Applicant: **Baylis, Alastair** Organisation: **SOUTH ATLANTIC ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

Funding Sought: £85,460.00

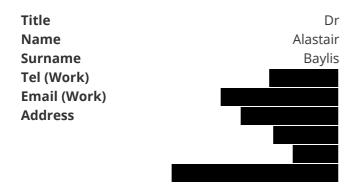
DPR9S2\1020

Improving Falklands marine management effectiveness for marine higher predators

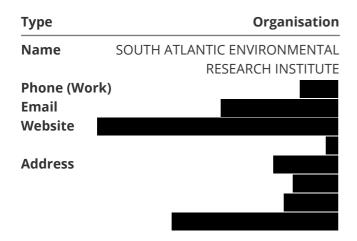
A cornerstone of effective MPA management is how boundaries protect globally significant populations of marine higher predators (MHP; seals, seabirds, cetaceans). DPLUS0071 identified limited MHP tracking data impeded fine-scaling FI Marine Managed Areas (MMAs). This project will fill data gaps for globally significant MHP, enable fine-scaling of FI MMAs, and deliver risk assessment frameworks to facilitate informed decision making. This will be achieved through a cost effective, locally driven MHP tracking program and workshops, in partnership with FIG and JNCC.

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS



GMS ORGANISATION



Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q3a. Project title

Improving Falklands marine management effectiveness for marine higher predators

Q3b. What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DPR9S1\10008

DPR9S1\1030

Q4. UKOT(s)

Which eligible UK Overseas Territory(ies) will your project be working in?

☑ Falkland Islands (FI)

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

No Response

Q4b. In addition to the UKOTs you have indicated, will your project directly benefit any other Territories or country(ies)?

No

Q5. Project dates

Start date: End date: Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3

01 August 2021 30 April 2023 **months):**

1 year, 9 months

Q6. Budget summary

Year:	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total request
Darwin funding request (Apr - Mar)	£41,924.00	£39,373.00	£4,163.00	£0.00	£ 85,460.00

Q6a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

We will make considerable cost-savings through use of existing equipment provided by project partners, as well as time in-kind. Our project represents exceptional value for money, which in-part reflects that we are well poised to undertake the project, and highlights the desire across organizations to see critical data gaps filled. The figure in matched funding secured includes field equipment and animal biologging tags in-kind. Matched funding will include contributions from Falkland Islands Government, which emphasizes Falkland Islands Government support and involvement in the project.

Q6b. Proposed matched funding as % of total project cost (total cost is the Darwin request <u>plus</u> other funding required to run the project).

Section 3 - Project Summary and Conventions

Q7. Summary of Project

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan to undertake. Please note that if you are successful, this working may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a

short description of the project on GOV.UK.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

A cornerstone of effective MPA management is how boundaries protect globally significant populations of marine higher predators (MHP; seals, seabirds, cetaceans). DPLUS0071 identified limited MHP tracking data impeded fine-scaling FI Marine Managed Areas (MMAs). This project will fill data gaps for globally significant MHP, enable fine-scaling of FI MMAs, and deliver risk assessment frameworks to facilitate informed decision making. This will be achieved through a cost effective, locally driven MHP tracking program and workshops, in partnership with FIG and JNCC.

Q8. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Please detail how your project will contribute to the aims of the agreement(s) your project is targeting. What key OT Government priorities and themes will it address? You should refer to Articles or Programmes of Work here. You should also consider local, territory specific agreements and action plans here.

International commitments: This project will make an important contribution towards FIG meeting CBD objectives, in particular Aichi Targets 5 (loss of habitat), 11 (protected areas), 10 (Vulnerable Ecosystems) and 19 (biodiversity knowledge improved). The project will also make important contribution towards FIG commitments to the Agreement of the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels (ACAP; specifically, Article II; Article III c, d, h; Article VI and elements of Annex 2 – the Action Plan), and CMS for Appendix I and II species (cetaceans, fur seals, sea lions).

National commitments: This project addresses FI Biodiversity Frame work (2016-2030) priority areas, particularly coastal, shelf and marine species and ecosystems and contributes to the environmental commitments of the FI Island Plan 2018-2022 (protect globally significant biodiversity). The project covers priority species and actions identified in the FI ACAP Implementation Plan – specifically black-browed albatross and actions calling for fine-scale analyses of foraging distribution and overlap with fishing effort (A6.2.2), identification of foraging hotspots and use information to inform management decisions, including in relation to identification of MPAs in FI waters (A6.2.6) and ensuring a coordinated and collaborative approach to tracking work on FI (A6.2.4/6.2.5). It will help FIG to meet commitments under the FI Environment Charter, including commitments 2 (wise use of natural resources), 5 (solutions which benefit the environment and development), 7 (safeguard native species, habitats) and 10 (study and celebrate environmental heritage as a future treasure).

