

Draft Minutes Appendix I

LOAF Caper Framework Workshop Summary - 4th February 2014 Boat of Garten Hall

Workshop Format – The LOAF members were split into two groups. Each group answered the three questions. The groups then got back together and fed back to the full group where the responses were drawn together to form a collective response.

Group 1 – Eric Baird, Gordon Riddler, Nigel Williams, Paul Webster, Dave Craig. Justin Prigmore and Pete Crane facilitating.

Group 2 – Nic Cole, Peter Holden, Jeremy Usher-Smith, David Lyle, Hebe Carus. Adam Streeter-Smith and Doug Stewart facilitating.

1. **Do the LOAF know enough about this subject (caper ecology/disturbance) to allow for informed evaluation of the main issues? What more do you need to know?**
 - a) Human induced disturbance is recognised as a problem, but we need a better understanding of the relative impact of negative factors affecting the species e.g. is predation or weather the most significant factor?
 - b) Need a better understanding of the relative impacts of different types of recreation activity. Can we split different activity/user types? The general feeling was that dogs were the most significant risk, while walking or cycling would likely have a much lesser effect.
 - c) More info needed surrounding management measures that are currently being used.
 - d) Limited confidence in current data, but there was agreement that it will be costly and time-consuming to get more scientifically robust datasets. There needs to be recognition of the value of anecdotal evidence and people's experience. General support for the idea of using experienced people to give a reasoned response.

2. **Do we have enough recreation data? What are the gaps? What data does the LOAF recommend we gather to ensure we are able to make appropriate recommendations?**
 - a) General feeling that we do not have enough robust scientific data and that the project is potentially trying to do too much, too soon.
 - b) We need a better understanding of effects of user types as there is nothing available currently that identifies where we should focus effort.
 - c) There is a need for the LOAF to have a better understanding of what data is being co-ordinated by the Caper BAP group in relation to the factors other than recreation. This should enable a better understanding of the disturbance impact.
 - d) Need to obtain info from the users perspective – where are they recreating, how often, and where and when do they see caper.
 - e) Better data required to determine actual impact of dogs.
 - f) We need to be sure that we are considering things from the users perspective if we are to be effective e.g. for dog walkers we must consider alternatives – if not here, then where?

- g) Caper population is understood to be at critically low level to warrant some action based on the existing data despite it being limited. Support for the precautionary approach.
- h) Data is needed to determine how behaviour can be influenced to better cater for caper and their habitat i.e. good practise case studies
- i) Data needs will depend on recommendation we are proposing i.e. subtle/light touch recommendations will require less robust data and are more easily supported by expert opinion. The developing Framework needs to be proportional to the risks.

3. How do we most effectively involve the LOAF in the peer review/analysis stage of this project?

- a) General support for the approach that is being taken. LOAF role = recreation. This is where they will provide direction/leadership, but are content with CNPA Access Team taking the lead for this area of work within the Caper Framework Project Team.
- b) Feed back to LOAF from tonight's session and come back to LOAF at each stage of the process and check reasonableness. CNPA staff/Project Team to develop the data set and look to developing recommendations. Early consultation required on draft proposals, well before anything is released to the public.
- c) Consultation communication with the LOAF should be maintained. This subject to stay on LOAF agenda until end of framework period.