
DPLR5\1041

Navigating conservation: promoting capacity for acoustic telemetry in the TCI

This project provides a case study to guide the establishment of a shared acoustic telemetry network. The array will be range-tested, installed and used to demonstrate foundational insights on the movement of key marine species, informing further work. Stakeholders will be organised and trained to tag animals, install, maintain, and manage all equipment and data. Outcomes will inform MPA & threatened species policy and management, advise & promote effective use of the network and guarantee long-term open access.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title Dr
Name Ed
Surname Butler
Organisation Parrot Cay Marine Conservation Trust

Tel (Work) [Redacted]
Email (Personal) [Redacted]
Address [Redacted]

DPLR5\1041

Navigating conservation: promoting capacity for acoustic telemetry in the TCI

Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

Q1. Project Title

Navigating conservation: promoting capacity for acoustic telemetry in the TCI

Q2. Please select whether you are applying as an organisation or as an individual (Guidance section 3 and Guidance Glossary)

☒ Organisation

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title	Dr
Name	Ed
Surname	Butler
Organisation	Parrot Cay Marine Conservation Trust
Tel (Work)	
Email (Personal)	
Address	

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	Parrot Cay Marine Conservation Trust
Phone	
Email	
Address	

Section 2 - Overseas Territory(ies)

Q3. Please state whether the same (or a similar) project proposal has previously been submitted (or you are planning to submit it) to the UK Government for funding. This includes through Darwin Plus Local, Defra's other Darwin Plus grant schemes or other UK Government funding mechanisms. Failure to share this information may result in the application being ineligible (see Guidance section 2.1.1).

☒ Yes

Please provide details including the grant scheme applied for, round number, project and/or application number, whether your submission was successful and in case this is a resubmission, how you have addressed the feedback in your cover letter.

This is a resubmission of a proposal submitted to Darwin Local round 4 (DPLR4_1047). The previous submission gained much positive feedback, but was unsuccessful due to "a lack of evidence of a concrete commitment to undertake specific projects that utilise the acoustic telemetry equipment". We believe that the previous funding period of 6 months was prohibitive and the longer funding period in this round (12 months) will allow for the delivery of concrete outputs within the project lifespan. Follow up discussion was had between project partner SAERI and JNCC regarding a resubmission, and solutions to address this were identified and have been outlined in the proposal and cover letter. These primarily focused on improving direct measurable links between the project and priority research questions, management decisions and conservation measures both within and beyond the project timeline.

Q4. Overseas Territory (Guidance section 1.3):

Which UK Overseas Territory(ies) will your project be working in?

☒ Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI)

*** if you have indicated a territory group with an asterisk, please give detail on which territories you are working on here:**

No Response

In addition to the UKOT(s) you have indicated, will your project directly benefit any other UK OT(s) or country(ies)?

☒ Yes

Please list these here and describe how they will benefit:

By creating infrastructure for acoustic telemetry in TCI, we will expand the global shared network of receivers. This means that we may detect migratory marine animals which have been tagged in other countries or territories which are passing through TCI waters. By sharing this information with researchers, we can contribute information to their studies, allowing us to better understand how the TCI and other areas are connected. This information is valuable to the scientists tracking these animals in other countries, but also to TCI based researchers and managers - identifying needs and enabling multi-national management plans where necessary.

Section 3 - Project Partners

Q5. Project partners (Guidance section 3.2)

In this section, please give details of all the partners involved (including the Lead Organisation) and provide a summary of their roles.

Project Leader name: (Guidance section 3.1)	Dr Ed Butler
Lead Organisation name: (if applying as an organisation; Guidance section 3.1)	Parrot Cay Marine Conservation Trust (PCMCT)
Lead Organisation Website (if applicable):	<i>No Response</i>
Is the Lead Organisation based in a UKOT where the project is working? (Guidance section 3.1)	☒ Yes
List other partners involved and where are they based:	The South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI), Stanley House, Stanley, Falkland Islands, FIQQ 1ZZ TCI Government Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR), TCI Although not formally partners, stakeholders and participants identified during scoping and included in the newly-established “Turks and Caicos Acoustic Telemetry Platform” (TCATP) will include local and regional conservation organisations and other local government agencies (e.g. Fisheries Dept.), many of whom have been engaged during this and the previous project proposal.

