

# LUNDY MARINE PROTECTED AREA ADVISORY GROUP

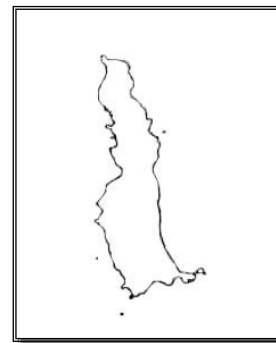
The Aims of the Group are: 1) to provide a nucleus of expertise on the marine habitats and waters surrounding Lundy; 2) to provide a forum for exchanging views on present and proposed activities around Lundy; 3) to safeguard the interests of all those who use the waters around Lundy and its natural resources; and 4) to advise the Management Forum for the island.

Established: 1985

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## Notes of the 3rd meeting of the Lundy Marine Protected Area Advisory Group

(formerly known as the Lundy Marine Conservation Zone Advisory Group, the Lundy Marine Nature Reserve Advisory Group, and originally the Lundy Marine Consultation Group, of which this was the 60<sup>th</sup> meeting)

held on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015** at 7.00 p.m. at the Ilfracombe Sub-Aqua Club,  
Ropery Road, Ilfracombe EX34 9EF.

### *Present:*

Keith Hiscock	(KH)	Marine Biological Association – Chair
Robert Irving	(RI)	Lundy Field Society – Hon. Sec.
Dave Jenkins	(VJ)	Morte Wildlife Group
Ian Parrott	(IP)	Morte Wildlife Group
Mel Parker	(MP)	Natural England
Lauren Parkhouse	(LP)	Devon & Severn IFCA
Tom Vance	(TV)	PML Applications Ltd.
Ben Bengey	(BB)	<i>Silver Spirit</i> charter boat
Andrew Bengey	(ABen)	<i>Obsession</i> charters
Chris Mandry	(CM)	BSAC
Martin Legg	(ML)	Choppers Crazy Boat Trips
Shaun Galliver	(SG)	Ilfracombe SAC
Beccy MacDonald	(BM)	Lundy Warden, Landmark Trust
Derek Green	(DG)	Lundy General Manager

The Chairman (KH) welcomed all to the meeting, especially the new attendees. The purpose of the Group, he explained, was to allow the users of the Lundy MPA to “have their say” and to raise any particular issues they would like to see addressed. Any concerns or matters of importance can then be conveyed to the Lundy Management Forum at their next meeting (usually the following day) by the Group’s Hon. Sec.

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from: Robert Durrant (Coastwise); Clive Pearson (charter boat skipper of *Jessica Hettie*); Maggs Ashton (Ilfracombe SAC); Rick Morris (MarineLife); John Balls (N Devon Fishermen’s Association/NFFO); Sarah Clark (Devon & Severn IFCA); Alison James (Historic England); Carley Elson (Marine Management Organisation); Andy Bell (N Devon UNESCO Biosphere Reserve); Leigh Hanks (*Obsession* charters).

## **2. Notes on the last meeting of the MCZ Advisory Group, held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2015**

Copies of these notes had been circulated by the Hon. Sec. prior to the meeting. There was just one amendment to be made under section 3.6, where ‘special features’ was changed to ‘designated features’. The notes were then signed by the Chairman as being an accurate record of the meeting.

