



**Darwin Initiative Main/Post/D+ Project
Half Year Report
(due 31st October 2018)**

Project reference:	DPLUS082
Project title:	Conserving Falklands' whale populations: addressing data deficiencies for informed management
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Falkland Islands
Lead organisation	Falklands Conservation
Partner(s)	Jen Jackson (British Antarctic Survey), Ari Friedlaender (University of California Santa Cruz), Phil Hammond (Sea Mammal Research Unit, University of St. Andrews), Shallow Marine Survey Group (SMSG), Salvatore Cerchio (New England Aquarium), Caroline Weir (Ketos Ecology), Ted Cheeseman (HappyWhale.com), Sonia Español Jiménez (Fundación MERI)
Project leader	<i>Andrew Stanworth</i>
Report date and number (e.g., HYR3)	<i>HYR1</i>
Project website/blog/social media etc.	<i>Falklandsconservation.com,</i>

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up to end September).

Progress against timetable:

1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 Announcement of the project through local and digital media – Penguin News, Facebook and Twitter.

1.7 Steering group identified. Project officer recruitment process – we have recruited

1.8 and 1.9 Announcement of the project to stakeholders and their involvement in project establishment,

4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 Purchase and manufacture of acoustic monitoring equipment and lengthy discussion with partners stakeholders and decision makers on deployment. Additional equipment purchases have been made ahead of the season and planning for tagging activities is underway.

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

The acoustic monitoring equipment purchased has had to vary slightly from the initial plan. This is due to a necessary change in deployment and retrieval methods for the equipment from

divers (original method) to acoustic release. This should not affect the project budget or equipment budget line.

Obtaining the changed acoustic monitoring equipment from around the world has been longer than anticipated. This will delay deployment of the devices from Q2 (September 2018) to Q3 (November 2018). This should have no significant consequence for the project (output 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3).

The delays have come to light and have been attempted to be resolved over the last two weeks; however a slight (but not significant) delay to the timetable is inevitable, this will have no knock-on effects to the Outputs, Outcome or Budget.

2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

Discussed with LTS: No

Formal change request submitted: No

Received confirmation of change acceptance No

3a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (e.g., more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?

Yes No Estimated underspend: £

3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully. Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project, please submit a rebudget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a rebudget so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary.

4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

No

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document. Additionally, if you were funded under R24 and asked to provide further information by your first half year report, please attach your response as a separate document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also be raised with LTS International through a Change Request.**

Please send your **completed report by email** to Eilidh Young at Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk. The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message e.g. Subject: 22-035 Darwin Half Year Report**