Summary of roles and responsibilities of each partner in the project:

PCMCT is the main project partner and will manage the budget and the installation of all equipment. It will lead the establishment of the stakeholder working group – the TCATP, and facilitate (with partners) animal tagging, training and all on-island presentations and meetings. Although the PCMCT is a new organisation, it benefits from access to an experienced existing back office and administrative support via the COMO Parrot Cay Private Island Resort - e.g. IT and data support, procurement & freight, financial auditing etc.

SAERI are partnered with the project through their relationship with PCMCT and it's Director Dr Ed Butler. SAERI have significant expertise in MPA design, animal tracking and data analyses, including modelling, built on experience implementing these methods in the Falkland Islands, and elsewhere. SAERI will act primarily as expert advisors on the project, providing an additional layer of expertise for equipment procurement, installation, data management and the formation and training of the stakeholder group. SAERI have significant experience working in the TCI and with local government departments, primarily the DECR.

As the national authority for national parks and environmental management, the TCI Government DECR are in full support of this application. They are eager and interested in participating as members of the TCATP. They are also eager to use the network of receivers for their own research and monitoring programmes in the future (post-project), and utilise the preliminary and future findings and outputs of telemetry work to improve marine environmental management.

I confirm that all listed partners are aware of this application and have indicated support: Checked

Attach a Cover Letter for your application (Guidance section 4.2).

-  [Cover letter Dplus Local 5 signed 2](#)
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Section 4 - Project Summary & Description

Q6. Project Summary (Guidance section 3.8)

Please provide a brief summary of your project. This may be used in communication activities and/or published online, if your application is successful.

This project provides a case study to guide the establishment of a shared acoustic telemetry network. The array will be range-tested, installed and used to demonstrate foundational insights on the movement of key marine species, informing further work. Stakeholders will be organised and trained to tag animals, install, maintain, and manage all equipment and data. Outcomes will inform MPA & threatened species policy and management, advise & promote effective use of the network and guarantee long-term open access.

Q7a. Description (Guidance section 2.1 and 6)

Please provide a description of your project, including:

- the overall objective
- the current situation and the problem the project is trying to address
- what success will look like and how you will measure it

Please be as specific as possible when describing the project, using quantified data and evidence where available. You may wish to consider: what are the specific threats to the environment that the project will attempt to address, and what should we know about these threats? What does your successful project look like? And how will you demonstrate whether and how your project has been successful?

This project will directly support effective monitoring and ongoing management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the TCI. TCI has several large and long-standing MPAs, and Government are currently considering alternations via area amendments and new proclamations, in collaboration with UK Government and the Blue Belt Programme. However, poor capacity threatens the utility of existing and new MPAs, potentially rendering them "paper MPAs" (Di Minin & Toivonen, 2015). In particular, management and monitoring plans require robust data to ensure MPAs are fit for purpose and effectively managed.

The varied benefits of acoustic telemetry to marine management are well established (Hellström et al., 2022). In particular, acoustic telemetry is crucial because it enables accurate monitoring of threatened species and those with key ecological and/or economic value. In TCI, these include critically endangered Nassau grouper, great hammerhead sharks, oceanic whitetip sharks and Hawksbill turtles; endangered Caribbean reef sharks, whitespotted eagle rays and green turtles; as well as other Vulnerable (lemon shark, tarpon) and Near-Threatened (tiger sharks, bonefish, mutton snapper) species.

Acoustic telemetry relies on a two-part system of receivers and tags. Tags are placed onto/into target animals, while receivers are strategically installed in the marine environment to detect the presence of tagged animals. At their most basic level, tags transmit information about the animal's location, however they can include data depth, swim speed and even mortality data (i.e. the animal was ingested/eaten).

