



Flotsam and Jetsam

September 2016

Welcome to the Argyll and Bute Beach Forum quarterly e-bulletin. The Argyll and Bute Beach Forum is a project run by The GRAB Trust (as part of our Beaches and Marine Litter Project). Our main aim is to raise awareness of the impacts of and reduce beach and marine litter and to support communities to take action by cleaning beaches.

We hope you will find our e-bulletin interesting. The bulletin is also available by post and on our website. Your contributions are always welcome. We want to make this bulletin as useful as possible. Tell us what you would like to see in the bulletin, it is your bulletin!



Marine Bio-security and Renewables - Managing the Risk

The workshop focussed on marine renewables and the issues surrounding fouling by Invasive Non-native Species- INNS on these installations, anchorage points and guide wires. Monitoring of such installations involves regular dives and remote cameras to ensure the stability remains consistent and fit for purpose. No monitoring of INNS clinging to the installation is carried out and there lies an opportunity to use divers in association with a remote camera to pin point and collect samples for analysis so that action can be taken as part of contingency planning.

The process of installing marine renewables is not an easy task as specialist vessels are required. The overwhelming issue is that such vessels (specialist barges, service vessels, vessels that can carry out piling and lifting) are few in number and availability; they may have to travel some distance (other side of the world) over a long period to carry out their next contract. They are slow moving and the hulls are prone to fouling with some species that could be deemed INNS in our waters. There are no checks as present; the group felt this needed to be addressed and perhaps Marine Scotland as the lead authority on marine matters should put the appropriate protocols in place to avoid compromising our marine biodiversity and businesses.

Further discussions on:

- 1. Marine Protected Areas-** the movement of maritime traffic will be part of the management plans but until this comes into place, vessels from any part of the world can move through the MPA's without any checks being carried out. This may have further implications for dealing with INNS in an MPA as the control/eradication could see the designation removed temporarily to deal with an outbreak.
- 2. Floating Turbines** - these are dry docked every 5 years for de-scaling and anti-fouling treatment. The issue here is that support ports to carry out this work are limited and some have an existing INNS problem themselves. The suggestion was to carry out de-scaling work off-shore and in-situ but does not solve the issue of the application of anti-fouling paint as this is always done in dry dock.

Finally, the off-shore renewable energy industry are well aware of the highly volatile environment in which they operate. The effort that goes into securing these enormous and expensive installations is a monumental task; attaching them to the sea bed, the use of guide lines and the monitoring of the structure is affectionately known as 'Spanking your Asset' - perhaps including INNS would complete the picture.



Marine Invasive Non-native Species- Seminar 31 August 2016- Bio-security Planning.

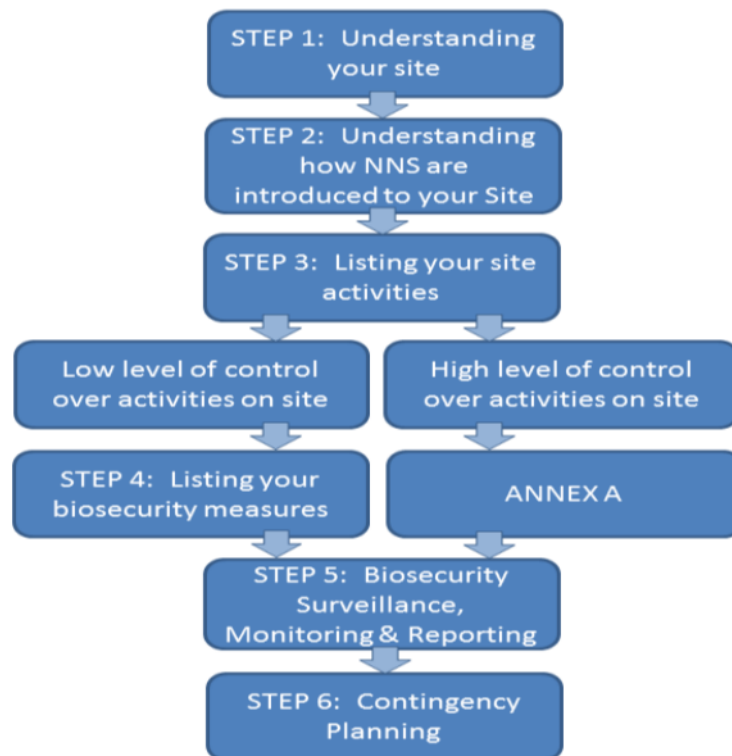
The workshop was introduced by Sarah Brown- Clyde Marine Partnership officer.

According to Scottish Natural Heritage 'Bio- security plans are about taking action in order to minimise the introduction or spread of non-native species'.

Bio-security Plans or specific Site-based Biosecurity Plans for Invasive Non-Native Species-INNS marine species are key to ensuring that they can be managed by the owners and operators of marinas, small harbours, visitor moorings, mooring associations, boatyards and slipways that have been introduced to waters outside their natural range by human action.