## **3. Matters arising from the last Lundy Management Forum meeting**

- 3.1. DG summarised the marine ‘highlights’ of the last LMF meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015 on Lundy. The next meeting of the Forum will be held tomorrow (7<sup>th</sup> October 2015) in Exeter. The Forum is a partnership of all the stakeholders in Lundy and includes the National Trust, the Landmark Trust, Natural England, Historic England, Devon & Severn IFCA, the Environment Agency, the Lundy Field Society, the RSPB and the Lundy MCZ Advisory Group.
- 3.2. RI reported on what had been discussed at the Advisory Group meeting the previous evening (see Notes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of this Group).
- 3.3. Updates were given on seal monitoring and subtidal and intertidal monitoring. It was agreed that the vegetation monitoring, undertaken by the National Trust (Janet Lister) and linked with the Higher Level Stewardship agreement, would continue for a further two years. The vegetation monitoring ties-in with the grazing pressure on the island and contributes towards the overall condition of the SSSI. NT archaeologists are due to complete a survey of the island’s Scheduled Monuments, a number of which are in need of conservation work. An appeal had been launched to raise £400k for the church restoration fund, to be added to the grant made by the National Lottery. KH had given an update on Lundy Field Society activities, including two conservation working parties during the summer of 2014. In order to help mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Landmark Trust, a sculpture by Anthony Gormley had been delivered to the island and awaited erection overlooking the SW Point. DG also confirmed that the Lundy Company would be willing to pay the licensing costs to place a new mooring on the seabed off Brazen Ward, a proposal first put forward in April 2014 by ABen.
- 3.4. Updates were also given by the National Trust, Devon & Severn IFCA, Natural England and Historic England.
- 3.5. Update from the Management Forum meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015.
  - (i) Sir Jack Hayward, the purchaser of Lundy in 1969 who then donated the island to the National Trust, and who was also President of the Lundy Field Society, died in January 2015. On a weekend in July, some of his ashes were taken to the island by his family and friends and were scattered in the vicinity of the flagpole at the Ugly. KH had thanked DG and the island staff on hosting the event so well.
  - (ii) The Anthony Gormley sculpture had been set in place on the top of the cliffs above the Devil’s Limekiln in early May 2015 and was officially unveiled during the Landmark Trust’s ‘Golden Weekend’ of 16/17 May. It would remain in place for 12 months and then be removed.

## **4. Warden’s Report**

BM presented her report (attached as Annex A). The following points were added:

- 4.1 BM wanted to express her thanks to the charter boat skippers for adhering the new seals’ Code of Conduct speed limit (5 mph) when within 100 m of the shore. Overall the seals seem to be doing well.
- 4.2 A new charter boat skippers’ accreditation scheme has been drawn up with the N.

Devon Biosphere Reserve (Andy Bell), under the auspices of the national WiSe (Wildlife Safe) scheme. The scheme aims to promote responsible wildlife-watching through training, accreditation and awareness-raising. Skippers will be required to attend a course (cost: £30) covering coastal and marine wildlife and learn how to behave when their craft are close to sensitive species. Having attended the course, skippers will be able to display a badge on their boats/publicity materials and include the accreditation on their websites. Lundy and the Biosphere Reserve will only promote those skippers who have attended such a course. The next course will be held in January 2016.

- 4.3. Regarding seabirds, no analysis of this year's data has been undertaken as yet. For the first time, under a Banrock Station Wine sponsored project overseen by the National Trust, time-lapse cameras have been trained on puffin movements at Jenny's Cove. Within the small area covered, instead of an expected 7-8 burrows being present, a total of 77 have been counted. Overall, 196 burrows have been counted and the maximum number of individual puffins seen on one day was 300. Kittiwakes and guillemots have both seen increases in their numbers, and there has also been an increase in the burrow occupancy of shearwaters.

There has been talk of a possible university MSc project (BM was unsure whether the university in question was Exeter or Plymouth) which would compare the numbers of birds and/or burrows assessed by eye with the number that could be determined by analysing camera images.

