



**MISSION
STATEMENT**

*'Working in
partnership to
reduce wildlife
crime by raising
awareness and
promoting effective
enforcement'*



PAW BULLETIN

Hello and welcome to the latest edition of the PAW Bulletin.

News from the Secretariat

The Annual PAW Open Seminar took place on the 13 February 2007 at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. A short report follows inside.

CITES 14th Meeting of the Conference of Parties

The bi-annual Conference of Parties is taking place from 3–15 June 2007 in The Hague (Netherlands).

More information can be found on the CITES website at <http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/index.shtml>, including about the proposals for changes to the listing of species in the Appendices to the Convention and a number of draft Resolutions and Decisions for discussion by the Parties. Compliance and enforcement issues will be discussed.

Animal Health Agency

From 1 April 2007, Defra's staff responsible for considering applications for CITES permits and certificates; for administering the bird registration system; wildlife enforcement liaison and managing the Wildlife Inspectorate, became part of the Animal Health Agency. As an Agency of Defra, the Animal Health Agency will remain a PAW Partner, and a representative of the Agency will be a member of the High Level Group that will agree the priorities for the work of the NWCUC.

Future PAW Bulletins

As we are moving into the age of electronic communications this will be the last PAW Bulletin produced in hard copy format. The next PAW Bulletin will be produced in PDF format and e-mailed to PAW Partners. If you haven't yet provided the Secretariat with an e-mail address then can you please send it to;

paw.secretariat@defra.gov.uk or jane.elliott-malpass@defra.gsi.gov.uk

PAW Partner of the Year Award 2006

This year's PAW Partner of the Year Award was presented to the RSPB by Tom Huggon of Browne-Jacobson Solicitors and Barry Gardiner (Minister for Biodiversity, Landscape and Rural Affairs) at the Seminar. Tribute was paid to the RSPB's activities which included assisting the police in investigating a number of offences, publishing reports including 'Peak Malpractice' and 'Getting Away with it', and supporting the PAW Roadshow. The RSPB also played an important part in preparing the way for the establishment of a Northern Ireland PAW Working Group.

Scottish Wildlife Crime Conference 2007

The Scottish Police Wildlife Crime Conference took place at the Scottish Police College, Tulliallan on 20 February. Around 200 delegates representing NGOs, Government and enforcers attended the Conference. The Conference was opened by Paddy Tomkins (then Chief Constable, Lothian and Borders Police) who reflected on his ACPO(S) role as Wildlife Crime lead for Scotland and the importance he attaches to tackling wildlife crime. The programme included talks from Dr Hal Thompson, Forensic Veterinary Pathologist; case studies from Police Wildlife Crime Officers, and a contribution from Sheriff Kevin Drummond QC.

PC Dave MacKinnon (Wildlife Crime Officer, Grampian Police) was named as Scottish PAW Event co-ordinator of the Year for 2006. Dave was presented with £500 donated by The Scottish Executive to be used for PAW/Wildlife Crime initiatives. The award is given to the person who has done most to promote PAW in the previous year in Scotland.

Coalition Against Wildlife Trafficking (CAWT)

A first high level group meeting of CAWT members took place in Nairobi in February 2007 where the Coalition was officially launched. The meeting was chaired by Claudia McMurray, Assistant Secretary, United States Department of State. CAWT aims to focus public and political attention and resources on ending the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products by;

- **Improving wildlife law enforcement** by expanding enforcement training and information sharing and strengthening regional cooperative networks
- **Reducing consumer demand for illegally traded wildlife** by raising awareness of the impacts of illegal wildlife trade on biodiversity and the environment, livelihoods, and human health; its links to organised crime; and the availability of sustainable alternatives
- **Catalyze high-level political will to fight wildlife trafficking** by broadening support at the highest political levels for actions to combat the illegal trade in wildlife.