While transmitters are relatively cheap, receivers are ten-fold more expensive, creating a major financial obstacle for local research and management agencies. However, this barrier can be overcome by developing resource for an open-access shared receiver network, available to multiple agencies for use in research and monitoring projects (see supporting materials for several examples of this globally). By doing so, financial barriers are lowered, significantly improving resource which supports long-term tagging studies and their outcomes.

To aid MPA & key species management and monitoring, we will:

Work package 1: Perform range tests and install an acoustic telemetry network

The project will purchase, test, and install a network of 20 receivers at strategic points within shallow (< 50 m) TCI marine waters. Range testing will enable effective array design in TCI (Goossens et al. 2022). Receivers will be installed between Providenciales and North Caicos, incorporating at least two protected areas, a proposed new area and adjacent unprotected waters (Figure 1).

Work Package 2: Demonstrate the utility of the array and begin investigating movement ecology of key species

Up to 30 marine animals will be tagged (2-year battery-life) and released. Target species will include reef sharks, mutton snapper and green turtles to incorporate species across multiple ecological niches. Preliminary data will be analysed after a period of 6-9 months and presented to key stakeholders, demonstrating species use of the marine landscape inside, outside and between two important protected areas, and how that serves to inform management. Data will benefit marine management and provide a case study for network use and expansion

(WP3).

Work package 3: Organise and train a stakeholder group to manage equipment as a long-term shared resource

The project will scope and identify interested stakeholder groups, provide training in equipment use, maintenance and management and establish protocols for data management and sharing which allow for long-term open access to the network through a government-approved research proposal. Building on WP2, a proposal will be drafted and submitted to the Ocean Tracking Network (OTN) "equipment loaner program" (<https://oceantrackingnetwork.org/equipment-loaner-program/>) for an additional 20 receivers to expand the array. Finally, a roadmap will be developed and provided to TCI government and other key stakeholders for MPA monitoring and management in the context of acoustic telemetry.

Q7b. Long-term sustainability (Guidance section 2.1 and 6)

Please describe the long-term benefits of the project and the change it will bring about. How will the outcomes of the project be sustained after the funding is finished?

A major project aim is to provide the building blocks for a long-term programme which directly supports marine conservation and management. Post-project, installed telemetry equipment will be managed and owned by a stakeholder collective, including the PCMCT, and will be available as a shared resource to local and regional researchers. The TCATP will be responsible for the maintenance of receiver equipment annually – retrieval, battery replacement and data download and curation. Data will be made available to participating researchers with active studies, while ensuring data integrity and security through an established data management and sharing policy. Building on the project array, WP3 will specifically aim to promote further expansions of the array, with the long-term goal of developing a nation-wide network.

Together, the project will encourage the quality and quantity of studies in the territory and thereby promote related outcomes. These include, but are not limited to:

- Improved MPA design, monitoring and management
- Threatened species management
- Improved life-history study of fishery species (spawning aggregations, seasonal migrations, nursery habitat use etc.)
- Improved understanding on climate change impacts to species distributions and movement patterns
- Measuring impacts of anthropogenic disturbance (via fishing, underwater noise, tourism etc.)

(Optional) Please upload any additional and supporting materials or files (such as maps of project sites, etc) below. Maximum of 5 sides of A4, and is combined as a single PDF:

 [Supporting materials](#)

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 pdf 683.66 KB

Section 5 - Project Outcome(s)

Q8. Project Outcome(s) (Guidance section 1.2)

Successful Darwin Plus Local projects must demonstrate measurable outcomes in at least one of the themes of Darwin Plus with a clear focus on biodiversity and the natural environment, either by the end of the project or soon after through a credible plan.

Please note: Any proposals including research or monitoring are required to demonstrate a clear link to tangible outcomes for conservation of biodiversity and the natural environment. Please explain how any new research will be applied to drive environmental outcomes on the ground.

Please confirm that your project has a clear focus on biodiversity and the natural environment.