- 4.4. BM was able to confirm that the island's marine management plan would be completed in early 2016. There has been no management plan in place for several years despite pressure by certain members of the Advisory Group to produce one, so this news was greeted warmly.
- 4.5. BM also informed the Group that there had been an increase in the number of visitors who wanted 'warden-led events', which had kept her busy. Unfortunately, poor weather had curtailed some of the snorkel safaris.
- 4.6. With the help of the Landmark Trust's designer, BM has created a 'Lundy Adventure Journal', an A5 booklet for primary school children to fill in during their voyages to and from the island. The journal, based around a theme of a Puffin Pirate, has proved very popular with children on school trips this summer.
- 4.7. The Splash In! had to be postponed from 20<sup>th</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> August due to adverse weather conditions. Unfortunately however, there were so few entries this year that plans for next year have been revised. Instead of having an 'on-the-day' competition, it has been agreed that any photograph taken within Lundy's waters throughout the year (until the end of September) may be entered. BM reports there is still considerable media interest relating to the competition and that prizes will continue to be similar (assuming the sponsors' interest can be held).
- 4.8. Other visitors – KH asked if there had been any further evidence of storm petrels on the island. BM confirmed that one had been encountered during a survey for shearwaters on 9<sup>th</sup> September, by a group that included the visiting Chair of Natural England Andrew Sells. RI asked if there had been any transgressions of the NTZ or other byelaw infringements. BM replied that one fishing boat had been reported to D&SIFCA and that more jet skiers had been visiting the island, who were regarded as potential problems. Apparently the insurance cover for these craft has recently been extended from 5 miles offshore to 15 miles, so Lundy now is within reach for them. There have also been more RIBs and 'sunseekers' visiting than last year. There have even been stand-up paddleboarders appearing!

**5. Report of the SAC sublittoral monitoring, 2014-2015 (Presentation by Dr Tom Vance, PML Applications Ltd., Plymouth)**

Tom Vance had kindly come from Plymouth to give a short presentation to the Group on the findings of the sublittoral monitoring work which his team had undertaken within the SAC over the past two summers. He explained they had encountered various difficulties (particularly strong easterly winds) which meant that the work had not been completed in the summer of 2014 but had had to be completed this year (in September!). They had been contracted by Natural England to undertake this work, which was a statutory requirement of the Habitats Directive to assess the condition of the site at least once every six years.

- 5.1 The aim was to obtain standardised biological information for the sub-features of the Lundy SAC; and to assess the condition of these sub-features against previous survey data. The sub-features/tasks in question were: (1) kelp forest communities; (2) vertical and over-hanging circalittoral rock; (3) subtidal bedrock and stable boulder communities; (4) the density and condition of sea fans; (5) photographic survey of sunset cup coral populations; (6) the maximum depth of foliose algae; and (7) assessment of the change in sessile epifaunal communities inside and outside of the Lundy NTZ.
- 5.2 In September 2014, the following tasks were achieved: assessment of kelp forest communities; assessment of subtidal bedrock & stable boulder communities; NTZ community assessment as part of the above effort; algal depth assessment; & the start of sampling the density and condition of *Eunicella verrucosa* populations.
- 5.3 The second visit to the island was delayed until September 2015. The results from both this year's survey and that of 2014 have yet to be analysed in detail. Tom Vance would be pleased to return at the Group's next meeting to discuss these results and the conclusions which could be drawn from them.
- 5.4 Some of those present questioned TV as to whether bringing their own boat up from Plymouth on the back of a low loader truck was money well spent, when there were local boats available closer to the island. The team had also contracted their own skipper, but he had never been to Lundy before and didn't know the waters or the tides. TV agreed that they probably wouldn't do this next time.
- 5.5 RI commented that it appeared several of the monitoring methodologies had changed since he had undertaken the studies in 2007 and 2010 and he was concerned that this would lead to difficulties when comparison of the various datasets was carried out. KH also expressed some concern but observed that he had advised on certain aspects of survey techniques and some changes should make repeat surveys and comparison easier.

