

# ACTION POINTS FROM CUSTOMER REPRESENTATIVES GROUP MEETING

## TEAMS Video Conference, Thursday 8 December 2022

**Attendees:** Brendan Callaghan SF (Chair), Lindsay Bisset SF, Ian Cowe SF (Secretary), Colin Hossack Forestry & Land Scotland, April Armstrong Confor, Andrew Vaughan ICF, Gordon Gray Stephens Community Woodland Association, Arina Russell Scottish Environment LINK, Harry Wilson RSFS, Karen Ramoo Scottish Land and Estates, Ben Law SRUC, Duncan Stone NatureScot (Part of Meeting), Tom Turnbull Association of Deer Management Groups, Andy Tharme Local Authorities, Keith Wishart SF, John Gorman SEPA, Fiona Holmes CNPA.

**Apologies:**, Andrew Weatherall Scottish Environment LINK, Jim Colchester Confor, Mark Hamilton Social Forestry.

### 1. Future Meeting Schedule

Dates for future meetings were agreed as:-

4<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
7<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023  
18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024

### 2. Meeting Notes & Action Points

#### Action Points Carried Forward

- i) **Atlantic Rainforest:** Standing Item - Progress to be reported to the CRG (**GGS**).
- ii) **FGS Applications:** SF to identify main issues with FGS applications that cause processing delays and to share Main Issues/Common Themes that if addressed will shorten approval times (**IC & BC**).
- iii) **Inter-agency co-operation:** benefits of closer working relationships to be promoted to staff using either the Muirfoot or Westloch projects as examples, possibly via the SF led workshops in February. Consideration to be given to the production of best practice examples for HES, SEPA, NatureScot & SF (**JG & BC**).
- iv) **Finance for Woodland Restoration:** Consideration to be given to forming a small discussion group with fisheries input. Group to consider how to access private funding coming in for riparian woodland management. (**DS/GGS/AR/KR**).

#### Welcome, Introductions & Agenda

- Note of Actions of August 2022 Meeting Agreed.
- **Member Nomination:** required for new local authority rep (**AT & IC**).

#### FGS Statistics

- **Tilhill Analysis:** Statistic on conifer planting in new woodland creation to be shared with the CRG, including where possible a regional view (**AV**).

#### CRG Sub-group Updates

- **Sub-group Meeting Notes:** Standing Item – To be shared at each meeting (**IC**).
- **CNPA development of pre-app advice:** seeking input from AA, KR, GGS (**FH**).

### Parliamentary Forestry Debate Announcements

- **Consultation on Future Grant Support for Forestry:** SF lead to be invited to May 2023 Meeting (**IC**).
- View of CRG: Principle of integrated land management should be paramount throughout all current policy development.

Meeting Close

### Suggested Future Agenda Items

**Conifers Seeding onto Open Ground** and Ancient/Native Woodland (**AW & KR**).

***P. ramorum* Action Plan:** James Nott discussion (**IC**).

**Deer Management:** Report/Update on SG work to date (**BC**).

**Financing Deer Management:** Private Investment (**tbc**)

**Community Wealth Building:** Increase the delivery of local community benefits and from woodland creation (**AT**).