Checked	Biodiversity: improving and conserving biodiversity, and slowing or reversing biodiversity loss and degradation;
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Please tick which additional theme(s) of Darwin Plus your project contributes to (if relevant):

Unchecked	Climate change: responding to, mitigating and adapting to climate change and its effects on the natural environment and local communities;
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Unchecked	Environmental quality: improving the condition and protection of the natural environment
-----------	--

Checked	Capability and capacity building: enhancing the capacity within OTs, including through community engagement and awareness, to support the environment in the short- and long-term.
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Please justify your selection. Please use quantitative information where possible here.

Preliminary data will outline detailed use of the marine landscape inside and outside of two important protected areas under current consideration by up to 30 individuals from three priority species. Data will benefit marine management and provide a simple case study for telemetry data use and expanding the shared network to other relevant areas.

In collaboration with key stakeholders, the project will contribute to capability and capacity building by providing detailed detection range estimates and new accessible resources (acoustic array, trained TCATP & roadmap) in the TCI. Benefits include further biodiversity, environmental quality and climate change outcomes in the longer-term.

Section 6 - Workplan

Q9. Workplan (Guidance section 2.2)

Please provide anticipated dates for the start and end of your planned project here. Please use the Darwin Plus Local Project Workplan (available at: <https://darwinplus.org.uk/how-to-apply/local-applications/>) to provide a list of the individual activities you have planned for this project, a brief description of what each activity entails, and the months in which the activities will be carried out. If the project involves only one activity (e.g. a purchase), please still provide project start and end dates (noting estimated times for procurement). Please note that your project must start after 1 April 2025 and be completed by 31 March 2026.

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 3 months):
01 April 2025	31 March 2026	12 months

Please upload the completed Darwin Plus Local Project Workplan with your proposed project activities here

 [r5-dplus-local-implementation-timetable-template-final](#)

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Section 7 - Costs

Q10. Costs (Guidance section 2.2 and please read the Finance Guidance)

Please provide a breakdown of costs to be funded through Darwin Plus Local (in GBP).

Are you seeking any matched funding for this project? (Please note that this is optional and there is no requirement to seek matched funding for Darwin Plus Local projects).

☒ Yes

How much matched funding are you seeking and where from?

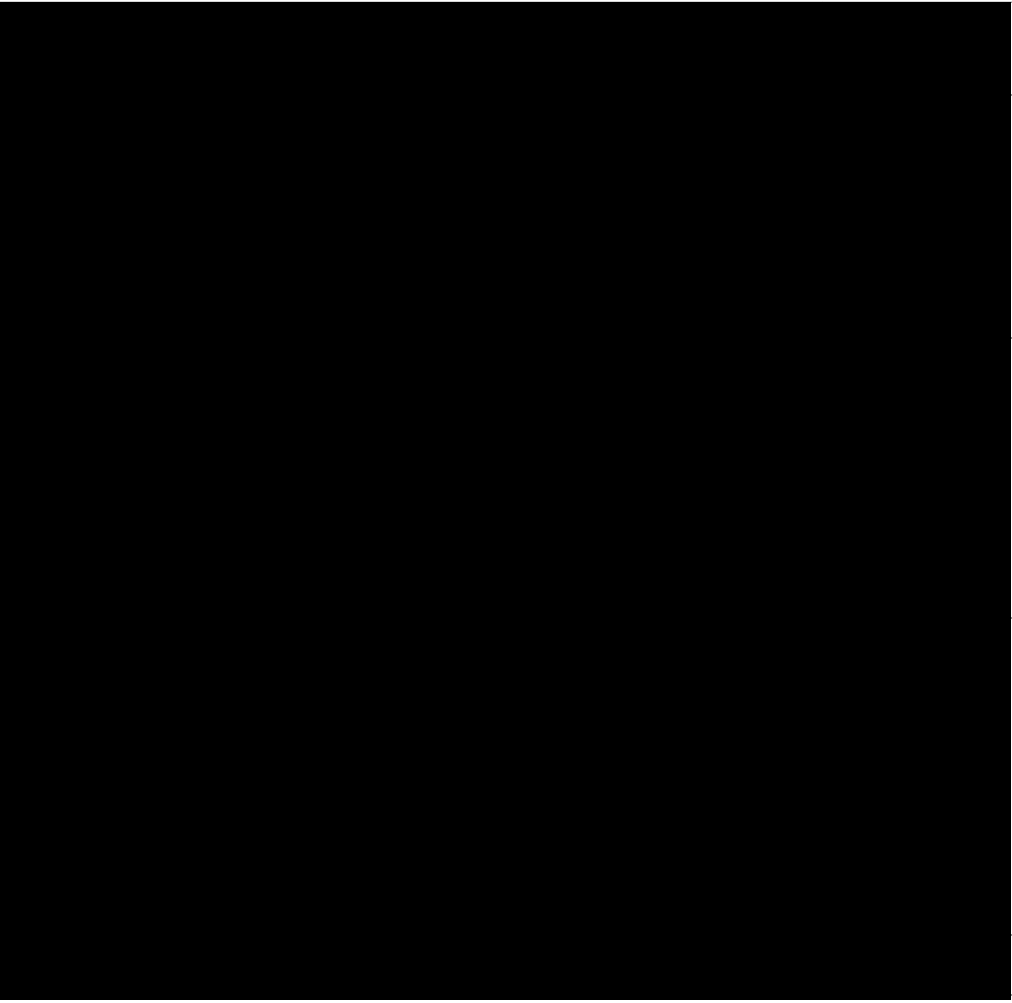
Matched funding has been secured through the PCMCT for the cost of 30 acoustic tags [redacted] and an additional four receivers (with moorings & batterie [redacted]