**6. Natural England (NE) update (Mel Parker)**

- 6.1. MP reported that she and a few other NE staff had accompanied their Chairman Andrew Sells over to Lundy for his first visit to the island on 9<sup>th</sup> September. The trip had been a great success, with shearwater ringing and a seashore safari being witnessed. MP thanked BM, DG and the island staff for their hospitality.
- 6.2. MP pointed out that NE had reduced their funding of the SAC/MCZ/NTZ over the past 10 years. This situation was unlikely to change in the foreseeable future. NE may need to bid for additional funding externally to do further work. Some extra funding had been secured to allow BM to complete the Marine Management Plan over this coming winter – the deadline for completion was now the end of March. The SAC

Condition Assessment of the grey seals was due to take place in 2017/18, though this may be brought forward to 2016/17. Also due to take place in 2016 will be the Intertidal Reef Feature Assessment (monitoring along set transects). MP is currently bidding for funding to continue the seal photo ID project.

- 6.3. There are currently two draft Marine Conservation Advice packages for Lundy (one for the MCZ and one for the SAC) which are out for consultation. All Group members were welcome to look at these and to comment on them, as the input of local knowledge would be much appreciated. Feedback is required by the end of November, with the packages being finalised by the end of March 2016.

## **7. D&SIFCA update**

[In the absence of Sarah Clark, D&SIFCA's Environment Officer Lauren Parkhouse brought the Group up to date with recent D&SIFCA work].

- 7.1 SC & LP had been to Lundy with Geoff Huelin on board *Our Jenny* to instruct Geoff how to tag a crawfish. However, despite setting 30 large funnel inkwell pots, they had not caught any crawfish to tag! Currently, D&SIFCA are talking with Steve Cottrell at the Marine Biological Association (Plymouth) regarding experimental data storage tags which he is trialling around the Isles of Scilly. It is possible these could be used at Lundy too. However, they were very expensive. It was suggested that SC contact Chris Wood, Seasearch Co-ordinator at the Marine Conservation Society, who had been running a crawfish recording scheme for the past few years.
- 7.2 Under the new potting byelaw, the landing size of hen brown (edible) crabs was being increased from 140 mm to 150 mm. The landing size for cock crabs would remain at 160 mm. These decisions had been reached after a consultation period during which the IFCA had received 13 responses, including 3 objections.
- 7.3 KH asked if sightings of crawfish around Lundy were being recorded. BM explained not yet as she had still to complete the design of the survey forms. It had been agreed that boat skippers would be the best people to record sightings, rather than the divers themselves who were often unreliable. A total of 12 crawfish had been seen by one group of divers in the vicinity of Battery Point this summer. Euan Bell of Cefas was planning to organise a meeting in early 2016 to discuss all projects looking at crawfish numbers. KH agreed that numbers of crawfish seemed to be increasing around Lundy, especially with more sightings of very small individuals. CM mentioned two places he knew which were often good for crawfish: around Lee Rocks (off the south coast) and off Surf Point (SE corner). KH proposed that Lundy would be a good place to monitor their numbers. DG added that fewer divers these days were undertaking drift dives, so less ground is being covered and consequently the places where they may have been seen in the past are being missed. KH was hoping to track down John Shaw who had run the diving operation at Lundy in the mid 1980s and was an expert at seeking out crawfish on the seabed. KH intended to ask him how many he could catch in a dive 30 years ago.

## **8. Historic England report (Alison James in absentia)**

- 8.1 AJ had not been able to send through a report. However, some of those present had been in contact with her recently regarding arrangements for diving the protected wreck of the *Iona II*. These were regarded as being 'unworkable'. Consequently, ABE was not aware of any diving being undertaken on the wreck this summer. This seems a crazy situation, just a year after completion of an interpretation study by Wessex

Archaeology (which had been put up for an award<sup>1</sup>) actively encouraging divers to visit the wreck and to provide feedback to Historic England.

At the Group's last meeting in April 2015, AJ had reported: "*The Iona II dive trail is ready for 2015! It would be really great to get some high numbers of divers through the trail this year. Obtaining a licence is a fairly easy process and people can get in touch with me directly if they would like any information.*" What had happened in the meantime was that the means by which a licence has to be obtained had changed. Instead of informing HE of the names of divers visiting the wreck *after* dives had taken place, HE are now stipulating that this has to be done *before* diving takes place. This is the case for all protected wreck sites throughout the country.

