

## National Crucian Conservation Project – Terms of Reference

The National Crucian Conservation Project is a group of representatives from public, academic and voluntary sector organisations and individuals who share a common interest in furthering the status of Crucian Carp (**Carassius carassius**) in the UK. The group came together in February 2014 following widespread concerns about the loss of crucian habitat and the threat to the species through hybridisation caused by inappropriate stocking practices.

Crucian Carp are endangered across their natural international range and as such are designated by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as a red listed species. Therefore this project is also designed to assist in the UK government's IUCN obligations.

The primary objectives of the project are to:-

- Promote the conservation of the species and its habitat
- Encourage the development of well managed crucian fisheries

The resulting benefits will include: improved understanding and protection of 'wild' or 'pure' crucian stocks; habitat restoration; creation of 'community waters'; more angling opportunities; increased resources for young anglers and better sharing of information on lake and pond conservation.

Some suggested outputs and/or aspirations are:-

- A regional network of growing on centres to increase the availability of wild crucian stocks
- A 'pure' crucian accreditation scheme
- Factsheets on creating and managing waters, avoiding hybridisation and a crucian ID guide
- Courses or events for fishery owners and managers
- Create 'Crucian Champions'?

### 1 Geographical remit

1.1 The area covered by the project is the UK, however there is likely to be a more concentrated effort and focus in areas where crucian fisheries are more prevalent and in particular if there is evidence of wild populations.

1.2 It is anticipated that a list or database of waters will be developed in time in order to guide priorities and resources.

## **2 Membership and Supporters**

2.1 The project will canvass support from all organisations and individuals with an interest in crucian carp. In order to better organise the project, it is proposed to have a Steering Group who lead the work and are responsible for effectively engaging with the wider project and external interests.

2.2 Membership of the Steering Group is limited to a maximum of 15, and reflects a range of interests and expertise. The current membership of the Steering Group is shown in Appendix 1.

2.2.1 Each member organisation on the Steering Group has equal status.

2.2.2 Membership will be reviewed annually.

2.3 Wider engagement with the project will include all those who have expressed an interest in being involved. It is anticipated that they will be kept informed of progress through direct communication and/or through the media. It is important to ensure that everybody feels they can contribute ideas, influence the direction of the programme of work, and receive useful and timely information.

## **3 The Role of the Steering Group**

6.1 Establish the strategic aims and oversee their implementation.

6.2 Develop a plan of action and facilitate its delivery. Ensuring that there are clear accountabilities and a mechanism to monitor and report progress.

6.3 Steering Group arrangements

6.3.1 There will be an annually elected Chair and Secretariat. In the first year the Angling Trust and the EA will take on the roles of Chair and Secretary respectively.

6.3.2 The Steering Group will meet as necessary, normally 3 times a year.

6.3.3 Meetings can be via teleconferences but at least every other should be a face to face meeting.

6.3.4 All members can request an item for consideration to go on the Agenda ; a final version and any associated papers will be circulated at least one week in advance of the meeting

6.3.5 Where possible the Steering Group will operate on a consensus basis but if this is not possible it will be by majority view.

6.3.6 The Steering Group will be quorate to make decisions with a third of the group present

6.3.7 Any decisions made by the Steering Group do not necessarily reflect the views of their individual organisations.

6.3.8 Minutes from Steering Group meetings will be produced that record the substantive decisions and enable actions to be subsequently tracked.

## 4 Funding the Project

4.1 The cost of running the project will involve in kind contributions of time, meeting venues etc. This will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

4.2 Any particular actions that require a delivery budget will need to be assessed and applications for funding made as required.

***These terms of reference will be reviewed annually***

## Appendix 1

Martin Salter- Chair (Angling Trust)

Mark Owen (Angling Trust)

Gordon Copp (CEFAS)

Mike Lee (EA)

Chris Turnbull

James Harrold (Rockland Mere Fishery Services)

Malcolm Richardson (Godalming AS)

Mark Wintle (Association of Crucian Anglers) ?

Roger Handford- Secretariat (EA)

Carl Sayer (University College London)

Graham Peirson or Ros Wright (EA)

Phil Belfield or Adam Hilliard (EA)

Peter Rolfe

Keith Wesley (Bedwell Fisheries)

or..Mike Holcombe (Godalming AS)

Terms of Reference agreed by the Steering Group at the meeting on **28<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

Signed by the elected Chairman: **Martin Salter**

Signature

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Date