

Summary of Main Points
 Of a total of 64 groups, 16 ended during 2007 and 12 new started, in particular in the work areas of the Agriculture, Freshwater, Marine taskforces.
 Of the 29 groups classified, 80% (23) were type A, B or E (influencing policy).
 Of the 40 groups reported, 25 (63%) were considered very or generally useful to the work of the taskforce (Q7).
 Of the 25 groups which were considered very or generally useful, 19 (76%) were working well and effectively, (good or very good in Q6 1-5) such as Deer, Freshwater and Marine taskforces.
 Regarding the overall effectiveness (Q6), of the 34 groups classified, 20 (60%) were good or very good (shown in light and dark green).
 Of the six taskforces who reported, all, except one, spent more than three weeks on stakeholder work (more than 50 person-hours per year).
 Of the 37 groups reported, 13 (35%) required more than 35 hours/year (highlighted in yellow); the remaining 24 averaged 13 hours/year.
 Of the 12 groups reported as overall 'poor' and 'very poor' (Q7), the ATF LFASS, Nitrates Working Group and the SBF Rural Working Group; the BTF BRIG, and the FTF SAC Consultative Committee are noteworthy (shown in red).

Type A Ministerial support, clear remit, consensus view can influence policy
B Government led, inform on different view, consensus view can influence policy
C Government led, inform on different view, consensus view does not influence policy
D Government wants a stakeholder group, but no clear remit, agenda or outcomes
E Technical working group, expert details feed into policy development

4 Very Good
 3 Good
 2 Poor
 1 Very Poor
 Not known/Too early
 More than 35 hours per year

ID	GROUP TITLE	SPONSOR	Type of Group (A, B, C, D or E)	LNK delegate	Org	Years in existence, if ended, give date.	Workload (person-hours per year)	Q1 Terms of reference clear and time-limited?	Q2 Leadership effective?	Q3 Sponsors listening?	Q4 Timely progress being made?	Q5 Right stakeholders involved?	Q6 Overall effectiveness of group?	Q7 How useful to TF work?
LINK TASK FORCES														
AGRICULTURE														
1	SRDP Programme Monitoring Committee	Scottish Government	B or C (too early to tell)	Mandy Gloyer	RSPB	First meeting will be April 08	?	4	?	?	?	4	?	4
2	SRDP stakeholder group	Scottish Government	B	3- Katrina Marsden, Jonathan Wordsworth, vacant	RSPB, CSA	Renamed SRDP Implementation group	?	?	?	2	3	2	?	4
3	LFASS stakeholder group	Scottish Government	C	Mandy Gloyer	RSPB	At least 5	20	1	1	1	2	3	2	4
4	ASIG Climate Change and agriculture sub-group	Scottish Government	B	Carey Coombs	SA	1, due to end soon	20	4	3	3	4	4	3	4
5	CAP Reform stakeholder group	Scottish Government	B	Mandy Gloyer	RSPB	Created 2008. One meeting held so far	20	4	?	?	?	4	?	4
6	Organic Stakeholder group	Scottish Government	B	Carey Coombs, Mandy Gloyer	SA-RSPB	?	10	2	3	3	2	3	3	3
7	Scottish Biodiversity Forum Rural Working Group	Scottish Government	C	Mandy Gloyer, Jonathan Hughes	RSPB/SWT	At least 5	10	2	2	2	3	3	2	2
8	Nitrates Working Group	Scottish Government	B	Katrina Marsden	RSPB	1?	10	2	2	2	1	3	2	2
							Sub total (Hrs/year)							
							90							
BIODIVERSITY														
9	Non Native Invasive Species GB Strategy Working Group	Defra		Deborah Long		ended 2008	16	yes	yes	not really	yes	yes	OK	Good
10	Scottish Biodiversity Committee	Scottish Government		Takes a LNK brief, but no official LNK delegate.		4	8	No but is under review	No	yes	variable	No	Limited	Difficult to say.
