

## **Pathways to Impact Example – High Grade**

### **1. Proposal Title**

Something to do with monitoring a river for pathogens released from farm waste and effects on down stream river ecology

### **2. Who and How?**

The main beneficiary of knowledge arising from this research is anticipated to be the Environment Agency who will be able to use outputs informing and formulating policy on monitoring rivers at the catchment scale for particular pathogens.

Other potential beneficiaries include local authorities (LA) and area health authorities with certain river catchment types within their boundaries. The results of the research will inform good regulatory practice.

No other immediate users identified, however certain results from the ecology workpackage may be of interest to JNCC and Ecomonitors Ltd.

NOTE: Impact Plans contained more detail in this section on the users and on the anticipated benefits than is necessary for Pathways to Impact. Details about users who might benefit from the research and how they might benefit from it should be provided in the Impact summary.

### **3. What?**

Secondment: PDRA to be seconded to EA four days per month from month 6 to 24. The purpose of the exchange will be to build links with the policy makers and regulators and understand their requirements if the data is to inform policy, regulation or operational best practice. The last few months of the secondment will be devoted to working with EA to generate data in a format they can use in understanding the effects on river ecology and identifying future research directions where relevant.

Workshop: three workshops: month 0, 18 and 29. Workshop 1 will aim to define users' main questions and how to answer/integrate with the research or identify additional work to undertake (supported by users). Later meetings are to formulate ways of monitoring ecological variables according to how LA are required to undertake this based upon results to that stage. The final workshop will bring all key stakeholders together.

Training: PDRA to be sent on training course at NERC on communicating science to the public and external training on policy-formulation.

Commercialisation: Ecomonitors Ltd have expressed an interest in the ecological monitoring equipment developed in the lab, our Technology Transfer office will investigate the possibility of filing a patent.

Website: A website detailing all the field sites will be set up for access by anyone with interest. Identification guides for particular species of animals will be included so that members of the public can get involved in providing information; this can be tied to the local wildlife trusts' monitoring of species.

Newsletter: information briefing on findings for farmers in catchments to outline work being undertaken, main findings and likely requirements arising from EA monitoring.

(This can be regarded as good PR as access is required to some field-sites on farms) This will be jointly produced with the EA who will provide print costs.

#### **4. Milestones and measures of success**

Secondment: this will take place throughout the period of the grant so that interaction with the EA is ongoing and a strong grounding can be developed for them to understand issues relating to catchment monitoring. A key measure of the success of this will be if the EA can use outputs in the development of their strategy for monitoring specific catchments.

Destination of PDRA – intending to move to a regulatory, business or policy-making organisation at the end of the research.

Workshops – engagement with LA and land use managers to develop clearer understanding of needs that may inform future monitoring. Improved management actions by landowners or land-managers.

#### **5. Summary of resources**

PDRA secondment £12,000 (additional cost to be made up by EA)

Workshops: £2,000 per workshop x 3 = £6,000

Administrator time for workshop organisation, newsletter and web page = £5,000

PDRA training course to provide an insight into policy-making = £800

Web page design costs and data collation tool = £2000