

The LINK Newsletter

The quarterly update from Scottish Environment LINK
Spring 2007



LINK

Call 999, Biodiversity Emergency

LINK's Biodiversity task force has published a report warning that Scotland is not progressing quickly enough to reach the Government's target of halting loss of biodiversity before 2010. Released on 5 April, just 1000 days before 2010, the report, *Summary and Assessment for Scotland from the 2005 UKBAP Reporting Round*, attracted wide media coverage, and some consensus that the target date should be revised. LINK's report was produced to add to the evidence base on the state of Scotland's biodiversity and intended to stimulate production of solutions that can be incorporated into the current review of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Implementation Plans.

The evidence — the report disaggregates Scottish from UK data from the 2005 reporting round—is that business as usual is not an option. 60% of species and 68% of habitats are either declining, lost, or the trend is unknown, while just 38% of species and 33% of habitats are stable or increasing. Land management practices remain the biggest threat, mainly due to unfavourable agricultural practices and loss of habitat.

The report identifies solutions, the key being to put biodiversity into the heart of decision making in Scotland. Enforcing the biodiversity duty on public bodies as enshrined in the Nature Conservation Act would be a very positive start. Properly funded agriculture, forestry and land management schemes that are better targeted for biodiversity conservation are needed to deliver real benefits. Currently, funding shortfalls discourage land managers from taking measures to improve biodiversity.

With climate change likely to be a key driver affecting biodiversity quality and composition in the next decades, we urgently need to build resilience into fragmented ecosystems by creating wider habitat networks and giving nature room to adapt. This means incentives for agricultural and land management practices must deliver a wider landscape that supports biodiversity as a result of

land use, not despite it.

LINK will continue to work energetically with partners in the Executive and agencies to raise Scotland's game on biodiversity.

everyone campaign update

Though the election outcomes are not clear at the time of writing LINK's Campaign Delivery Team is confident that this **everyone** campaign has had significant impact. Most of the main parties' manifestos had significant green pledges, many relating specifically to the **everyone** 'asks'. **Everyone** carried out an analysis of the manifestos which is available on www.everyonecan.org.

Back in 2002 when members began to develop joint campaigning through **everyone**, there was an urgent need to demonstrate to decision makers that environmental issues matter to people, that these were issues that influenced how people vote. That ambition has been fulfilled to some degree; environmental issues have raced up the political agenda as the implications of climate change and the urgency about the measures needed are more widely discussed. As Fred Edwards said in his Foreword to the '**everyone** watching' report assessing the outgoing coalition's environmental performance:

'2007 is the year when the marked difference between the more distant horizons scanned by the environmental non-governmental organizations and the closer horizons, to which politicians pay regard, began to narrow dramatically.'

Everyone's Big Green Debate on 17th April attracted an audience of 250, nearly half of whom had never attended a hustings before. The event was chaired by broadcaster Lesley Riddoch and included interactive voting and live music by Capercaillie. The parties were represented by their environmental spokespeople, including Ross Finnie and Sarah Boyack. A video recording is available on www.scottishvotepods.com/green.

Member organisations organised a further 18 **everyone** hustings across Scotland, several in collaboration with the Eco-Congregation and Stop Climate Chaos networks, enabling the public to quiz their candidates on their environmental policies. The issues raised were often local to the area, though energy and transport were universal concerns. Audience numbers varied according to venue, from the teens to the nineties.

The campaign has continued to collect footprints, asking people to 'vote with their feet' for a better environment in Scotland. The team and volunteers had stalls at Edinburgh Farmers' Market, Edinburgh University and on Princes Street, Edinburgh, to collect footprints.

Many member organisations collected footprints at their offices or at events and venues. For example, the National Trust for Scotland collected many at their visitor centre in Killicrankie and the Scottish Wildlife Trust at the Science Fair at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh. Thanks to everyone who helped.

This 'petition of feet' was displayed as a special exhibition at Glasgow Science Centre from 27-29 April, when visitors to the Centre contributed by adding their colourful feet to the 2000 already collected in support of the campaign. The petition will be presented to the new First Minister.

The campaign had a presence at the SNP conference in Glasgow in March, where Alex Salmond signed a footprint. **Everyone** also organised a fringe event on Green Networks, hosted by Richard Lochhead and with speakers from member bodies.