National significance – in support of MMA designation: The Falkland Islands, our home, are self-governing, economically self-sufficient from the UK, and have multiple stakeholders operating in its marine space. The complex stakeholder landscape is contrary to many, if not all of the current Blue Belt OTs. FIG is dedicated to, and working toward the designation of MMAs using a careful and measured approach. This approach involves policy development, stakeholder consultation and rigorous scientific evidence. This process is supported through the successful DPLUS0071 MMA project – with a project legacy that includes a recently funded Marine and Coastal Programme Coordinator (MCPC) to continue to develop MMA management and monitoring plans in partnership with FIG. Industry are fully supportive of MMA designation, and are part of DPLUS0071 Project Management Group (PMG) that is tasked with supporting MMA designation. Our proposed project will support the MMA process being delivered through DPLUS0071 by providing baseline data on MHP. The proposed project does not compete with the existing FI MMA designation process, nor is it a parallel process. The proposed project will support FI MMA designation by providing information to inform management within and outside of proposed MMAs, including helping to fine-scale the categorization of proposed MMAs (in the context of this application, categorization can be thought of as the

level of protection for individual MMAs), specifically in the context of globally significant populations of MHP.

Section 4 - Lead Organisation Summary

Q9. Lead organisation summary

Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative award before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

Yes

If yes, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
DPLUS027	Dr Paul Brickle	Marine spatial planning in the Falkland Islands
DPLUS042	Dr Paul Brickle	Dolphins of the kelp: Data priorities for Falkland's inshore cetaceans
DPLUS065	Dr Paul Brickle	Mapping Falklands and South Georgia coastal margins for Spatial Planning
DPLUS071	Dr Ilaria Mengo	Fine scaling the design of Falkland Islands Marine Management Areas
DPLUS083	Dr Paul Brickle	Soil map and online database as climate change mitigation tools
DPLUS0116	Mrs Tara Pelembe	Falklands wetlands and aquatic habitats: baselines for monitoring future change

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts? If you select "yes" you will be able to upload these. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.

Yes

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

△ AR SAERI 2017-18 Commission upload △ 18-19 Accounts (signed 25.1.20)rb

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Section 5 - Project Partners

Q10. Project Partners

Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Organisation) and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development.

This section should illustrate the capacity of partners to be involved in the project. Please provide Letters of Support for the Lead Organisation and each partner or explain why this has not been included.

N.B: There is a file upload button at the bottom of this page for the upload of a cover letter (if applicable) and all letters of support.

Lead Organisation name:	SOUTH ATLANTIC ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Website address:	https://www.south-atlantic-research.org/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	SAERI is a Falkland Islands organization that has unparalleled expertise in FI MMA design, MHP tracking and data analysis, including predictive modelling. SAERI is responsible for overall project management, including financials, data management, webGIS and fieldwork. SAERI has established routes to disseminate project findings and assist FIG to meet biodiversity commitments. Through partnerships, stakeholder engagement and support, SAERI created the Islands' first comprehensive map of FI coastal habitats (DPLUS065) and initiated projects on dolphins, seals and seabirds to understand important areas at-sea to feed into MSP (DPLUS0027). As a result, SAERI has a breadth and depth of knowledge about the FI marine and coastal ecosystems and a network of key partners and stakeholders across government, industry and the community.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes
Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?	⊙ Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

1. Partner Name:	Falkland Islands Government (FIG)
Website address:	https://www.fig.gov.fk/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	FIG will monitor and steer the project as part of the Project Management Group (PMG) and provide input regarding FIG multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and national strategies. FIG will issue research licenses, participate in workshops and have partnered on numerous SAERI DPLUS projects in the past (e.g., DPLUS0027, DPLUS0081).
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes

Do you have more than one partner involved in the Project?

Yes

2. Partner Name:	JNCC
Website address:	https://jncc.gov.uk/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	JNCC has a long, successful record of UKOT work using ODA, CSSF and Darwin Plus funding. JNCC has also worked closely with SAERI on a range of projects throughout the South Atlantic and Caribbean UKOTs, and also with FIG, providing advice and support on a range of nature conservation issues and projects. JNCC has substantial expertise in effective MMA design and management, and is responsible for working with the UK and UKOT governments to coordinate national obligations under ACAP. JNCC has a permanent member of staff based in the Falkland Islands who will engage directly with the project, providing additional expertise in MHP tracking, review and input to analyses and recommendations for ensuring MMA effectiveness. JNCC will provide links into international fora (e.g., ACAP, CBD, CITES), furthering routes for knowledge exchange and to demonstrate UKs and FIG commitment to meet objectives under various MEAs.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes
3. Partner Name:	No Response
Website address:	No Response

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	No Response
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	○ Yes ○ No
4. Partner Name:	No Response
Website address:	No Response
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	No Response
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	O Yes O No
5. Partner Name:	No Response
Website address:	No Response
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	No Response
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	○ Yes ○ No
6. Partner Name:	No Response
Website address:	No Response
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	No Response
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	○ Yes ○ No

If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the Project, please use the text field below.

No Response

Please provide a cover letter responding to feedback received at Stage 1 if applicable and a combined PDF of all Letters of Support.

- & Response letter LOS combined
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Section 6 - Project Staff

Q11. Project Staff

Please identify the core staff on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project. Further information on who should be classified as core staff can be found in the guidance.

Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff, or a 1 page job description or Terms of Reference for roles yet to be filled. These should match the names and roles in the budget spreadsheet. If your team is larger than 12 people please review if they are core staff, or whether you can merge roles (e.g. 'admin and finance support') below, but provide a full table based on this template in the PDF of CVs you provide.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Alastair Baylis	Project Leader	55	Checked
Megan Tierney	Project Partner	10	Checked
Denise Blake	Project Partner	2	Checked
TBD	Field assistant	100	Checked

Do you require more fields?