CAWT aims to complement and reinforce existing national, regional and international efforts, including the work of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

For more information about CAWT and a list of current members please see; <http://www.cawtglobal.org/cawt/public/>

Marine Bill White Paper

'A Sea Change', a Marine Bill White Paper, was published on 15 March 2007. Views were sought on the proposals set out in the White Paper and input to the supporting regulatory impact assessment. Five key issues were covered: planning in the marine area; licensing activities in the marine area; marine nature conservation; modernising marine fisheries management; and a new marine management organisation. Chapter Six of the White Paper outlined the proposals for marine nature conservation and enforcement. The deadline for responses was **8 June 2007** and a link to the consultation paper can be found at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/marinebill-whitepaper07/index.htm>

Alternatively hard copies of the White Paper can be obtained from The Stationery Office (TSO) at a cost of £32.50; or at <http://www.tsoshop.co.uk/bookstore.asp>

Other News

PAW Open Seminar 2007

Professor Steve Hopper, Director of Kew, welcomed everyone to the seminar. An opening address was given by Barry Gardiner who recognised the fight against wildlife crime is crucial in our efforts towards sustainability. Barry Gardiner also mentioned the draft Resolution to discuss the illegal trade in wildlife on the internet that will be discussed at this year's CITES Conference, which originated from last year's PAW Seminar.

Over 120 delegates were in attendance and topics covered included a presentation from the National Wildlife Crime Unit (NWCU) setting out how it will adopt the National Intelligence Model (NIM) in outlining priorities for the future work of the NWCU. The PAW Forensics Working Group made a presentation about how the group can assist PAW Partners and enforcers in investigations. Pete Younger, Interpol, Wildlife Crime Officer

talked about his role and how PAW Partners can work effectively with Interpol. A number of cases studies were presented by PAW non government organisations partners illustrating where they have been able to play an important part in an investigation.

Andy Mydellton from the Foundation for Endangered Species talked about PAW from a new member's perspective and in particular how his organisation can help to achieve the aims and objectives of PAW. Chris Newman, Federation of British Herpetologists spoke about how PAW Partners can work effectively with enforcers.

Certificate of Merit

A PAW Certificate of Merit has been awarded to;

Jane Withey, Defra, for her support to the National Wildlife Crime Unit both during the pilot phase and the re-launch in October 2006.

New PAW Partners

We are delighted to welcome the following organisations to PAW.

Valley Security Services

Derwen Deg, Llansilin, Oswestry, SY10 7PU. Tel 01691 791491,
E-mail pat@valleysecurity.co.uk,
Website <http://www.valleysecurity.co.uk>

Essex Badger Protection Group

Milton Lodge, Milton Road, Corringham, SS17 8JP. Tel 01375 670733
E-mail frank@fsmail.net

Dolphin Care UK

343 Cottingham Road, Hull, HU5 4AS.
Tel 01482 473237
E-mail info@dolphincareuk.org
Website www.dolphincareuk.org

Biotope Ltd

Keanter, Stoke Charity Rd, Kings Worthy, Winchester, SO23 7LS. Tel 0870 2430385,
E-mail pscott@zvag.co.uk
Website www.zavg.co.uk

News from the Working Groups

Marine Wildlife Law Enforcement

The Marine and Fisheries Agency (MFA) are aiming to use the National Intelligence Model (NIM) to guide their activities. The MFA are looking into the process for drawing up conservation priorities for enforcement and will seek a meeting with JNCC. They will be meeting shortly with the NWCUC and exploring how they can work with the NWCUC.

*Co-ordinator: Inspector Nevin Hunter,
Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, Heavitree
Road Police Station, Heavitree Road, Exeter,
EX1 2LR.
E-mail Nevin.Hunter@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk*

Conference and Training

It is now confirmed that the 2007 Police and Customs Wildlife Enforcement Conference will take place at Douglas on the Isle of Man from 9–11 October.

*Co-ordinator: Chief Constable Richard
Brunstrom, North Wales Police HQ,
Glan-y-don, Colwyn Bay, LL29 8AW.
E-mail Richard.brunstrom@nthwales.pnn.police.uk*

Wales

A closer working relationship is being forged with the Welsh Assembly Government and we are working to ensure that wildlife crime issues are recognised in Biodiversity Action Plans.

*Co-ordinator: Chief Constable Richard
Brunstrom, North Wales Police HQ,
Glan-y-don, Colwyn Bay, LL29 8AW.
E-mail Richard.brunstrom@nthwales.pnn.police.uk*

Scotland

We are pleased to welcome Hugh Dignon as Martin Milarky's successor at the Scottish Executive. Scottish Minister Rhona Brankin has been replaced by Sara Byack. Paddy Tomkins left his job as Chief Constable for Lothian and Borders Police in March to take up the role of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland. His successor is Assistant Chief Constable Iain Macleod of Tayside Police.