PCMCT will provide further contributions via vessel and equipment use [redacted] & staff time [redacted]
[redacted]

SAERI and the DECR will contribute in-kind staff time during workshops and advisory meetings to an estimated value of [redacted]

Secured - [redacted]

Budget line	Explanation	Cost in GBP
Staff costs:	[redacted]	
Consultancy costs:		
Overhead costs:		

Travel & subsistence costs:	
Operating costs:	
Capital equipment:	
Other Costs	
Total:	

This section provides more information on the budget to help evaluators understand how you will use the funds you are requesting. You do not need to list all costs, but please list and detail costs of more than £1,000 per item below, under the appropriate budget line.

Details of staff costs over £1,000 (if relevant)

Costs are included for SAERI staff time related specifically with training and data management workshops and support:

SAERI Director Research, Dr Alistair Baylis - input and involvement with telemetry workshops and training – 4 days 
SAERI GIS and database manager, Jack Ingledew – 4 days 

Details of overhead costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

No Response

Details of travel and subsistence costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

No Response

Details of operating costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

An operating costs budget of [REDACTED] is sought and will be used to fund meetings and workshops which are required to establish the TCATP, provide training for its members, and present preliminary findings of target animal habitat and area use to government stakeholders.

- Foundational & ongoing TCATP meeting [REDACTED]
- 4-day training workshop: [REDACTED]
- TCIG data and roadmap presentations: [REDACTED]

Details of capital equipment costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

The capital items listed are fundamental for establishing monitoring capacity. These include 16 acoustic receivers and associated moorings.

VR2Tx & NexTrak R1 Acoustic receivers x 16 @ [REDACTED]
Receiver moorings x 16 @ [REDACTED]

Details of consultancy costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

No Response

Details of other costs over £1,000 (if relevant)

Due to the difficulty of getting items to the TCI, shipping costs associated with the capital equipment are expected to be moderate and a budget of £ [REDACTED] is allocated for this.

Additional consumable supplies associated with tagging are required, including capture gear (hooks, bait etc.) & surgical equipment [REDACTED]

For each acoustic receiver, two sets of batteries are included as a consumable cost.