11	UK Biodiversity Reporting and Information Group (BRIG)	Defra		Deborah Long		LNK representation started 2007	36	no	no	no	no	yes	limited	middle
12	UK Priority Species and Habitats Review Working Group	Defra		Deborah Long		ended 2007	40	yes	no	no	no	yes	limited	low
13	Scottish Soils Strategy, Biodiversity sub-group	Scottish Government		Jonathan Hughes										
							Sub total (Hrs/year)							
							100							
DEER														
14	DCS Advisory Group on Management Strategy for Wild Deer		E	Bruce Anderson, Victor Clements	SNW, RSPB	6 months	70	Yes	Yes	yes	Yes	Yes	3	High value
15	DCS Deer Management Round Table		E	Helen McDade, Duncan Orr-Ewing, Richard Lummoore, David Black	JMT RSPB NTS RAS	10 years	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	3	good
							Sub total (Hrs/year)							
							160							
FRESHWATER														
16	SNIFER Coastal flooding project steering group		E	Andrea Johnstonova			10	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes - final report almost complete	Yes	Good	Very useful
17	Scottish Soils Strategy: Diffuse pollution, erosion and compaction sub-group.		B	Andrea Johnstonova			15	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, draft report now published	Yes	Good	4 - useful
18	Flooding Bill Advisory Group (FBAG)	SG	A	Andrea Johnstonova, Mike Donaghy	WWF and RSPB	2007 to present	20	Yes and yes.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, largely	4, Effective	Essential
19	Steering Group for SNIFER/SEPA project on WFD restoration	SG and SEPA	E	Andrea Johnstonova, Mike Donaghy	WWF and RSPB	2007 to present	14	Yes and yes.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4, Effective	Very useful
20	Diffuse Pollution Advisory Group	WWF, SG, SEPA, SNH	B	Andrea Johnstonova, Mike Donaghy	WWF and RSPB	2007 to present	16	No and no.	No	SG slow to take effective action.	No	Yes	2. Struggling to be effective	Essential
21	RBMP (River Basin Management Plans) National Advisory Group	SEPA	A	Andrea Johnstonova, Mike Donaghy	WWF and RSPB	2006 to present	18	Yes and yes.	Disappointing	Yes, but little action	Not particularly	Yes	2. Adequate to poor	Essential
22	SNIFER Floodrisk Management Steering Group	SG	E	Mike Donaghy	WWF and RSPB	2005 to present	10	yes and yes	Becoming so.	Now, yes.	Yes	Not yet	3. Until now, poor. Becoming more appropriate and focussed.	Is becoming very useful.
23	Scottish Water Sustainable Development Advisory Group		E	Mike Donaghy	WWF	2004 to present	6	Yes and no	Attempting to be so.	Gradually	Slowly	Could do with wider involvement	2	Useful
24	Freshwater Fisheries Forum		D	Andrea Johnstonova			8	Yes	Yes	Sometimes	Mainly for information exchange	Yes, but limited on NGOs	Good	Not very
25	National Regulatory Stakeholders Forum for the Water Environment and Water Services Act			Lloyd Austin			10	yes	Yes, but membership dominated by the industry	N/A	Yes	No - industry dominated	Adequate	Not very