No

Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the Project staff listed above as a combined PDF.

Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.

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Yes

Section 7 - Background & Methodology

Q12. Problems the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of environment and climate issues in the UKOTs.

For example, what are the specific threats to the environment that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems? How will your proposed project help?

Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in your additional attached PDF document which can be uploaded at the bottom of the page).

MPAs are key ocean conservation strategies to stem the wave of biodiversity loss, to improve ecosystem resilience, and achieve sustainable resource use. In response to UK's commitments to meet Aichi Target 11 adopted by CBD (10% of global oceans ecologically representative MPAs by 2020), the FI started a process of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) in 2014, which culminated in a network of proposed MMAs (DPLUS0071) - a term that includes MPAs, but creates a broader remit to balance socio-economic and environmental objectives. DPLUS0071, ending March 2021, will deliver policy recommendations for designating FI MMAs and draft MMAs management plan. However, the FI MMA process has not had an opportunity to fill MHP data gaps. Existing tracking data (1999-2019) for several globally significant MHP populations (e.g., Thin-billed prions) does not exist, or is a temporal snap-shot, meaning data are not fit for purpose. In addition, threats to MHP outside of MMAs and indeed, transboundary threats beyond FI jurisdiction, have not been assessed.

There is an urgent, overdue need for innovative approaches to fill data gaps. This project will address critical data gaps through an intensive field program and will identify high conservation priority at-sea areas to feed into MMA categorization, using a range of models (e.g., hidden markov models) and methods (e.g., Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs), Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)) and provide objectively defined priority area boundaries, with uncertainty made interpretable to decision makers. In doing so, we will inform and fine-scale the FI MMA process so that categorization is informed by priority at-sea areas. For areas that fall outside proposed MMAs, a spatial risk assessment framework will be developed to feed into the existing FI MSP toolbox and support holistic management and long-term strategic environmental policy (i.e., ecosystem-based management), by identifying areas where commercial activities could require more scrutiny.

Q13. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome and Impact. Provide information on:

• How you have analysed historical and existing initatives and are building on or taking work already done into account in project design. Please cite evidence where appropriate.

- The rationale for carrying out this work and a justification of your proposed methodology.
- How you will undertake the work (materials and methods).
- How you will manage the work (role and responsibilities, project management tools etc.)

Please make sure you read the **Guidance Notes** before answering this question.

(This may be a repeat from Stage 1 but you may update or refine as necessary)

Data gaps for globally significant MHP need to be filled to fine-scale FI MMAs. This includes data gaps for Black-browed albatross, Thin-billed prions, South American fur seals, Rockhopper and Gentoo penguins (range 30%-75% global populations).

Other UKOT projects highlight animal tracking data underpins MPA initiatives (DPLUS044, DPLUS097). Recent FI initiatives focus on non-representative single-species (DPLUS0082), or are desktop studies using outdated data (DPLUS0027, DPLUS0071, DPLUS115). Key data gaps were identified through DPLUS0071. A desktop study cannot fill data gaps because (1) data for globally significant species/colonies doesn't exist (e.g., prions), (2) estimates of spatial usage are biased by effort - meaning we have a good understanding of where animals were tracked from, not where they occur or how they interact with MMAs, (3) existing data are a temporal snap-shot with small sample sizes (n<10), meaning it isn't fit for robust predictive modelling, nor for identifying high conservation priority areas. Our project builds upon previous work and will fill key gaps to fine-scale FI MMAs.

WP1: Fill pressing data gaps

To inform this application, we collated all FI telemetry data (1999-2020) and identified gaps, selecting species and sites representative of FI MHP. To fill data gaps, state-of-the-art tracking technology will be used to record animal movements. Fieldwork will take place over 2-years and four globally significant breeding colonies (> 1 % global population). Seabird GPS tags (Nano-fix GEO-mini - < 2 % body mass) will be taped to feathers. Seal GPS tags (WC-TDR-10F) will be glued to fur. Migratory species will be tracked during the breeding season. Year-round residents will be tracked during breeding and non-breeding periods. Research licenses will be obtained from FIG.

WP2: Baseline data to inform MMA adaptive design and promote holistic marine management Quantify spatial use (within and outside of FI waters) using the latest analytical approaches and identify high conservation priority at-sea areas. We will combine and analyze new and existing data using state-space mathematical models to standardize data, account for tag location accuracy error, and compare overlap between MHP and MMAs. Popular methods (kernel density estimation) to identify priority areas (e.g., IBA/KBA) are sensitive to user defined model parameters - often arbitrarily chosen (e.g., smoothing parameter) - and the same data can yield different priority areas, depending on model parameters used. This uncertainty is rarely made interpretable to decision makers. We will identify priority at-sea areas and quantify uncertainty using a range of methods. For areas outside MMAs, we will assess overlap with commercial activities (e.g., fisheries) and whether management is captured by national/international policy.

WP3: Stakeholder engagement, webGIS

Final data products will be presented to stakeholders at a workshop. For areas outside MMAs, we will devise a risk assessment framework for commercial activities. All data will be available through a public facing webGIS project on the SAERI server, and integrated into existing MMA and MSP toolboxes.