ABe pointed out that this new system is almost impossible to adhere to, as situations have to be 'fluid' with dive groups on charter vessels, with various factors (typically the weather and sea conditions) determining where dives can take place on the day. The *Iona II* can therefore not be presented as a possible dive site when options are being considered, unless the names and addresses of all divers have been phoned through to HE beforehand. As it is, there is no-one to answer the phone at HE on a Saturday morning!

[*Post-script:* In December 2015, Alison James informed RI that the licensing process for diving on Protected Wreck sites has now changed. Details of these changes are included in Annex B to these notes.]

## 9. **Sightings on the Oldenburg crossings to/from Lundy this summer** (Rick Morris, Marine LIFE, *in absentia*)

9.1 RM had explained to RI before the meeting that he had yet to assess all of this summer's sightings. They agreed that the spring meetings of the Group would be the best time to present a full report. However, he had extracted a summary from this summer's data, recorded on trips between April and October 2015.

9.2 A total of 20 species of seabird, 6 species of marine mammal and 41 terrestrial bird species (most seen on the island itself) had been observed, making a total of 67 species altogether. Common dolphin were again the most numerous cetacean observed (150) with regular sightings of harbour porpoise (51). Most of the seal sightings (184 grey seal; 2 common seal) were of animals around Lundy, but some were observed in the channel feeding. Bottlenose dolphin numbers (7) were low during this summer, but interestingly we had three minke whale sightings, each one observed around midway between Ilfracombe and Lundy!

Birds of note included a black guillemot and a grey phalarope, both seen around Lundy. Good numbers of Manx shearwater were also seen.

## 10. **Any Other Business**

10.1 KH informed the Group that he had just submitted a paper (with co-author Professor Juliet Brodie) on comparing intertidal species recorded at Lundy in the late 1940s with those recorded in 2008 and later years. Such studies are unusual as long-term quality datasets of this nature are rare. The main findings of the study were that the communities were found to be very similar, with just some differences in the presence or absence of a few individual species. The paper will be published in the Journal of the Lundy Field Society.

10.2 MP & DG informed the Group of a 'Seascape Character' project which was a new initiative from the National Trust. Essentially, it was an assessment of the character

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<sup>1</sup> *Post-script:* in November 2015, the Iona II Dive Trail received a highly commended in the Association of Heritage Interpretation in the category of a target audience.

of the area in question (N. Devon and Lundy, in this case), building up a picture of the coast and indicating what made it 'special'. A large number of stakeholders were involved in the project. It would not only be taking account of the physical attributes but also the spiritual qualities. It is hoped that the outcome will be useful to refer to when future development projects in the area are being considered.

- 10.3 KH informed the Group of an article he had come across in *Ocean Challenge*, the newsletter of the Challenger Society. The article, entitled "*Is there a downside to MPAs?*" emphasised that there appeared to be more 'diseased' lobsters within the Lundy NTZ than there were outside it. KH was critical of the article, suggesting that it had been written by individuals who were not in favour of MPAs (part of an anti-MPA lobby group) and came from the fishing lobby. He pointed out that the scientific paper published by the authors needed to be read to get the real picture and the apparent signs of 'disease' which were referred to appeared to him to be no more than fighting scars.
- 10.4 BM informed the Group that there was a new booklet published covering invasive species which was available free of charge to boat skippers. As part of the island's marine biosecurity, she asked skippers to keep an eye out for these species when cleaning the bottoms of their boats. On a similar point, she told the Group that the island's Biosecurity Plan was being updated, with input from Helen Booker (RSPB). This primarily covered the risk of rats re-invading the island and emphasised such precautions as those aboard boats keeping sandwiches in sealed plastic boxes and not bags.