The 'everyone's watching' report, *How well have the Scottish Executive done on their environmental commitments?* analysed the outgoing coalition's partnership agreement commitments on the environment. The report was launched at the end of March, receiving wide media coverage. It is available at www.everyonecan.org/watching.html.

Boost for joint marine work

The Marine task force was overjoyed and relieved as a substantial grant package to take forward joint advocacy around Marine legislation was confirmed just before the Easter break. The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and the Tubney Charitable Trust had approached Wildlife &

Countryside Link early in 2006 wishing to support collective effort by the environmental NGOs across the UK on marine issues, as a UK Marine Bill came onto the horizon.

Scotland's Marine task force developed its bid in collaboration with the other Links. All four Links now have funding for collaborative work across the UK and within each country.

LINK is now recruiting for two posts, on research and advocacy, to be hosted within member organisations and managed by the task force.

20th Birthday Celebrations

Members past and present, including LINK's Supporters and Subscribers, are invited to a supper and ceilidh on the evening of Friday 15 June to celebrate 20 years of working together. Our generous host, the Falkland Centre for Stewardship, is providing a fabulous floored tent for the occasion, and the Bella McNab's Dance Band will play the music.

LINK's 20th AGM will be held earlier in the day with the opportunity for members to take part in the debate on Friday afternoon on the act and art of enterprising stewardship in a low carbon economy. See page 6 for further information on the Big Tent 2007.

If you are, or have been involved with LINK, and you haven't yet received notice or an invitation, please get in touch with the Perth office (see back page for contact details). The ceilidh will be a family affair, so partners and children are welcome, and there will be transport to and from railway stations in Fife and Perth.

Welcome to new members

Two organisations have joined LINK in the last quarter. Craig Macadam began work as Scottish Conservation officer for Buglife in early February, giving the organisation a welcome Scottish presence. See Craig's article on page 4.

The Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society's application took longer to process as the Board wished to be sure that its written constitutional aims converge with LINK's. This is now settled and we look forward working with both new member organisations across the range of LINK's work. Please see Judy Wilkinson's SAGS article on page 5.

News and Views from Members

The next four pages contain articles from LINK member bodies and guest contributors

Ancient Tree Hunt

Andrew Fairbairn, Woodland Trust Scotland

Ancient trees are of enormous importance to our heritage. They form a vital element of our landscape, an integral part of our culture and play an exceptional role in the improvement of our biodiversity. They are living survivors of our past and as important to our natural landscape heritage as Scheduled Ancient Monuments. At the moment, they have no specific protection. Little is known of their distribution, population, health or rate of loss although we do know that the UK has a greater number of surviving ancient trees than anywhere else in northern Europe. We believe there is an urgent need to establish a living record or database in order to plan for their active conservation.

The Woodland Trust's 'Ancient Tree Hunt' aims to encourage greater protection of ancient trees by involving people in the creation of a living database of trees of special interest i.e. ancient, veteran or notable/heritage. The project is 50% funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. SNH has made a financial contribution and Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) has seconded a member of staff. FCS has also agreed to discount the superb new Heritage Trees of Scotland book from £19.99 to £13.99 to help raise funds for the project.

(<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/heritagetreesscotland>)

The sort of trees we are looking for are those special old, fat and gnarled ones with a 'wow' factor. But we are also looking for trees that are special to you or have a story or legend associated with them. Any species is relevant.

Over the next five years we will:

- Encourage as many people as possible to record trees.
- Build a network of volunteer recorders and verifiers to produce robust and accurate tree data.
- Work with a wide range of partner organisations to help deliver the project.
- Establish a comprehensive database and map of ancient trees to enable their active conservation.

Recording is done on-line and the website www.ancienttreehunt.org.uk is live and ready to go.

People can record whatever their level of knowledge. The recording form is built to take as much or as little information as someone can give. The minimum required is an email address and the ability to locate a tree on a map. Girth can be estimate in hugs or entered as an exact measurement. Each tree has its own mini websites so details on the history, the biodiversity value, photos or stories can be added. For those all important clusters of trees a downloadable spreadsheet can be obtained. All records collated will be presented on the Ancient Tree Hunt map.

Volunteer verifiers will play an essential role by verifying all the records as accurate and ensure that at the data collected is robust. Every record posted will be verified. We already have 13 verifiers Scotland wide but are looking for more.

