

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### NORTHERN IRELAND SPECIES BIODIVERSITY DELIVERY GROUP

#### 1 Purpose

The Northern Ireland Species Biodiversity Delivery Group has been established to ensure that activity in relation to priority species is well co-ordinated and supported within Northern Ireland. The activities of the Group will facilitate effective communication between the relevant government agencies, the private and voluntary sectors.

#### 2. Objectives

The main objectives of the Species Biodiversity Delivery Group are to:

- Review and produce recommendations for the updating of the list of Northern Ireland priority species.
- To co-ordinate action required for species action plans and UK and Northern Ireland priority species.

The remit of the Species Biodiversity Delivery Group should include:

3.1 The co-ordination of arrangements for **monitoring** and **reporting** on priority species in the context of Biodiversity Action Plans and relevant policies.

3.2 The **co-ordination** of activity on priority species including

- Ensuring that relevant activity is identified
- Advising of the establishment of mechanisms to delivery species action e.g.
  - the publication of action plans
  - establishment of species groups
  - the integration of species requirements into the work of other groups such as the habitat delivery groups
- Development of best practice
- Advice on relevant BAP's
- Providing guidance for landowners
- Liaison with peatland and upland interests in the Republic of Ireland and UK
- Interpretation, education and knowledge sharing

- 3.3 The identification and support of **research** needs.
- 3.4 Establish, deliver and review a Species Biodiversity Work Programme.
- 3.5 Co-ordinating the provision of species biodiversity **advice** to government.

#### **4 Representation**

Members of the Group include:

NIEA, Natural Heritage (Chair)

NIBG

DARD – Countryside Management Branch

RSPB

CEDaR

Species experts

- Marine

- Terrestrial invertebrates

- Plants

- Birds

NPWS

Others may need to be co-opted for individual projects.

#### **5 Organisation**

Each representative will be expected to meet their own costs of membership.

It is envisaged that the Group will hold a business meeting twice a year together with a field trip.

EHS will provide secretariat services to the Group.

#### **6 Review**

The effectiveness of the Group will be reviewed on a yearly basis.