Project management. The applicant will deliver the project, supported by a network of collaborators. Partners will form a PMG to oversee project delivery.

If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams, and references etc., as a PDF using the File Upload below.

No Response

Section 8 - Stakeholders and Beneficiaries

Q14. Project Stakeholders

Who are the stakeholders for this project and how have they been consulted (include local or host government support/engagement where relevant)? Briefly describe what support they will provide and how the project will engage with them.

FIG is a primary stakeholder through their responsibilities defined in the Biodiversity Framework, research permitting and spatial planning policies. FIG will be directly engaged as project partners and members of the PMG. JNCC is a Primary stakeholder and the ACAP coordinator for the UK and UKOT is a project partner, and will be directly engaged in the project as members of the PMG.

Partners shared a project concept note highlighting data gaps, issues and solutions. Through feedback, the project design has been a locally-led process. All stakeholders who are project partners have been fully consulted via email and face-to-face meetings, have prepared letters of support and will be part of the PMG. Off-island partners have been integrated into the project to bring technical guidance and links to new and emerging technologies. The PMG will have access to the project's most current information and outputs through the cloud-sharing platform Share-point.

The project will feed into an established MMA process, within which the Falkland Islands Fishing Companies Association (FIFICA) are actively involved, and DPLUS071 has a FIFCA member on the PMG. We will provide a fishing industry representative with regular project updates either via online or face-to-face meetings.

Community support is essential to project success, particularly on FI, especially through the use of volunteers and landowner assistance at field-sites. Significant effort will be made to regularly inform all parties and the wider community including through direct liaison, on-line resources, local media and the SAERI newsletter.

Q15. Institutional Capacity

Describe the lead organisation's capacity (and that of partner organisations where relevant) to deliver the project.

SAERI has successfully managed and delivered projects over the past 7 years for several donors including DPLUS and the European Commission. Through projects on dolphins, seals and seabirds, SAERI has a breadth and depth of knowledge about the FI marine and coastal ecosystems and a network of key partners and stakeholders across government, industry and the community. SAERI has unparalleled experience in FI MMAs, and FI MHP tracking and analysis, including tag deployment and predictive modelling (e.g., https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-019-44695-1). SAERI has established routes to disseminate project findings and assist FIG to meet biodiversity commitments. SAERI has a core team of administrators and managers that enable robust oversight of project delivery. SAERI's IMS-GIS data centre will manage data generated by the project. Data accessibility will be ensured by creating a user-friendly public webGIS service. Data is stored on a dedicated off-site server backed up daily. SAERI will provide logistical fieldwork support.

FIG Environment Unit is responsible for the sustainable management of the environment of the Falkland Islands. It is FIG's responsibility to ensure that all relevant international obligations are met.

JNCC is the statutory adviser to UK Government and devolved administrations on UK and international nature conservation, and has an active OT Programme (https://jncc.gov.uk/advice/sustainable-development-overseas/). JNCC have extensive experience of being involved in and managing collaborative projects in the UK, EU and internationally. JNCC staff with a wide range of technical and project management skills will be available to deliver the project, including alternative staff with appropriate skills sets should project personnel change.

Q16. Project beneficiaries

Who will your project benefit? You should consider the direct benefits as a result of your project as well as the broader indirect benefits which may come about as a result of your project achieving its Outputs and Outcome. The measurement of any benefits should be included in your project logframe.

Sustainable management of our natural environments is a key benefit to all residents of the FI. This project directly contributes to FIG's long-term vision for biodiversity conservation and management targets by proving an additional MSP tool and a rapid means to assess spatial overlap with commercial activities. The baseline information provided will support the designation of MMAs. Hence, the project will benefit FIG, by supporting their aims and MEA best-practice, especially in relation to CBD. Our project supports the implementation of the FI Biodiversity Framework strategy and will feed into policy development and planning, including facilitating rigorous Environmental Impact Assessments associated with commercial activities. The wider population will benefit through increased knowledge and understanding of the natural environment, and through increased access to robust datasets that will also be online via the WebGIS. Because of the project achieving its outputs and outcome, MHP of the Falkland Islands will be better understood and high conservation priority at-sea areas identified. Ultimately, this will benefit FIG as it moves forward to take a more strategic and holistic approach to managing and monitoring its natural environment and the state of the environment.

Section 9 - Gender and Change Expected

Q17. Gender (optional)

How is your project working to reduce inequality between persons of different gender? At the very least, you should be able to provide reassurance that your proposed work is not increasing inequality. Have you analysed the context in which you are working to see how gender and other aspects of social inclusion might interact with the work you are proposing?

The project team are of mixed genders (30 % male). If awarded, the project will be delivered by a mixed gender team and we will work with FIG staff and stakeholders of mixed gender, ensuring an equal gender representation wherever possible. In the SAERI office, the current staff cohort is 60% female and 40% male, and SAERI has an equal opportunities policy as part of its internal policy framework.

