

## 5. PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

The delivery of Partnership Projects will be coordinated by the Moray Firth Partnership but involve a range of organisations and interests. These Projects package and link together several related actions within the Action Programme.

Partnership Projects have been chosen because of one or more of the following reasons:

- they are priority actions and no other organisation has been able to take them forward;
- they require an integrated approach across the Moray Firth area;
- they need additional funding to be secured.

**Project 1:** Development of an Information System

**Project 2:** Community Grants scheme

**Project 3:** Developing Management Arrangements for the Moray Firth candidate Special Area of Conservation for bottlenose dolphins

**Project 4:** A Series of 'Best Practice' seminars

### Project 1: Development of an Information System

**Aim:** To disseminate information about the Firth to decision makers and the public through an internet based information system.

**Description:** Accessibility of information for both decision makers and the public has been a key issue throughout the development of the Moray Firth Action Programme. This project will focus on establishing what information would be most useful to both decision makers and communities and how best this information could be provided or accessed. An information system will be developed that will be available on the internet, through the existing Partnership website, to all members of the Partnership and any others with an interest in the management of the Firth. The project will focus on making available the information recently collated by the Moray Firth Partnership, plus providing access to those datasets of most interest and relevance.

**Costs:** Funding secured by The Moray Firth Partnership through the EC Moray Firth LIFE Project

**Status:** Started in August 1999

**Duration:** 24 months

**Links to:** Actions 1.7, 3.5, 3.7, 11.1, 13.1, 18.1, 18.2, 18.3

### Project 2: Community Grants Scheme

**Aim:** To encourage and enable local residents' groups to plan and implement their own coastal projects through a local community grants scheme.

**Description:** The Management Guidelines and Action Programme were developed at a strategic Firth-wide level. This project will attempt to help local residents implement the Programme at a local level, providing modest financial support for projects. The community grants scheme will seek to add value to existing schemes such as those offered by local authorities and enterprise companies, but focusing on the needs and opportunities provided by the coastal and marine environment. In some cases grants could be used to fund pilots for some actions within the Action Programme.

**Costs:** Funding secured by The Moray Firth Partnership through the EC Moray Firth LIFE Project

**Status:** To start in October 1999

**Duration:** 24 months

**Links to:** Actions 1.8, 17.1

### **Project 3: Develop Management Arrangements for the Moray Firth candidate Special Area of Conservation for bottlenose dolphins**

**Aim:** To develop and support a management group for the Moray Firth cSAC for bottlenose dolphins and through this develop management arrangements.

**Description:** A Project Officer has been employed to co-ordinate and support this project. A management group has been established, initially comprising relevant authorities, as defined by the Habitats Directive. The group will actively seek ways of effectively involving Firth users and communities. Following an analysis of the main issues for dolphin management, draft management arrangements will be drawn up for wide consultation. Final management arrangements will be produced and implemented. This project will seek to effectively link the voluntary Management Guidelines and Action Programme developed to date by The Moray Firth Partnership to the statutory management arrangements required for the cSAC under the Habitats Directive.

**Cost:** Funding secured by The Moray Firth Partnership through the EC Moray Firth LIFE Project

**Status:** Started in November 1998

**Duration:** 36 months

**Links to:** Actions 4.7, 7.14, 7.15

### **Project 4: A Programme of Best Practice Seminars**

**Aim:** To share best management practice on a number of key issues, through a series of seminars.

**Description:** This project would develop a programme of 'Sharing Good Practice' Seminars aimed at those managing and using an aspect of the Firth. In some cases best practice could be drawn from around the Firth and in others it might be necessary to bring in examples from elsewhere. It may be appropriate for some of the seminars to be held at a national level when links to the other Firth projects would be made. Suggested subjects for seminars have been based on the needs expressed by Partnership members through the development of this document. The Moray Firth Partnership will co-ordinate the organisation of the seminar programme. Lead agencies have expressed an interest in leading on individual seminars.

