

Darwin Initiative Main/Post/D+ Project Half Year Report (due 31st October 2017)

Project reference	21-001
Project title	Developing a conservation action plan for Samoa's little dodo- the Manumea or Tooth-billed pigeon
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Samoa
Lead organisation	Australian National University
Partner(s)	The Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment
Project leader	R Heinsohn/R Stirnemann
Report date and number (e.g., HYR3)	HYR4
Project website/blog/social media etc.	www.samoanbirds.com twitter: Rebecca Stirnemann (@samoanbirds) Twitter facebook: endangered birds blog: medium.com/@rebeccastirnemann

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up to end September).

The components of the project being undertaken by ANU staff have been completed and were covered in the last annual report. However an extension was received to allow completion of activities by the Samoan Conservation Society. Their progress over the last six months can be summarised as follows.

Awareness campaign on Manumea and in particular the impact of hunting

- Campaign development workshop in May with all stakeholders
- Campaign draft prepared May- Sept
- Funding pledged from Auckland zoo for 6 months for campaign implementation
- BBC World , TVNZ and Radio NZ and local news items on the campaign
- Funding being sought for further roll-out of campaign

A rat management activity in a core Manumea habitat (Malololelei)

- funding secured from Auckland Zoo and PDCT for rat management
- Operational plan for rat management project written
- Monitoring stations established and 196 bait stations installed
- Operation to commence in late October

Forest restoration work

- Forest restoration (native tree planting) supported by SCS and partners at manumea habitat in OLPP National Park, Mt Vaea Reserve and Faleaseela watershed area on Upolu and at Matautu Catchment on Savaii

Support for the development of a management plan for another important Manumea habitat (Uafato)

- SCS involved in development of the management plan for the Uafato Tiavea Conservation Area. This conservation area is core manumea habitat and Manumea has been sighted in the forest a few times this year
- SCS to support implementation of the management plan

Contribution to the review of the Manumea recovery plan

- SCS were in the committee that helped review the implementation of the Manumea Recovery Plan 2006-2016 which is now complete
- SCS are looking for funds to prepare and implement a new and revised Manumea Recovery Plan

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

No problems at this stage. As above, the project extension was granted to allow SCS to continue/complete their important activities.

2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

Discussed with LTS: No

Formal change request submitted: No

Received confirmation of change acceptance No

3a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (e.g., more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?

Yes No Estimated underspend: £

3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully. Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project, please submit a rebudget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a rebudget so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary.

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4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?
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NA

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document. Additionally, if you were funded under R23 and asked to provide further information by your first half year report, please attach your response as a separate document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also** be raised with LTS International through a Change Request.

Please send your **completed report by email** to Eilidh Young at Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk . The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message e.g. Subject: 22-035 Darwin Half Year Report**