Partnership working with other organisations will be key to the success of the Ancient Tree Hunt. We would like to collate all existing records and obtain complete records for known major sites held by various organisations and landowners. This information will then be made available on the Ancient Tree Hunt website.

An education programme supplemented by the creation of resources and the production of education materials will be used in formal and informal learning. We are aiming for 10,000 records in Scotland over 5 years, so if you want to get involved there are 4 options:

- Record some trees
 - Volunteer to become a Verifier
 - Purchase a discounted Heritage Trees of Scotland book
- All of the above!

For any of the above or further information, please contact: Andrew Fairbairn, Woodland Trust Scotland, Abbey Road, Auchterarder, PH3 1DP. Tel: 01764 662554

[Email: andrewfairbairn@woodland-trust.org.uk](mailto:andrewfairbairn@woodland-trust.org.uk)

Or go straight to the website:
www.ancienttreehunt.org.uk

Local Footprints Project Launched

Elizabeth Leighton, WWF Scotland

WWF and the Sustainable Scotland Network are joining forces on a new project, *Local Footprints*, to help schools and local authorities throughout Scotland cut their environmental impact. This project is funded by the Scottish Executive, the Improvement Service and ScottishPower.

The *Local Footprints* project builds on innovative work already achieved through [Scotland's Global Footprint Project](http://www.scotlandsfootprint.org) (www.scotlandsfootprint.org) with Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and North Lanarkshire Councils. The councils used the Ecological Footprint as a tool for measuring environmental impact and informing decisions on council policy and produced their own footprint reduction reports, a UK first. Schools in these local authority areas are doing the same, using an online footprint calculator and coming up with plans to reduce the footprint of their school in the context of the Eco Schools programme (www.LTScotland.org.uk/sustainabledevelopment/schoolsglobalfootprint). All three councils are committed to the continued use of footprint to inform policies.

Launching *Local Footprints*, Sarah Boyack, Deputy Minister for Environment and Rural Affairs, said: 'The Scottish Executive is committed to reducing Scotland's global footprint. This project, with our support, has shown that the Ecological Footprint can help to improve our understanding of the impact of policy and practice on our environment, at home and around the world. That understanding will help us to meet the challenge we all face—learning to change our ways and live within environmental limits while maintaining a good quality of life. That is why we are supporting the adoption of the *Local Footprints* project approach in local authorities and their schools.'

Work in the North-East and in North Lanarkshire demonstrated that:

- Local authority policies have a significant role to play in helping to reduce Scotland's global footprint—developing an ecological Footprint Reduction strategy is a practical and incisive way to measure performance on sustainable development
- Footprint can support Councils on a range of

responsibilities including Best value obligations and efficiency savings. Footprint can also assist in Strategic Environmental Assessment and help to make links across council departments.

- Ecological Footprint is an evidence-based tool that can help councils get to grips with the consumption of environmental resources in their area. It provides new scientifically credible information to help decision making.
- Ecological Footprint is a persuasive tool for getting people involved in projects and programmes—both pilot areas reported that Ecological Footprint has wide-ranging appeal—everyone from Chief Executives to school children seemed to understand the concept.
- The Footprint concept provides a valuable teaching and learning opportunity that can inspire and inform pupils to take practical action.

To sum up, local authorities are increasingly expected to help reduce our global environmental impact. Footprinting will help identify priorities and provide evidence to inform local authority decision-making and the tough choices that need to be faced. The houses, communities, schools and energy systems we build today will either lock society into a damaging spiral of over-consumption, or begin to move this and future generations towards sustainable living.

For more information about Local Footprints please contact Amie Fulton, Local Footprints officer on: localfootprints@ksbscotland.org.uk or visit www.scotlandsfootprint.org.

Buglife comes to Scotland

Craig Macadam, Conservation Officer

Invertebrates make up more than 98% of animal species in the UK and are sensitive indicators of the health of the environment. They pollinate the food we eat and the flowers we enjoy, as well as maintaining the natural fertility of the soil. They have great potential in the development of new medicines, as well as providing an essential food source for most reptiles, amphibians, birds, fish and mammals.

Buglife—the Invertebrate Conservation Trust is 4

the first organisation in Europe devoted to the pioneering conservation of all invertebrates. The Trust was formed in 2002 and now has 9 members of staff working on diverse projects such as a bumblebee survey and brownfield conservation.