**11. Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

at 19:00 hrs aboard the MS *Oldenburg*, berthed alongside the Quay, Bideford.

*[Note that this date is different from that suggested on the Agenda].*

## Annex A Warden's report (April 2015 - September 2015)

### 1. Staff

1.1 Robyn Evans joined the Conservation Team as Seasonal Assistant Ranger at the end of March, shortly followed by Lauren Hooper as Seasonal Assistant Warden. Unfortunately Lauren felt that life on the island was not for her and so left very shortly afterwards. Chloë Nicholson was then reappointed for the 2015 season.

Charlotte Eich joined the Conservation Team for 6 weeks over the summer period as a Volunteer Visitor Engagement Officer.

### 2. Marine - general & monitoring

2.1 Seals – Population monitoring was undertaken throughout the year (see table below):

Date	Number of:						Total number of individuals
	Males	Females	Juveniles	Weaners	White coats	Unknown sex	
08/2/15	0	33	3	0	1	9	44
22/3/15	3	34	2	1	0	1	41
21/05/15	7	72	5	0	0	26	121
02/06/15	2	18	2	0	0	10	32
04/06/15	2	22	0	0	0	3	24
22/07/15	7	128	4	3	0	4	146
18/08/15	5	82	4	0	0	14	104
20/08/15	13	70	12	0	0	22	119
03/09/15	10	78	9	1	1	15	114

The changes made to the Code of Conduct have been well received and the speed restriction of 5 knots has been well received by boat users around the island.

2.2 The analysis of the productivity monitoring for puffins, guillemots, razorbills and kittiwakes has not yet been completed however preliminary results of the puffin monitoring are very positive and puffins were observed across the west coast in new areas.

The ornithologist team from Natural England visited us in May and assisted with the 'play-back' surveys for Manx Shearwater. A greater number of burrows were covered during the survey and the number of responses was roughly the same as 2014.

The Puffin project, funded by Banrock Station through the National Trust, is still ongoing with the citizen science element to be released at the end of October. The reason for the delay is due to a surprising finding – the area monitored appears to have 77 burrows where we believed there were 4-7. To ensure that the project is accessible by all, we are working on the best way to illustrate the areas.

2.3 A MARINElife surveyor courses was run in June in collaboration with RM – the course sold out quickly and was a great success therefore another course is already booked for June 2016.

2.4 Cup coral survey – the annual survey of the two populations in Devil's Kitchen was carried out on the 31<sup>st</sup> August.

2.5 Rockpool community survey – the series of rockpools within the Devil's Kitchen were surveyed over the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September and the results have yet to be analysed however there was a noted presence of *Sargassum muticum*, wireweed, in two of the pools and there is a domination by *Ulva* sp.

2.6 Marine Management Plan – arrangements are currently being made for development of the plan. Presently a draft will be produced in early 2016 and disseminated for review by stakeholders. Consultations with LMF members are planned for early January – RM will contact members in due course.

### **3. Education, interpretation & events**

- 3.1 Warden events: 2015 has seen an unprecedented increase in the demand for visitor engagement therefore this year we had an additional volunteer, Charlotte Eich, as a Visitor Engagement Officer. Since the last report there has been approx.. 46 walks, 37 talks, 10 Snorkel Safaris and 11 Rockpool Rambles. Unfortunately the weather caused a number of Snorkel Safaris and Rockpool Rambles to be cancelled.
- 3.2 Education programme: The new 'Lundy Adventure Journal' due to be completed by the end of the month for schools to download from our website alongside teacher information packs and fact sheets about the island's history and wildlife.
- 3.3 Splash In! 2015 was held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August and had been rescheduled due to bad weather. 14 participants took part although 25 had signed up – due to a number of reasons we have now decided to hold on-island competitions every two years. There will still be a competition in 2016 however it will be online and entries can be submitted up until the end of October, after which a winner will be announced and they will receive a goody bag of prizes.

