



Co-hosting Nature Champions

Monday 3rd November, 2-3pm



Session Objectives

- Strengthen shared understanding of what 'good co-hosting' looks like
- Identify common challenges and solutions
- Explore simple, realistic actions to improve collaboration
- Outline the shortlisting process for the relaunch



Common Challenges

“Communication has slipped”

“We’re lacking inspiration”

“Capacity is a challenge”

“MSP engagement is uneven between organisations”



Inspiration



Breakout 1 – Getting Aligned

Discuss:

1. What does good collaboration look like between co-hosts (and with MSPs)?
2. When co-hosting has worked well, what made it work?
3. What simple practical measures can be taken to improve co-hosting?

Task: List on the board what you consider to be some of the key practices for effective co-hosting partnerships?



Best Practice Check-list

Theme	Focus	Good Practice
<u>Collaboration</u>	<i>Joint planning</i>	E.g. Draft an engagement plan together; always loop in partners <u>before</u> engagement
	<i>Clarity of roles</i>	Agree clear roles within each engagement activity. Consider agreeing on a lead contact. Consider the balance of stewardship, e.g. 80/20
	<i>Adaptability</i>	Keep one another informed of issues, e.g. with capacity
<u>Communication</u>	<i>Regular communication</i>	Organise repeated check-ins meetings between co-hosts
	<i>Shared visibility & recognition</i>	Celebrate successes jointly, e.g. shared social posts.
	<i>Honesty & conflict</i>	Be honest about any areas of conflict – policy or otherwise
<u>Learning</u>	<i>Continuous improvement</i>	Jointly evaluate each major engagement
	<i>Peer learning</i>	Take part in one another's training and events

Ask for help!

Breakout 2 – Real Challenges

Scenarios:

1. 'Our co-host organisation has had a lot of staff changeover and, as a result, we're struggling to maintain the 50/50 co-hosting balance that we were hoping for. Because of this inconsistency, we've also not been able to engage our MSP as much as we'd like.'
2. 'Our co-host is really enthusiastic and has lots of good ideas for engaging the MSP, but is engaging with our Nature Champion without telling us. They even went on a visit and we only found out via social media.'
3. 'When we started hosting this species, we agreed on our policy asks, but we haven't made the most of having a champion. We've struggled with coming up with engagement ideas as we're both so busy.'
4. 'We're not a land-owning organisation and so we're reliant on our co-host for site visits to happen. However, our Nature Champion appears to only be interested in hearing about the work of the land-owning co-host partner. On a previous site visit, they seemed to just ignore the contributions of our organisation.'

Task: Consider what next steps you would take in your scenario.

Nature Champions Shortlist Process

Aim: To refine the long-list of species/habitats so that those listed can be carried forward to the factsheet development stage, beginning in December.

Steps:

1. Contact potential co-hosts to confirm co-hosting (contact addresses in second tab).
2. You may want to consider an initial meeting to sketch out the nature of this relationship and to consider the following:
 - The broad advocacy goals of each organisation and where these align.
 - Relevant regions and/or constituencies.
 - What strengths or assets do you each bring?
 - What challenges (organisationally/politically) can you anticipate?
 - Provisionally agree co-hosting balance; e.g. 50/50, 30/70, etc.
3. If you agree to co-hosting this species/habitat, then please note this on the tracker before **Friday 28th November**.



Questions!





Thank you!



Image: Jack Drafahl