Buglife's aim is to halt invertebrate extinctions and maintain or achieve sustainable populations of invertebrates in the UK. There is very worrying evidence that the numbers of invertebrates in the countryside has crashed in recent years. Riverflies are down by 66%, most bumblebee species are declining, 71% of butterfly species and 66% of moth species are declining. Species such as the short-haired bumblebee and Ivel's sea anemone have already been driven to extinction. In Scotland about a third of all grasshoppers and crickets have gone extinct and one, the Bog bush-cricket is now confined to one site where it is threatened with a landfill site. The current invertebrate extinction crisis can be largely attributed to habitat destruction, climatic changes and the intensification of agricultural production.

Buglife, working in partnership with the Initiative for Scottish Invertebrates (an alliance of Scotland's leading entomologists), has set up the 'Conserving Scottish Invertebrates' project. This will produce an invertebrate conservation strategy for Scotland as well as looking at ways to translate policies and intentions into practical actions that have credibility with fellow professionals and the general public.

Buglife is hoping that through our membership of Scottish Environment LINK we will be able to influence policies that are currently causing the extinction crisis and put our ecosystems on a more stable footing.

Craig Macadam, Buglife's Conservation Officer for Scotland, is based in Balallan House, alongside BTCV, Butterfly Conservation and Plantlife. Telephone: 01786 447504 or email: craig.macadam@buglife.org.uk.

Growing Scotland

Judy Wilkinson, Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society

In December 2006 the Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society convened a meeting of over 20 organisations (including several members of LINK) concerned with the gardening sector in

Scotland. We wanted to discuss how to raise awareness of the importance of gardening to the Scottish people and seek active support from the Scottish Executive for gardening in Scotland.

Gardens and gardening improve the overall well-being of the Nation economically, physically and mentally. The benefits to the economy, employment, regeneration, health, communities, biodiversity, environment and education need to be championed in a vision for Scotland's gardens. It was agreed that, as a first step, SAGS should compile information and data about the sector from the organisations and present a report, with recommendations to the Scottish Executive immediately after the elections in May. The document and associated leaflets will be available on our website.

Of particular relevance to LINK members will be the analysis of the contribution gardens and allotments make to biodiversity, both urban and rural. Allotment sites vary in size from about ¼ hectare to 3 hectares so are large enough to support viable ecosystems. Today, plot-holders grow a vast variety of flowers, herbs, fruit bushes and trees as well as vegetables. Sites often have trees and hedges round the boundary and contain small ponds. Professor Keith Vickerman, FRS, has monitored his 1 hectare site in Glasgow and recorded 40 different species of birds, 9 butterflies, 5 bumblebees, 4 other bees and 9 hoverflies. He says the list is not comprehensive.

The Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society hope that the work they are doing with Growing Scotland and the audit (see LINK's Autumn 2006 newsletter) will encourage the Scottish Executive, Local Authorities and SNH to recognize and promote allotment sites and plot-holders as an important resource. The allotment community needs to be supported and encouraged. For further information see www.sags.org.uk.

News from the UK Links

The following reports are from our sister Link organisations operating across the UK.

Wales Environment Link members had their last meeting with the Environment, Planning and Countryside Minister ahead of May's Assembly Elections. The agenda included measuring CO₂ impacts of Welsh strategies, zero carbon homes, links between the Wales Environment

Strategy and the Wales Spatial Plan, coastal access and landscape characterisation work.

In March, three WEL members gave evidence to the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee on implementation of the Environment Strategy. A supporting paper illustrated how well implementation of the action plan has been advancing, from the perspective of the environmental voluntary sector.

A number of WEL consultation responses were drawn up, including responses to the UK's Draft Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2007; the Strategic Action Plan for the Voluntary Sector Scheme and the Local Service Boards/Local Service Agreements consultation and the Planning for Climate Change consultation.

WEL's Election Campaign group provided the main parties in Wales with feedback on their pre-manifesto publications, and analysed the final manifestos to see how much influence the campaign work has had. *Sue Evans, WEL.*

Wildlife & Countryside Link In January the Biodiversity Working Group, in partnership with Wales Environment Link, launched the first annual assessment of progress towards the Government's target to halt biodiversity loss by 2010, and has continued to feed into the BAP review process.