### **4. Media**

- 4.1 The 'Letter from Lundy' and 'Lundy Boarding' appear monthly in the North Devon Gazette and My Town supplement.
- 4.2 Articles:
- Exmoor magazine – seabird article
  - NT Nature News – seabird article
  - North Devon Journal – Snorkel safaris and seal encounters
- 4.3 Media appearances:
- North Devon Boat Stories – seabird and seal monitoring
  - BBC's Big Blue's Little Blue – aired in August and focused on the island's grey seal population – Hugh Fernley-Whittingstall and RM
  - ITV Countrywise's Wild Places piece filmed last August will air over the winter.
  - Ben Fogle interviewed RM for a piece on Lundy as part of a piece on the Celtic Deep for ITV – this is due to air in Dec/Jan.

### **5. Miscellaneous**

- 5.1 Lundy & North Devon Biosphere Accreditation Scheme: Progress has been made with the first stakeholder meeting for the local charter scheme and was well received by those who attended. Therefore the scheme is going forwards and we are currently in the process of confirming the contents of the associated course and application for funding.

## **Annex B Changes to procedures for accessing England's Protected Wreck sites.**

E-mail correspondence from Alison James, Historic England

16 December 2015

Hi Robert

Apologies for not being able to attend the meeting or for providing an update. However, things finally have changed and much for the better. Indeed I have just been drafting a Corporate licence that will be held by Lundy Island with the names of many of the Charter Skippers listed so that they are able to all operate under one licence. In summary the main changes are:

### **One Type of Licence**

The licencing process has been amended to move from four different types of licence to one type of licence framed by conditions that are relevant to the work taking place. This change will not alter the processes for approving and issuing licences but rather change the type of licence issued to make it fit for purpose with current archaeological techniques and to reflect the broad range of reasons for which people seek to access protected wreck sites. The licence application form will be shortened but for any activity that disturbs the sea bed or includes the recovery of any material Historic England will require the submission of an accompanying Project Design.

### **Principal Licensees and Licensees**

Licensees are responsible for and must manage on site activity during all operations under their licence. The main Licensee (named on the main part of the Licence) will be termed the Principal Licensee. Historic England and DCMS recognise that not all Licensees can be present on site all the time. In order to allow work to continue the Principal Licensee can add a number of named other Licensees who are responsible on site when the Principal Licensee is not present. They must be named on the licence and can be added during the initial application or by notifying Historic England in the same way that additional named diver updates used to operate.

### **Additional Named Divers**

In order to reduce the burden of paperwork on Licensees, and to allow diving to occur at short notice, the licence will only need to carry the name of the Licensee. The Licensee may take additional divers on dives under and in accordance with the terms of their licence without prior notification to Historic England. Licensees will therefore no longer have to provide a list of additional divers when applying for a licence or apply for a variation to a licence to include further divers. Historic England will however collect the names of divers who have visited a site under a licence at set intervals throughout the year.

### **Corporate Licences**

It will now be possible to issue a corporate licence that will allow any employee of that corporate body to monitor and control diving activity at a site on behalf of the corporate body. The corporate body will remain liable for all activity carried out by divers under their licence.

Updated Guidance - Accessing England's Protected Wreck Sites: Guidance for Divers and Archaeologists

To reflect the changes to licencing and the introduction of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2010 Historic England have updated our guidance for people applying for a licence under the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973. This can be downloaded at:

<http://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/accessing-englands-protected-wreck-sites-guidance-notes/>

If you need to know anything else at all then please do let me know! I am not sure if you heard but the Iona II Dive Trail received a highly commended in the Association of Heritage Interpretation in the category of a target audience in November.

Best wishes

Alison  
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To be added to our regular Licensee Bulletin email list please contact me. The email distribution list provides regular updates about maritime archaeology, the protected wreck sites and Historic England that are thought to be of interest.