We recognized that attendance at meetings/workshop may be limited by parental responsibilities. Therefore, consideration will be given to the timings of meetings/workshop, to allow stakeholders who may have parental duties the ability to attend more easily. SAERI are committed to ensuring that recruitment, promotion, training, development, assessment, benefits, pay, and conditions of employment are determined on the basis of capability, qualifications, experience, skills and productivity. SAERI is committed to achieving a working environment that provides equality of opportunity and freedom from unlawful

discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, pregnancy and maternity, marital or civil partnership status, gender reassignment, disability, religion or beliefs, age or sexual orientation. Our Policy aims to remove unfair, discriminatory practices within SAERI and encourage full contribution from its diverse community.

Q18. Change expected

Detail the expected changed this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended). Please describe the changes for the environment and, where relevant, for people in the OTs, and how they are linked.

Tracking data was not collected for the FI MMA process. Yet, robust assessments of MHP high conservation priority at-sea areas are needed to facilitate appropriate MMA categorizations and to understand threats outside of MMA boundaries. Data for many species does not exist, or is a temporal snap-shot over a few weeks in summer, often with a small sample size. This provides a good understanding of where animals were tracked from over a short temporal window, but not where they occur. These limitations hinder our understanding of high conservation priority at-sea areas and the development of robust predictive habitat models. We have selected five species, from globally significant un-tracked colonies. These species are representative of FI MHP and of global importance, both in terms of number and conservation status.

Change expected

Short-term: Provide comprehensive and rigorous data on the at-sea distribution of regionally and globally significant MHP populations, which will benefit FIG, local community, industry and NGOs. Change will be community and decision-makers have the data (data collected, modelling outputs and the relevance of MMA delineations) to make informed management and monitoring decisions associated with FI MMA categorizations and MHP. This will be achieved through a dedicated online webGIS project page, and a workshop to fine-scale MMAs.

Long-term: Support decision and policy-making for sustainable development and understand climate change impacts by providing baseline data. This project supports FI's existing MMA and MSP initiatives, and directly contributes to FIG's long-term vision for biodiversity conservation and management targets by proving an additional MSP tool and a rapid means to assess spatial overlap with commercial activities. Our project supports MEA best-practice, especially in relation to CBD. Our project aligns with FI Biodiversity Framework priorities and will feed into policy development and planning, including facilitating rigorous Environmental Impact Assessments associated with oil and aquaculture.

Q19. Pathway to change

Please outline your project's expected pathway to change. This should be an overview of the overall project logic and outline how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards you overall Outcome, and, longer term, your expected Impact.

This project augments and supports the FI MMA process and informs holistic marine management by filling knowledge gaps. It is fully supported by FIG.

Through intensive field work (WP1), we will establish baseline data for globally significant marine higher predator populations, required to inform the fine-scale design of FI MMAs.

The project will combine new and existing tracking data to identify high conservation priority at-sea areas using a range of methods (WP2). This will enable us to place FI MMAs into a global context and develop evidence upon which policy and MMA categories and management plans can be informed.

The PMG will include FIG environment and policy departments to ensure findings are presented in a policy relevant context and effectively communicated to the relevant specialists within FIG, with a clear pathway of impact through MMA planning, MSP and EIAs (WP3).

Crucially, the project is locally driven, using internationally renowned FI scientists in the movement ecology field. The project includes comprehensive stakeholder engagement and dissemination of findings, including a workshop and webGIS page to showcase tracking data. Combined, these ensure project legacy well beyond the project end and are vital in helping FIG meet CBD, ACAP and national objectives.

Q20. Exit strategy

State how the project will reach a stable and sustainable end point, and explain how the outcomes will be sustained, either through a continuation of activities, funding and support from other sources or because the activities will be mainstreamed in to "business as usual". Where individuals receive advanced training, for example, what will happen should that individual leave?

The interactive spatial webGIS database for MHP will be built on an open-source platform that has no licensing costs and therefore ensures longevity. Additionally, the long-term management of the spatial database is ensured by having it embedded in the Falkland Islands IMS-GIS data centre, managed by a full time and skilled data manager already employed by SAERI. Making FIG and industry aware of this data, is a key element of the project and as such has been given its own work package (WP3) to ensure that it maintains a high profile through project delivery. This knowledge transfer will ensure that awareness and use of the tools produced by the project are firmly established before the project ends. The spatial database is built to allow easy updates. SAERI and JNCC have the expertise to undertake this project on-island, and are ready to deploy. The advanced training will be associated with fieldwork. We will recruit locally for this position and ideally a school leaver who might be inspired to pursue a career in STEM.

Section 10 - Funding and Budget

Q21. Budget

Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. Note that there are different templates for projects requesting over and under £100,000 from the Darwin Plus budget.

- R9 D+ Budget form for projects under £100,000
- R9 D+ Budget form for projects over £100,000

Please refer to the Finance Guidance for Darwin/IWT for more information.

N.B: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. Darwin Plus cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

Budgets submitted in other currencies will not be accepted. Use current prices – and include anticipated inflation, as appropriate, up to 3% per annum. The Darwin Initiative cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

- Darwin Budget form under 100k FK MMA biol ogging 2 Feb
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Q22. Funding

Q22a. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)?