The Farming and Rural Development Group met the Soil Association to discuss organic farming, climate change, and cypermethrin. The Land Use Planning Working Group met to discuss a new draft PPS on Climate Change, and look forward to the now delayed publication of a Planning White Paper. WCL welcomed the launch of the Marine White Paper on 15 March and continues to urge the Government to ensure that Parliamentary time is allocated for the Marine Bill early in the next session. The Water Working Group responded to the proposals for identifying and extending water bodies of biodiversity significance. Finally, WCL continues to call on the UK Government for strong diplomatic action in the run-up to the 59th annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission, providing Defra with detailed briefings on the key issues for the UK. *Jodie Bettis, WCL.*

Northern Ireland Environment Link: What with elections and the 'will it won't it' nature of devolution we have been concentrating on the impacts that the presumed resumption of the

Assembly will have, visiting political parties and party policy officers to remind them of the importance of the environment.

Following our major conference on Landscape and Planning we are developing an Agenda for Action for planning. The OFMDFM prepared an Implementation Plan for our SD Strategy, but it falls short of involving all sectors so we were heavily involved in a Stakeholder Event in December and continue to promote SD to other stakeholders, particularly local authorities.

NIEL's Fact Sheet on *Community Planning* in December was well received and another is about to be issued on *Steps to Sustainability*. An Away Day for Executive and Staff helped us on our way for strategic planning for the next 7 years and affirmed our need to be active politically. *Dr Sue Christie, NIEL.*

Global secrets to serious fun: Big Tent 2007

Ninian Stuart, Falkland Centre for Stewardship

The secrets to serious fun are set to be unveiled as Big Tent 2007 prepares to pitch up with a tented village in the grounds of Falkland Palace this summer. Preparations are underway to ensure Scotland's Festival of Stewardship is bigger and better than ever, with education and entertainment for all ages.

This will be the festival's 2nd year celebrating and promoting the principles and practice of good stewardship to a wide audience in 21st century Scotland. With the theme of *Minding the Future*, Big Tent will celebrate and explore old and new ways of caring for resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

Whether you're interested in preparing for climate change, good management of industry, looking after our heritage, the future of local food, growing a strong craft culture or the places people live in, you'll find people with a common passion at the Big Tent. Falkland Centre for Stewardship is planning a packed programme of 'serious fun,' including storytelling, puppetry, poetry and music alongside debates, exhibitions and craft demonstrations.

The Big Tent takes place from June 15 - 17. For further information telephone Falkland Centre for Stewardship on 01337 858838, visit www.bigtentfestival.co.uk or email: info@bigtentfestival.co.uk.

LINK Task Force and other news

Agriculture The TF was pleased that a number of its suggestions were adopted in the Scottish Rural Development Programme document. It was involved in the development of several measures, including prescriptions for agri-environment, and was mostly pleased with the results. LINK has also influenced content on water resource, forestry, and climate change measures. Outstanding problems remain with the likely level of funding to deliver the SRDP.

The TF continued involvement in the ongoing development of Land Management Contracts, which will provide the delivery vehicle for SRDP funding, including the agri-environment programme. There are concerns about the level of planning and advice that will accompany LMCs, with less success in influencing this to date. LINK will be very much involved in regional input to the LMC delivery process.

SEERAD commissioned a short review of agri-environment in February, following the disastrous round of agri-environment applications to the Rural Stewardship Scheme in 2006. Members have been feeding in to the review in the hope it will form the first stage of a more fundamental review.

LINK responded to a consultation on proposals for changes to the Nitrate Vulnerable Zones action programme. The response is broadly supportive, underlining the human health, climate change, and biodiversity benefits of the Directive and encouraging linkages with the Water Framework Directive process.

Biodiversity The focus has been the *Call 999* report (see page 1). With the aim of ensuring the next set of Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Implementation Plans are a significant improvement on the set which expires at the end of 2007, the TF produced a paper for the February meeting of the SBS Committee, inviting its members to agree to LINK's recommendations. A protocols paper should give some guidance to the working groups in preparing new plans, though it is too early to assess its impact.

The competition held during February's Scottish Environment Week linked biodiversity with gin, by coinciding with a report on the decline of juniper. The question *How old is the oldest*

Juniper recorded in Britain? was answered correctly (255 years) by researcher Tony King, who was presented with his prize bottle by Deputy Environment Minister Sarah Boyack.