1. The possible implications and responses to climate change and sea-level rise

**Lead: Highland Council (Roads and Transport)**

2. Sharing best practice in cultural heritage management

**Lead: Aberdeenshire Council**

3. Soft coast management for rangers and the tourist industry

**Lead: To be determined**

4. Water Framework Directive and Catchment Management Planning

**Lead: Scottish Environment Protection Agency**

5. Beach monitoring and accolades

**Lead: Highlands of Scotland Tourist Board**

6. Sharing best practice on industrialised estuaries

**Lead: To be determined**

7. Waste minimisation

**Lead: Business Information Source**

**Costs:** To be determined

**Status:** To start 2000/2001

**Duration:** 12-18 months

**Links to:** Actions 1.2, 2.1, 3.9, 4.4, 6.8, 15.8

## Possible Partnership Projects

The following are possible projects that could be taken forward by the Partnership but still need additional funding and support from key bodies. Their feasibility will be investigated during the life of the Action Programme.

**Project 5:** Securing economic benefits from environmental and cultural assets

**Project 6:** Marine Litter Campaign

**Project 7:** The Moray Firth; A celebration

**Project 8:** Raising awareness and understanding

## Project 5: Securing economic benefits from environmental and cultural assets

**Aim:** To quantify, raise awareness and secure economic benefits from the environmental and cultural assets of the Moray Firth.

**Description:** The coastline of the Moray Firth is an important focus for employment and industry with the inner Moray Firth acting as an economic 'engine' for the rest of the Highlands. There is a need to ensure that economic development takes place in a sustainable way. One role the Partnership can play is to focus on securing economic benefits from the area's environmental and cultural resources. This project would:

(a) undertake an economic appraisal of the Firth, particularly focusing on its environmental and cultural assets and identifying economic benefits that could be secured through these;

(b) select a number of practical projects to be taken forward based on the economic appraisal.

**Links to:** Actions 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 15.5

## Project 6: Marine Litter Campaign

**Aim:** To raise awareness and bring together existing marine litter initiatives in order to focus attention on the causes and problems of marine litter and how local residents can help.

**Description:** The issue of marine litter was identified throughout the process of producing this document. This project would identify the nature, extent and source of litter through a beach survey, bring together the organisations involved and identify the applications of current mechanisms such as legislation, technical solutions and increasing public awareness. The project would seek the help of the local community in helping to ameliorate litter on local shorelines (through beach cleans, adopt a beach, underwater beach cleans) and try and address litter issues through a range of initiatives such as publicising existing initiatives (NoSWA's 'Bag-it and Bin-It' campaign), targeting tourists and fishermen.

**Links to:** Actions 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4



## Project 7: The Moray Firth; A celebration

**Aim:** To encourage the use of the Firth as an inspiration for artistic activities.

**Description:** The arts have been recognised as a key element in the cultural history of the Moray Firth. Working with the arts also has a role to play in helping to engage with and involve local communities. This project would encourage Firth residents of all ages to use the Firth as inspiration for artistic activities (painting, drawing, poetry and writing) and to display the work locally, celebrating the Firth's assets. A selection of the work could be printed in a 'coffee-table' book, for which a publisher would be sought.

**Links to:** Actions: 1.13, 17.3

## Project 8: Raising awareness and understanding

**Aim:** To raise awareness and understanding of the Firth's interest and importance.

**Description:** There are a large number of educational materials for the Moray Firth such as a slide pack, guide to sites suitable for field work, poster with teachers notes, sea chest and treasure chest. This project would help publicise all this information together with other useful and relevant material, such as the 'salmon in the classroom' project. An award scheme would advertise and encourage the use of existing resources through project and field work. In addition, resources for the cultural heritage would be produced. A series of public lectures would be arranged on subjects that have shown themselves to be of interest through MFP workshops.