New initiative

Please provide details:

This is a new initiative that specifically addresses gaps in MHP movement data. This will be the first project that is specifically tailored to track the movements of multiple species of MHP using biologging and biotelemetry tags, in relation to FI MMAs. This initiative does however, build upon several Falkland Islands initiatives. Specifically, the Falkland Islands Marine Spatial Planning project (DPLUS027) that initially collated seabird and seal tracking data (1999-2015), which ensures access to existing telemetry data and streamlines data collation. As reiterated throughout our application, this project will also build upon the current Falkland Islands MMA project (DPLUS071). Hence, this project leverages the considerable investment in FI MSP and continues to support and enhance the considerable progress made toward MMA designation, while helping FIG meet international MEAs.

Q22b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work?

No

Q23. Co-financing

Are you proposing co-financing?

Yes

Q23a. Secured

Provide details of all funding successfully levered (and identified in the Budget) towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity, as well as any your own organisation(s) will be committing.

(See Finance for Darwin/IWT and Guidance Notes)

Donor organisation Am	nount (Currency code	Comments
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SOUTH ATLANTIC ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE		GBP	In kind £ SAERI (A Baylis salary) £ SAERI (Wildlife Computer TDR-10 tags, and SPOT tags) £ SAERI (seal and seabird capture equipment) £ SAERI (field equipment including zodiac)
JNCC		GBP	In-kind JNCC (M Tierney salary)
OSU		GBP	Seabird tags in-kind. Although not a formal project partner, Dr Rachael Orben has a long-term research collaboration with SAERI and will provide GPS tags for seabirds in-kind.
No Response	0	No Response	No Response

Q23b. Unsecured

Provide details of any matched funding where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include matched funding from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes. This should also include any additional funds required where a donor has not yet been identified.

Date applied for	Donor	Amount	Currency code	Comments
	organisation			

30 June 2021	FIG		GBP	As stated in the FIG letter of support, the project will apply for FIG Environmental Studies Budget, which is traditionally how FIG contributes to DPLUS projects. It is highly unlikely the level of funding agreed in principal with FIG will not be funded.
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response

Do you require more fields?

No

Section 11 - Finance

Q24. Financial Controls

Please demonstrate your capacity to manage the level of funds you are requesting. Who is responsible for managing the funds? What experience do they have? What arrangements are in place for auditing expenditure?

SAERI will be responsible for establishing the financial reporting systems to ensure that governance is strictly adhered to in accordance with SAERI and the DPLUS financial guidelines. SAERI is a Charity registered in England and Wales. Grant financial management will be provided by SAERI's Deputy Director (DDBP). Funds will be in a ring-fenced, restricted access account. DDBP has extensive donor and investment fund management, charity CEO and organisational management experience. SAERI's accounts are audited externally, annually and has achieved unqualified audits thus far. Before separation from FIG, SAERI formed part of FIG's finance infrastructure and audit, and the accountancy system and internal management controls are proven through previous grants of similar magnitude. SAERI has successfully completed and audited DPLUS027, DPLUS 042, DPLUS065 with SPLUS083 underway. The PM, under the guidance and approvals of the DDBP, will submit quarterly budgets for approval to the PMG and quarterly financial reports to DPLUS.

Q25. Financial Management Risk

This question considers the financial risks to the project. Explain how you have considered the risks and threats that may be relevant to the successful financial delivery of this project. This includes risks such as fraud or bribery, but may also include the risk of fluctuating foreign exchange and internal financial processes such as storage of financial data.

The Board of Trustees reviews changes and additions to policies annually and a standing item at the Board Meetings is a review of the organisational Risk Register. There are standardised financial policies and procedures which have clear checks and balances for managing SAERI's finances. SAERI manages multiple projects from multiple funding sources and strict financial reporting procedures are adhered to, with all restricted funds in ring-fenced accounts, with separate bank accounts for each funding source. Fortunately, there are no foreign exchange risks as the award currency is the same as SAERI's operating currency. The financial controls outlined in Q24 form an integral part of the systems in place to mitigate against any threats or risks of fraud or bribery. SAERI operates UK and FI bank accounts and access is limited to the Deputy Director and the Executive Director. All transactions are reviewed and cross-checked. In addition, SAERI has the following policies:

- -Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy
- -Data Protection Policy
- -Whistleblowing and Public Interest Disclosure Policy
- -Internal Financial Procedures with Risk and Fraud management sub-policies & Procedures (initial review from Mazars LLP)
- -Delegation of Authority
- -Terms of reference for the Board of Trustees, an Audit Committee and a Remuneration Committee

Q26. Balance of budget spend

Explain the thinking behind your budget in terms of where funds will be spent. What benefits will the Territory see from your budget? What level of the award to you expect will be spent locally? Please explain the decisions behind any funding that will not be spent locally and how those costs are important for the project.

SAERI is a FI organization and therefore, the majority of funding will be spent locally. Capital items such as animal tags, must be acquired overseas as they are produced by specialist/niche companies. However, all animal tags and equipment will remain in the Falkland Islands, enhancing the capacity for the Falkland Islands to respond to any future MHP data gaps identified or needs. The project will provide comprehensive baseline data on globally significant MHP populations, will help to improve decision making, and will help to put FI on the world stage, not least by providing the data to enable MMAs to be placed in a global conservation context. The project will also contribute to regional management and conservation through by help FIG to meet its MEA commitments such as ACAP. Local stakeholders will benefit through access to data and therefore being better informed, and through direct involvement with the project.