Climate LINK organised a seminar on Climate Change and Land Use on 26 March, with presentations from several task forces on Flooding, Agriculture and Biodiversity. Emma Jordan (SNH) updated members on the SNH position on biomass; Adam Harrison (WWFS) on the developing situation globally on biofuels, and Geeta Wonnacott (Scottish Executive) gave a resume of the ECOSSE soils research project. It was a very useful event, sharing information on emerging issues and helping to integrate climate change across all LINK work areas.

Freshwater The TF responded to a consultation by the Water Industry Commission on its approach to the 2010-14 price review. LINK welcomed the commitment to making the process more open and suggested closer involvement from Waterwatch Scotland. LINK considers there should be more emphasis on cross-sectoral involvement in the investment programme. It is unacceptable that Scottish Water customers should pay for the clean up of polluting activities of other industries and land uses; better regulation through the Water Framework Directive is needed to address such problems. LINK believes the Scottish Executive should recognise that:

- Water is not only an economic resource, but an environmental asset
- Water pricing must ensure sustainable use, not only efficient use
- The cost recovery must include the costs of damage to the environment

The TF produced a briefing on Sustainable Flood Management which explains the duty on sustainable flood management enshrined in the Water Environment and Water Services Act 2003, how it has not affected the current approach to flooding, and the benefits of 'soft engineering' approaches in mitigating the effects of flooding on communities downstream.

Landscape The TF was very active on the Scottish Landscape Forum which reported to the Deputy Minister for Environment at the end of March. All Forum participants agreed that it should enable a wide stakeholders' forum to consider the issues - European Landscape Convention; Values and Benefits of Landscape; revision of National planning Policy Guidance 7

on Natural Heritage, NPPG14 - and other key landscape issues, in depth.

The TF spent some time discussing “wild land” and its protection with the Cairngorms National Park Authority and the National Trust for Scotland, with the aim to help clarify the concept and ensure adequate protection.

Marine Marine spatial planning, a new marine management organisation, and ways to protect species and habitats that are ‘Scottish specialities’ were among the recommendations of the Ministerial Advisory Group on Marine and Coastal Strategy, which reported in March. LINK’s representatives on this stakeholder group noted that when such a diverse group of specialists from the oil and fisheries industry, to government scientists and environmental bodies come together to call for better management of our seas, we trust the Executive will take action via a Marine Act. The choice now is to legislate for protection of our species and habitats or to fail in our international responsibility to protect marine biodiversity and the many thousands of jobs that depend on it.

Planning The TF is seeking a place on the Executive’s steering group reviewing NPPG 14 on the Natural Heritage.

LINK will be meeting the Executive in later May as part of its round of meetings with key stakeholders on the National Planning Framework 2. A meeting on 3 May was arranged to clarify LINK’s priorities.

Scottish Environmental Fundraising Forum The Group met in February for a presentation from Craig Mullen on the various Big Lottery Funding streams and from Frazer Scott of Forward Scotland on the application process from the funder’s point of view.

Dianne Laing (Scottish Native Woods) now represents LINK on the Community Environmental Renewal Scheme panel, administered by Forward Scotland.

Woodlands The TF met Bob MacIntosh, Director of the Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS), following his invitation for comments on the FCS paper *The Role of the Public Forest Estate in Scotland*.

Angus Yarwood, who succeeded Flavia Pigot at Woodland Trust Scotland, has convened the TF since taking up his post with WTS in October, finding his ‘LINK feet’ very quickly.

The TF is engaging with FCS about the three year Scottish Forestry Strategy Implementation Plans and will keep a watching brief on the new Strategic Forest District Plans for their effectiveness in delivering environmental and social benefits.

SEERAD Liaison LINK Chair John Mayhew and President Fred Edwards were among a group invited by John Mason, Head of SEERAD’s Environment Group, in February for a useful discussion on a wide range of issues relating to future delivery of the government’s environmental objectives.

Further Information

For information about reports and initiatives referred to in this newsletter please contact LINK or visit our website www.scotlink.org Task Force outputs are listed under ‘Work Areas’ accessible from the home page.

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For updates on the everyone campaigns see www.everyonecan.org

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