Receiver batteries x [REDACTED]

If your project budget was prepared in another currency and converted to GBP, please provide the exchange rate, its source, and the date it was accessed:

Other currency:	Exchange rate:	Source of this exchange rate:	Date exchange rate accessed:
\$USD	0.79	XE.com	15 November 2024

Darwin Plus Local has been created to build capacity and contribute to local economies in-territory (Guidance section 2.1.1 and section 1.8.4 of the Finance Guidance).

In-territory spend is defined in Darwin Plus Local as including funding spent on:

- Equipment purchased in-territory;
- Equipment that cannot be acquired in-territory and is therefore purchased abroad, but will remain and be used in-territory beyond the life of the proposed Darwin Plus Local project;
- Training or skills that cannot be acquired in-territory and are therefore purchased abroad, but will be used in-territory beyond the life of the proposed Darwin Plus Local project;
- Time for consultants or staff based in-territory.

In-territory spend does not include:

- Time for consultants or staff who are based abroad, even if they travel to the OT to undertake the work;
- Shipping and import costs for equipment purchased abroad;
- Travel and subsistence costs where they incur spend outside the OT.

What % of the total will be spent in-territory? 93

If less than 80% of the total project spend is to be spent in-territory, please explain why.

No Response

Section 8 - Local and National Priorities

Q11. Local and national priorities

Please explain how this project aligns with local and national priorities? You may wish to consider the project in the context of national environmental laws, objectives, strategies, territory specific agreements, action plans or policies.

Nationally, TCI Vision 2040 outlines 5 sustainable development goals, that underpin the National Physical Sustainable Development Plan - both require sustainable resource management which is based on the best available scientific evidence. The project's outputs align well with the conservation and research policies of the TCI Government DECR, as well as national priorities on food security and environmental management listed in Vision 2040. The project strongly aligns with the goals of the Blue Belt collaboration with UK Government which aims to improve marine spatial management in the territory.

Future outputs of the programme will help guide the continued refinement of the current Biodiversity Protection Bill, which includes language to fully extend the Convention on Migratory Species to TCI. It also aims to align TCI with the RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands of International Importance & the UNESCO World Heritage Convention. It will assist the DECR in improving the list of proposed Critical Habitat reserves (a new category of protected area under the National Parks Ordinance). Other existing legislation includes the National Parks (2014), Fisheries Limits (2014) and Fisheries Protection (2018) Ordinances. Outputs directly contribute towards many of the goals and targets of the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Will the project...

Take place on Government owned land or water?

☒ Yes

Involve biocontrol, invasive alien species control or eradication?

☐ No

Require permit(s) from Government departments for completion of activities?

☒ Yes

If you have answered yes to any of the questions above, please attach evidence that you have Government support for this project i.e. a Letter of Support. Applications which indicate that they do not take place on Government land or water, but which propose work that appears to the reviewers would be

difficult/impossible to carry out without working on government land or waters may be ineligible if no Letter of Support is provided.

 [Butler DECR Letter of Support DPLR5-1041 2211 2024](#)

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Section 9 - Project Risks

Q12. Project Risks

Please demonstrate your consideration of any risks involved in this project and how you intend to manage them. Please note the importance of health and safety and environmental risk assessment in the design of your project. If there is any possibility that your project may have negative impacts on the environment or human health, it is important that you provide a comprehensive analysis of potential environmental and human health risks, and the prevention measures you will take to ensure the work does not cause harm.

Depending on your project, you may wish to consider:

- Biosecurity risks – particularly for projects involving external equipment.
- Safeguarding risks – particularly for projects involving vulnerable groups such as children, older people or people with disabilities.
For example, you should consider the ratio of vulnerable people or children to adults, ensuring there are appropriate background checks of all staff, and informing vulnerable groups and children of their right to safety and protection.

Risk	Mitigation
Fieldwork at sea, including SCUBA-diving is inherently risky and poses a threat to staff and stakeholders involved.	All volunteers and staff assisting with dive work must have an appropriate certification and must be medically insured. For all field days, a comprehensive risk assessment form must be completed and read and signed by all divers and crew. A means of frequent communications with land-based staff and an estimated time of return must be established before departure. All divers must have comprehensive Divers Alert Network insurance. For animal tagging, protocols must be developed which ensure safety of both researchers and animals. Tagging should take place in water and completed as quickly as practicable while animals are appropriately/ethically restrained.