**Links to:** Actions: 19.1, 19.2





AB	Alan Berry	HC (PD)	The Highland Council (Planning & Development)	NPPG 13	National Planning Policy Guideline 13; Coastal Planning
AC	Aberdeenshire Council	HC (PS)	The Highland Council (Protective Services)	NSCC	Nigg & Shandwick Community Council
AC (EH)	Aberdeenshire Council (Environmental Health)	HC (RT)	The Highland Council (Roads And Transport)	NTS	National Trust For Scotland
AC (ER)	Aberdeenshire Council (Education & Recreation)	HC (RGRS)	The Highland Council (Rangers)	OSPARCOM	Oslo and Paris Commissions
AC (PD)	Aberdeenshire Council (Planning & Development)	HCC	Highland Cycle Campaign	PFA	Paths For All
AC (RGRS)	Aberdeenshire Council (Rangers)	HIE	Highlands & Islands Enterprise Network	PJT	Peter Tilbrook
AC (TRP)	Aberdeenshire Council (Transportation, Roads & Property)	HISP	Highland Interpretive Strategy Project	PP	Portsoy Project
AGTB	Aberdeen & Grampian Tourist Board	HOST	Highlands of Scotland Tourist Board	RACE	Ross & Cromarty Enterprise
ASFB	Association Of Salmon Fishery Boards	HS	Historic Scotland	RAF (K)	RAF (Kinloss)
AU (LFS)	Aberdeen University (Lighthouse Field Station)	INCC	Inverness And Nairn Canoe Club	Re	Resurgam
BAC	Beaully Angling Club	KHA	Kilmorack Heritage Association	RFYC	Royal Findhorn Yacht Club
BARMAC	Brown & Root McDermott Fabricators Ltd	KSB	Keep Scotland Beautiful	SCP	Scottish Conservation Project
BDC	Burghead Dive Club	LA21	Local Agenda 21	SCT	Scottish Civic Trust
BHUA	Brora Harbour Users Association	LBAP	Local Biodiversity Action Plan	SDSFB	Spey District Salmon Fishery Board
BIS	Business Information Service	LEAPS	Local Environment Action Plans	SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
CDSFB	Conon District Salmon Fishery Board	LIFE	Financial Instrument For The Environment	SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
CFG	Cromarty Firth Liaison Group	LEC	Local Enterprise Company	SFIA	Sea Fish Industry Authority
CM	Clan Munro	LNR	Local Nature Reserve	SRT	Spey Research Trust
DHIC	Dunbeath Harbour Improvement Centre	MMA	Macduff Marine Aquarium	SSSI	Site Of Special Scientific Interest
EM	Elgin Museum	MC	The Moray Council	STB	Scottish Tourist Board
FC	Forestry Commission	MC (EDP)	The Moray Council (Economic Development And Planning)	SWT	Scottish Wildlife Trust
FE	Forest Enterprise	MC (RGRS)	The Moray Council (Rangers)	Tal	Talisman Energy (UK) Limited
FoE	Friends Of The Earth (Highland)	MC (TL)	The Moray Council (Technical & Leisure)	Tex	Texaco
FRS	Fisheries Research Service	MFDT	Moray Firth Dolphin Trust	TTEF	The Tourism and Environment Forum
FT	Footpath Trust	MFP	The Moray Firth Partnership	WHAM	Waste - Highland Action On Minimisation
FVHC	Findhorn Village Heritage Company	MFWC	Moray Firth Wildlife Centre	WS	William Shearer
GE	Grampian Enterprise	MLA	Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen		
GIS	Geographical Information Systems	MNCR	Marine Nature Conservation Review		
HC	The Highland Council	MCA	Maritime & Coastguard Agency		
HC (CL)	The Highland Council (Culture & Leisure)	MVSO	Moray Voluntary Services Organisation		
HC (E)	The Highland Council (Education)	NoSWA	North of Scotland Water Authority		
HC (IM)	The Highland Council (Inverness Museum)	NoSYA	North of Scotland Yachting Association		

