



Darwin Initiative/Darwin Plus Projects Half Year Report (due 31st October 2021)

Project reference	DPR9S2\1001
Project title	Red Listing can protect OT marine biodiversity
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Falklands Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, British Antarctic Territory
Lead organisation	Queen's University, Belfast
Partner(s)	BAS, IUCN, SAERI, Government of SGSSI
Project leader	Julia Sigwart
Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)	<i>HYR1, 31st October 2021</i>
Project website/blog/social media	

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

The project started 20/09/2021 and has an approved revised end date of 30/09/2021

This report covers the first 10 days of the project, the project assistant (Aoife Molloy) started work and made contact with project partners and began assembling information relevant to the project.

In September/October the work on the project has proceeded with planned tasks:

Created a list of species occurring in target areas. Verified by experts in BAS and using WoRMS/GBIF. Starting to create a list of priority species based on data availability and relevance. Discussed suitable dates for the proposed workshop, a location, and whom to invite.

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt that the project has encountered over the last 6 months (for COVID-19 specific delays/problems, please use 2b). Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

Project start date was delayed due to issues surrounding the contract. This was resolved by submitting a change request form to adjust the contract start date and end. This will not affect the total budget, and the timeline has been adjusted internally with minimal disruption.

2b. Please outline any specific issues which your project has encountered as a result of COVID-19. Where you have adapted your project activities in response to the pandemic, please briefly outline how you have done so here. Explain what residual impact there may be on your project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

All meetings take place over Zoom/videocall. Workshop to be held next year is tentatively planned as an in person event but in a venue with the option of online attendance or shifting to virtual event.

2c. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

Discussed with LTS: Yes

Formal change request submitted: Yes

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes

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

Yes No Estimated underspend: £

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

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

make appropriate changes if necessary. **Please DO NOT send these in the same email as your report.**

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

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

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also** be raised with LTS International through a Change Request. **Please DO NOT send these in the same email.**

Please send your **completed report by email** to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk. The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message e.g. Subject: 25-001 Darwin Half Year Report**