Hurricane and natural disasters could impact fieldwork and the moored receivers, resulting in the loss of valuable telemetry equipment and data.	Equipment and moorings are designed to withstand significant seas and swells and will not be placed near high profile reef or other areas where they may become damaged. Receivers will be installed in December and January following hurricane season. Insurance of receiver equipment will be provided by the PCMCT. Post project plans will ensure future data are collected directly prior to hurricane season to ensure data security and to ensure mooring maintenance happens before seasonally rough seas.
Delays due to long lead-in times for equipment result in a delay to project start and there is not enough time to achieve all the deliverables set out in the project proposal	The project timeline has been designed to allow a long lead-in time (3 months) from the project start until the anticipated beginning of project field activities where the equipment is required.

Do you require more fields?

☒ No

Section 10 - Terms & Conditions

Q13. Terms and conditions (Guidance section 3.10)

By applying for Darwin Plus Local you are adhering in full to the grant Terms and Conditions in full (available at: <https://darwinplus.org.uk/how-to-apply/local-applications/> and as referenced in the Guidance at section 3.10). For information, the Terms and Conditions include requirements for all applicants to (amongst other requirements as per the full Terms and Conditions):

- Uphold a zero tolerance for inaction approach to tackling sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment.
- Where appropriate, make all reasonable and adequate efforts to address gender inequality and other power imbalances.
- Notify all cases of fraud and theft (whether proven or suspected) relating to the project to the Grant Administrator as soon as they identified.

Please indicate you have read, and understood, and will adhere to the Terms and Conditions.

Checked

Supporting documents list (please have these ready to attach with application)

- Cover Letter of no more than two A4 pages. (Guidance section: 4.2 has information on what this cover letter should include).
- If the project takes place on public land or water, is addressing invasive alien species or includes activities requiring a permit, a Letter of support from OT Government.
- Project Workplan in the template provided for Darwin Plus Local (available at: <https://darwinplus.org.uk/how-to-apply/local-applications/>).
- Map and additional information (optional) maximum five additional pages.

If your application is successful

-
If your project application is successful, the Fund Administrator (NIRAS) will ask you to provide some financial evidence for due diligence checks before you receive your project grant. (Please see section 3.3 of the Darwin Plus

Local Finance Guidance). Please be ready to provide this evidence promptly.

- **Financial evidence for organisations:** Year-end financial statements, the latest management accounts or audited accounts (if you have these).
- **Financial evidence for individuals:** Proof of identity such as a passport, ID card or driving licence and solvency (such as bank statements) and a police check.

Section 11 - Certification

Certification

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the statements made in this application are true and the information provided is correct.

Checked

I have the authority to submit an application on behalf of my organisation.

Checked

Name:	Ed Butler
Position in the organisation: (if applicable)	Director
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 EC Butler  25/11/2024  20:28:15  pdf 198.8 KB
Date:	25 November 2024

Section 12 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance documents, including the “Darwin Plus Local Guidance” and the “Darwin Plus Local Finance Guidance”.	Checked
If my proposed project takes place on public lands or water or is addressing alien invasive species, I have uploaded a Letter of Support from Government.	Checked
I have uploaded a cover letter that details the information requested in the guidance (Guidance section 4.2 has information on what this cover letter should include).	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund (found at: https://darwinplus.org.uk/apply/local-applications/) for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for my project that fit this Round.	Checked

I have provided my summary budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP in the application form.	Checked
I have uploaded my project workplan using the specific template provided (available at: https://darwinplus.org.uk/apply/local-applications/).	Checked
I have uploaded all supplementary documents if I have any.	Checked
(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	Checked
The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Plus website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Plus website.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under Darwin Plus. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share project news. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the [Forms and Guidance Portal](#).

This Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising Darwin Plus including project details (usually title, lead partner, project leader, location, and total grant value).