<b>Acoustic</b>	Of, or related to, sound.
<b>Anthropogenic</b>	Of, or relating to, humans.
<b>Aquaculture</b>	The practice of using the sea, lochs or rivers, etc for fish farming, shellfish cultivation, the growing of plants etc.
<b>Ballast Water</b>	Water held in a ship's tanks to aid stability.
<b>Benthic</b>	Of organisms that live on or in the seabed. Benthic epifauna live upon the sea floor or upon bottom objects, and benthic infauna live within the surface sediments.
<b>Biodiversity</b>	The diversity of plant and animal life.
<b>Biotoxin</b>	A substance that is poisonous to living things.
<b>Candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC)</b>	Marine areas that have been submitted to the European Union by the Secretary of State for Scotland, on scientific advice from Scottish Natural Heritage because they contain particular marine habitats or species which are identified.
<b>Carrying capacity</b>	The population of a species that its habitat can support without deterioration.
<b>Cetaceans</b>	Marine mammals of the whale family, including dolphins and porpoises.
<b>Coastal cell (= sediment cell)</b>	A length of coastline and its associated near shore area within which the movement of coarse sediment (sand and shingle) is largely self contained. Interruptions to the supply or movement of sand and shingle should not affect beaches in an adjacent cell.
<b>Coastal defence</b>	Collective term for the protection of the coast against erosion plus sea defence against flooding.
<b>Common Fisheries Policy 2002</b>	The Common Fisheries Policy seeks to manage stocks of fish in EU waters, principally by implementing catch quota management measures, by setting agreed annual Total Allowable Catches (TAC) for particular stocks of commercial fish and by means of various technical conservation measures, including minimum landing sizes and fishing gear restrictions. The policy came into effect in 1983, was subject to a mid-term review in 1993 and a full review is planned for 2002.



<b>Cromarty Firth Liaison</b>	A group set up to provide a forum for discussion on issues that affect the quality of the coastal environment within the Cromarty Firth. Group (CFLG) The Group, which comprises a range of statutory and non-statutory organisations, also aims to encourage those people and organisations whose actions could affect the coastal environment to be aware of such influences and to adopt best practice to minimise these.
<b>Decommissioning (Oil Industry)</b>	The process of deciding how best to shut down operations at the end of an oil field's life, then closing the wells, cleaning, making the installation safe, removing some or all of the facilities and disposing or re-using them.
<b>Dermersal</b>	Fish living in lower water column eg haddock, cod.
<b>Designation</b>	The selection of special areas for protection.
<b>Dredging</b>	The process of removing sediment from the sea bed to aid harbour navigation or removal for building aggregates.
<b>Dolphin Space Programme</b>	An accreditation scheme for wildlife cruise operators in the Moray Firth. The scheme encourages dolphin watchers to “watch how you watch” and to either use one of the accredited boat operators or watch from the shore.
<b>Eco-museum</b>	Concept devised by Georges Riviere in 1985 who quotes “An ecomuseum is a mirror for the local population to view itself, to discover its own image, and in which it seeks an explanation of the territory to which it is attached and of the populations that have proceeded it. It is a mirror that the local population holds up to its visitors to be better understood and so that its industry, customs and identity may command respect. It is an expression of humankind and nature. It places humanity in its natural environment”.
<b>Ecosystem</b>	A system involving the interactions between community and its non-living environment.
<b>European LIFE Environment Fund</b>	The European (EC) LIFE Environment Fund makes contributions to projects which provide sustainable development in industrial activities and land use, and supports the implementation of community environmental policy and legislation. LIFE stands for ‘Financial Instrument for the Environment’.
<b>EU Status Objective I and 5B</b>	Objective I and 5B are structural funds to provide financial assistance to those regions which are less developed or in industrial decline and to support training schemes for those seeking re-entry into employment. Objective I is intended to help develop those EU regions which are lagging behind the rest in economic development. Between 1994-99 this was targeted at areas whose GDP (Gross Domestic Product) per capita was less than 75% of the EU average. Objective 5B promotes the general economic development of rural areas which have been designated as being most in need of assistance as a result of the decline in agriculture and fisheries employment.
<b>Fauna</b>	Animal life.