Q27. Capital Items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin Plus funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

The capital items will be animal movement tags, which will enable field work and data collection. The capital equipment related to animal tags is of the budget. The animal movement tags are a requirement for fieldwork to ensure we have enough tags for statistical power, and the correct tags, to robustly monitor and assess the movements of several species of MHP. Capital items will remain with SAERI in the Falkland

Islands and will continue to be used to undertake research activities in the Falklands. It is envisaged that the tags will be used for long term monitoring of MHP, providing a lasting legacy. The tags will be based at SAERI and will be logged in SAERI's equipment database where there is a system for booking equipment in and out as required.

Q28. Value for Money

Please describe why you consider your application to be good value for money including justification of why the measures you will adopt will secure value for money.

SAERI and partners have galvanized 48% match funding. Emphasis was given to providing the project with the necessary equipment and expertise for success. The project will develop solutions/provide information for long-term application to priority conservation issues and cover multiple species breeding in the FI that are globally significant (>1 % of the global population) and who's foraging distribution is considered representation of all MHP (seals, seabirds, cetaceans). The methods/approach can be used by other OTs/countries/regions and project design includes pathways for public outreach and into international forums.

SAERI has successfully managed a number of DPLUS projects and provides exceptional value for money in the delivery of this project, with local expertise, good relationships with local stakeholders, and staff that specialize in movement ecology. The expertise to successfully complete the project are already on-island, which limits the costs associated with international charge out rates, travel etc. The budget was calculated from actual costs incurred by SAERI in managing similar projects.

FIG have contributed time in-kind, showing not only good value for money but a clear commitment to the project and its delivery, which is particularly important as the desired project outcome (MHP integrated into MMA management) can only be achieved with the support of FIG. Further, FIG have provided £2,500 in-kind funding.

Equipment: Technical equipment purchased will have a long-term value in that it will be a resource that will enhance capacity and MHP research capacity in the FI, adding to the lasting legacy of the project.

Q29. Outputs of the project and Open Access

All outputs from Darwin Plus projects should be made available on-line and free to users whenever possible. Please outline how you will achieve this and detail any specific costs you are seeking from Darwin Plus to fund this.

Processes established under the project mean all outputs will be made available online and free to use whenever possible. Information: Reports, meeting notes, training manuals, volunteer resources etc. will be made available online via the dedicated project web pages set up on the SAERI website. Project partners will link to these web pages, and provide relevant updates. All data will be deposited in the Falkland Islands data portal http://dataportal.saeri.org/. Protocols on data documentation, security, access, preservation of ownership and intellectual property rights will be put in-place. The single centralized location and standardized data request procedure maximize the profile and accessibility of existing data.

SAERI is ideally placed to ensure and promote the promulgation and use of project data. All metadata generated will be available online via the Falkland Islands data portal. Additionally, the data will be accessible online to everyone through the project-based webGIS service. Previous Darwin projects (DPLUS027, DPLUS063) and current ones (DPLUS052, DPLUS042) have already and will be published online.

The SAERI data manager will be responsible for keeping the data on a spatial database and facilitate data sharing among the project partners to facilitate collaboration. All data, after being published by the researchers involved in the project, will be available as open access.

All peer-reviewed journal articles (published after project completion) will be targeted to open-source journals and there is some institutional budget to ensure this. The project will also adhere to the DPLUS data requirements as outlined in the DPLUS Terms and Conditions.

Section 12 - Safeguarding

Q30. Safeguarding

Projects funded through Darwin Plus must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding polices in place. Please confirm the lead organisation has the following policies in place and that these are available on request:

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application	Checked
We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with	Checked
We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made	Checked
We share our safeguarding policy with downstream partners	Checked
We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle-blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised	Checked
We have a Code of Conduct in place for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviors - inside and outside of the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards	Checked

Please outline how you will implement your policies in practice and ensure that downstream partners apply the same standards as the lead organisation.

SAERI has a comprehensive safeguarding policy that formally outlines policy principles and responsibilities within the organization and includes a designated safeguarding officer (DSO). SAERI is incorporating safeguarding as part of our organizational induction procedures for all new employees and all incumbent staff and expected to be conversant with all our policies including safeguarding. SAERI has worked closely with both FIG and JNCC on numerous projects. We are familiar with the safeguarding policies of these organizations, which are consistent with SAERI's safeguarding policy. Hence, all partners (and SAERI) have robust safeguarding policies and internal and external procedures for dealing responsibly with wrongdoing in the workplace. In preparing the project, we have already sent a copy of our safeguarding policy to project partners. Safeguarding policies will be discussed during the first PMG meeting, which will include an overview of the key elements of the relevant polices. Adherence to safeguarding policies will form part of a

project terms of reference.

Please upload the Lead Organisation's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF

- <u>SGC-012 Whistleblowing and Public Interest Di</u>
 sclosure 2021
- **i** 02/02/2021
- () 14:52:27
- pdf 290.44 KB

- & SGC-016 Safeguarding 2021
- ① 14:51:05
- pdf 437.37 KB

Section 13 - Logical Framework

Q31. Logical Framework

Darwin Plus projects will be required to monitor (and report against) their progress towards their expected Outputs and Outcome. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.

