral Cat Spotlight survey report
13	Annual face-to-face meeting minutes
14	Media segment preparatory notes
15	RSPB Safeguarding Policy - 2022
16	Quarterly Newsletter, Flicker #54

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	Yes
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	Yes
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	No
Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	Yes
Do you have hard copies of material you need to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	No
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Yes
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	No (awaiting partner expenditure)
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	