26	SAC Consultative Committee			Mike Donaghy			4	Yes and yes.	No	No	No	Probably	1	Considering leaving group.
							Sub total (Hrs/year)							
							131							
MARINE														
27	SSTF - Licensing	Scottish Government	B	Alan Wells, Lloyd Austin		>1 year	28	3	2	NA	3	3	3	4
28	SSTF - MNC (Marine Nature Conservation)	Scottish Government	B	Calum Duncan, Alan Wells, Lloyd Austin, Becky Boyd and Sarah Dolman		>1 year	56	3	3	NA	3	3	3	4
29	SSTF - MMO (Marine Management Organisation)		B	Alan Wells, Lloyd Austin, Becky Boyd		>1 year	42	3	3	NA	3	3	3	4
30	SSTF - MSP (Marine Spatial Planning)	Scottish Government	B	Alan Wells, Lloyd Austin, Becky Boyd		>1 year	42	3	2	NA	3	3	3	4
31	SSTF - Data and Science	Scottish Government	B	Alan Wells, Calum Duncan, Sarah Dolman		>1 year	56	3	3	NA	3	3	3	4
32	Ministerial Working Group for Aquaculture	Scottish Government		Dawn Purchase and Lloyd Austin		2002	8	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Seems to be effective, however only meeting attended so far.	Very relevant to LNK aquaculture work
33	Aquaculture Sting Working Group	Scottish Government		Dawn Purchase, Lloyd Austin	MCS RSPB	Formed Feb 08	12	Yes	Too soon to evaluate	N/A	Too soon to evaluate	Too soon to evaluate	Too soon to evaluate	Too soon to evaluate
34	Scottish Coastal Forum	Scottish Government	D	Calum Duncan, Richard Lummoore	NTS	> 5 years	70	Not yet clear how SCF will fit in with changes to marine management	Have been effective at making case for SCF and coastal partnerships	AGMACS/SSTF and ERDC marine inquiry all recognised value of partnerships	3	3	Not yet clear how SCF will fit in with changes to marine management	This probably 2.5, not as bad as poor but role not clear until Scottish Marine Bill
35	Scottish Bathing Waters Review Panel	Scottish Government	B	Calum Duncan	MCS	3 years	60	This whole process was timebound, clear and well-run (with help from KSB secretariat). Additional 20+ beaches designated as bathing waters						More an MCS priority than LNK although outcome
36	Developing proposals for coastal and marine National Parks stakeholder group	SNH		Becky Boyd	JMP	Ended Early 2007	?	Yes	Process well-run by SNH by all accounts	CMNPs 'parked' for now	Nothing happening until Scottish Marine Bill sorted out	Yes	Effective at delivering a good consultation doc! Decision not to proceed ministerial	Closed but would be useful when started again
37	SBS Biodiversity Implementation Plan, Marine Biodiversity Working Group	Scottish Government	B	Calum Duncan, Becky Boyd, Jonathan Hughes	MCS	4 years	100	Yes, for drafting SMARTer plan. Jury out on how well this latest 2008-2011 plan will work	Effective at delivering plans within constraints of current system. Effectiveness of plans is another matter since most actions in MBIP that happened would have happened anyway	Hard to say - most listening is as a result of the AGMACS/SSTF ministerial processes	Most actions from last MBIP would have happened anyway	Yes	Most actions from last MBIP would have happened anyway	LNK need to input but most meaningful comments achieved through AGACS/SSTF process
38	Scottish Aquaculture Research Forum	Scottish Government	E	Kara Brydson	RSPB	ongoing since 2005	80	3	3	2	2	3	the research findings are not disseminated effectively and do not seem to influence policy.	LNK must use its position on the Board of Directors to ensure that scientific proof of environmental gains/losses influences the review of the Strategic Framework for Scottish Aquaculture.
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39	Sea Fish Industry Authority Sustainable Fisheries Advisory Group	Scottish Government		Helen McLachlan	WWFS									
40	Scottish Inshore Fisheries Advisory Group (SIFAG)	Scottish Government			RSPB									
41	Atlantic Frontier Environmental Forum	Scottish Government	E	Richard Lummoore	NTS	> 5yrs	16	2	3	2	2	3	3	Not particularly useful but this is our only link with the oil industry
42	Offshore Energy SEA Steering Group	DTI	B	Richard Lummoore	NTS	3 yrs	24	3	3	2	4	3	3	3
43	Outer Hebrides Inshore Fisheries Group			Martin Scott										
							Sub total (Hrs/year)							
							594							
WOODLAND														