*Co-ordinator: Hugh Dignon, SERAD-CANH,
Location 1-J, South Victoria Quay, Edinburgh,
EH6 6QQ.
E-mail Hugh.Dignon@scotland.gsi.gov.uk*

Northern Ireland

The PAW Northern Ireland Working Group was launched on 24 April 2007 at Stormont, Belfast. It was attended by around 60 people including the Environment Minister Designate, Mrs Arlene Foster, and the newly appointed Wildlife Crime Officer, Emma Meredith.

*John Milburne, Environment and Heritage
Service, Klondyke Building, Cromac Avenue,
Gasworks Business Park, Lower Ormeau
Road, Belfast, BT7 2JA.
E-mail john.milburne@doeni.gov.uk*

Forensics

The group gave a presentation at the PAW Seminar. A new non-Government, not-for-profit organisation – 'TRACE' had been established. Its objectives are to promote wildlife DNA forensics globally, and to provide internet-based training/capacity building.

*Co-ordinator: Nick P. Williams, Defra-Wildlife
Inspectorate, Zone 1/15, Temple Quay House,
2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6EB.
E-mail Nick.Williams@animalhealth.gsi.gov.uk*

Publicity

Work is underway to refit the new Roadshow trailer, which will attend a series of events around the UK in the coming months (see www.defra.gov.uk/paw for details). The group aims to update the series of six PAW leaflets to reflect changes in legislation.

*Co-ordinator: Ian West, RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL.
E-mail Ian.West@rspb.org.uk*

PWCO/HMRC

Action is underway to redefine the groups Terms of Reference and focus of the Group, and to review its membership. The Group is keen to work closely with the NWCUC.

*Co-ordinator: Louise Hubble, Hampshire Police, Andover Police Station, South Street, Andover, Hampshire, SP10 2ED.
E-mail: louise.hubble@hampshire.pnn.police.uk*

PAW Partner Profile

The Environment Agency

The Environment Agency (EA) is the leading public body protecting and improving the environment in England and Wales. EA employ over 13,000 people working in diverse areas such as flood defence, pollution control, waste management, fisheries and conservation.

Activities range from influencing Government policy and regulating major industries nationally, right through to day-to-day monitoring and responding to pollution incidents. EA's principal interest in wildlife crime lies in their statutory duties to protect and enhance freshwater and migratory fisheries.

Important wildlife crimes for EA:

- The illegal taking of freshwater and migratory fish, the main species of concern being salmon, sea trout and freshwater eels
- The illegal movement and introduction of freshwater fish into waters, typically large carp and catfish. Fish moved illegally can spread very serious fish diseases and destroy native fish populations. EA share responsibility here with CEFAS.

EA also have an interest in the illegal disturbance and taking of other aquatic species such as the freshwater pearl mussel and white clawed crayfish. They have responsibilities relating to many other areas of environmental crime, including the illegal dumping and movement of waste, illegal discharges to air and water and illegal abstraction of water from surface and ground waters, all of which may affect wildlife.



Post Script

Martin Milarky, former Coordinator of the Scotland PAW Working Group, has recently changed jobs. Here is a statement from him:

“I’m grateful to the PAW Secretariat for allowing me to bid a very fond farewell to PAW Partners for the support, encouragement – even the criticism! – that I have received over the past seven years as Chair of the Scotland Working Group. A recent and lengthy bout of ill-health has prompted me to move to pastures new within the Scottish Executive and I greatly appreciate the good wishes which I have received during recent months from PAW Partners. I met you as colleagues in 2000, and leave you as friends in 2007.

PAW has achieved much in that period – vastly improved wildlife crime legislation across the UK, a significant increase in the numbers and role of those enforcing the new laws, recognition at the most senior levels of Government and enforcement agencies that wildlife crime is “core business” – my hope is that the future for all Partners is to build upon these milestones demonstrating that wildlife crime will not be tolerated in the UK, and beyond”.

Dates for your Diaries

2 October 2007, Scotland

PAW Steering Group meeting

9–11 October 2007, Isle of Man

Police and Customs Wildlife

Enforcement Conference 2007

6 February 2008, venue TBC

PAW Steering Group meeting

Useful Information

Pesticides Poisoning Hotline

0800 321 600

UK National Wildlife Crime Unit

ukwildlifecrime@nwcu.pnn.police.uk



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List server: groups.yahoo.com/group/wildlifecrime

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