



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Introduction – Ben Francis Local Action Group Coordinator

Ben Francis
Animal and Plant Health Agency

Introduction

- Ben Francis
- Joined APHA as Local Action Group Coordinator November 2022
- Previously at British Canoeing Environmental Project Officer
- Nearly 2 years working in INNS
- Msci Geography Lancaster University (2017)
- Previous experience in volunteering and participation working at universities and National Governing Bodies

What I have been doing so far

- Supporting LAGs – finding about your good work, and challenges
 - Meetings on Teams
 - Meetings in person
- Networking/sharing good practice
- Support with funding applications
- Biosecurity Project (Quagga Mussel and Killer Shrimp locations)
 - South East of England (River Thames West London, River Lee, Norfolk Broads. Farmoor Reservoir, Anglian Water)
- Supporting the AQUA accreditation scheme

What I will be doing

- Continued support for LAGs
 - Be in touch!
- Support with funding applications
- Biosecurity Project (Quagga Mussel and Killer Shrimp locations)
 - Report on the findings to improve biosecurity at these sites
- Support the AQUA accreditation scheme
- Promoting and recording the good work of LAGs!
 - Mapping the extent of LAG work
 - Report on current challenges for LAGs
 - Survey of LAG work

How I can support your Local Action Group

- Sharing good practice and guidance
 - Developing new resources – where there are gaps in knowledge and literature
- Support with funding applications
- Biosecurity Guidance
- Promotion of good work

Breakout Session Day 1: Local Action Group Coordination

The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) have recently employed a Local Action Group (LAG) Coordinator to help support LAGs and coordination between them.

The objectives of this breakout session are to:

- Identify what are the main challenges facing you as a Local Action Group
- Suggest how can the LAG Coordinator (and NNSS) help support your LAG

We would also like you to share some examples of catchment wide coordination of work and establishing networks.

Breakout Session Day 1: Local Action Group Coordination

Format:

- Break into three sessions (the group list is in your packs) (groups of ~13 people):
 - Facilitators:
 - 1 Darwin – Catherine Chatters
 - 2 Caradoc – Neil Green
 - 3 Wenlock – Sally Potts

The breakout will last approximately 1 hour.

Standard focus group style session

Notes will be taken by note takers from the discussion