The discussion focussed on identifying INNS marine species, the options for eradication and or management including preventative methods anti-fouling, pre-entry checks to marinas, etc. along with the merits of co-operation/shared plans and regional biosecurity plans. More information on the following link regarding identification etc. <http://www.snh.gov.uk/land-and-sea/managing-coasts-and-sea/marine-nonnatives/>

As stated previously, bio-security plans are key to the management and or eradication of Marine INNS so what do they contain? Process extract from <http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/A1294630.pdf>



The key message from the workshop was communication both within the business and with allied businesses and advisory organisations such as Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environment Agency, GB NNS Secretariat to ensure that the bio-security plan is up to date and that any contingency action is fit for purpose.

Marina Curran-Colthart- Local Biodiversity Officer- Argyll and Bute Council.



SNH held a sharing good practice event at SAMS on 31st August 2016. The event included a series of lectures and workshops for practical biosecurity responses to the threat of invasive species. All presentations are available at: <http://www.sams.ac.uk>.

Topics covered:

1. Why, What and How: The Orkney non-natives experience
Discussions covered surveillance, monitoring and ballast water management in Scapa Flow and smaller harbours. All documents are available at: www.orkneyharbours.com
2. Managing Biofouling—introduction to vectors
Hull and surface fouling as a means for introduction of NNS, design of structures and in-water cleaning technologies.
3. Biosecurity Planning
What a plan looks like, why it is the crucial first step. The SNH Marine Biosecurity Planning document is available at: <http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/A1294630.pdf>
4. Ballast Water Management
Developing Technologies
5. Practical Biosecurity Actions
Pathway management, vessel inspection and wrapping
6. Communications and Communities
Getting the message to stakeholders, local community action, citizen science and demonstrating success. For further information available at: <http://www.nonnativespecies.org/home/index/cfm>

Management Options: Doing nothing is not an option! What can we do to combat invasive species?

1. Inspections of consignments for target species
2. Eradication of colonist NNS
3. Reducing rate of spread
4. Mitigation methods
5. Develop a product, i.e. develop a species to counteract invasives
6. Invasives are the new normal; it is now a natural process!

We need to know what the impacting species are. Common problems include:

- Fouling species – economic difficulties
- Impact on human health
- Signifying altering communities, habitats and ecosystems
- Predicting impacting species
 - Problems in recognition
 - Where to monitor (time & place)
 - Making lists of bays, lagoons where they occur
 - Need taxonomic skills
 - Need to know what you're targeting and where to look
 - Where an NNS is unlikely to be managed
 - Vectors operate to spread NNS over a wide geographic area, e.g. nematodes spread through ballast water, copepods, infestation, and many pathways. But there is little knowledge of pathways.
 - Assessments should be rapid, cost effective and target hub areas.



The GREAT BRITISH BEACH CLEAN
2016



Thank you to all who took part in this years Great British Beach Clean with the Marine Conservation Society! We hope you enjoyed the weekend and had a lots of fun while down on the beach. Now the really important task starts, pulling together all the amazing surveys you have done for us over the four days! We are having an earlier launch this year of our Beachwatch Annual Report which all your data feeds into so this year we need all of your data uploaded to the website by the **3rd of October**. If you need help uploading your data please contact catherine.gemmell@mcsuk.org or if you are worried you will not have time to collate it all then please post your completed forms as soon as possible to Marine Conservation Society, CBC House, 24 Canning Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8EG.

This data is crucial is helping our campaigns tackle marine litter at its source so please do send in all your data as soon as you can and we will let you know when the report is due out! We would also love to see all your pictures so please either upload them direct to the website or email them to Catherine.

Thank you all so much for taking part in the UKs largest beach clean and survey, we really couldn't do it without you!



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List of acronyms used in the bulletin

KSB:	Keep Scotland Beautiful
HWDT:	Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust
CMPP:	Clyde Marine Planning Partnership
SEPA:	Scottish Environmental Protection Agency
SAMS:	Scottish Association for Marine Science
SNH:	Scottish Natural Heritage
MCS:	Marine Conservation Society
TEAR:	Tiree Environmental Action and Recycling

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Please send articles for the Flotsam & Jetsam bulletin to Jean Kennedy.

All Project Workers are part-time so please note that they are not always available to answer all queries in regard to beaches & marine litter issues.

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Disclaimer

Thanks for reading. Please note that all views expressed are not necessarily the views of The GRAB Trust or the Argyll and Bute Beach Forum. We hope that you have enjoyed our e-bulletin. We would like to hear from you and would appreciate any comments you may have about it.

The GRAB Trust

GROUP FOR RECYCLING IN ARGYLL & BUTE



Argyll &
Bute
Beach
Forum

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