



Stakeholder Engagement, Facilitation & Mediation

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Finding Sanctuary Process Update

December 09

This is an update report from the facilitators. The intention of these reports is to keep you informed of what is happening between Steering Group meetings. These reports will be emailed directly to SG members and placed on the [RKP website \(http://www.rkpartnership.co.uk/projects/finding-sanctuary.php\)](http://www.rkpartnership.co.uk/projects/finding-sanctuary.php)

Abbreviations used in this update:

FS	Finding Sanctuary	RKP	R K Partnership
PG	Process Group	PT	Project Team
SG	Steering Group	LG	Local Group

1. Process Planning

The RKP team met on 4 December to plan for the next stage of the process. On our agenda were:

- i. Reviewing the November SG meeting and responding to feedback received about it
- ii. Thinking through approaches to a Finding Sanctuary stakeholder analysis in order to inform Process Group recommendations re new Steering Group members
- iii. Planning for the January Process Group meeting
- iv. Training for FS staff and LG coordinators
- v. Working with the Local Groups
- vi. The SG protocol
- vii. Engaging stakeholders who are not or don't want to be on the SG

2. Planning & Preparation for the February SG meeting

We will be working to the following **lead in timetable**

- The SG meeting will be on 11 February 2010.
- We will send you an invite / reminder email about the meeting on 21 January with a deadline to respond by if you are going to attend.
- The PG will consider possible agenda items at its meeting on 7 January and help prioritise them.
- We will send you a draft agenda on the 30th January, along with any supporting papers (if you have confirmed your attendance).

Any new SG members (that haven't attended meetings before) will be asked to attend an induction session before the meeting.

We are working with the PT on 18 December to begin developing questions and tasks that the SG can work on, using the Marxan maps. These are the maps that will have been produced based on the weighting from the November SG meeting.

3. Meetings with Stakeholders

As a result of our review of the November SG meeting we decided to meet with or talk to some stakeholders individually to understand more of their concerns and to clarify some of our thinking on the FS process.

John Butterwith (Commercial Fishing Inshore) raised concerns with us following the November SG meeting. We met with John on 10 December 2009 and discussed the following.

- How we can design the SG meetings so that more stakeholders say what they are thinking / contribute at the meetings
- How valuable John felt it would be to hear from / learn about other stakeholder's thinking and what they are doing
- That he felt progress on actual work for the SG has been too slow. We clarified that there had been three new items on the November SG meeting (the regional profile, the interim



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guidance and the weighting of input factors for Marxan) and that from February onwards there would be an intensive phase of planning work.

- That to maximise the time for the SG to do its work process discussions (for example on the SG protocol) need to be time limited at the SG meetings. One way of achieving this was to let the Process Group consider such items.
- We clarified that the PG was not made up of new people but was a subset of the SG
- Concerns about the previous three years of FS being all a talking shop was not RKP's responsibility and not something we could do anything directly about - only that we need to be aware how keen stakeholders are to get on and do the planning work
- That the previous decision to increase the size of the SG from 15 to 39 was not something RKP had been involved with and that we were not going to unpick that decision. RKP agree that 39 is large for a decision making group and our advice about how the FS process should proceed is therefore designed to cope with this large group and make its work as efficient as possible. For example we have established the PG so that the SG does not have to spend time on process matters. We are also keen to see smaller working groups set up to do detailed work in between SG meetings so that the SG can review and decide upon this work.
- We clarified that RKP's role is to advise the SG and the Project Team on how the SG can do its work.
- One of John's concerns was that the mid 2011 deadline would mean that FS would have to hand over its work at that stage, even if it wasn't finalised. We clarified that if the deadline remains as it is then this will be the case - but that this does not stop the SG from making it very clear that it thinks its work is not finished and to be really clear what has not been done and what the implications of this is / could be
- We clarified that one of RKP's roles is to ensure the process is collaborative. This means that sectors will be asked to work together to jointly develop options / possible sites; and it will not be based upon the notion of each sector coming up with their own ideas to table - as we feel that would lead to a destructive atmosphere with others feeling obliged to criticise or pick holes in each other ideas and is not therefore collaborative
- We agreed that the process will benefit from stakeholders being properly prepared for each meeting, i.e. having read background papers and having liaised with their colleagues / organisations about the work at hand

Jim Portus (Commercial Fishing Offshore) had expressed concerns about the process overall and has not been to either the September introductory meeting or the November SG meeting. We met Jim on 11 December to cover the following:

- Why he had not been to the SG meetings recently and if was committed to the process and the SG.
- The outcome was that Jim is committed to participating in the FS process and to attending the meetings
- We clarified that the process is about sectors working together to jointly develop options / possible sites
- Jim stayed on at Finding Sanctuary to learn more about Marxan and therefore catch up on some of what he had missed at the November SG meeting.

4. Stakeholder Analysis / Applications to join the SG

Since we started work on the FS process there have been groups wanting / asking / applying to join the SG. We have advised that there needs to be a sound basis on which to make a decision on these applications so that a response can be sent to them.



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We will be taking the PG through a stakeholder identification to ensure we have done the best we can to identify “who is out there”. We will use the work done in 2007 on this as a starting point.

Following this we will take the PG through a stakeholder analysis to determine how the SG should be made up (in an ideal world), who is on it and therefore if there are any gaps.

Recommendations will then be circulated to the SG about these applications for the SG to decide.

5. The SG Protocol

We will be updating the draft SG protocol following the comments made at the November SG meeting and including our suggestions for improving them further. This updated version will be considered by the PG with the aim of circulating an updated version to the SG as one of the supporting papers for the SG meeting.

6. Process Group

Their next meeting is on 7 January 2010. On their agenda will be:

- A review of the November Steering Group meeting
- Stakeholder Identification and Analysis
- Applications to join the SG
- Steering Group Meeting (11 February) - planning
- Steering Group Protocol
- Process Planning

7. Training

We were asked by the Project Team to provide training for them. To find out what training was wanted / needed we undertook a training needs assessment and as a result we are now in the process of setting up two separate training days.

One will be focused on the staff who are working with and supporting the Local Groups and the other will be about helping the Team learn approaches to dealing with conflict.

8. Local Groups

We suggested and organised a get together for the coordinators of the Local Groups and the Project Team’s liaison staff who work with the Local Groups. This took place on the 13 November. They all found it really useful and we have set a second date of 16 January. These meetings are about:

- Sharing ideas
- Learning from each other
- Being consistent in what is being done
- Planning ahead for each meeting
- Planning the LG work in time for the SG meetings

If you have any comments on this update report or would like to get in touch to discuss any issues relating to the Finding Sanctuary stakeholder process please email decide@rkpartnership.co.uk or call 01963 351008