• Stage 2 Logframe Template

Please complete your full logframe in the separate Word template and upload as a PDF using the file upload below. Copy your Impact, Outcome and Output statements and your activities below - these should be the same as in your uploaded logframe.

Please upload your logframe as a PDF document.

- & R9 DPlus St2 Logical Framework MHP tracking
- 前 02/02/2021
- ① 17:03:51
- pdf 146.51 KB

Impact:

A holistic, ecosystem-based management of the Falkland Islands marine environment.

Outcome:

High conservation priority at-sea areas for MHP provides robust baseline data and evidence base to inform MMA policy and management.

Project Outputs

Output 1:

Tracking data gaps filled for globally significant MHP populations, including the largest breeding colonies of Thin-billed prions, Gentoo penguins, Rockhopper penguins and South American fur seals, for which data presently does not exit, and GPS data for Black-browed albatross over winter, which does not exist.

Output 2:

Conservation value of proposed MMAs in a global context is understood (specifically with regard to MHP).

Output 3:

Key stakeholders and decision makers engaged and informed, specifically with regard to MHP at-sea spatial distribution and MMA relevance to MHP. Data integrated into MMA, MSP and EIA processes.

Output 4:

Well managed, monitored and evaluated project.

Output 5:

No Response

Do you require more Output fields?

It is advised to have less than 6 Outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the Activity level.

No

Activities

Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.

- 1.1 Recruit the Project Field Assistant
- 1.2 Organise and undertake intensive fieldwork, and write fieldwork report. Make report available on-line.
- 2.1 Review and collate existing data. Combine and analyze all tracking data. Update the Falkland Islands data portal and webGIS with data collated.
- 2.2 Develop predictive models using the analyzed tracking data
- 2.3 Identify high conservation priority areas using both tracking data and predictive models
- 2.4 Compile one report detailing high conservation priority areas, FI MMAs and methods
- 2.5 Use tracking data and predictive models to assess overlap with commercial activities, specifically fisheries. Compile one report.
- 3.1 Organize and host a workshop and present findings to stakeholders
- 3.2 Deposit data within the Falkland Islands data portal and webGIS pages
- 4.1 Organize and host quarterly project management group meetings

Section 14 - Implementation Timetable

Q32. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the Excel spreadsheet template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

Implementation Timetable Template

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and fill/shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out.

- ∆ Timetable R9 S2
- ① 16:48:22
- ¬ xlsx 14.7 KB

Section 15 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q33. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe, referring to the Indicators above, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E.

Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see Finance Guidance for Darwin/IWT).

The project will be implemented as a partnership between SAERI, JNCC and FIG. These organizations will be members of the Project Management Group (PMG) whose main commitment and task is to monitor and steer the project. The PMG will have equal membership of science- and policy-focused organizations, which will audit the scientific integrity of the work, which will ensure that local needs and aims are met.

A Terms of Reference of the PMG will be established at the start of the project and will articulate the roles and responsibilities of all parties in the delivery of the project Additionally, as part of the Project management Structure, in the first six months of the project, the PM will prepare a detailed Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan in which a set of evaluation questions will used to assess the effectiveness of the project's outcomes.

Specific monitoring questions will be used to answer the evaluation questions and will be checked through indicators, data sources/methods to obtain the data, and the responsibilities for data collection (as mentioned in the MoU).

The PM will present a quarterly report on progress against deliverables, M&E and a quarterly financial report to the PMG which will check that the project delivers its outputs on time, within the proposed budget, and that the quality of the outputs is high standard.

Summary reports of the project's outcomes will also be provided to the FIG Environmental Committee through the FIG Environment and Planning department and to the Darwin Initiative as required by the donors reporting mandates. An online project management and file-sharing system will be established to ensure all partners have access to relevant documents, targets, etc. irrespective of geographic location. Oversight of the delivery of the M&E plan will be the responsibility of the PM, signing off of the implementation of the M&E plan will be the responsibility of the PMG. A component of the M&E budget allocation will be used to bring in specialist, independent review if identified as required by the PMG during and/or at the end of the project process.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)



Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)



Section 16 - Certification

Certification

On behalf of the

trustees

of

SOUTH ATLANTIC ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

I apply for a grant of

£85,460.00

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.

(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for project key project personnel, letters of support, budget and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application).
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed.

Checked

Name	Alastair Baylis
Position in the organisation	Deputy Director Science
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 ☆ signature ☆ 02/02/2021 ◆ 17:33:12 △ pdf 181.64 KB
Date	02 February 2021

Section 17 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance documents, including the "Guidance Notes for Applicants" and "Finance Guidance".	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for this proposed project.	Checked
I have provided a budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that the budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have attached my completed logframe and timeline as a PDF using the templates provided.	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project staff identified at Question 11, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the Lead Organisation and main partner organisation(s) identified at Question 10, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a cover letter from the Lead Organisation, outlining how any feedback at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have included a signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts for the Lead Organisation, or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Plus website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on GOV.UK.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

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

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in this application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the latest copy of the Privacy Notice for Darwin, Darwin Plus and the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund available here. This Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals

whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information, but not personal data, may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead organisation, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites.

Information relating to the project or its results may also be released on request, including under the 2004 Environmental Information Regulations and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).