



Pine Martens Bounce Back

The Two Moors Pine Marten Project

Evaluation Consultant Brief & Tender



Photo: Mark Hamblin/2020VISION



Pine Martens Bounce Back: Two Moors Pine Marten Project An Overview

Shy, curious and playful. The pine marten is a stealthy, acrobatic hunter that relies on the cover of woods and trees for its foraging missions. It was once a fundamental part of our woodland ecology, but it is now critically endangered in England and Wales and completely extinct on the south west peninsula. As a result, we have lost a beautiful, fascinating wild creature that plays a key role in our woodland natural processes.

Pine Martens Bounce Back: The Two Moors Pine Marten Project is a partnership between Dartmoor National Park Authority, Devon Wildlife Trust, Exmoor National Park Authority, Forestry England, National Trust, Somerset Wildlife Trust and Woodland Trust. The project is led by Devon Wildlife Trust. The partnership was formed with the aim of restoring a viable pine marten (*Martes martes*) population, at a landscape scale, to the wooded landscape across Somerset and Devon.

The project objectives are to a) bring back a vital component of our woodland ecology across the South West, restoring a natural process and driving activities which support more resilient woodlands; and b) to inspire and support diverse audiences to become Pine Marten Pioneers, growing their conservation skills, capacity and leadership confidence in the process.

The project is about:

- Bringing back a missing link in our woodland ecology and creating another centre from which these charismatic creatures can spread out and join up with other populations, helping us to create better protected and connected woodlands and engage new audiences in conservation work.
- Helping people to understand why pine martens are so important to ensuring the survival of the woodlands that many people love, helping them understand how fascinating and inspirational woodland ecology actually is and to feel able/empowered to take a range of actions to bring back lost wildlife and help our woodlands – proving it can be done.
- Opening new and different doors/pathways to practical and science-based learning to audiences who may think that science (or learning/education) is not for them, that nature conservation is only something experts can do, who may have a patchy education or work background, or who have struggled to engage with learning in the past.
- Opening up our organisations to new ways of working which involve different audiences and different leadership and working models – building training, skills, enthusiasm within the staff team to work with new audiences and in new areas.

The development phase of this project has been made possible with support from The National Lottery Heritage Fund and with thanks to the National Lottery players, with a decision on Delivery Phase funding expected Spring 2024.

This is a fantastic opportunity to be part of a ground breaking project and an environmental 'good news' story.

1. Overview

Key Objective of Brief	<p>We are seeking a project Evaluation Consultant to support the evaluation of <i>Pine Martens Bounce Back: Two Moors Pine Marten Project</i> (PMBB) which runs from April 2024 to March 2027.</p> <p>The key contract output is to deliver a comprehensive End of Project Report by the end of March 2027, which will evaluate project impact against NLHF outcomes, and which will identify key lessons learned that inform legacy projects and other partnership engagement programmes.</p> <p>The project already has a comprehensive Evaluation Framework, and we anticipate that the contractor will be involved in project evaluation at 3 key points during the project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. During project set up – ensure that all tools to support project reporting and data collection are set up and that we compile appropriate baseline information linked to the project’s engagement aims. 2. Mid-point check. 3. End of project review and report. <p>This contract is focused on the project’s engagement aims. A separate Science & Evidence Report will report on the project’s biodiversity aims and which will be the responsibility of other contractors.</p>
Timescale	May 2024 – March 2027
Contract Value	£10,000 (including VAT)
Reporting to	Contract management will be by the PMBB Conservation Manager, who Chairs the project Science & Evidence Working Group.

2. Contractor Outputs and Deliverables

2.1 The following is the key deliverable of this contract.

- **Deliver a robust and independent end of project evaluation, and produce a comprehensive report for project funders, including the National Lottery Heritage Fund, and for wider audiences as we share project results and learning.**

2.2 As part of the process, the contractor will be expected to be involved in the project at three key stages:

- **During project set up** – work with the project team during project set up to review/identify/adapt or create a core set of usable, person-centred monitoring tools and approaches that can be used by staff, partners, volunteers and other stakeholders to provide robust evidence to evaluate engagement impacts. We are keen to gain insights and expertise

in order to make monitoring and data collection as user-friendly and impactful as possible.

- **Early in Year 2** – a check in to ensure that the Framework and associated monitoring activities are being delivered in line with plan and to a suitable standard.
- **End of project evaluation** – collate all relevant monitoring data and carry out additional evaluation activities (for example, surveys, conversations with participants etc) to evaluate project performance and impact. The contractor will be expected to outline the approach they will take as part of the tender process and, if successful, to provide a detailed plan and schedule of activities.

2.3 Monitoring and evaluation data collection will be carried out throughout the project by the PMBB Project Team (staff, volunteers and trainees), key partners and consultants.

Alongside the contractor, consultants who will be supporting the evidence base for the engagement aspects of the project include:

- University of Exeter – undertaking ongoing social feasibility which follows on from a significant study delivered during the development phase of the project.

3. Quality Expectations

3.1 General Expectations of the Contractor

		Essential	Desirable
Experience & Qualifications	Proven experience of setting up robust evaluation frameworks for heritage and/or community engagement projects and of delivering high quality and effective evaluation activities.	✓	
	Experience of conducting independent evaluations of projects.	✓	
	Experience of evaluating Lottery funded projects.		✓
	Relevant professional memberships, qualifications or accreditations.		✓
Knowledge	A deep understanding of structured approaches to project evaluation and of the range of techniques that can be used to evaluate engagement impacts and to meaningfully involve a range of audiences in evaluation activity.	✓	
	A strong grasp of digital tools and approaches that can support evaluation activity.		✓
Skills	Able to facilitate conversations, workshops and/or focus groups with a wide range of stakeholders and with individuals from diverse backgrounds.	✓	
	Able to produce well written and comprehensive evaluation reports that are objective, constructive, impact-focused and which clearly articulate key learning.	✓	
Other	Can commence set up work in June 2024	✓	

3.2 Key policies or standards to adhere to

The successful consultant will adhere to key DWT Policies including but not limited to Safeguarding, Health & Safety, Whistleblowing, Equality Diversity & Inclusion and Data Protection.

The contractor will adhere to NLHF guidance and best practice requirements.

3.3 Data Protection Measures

A Data Processing agreement will form part of this contract.

4. Equipment and Materials

The consultant is expected to provide their own equipment and materials. The project team will provide access to relevant data (including the findings of work undertaken by other consultants) and to project beneficiaries/participants and partners. DWT will provide project brand guidance to inform the design of the report.

5. Contract Management and Monitoring

- The selected contractor will be issued with a standard DWT contract; this can be provided on request in advance of submission of tender.
- The contract is scheduled to begin in June 2024 and end by March 31st, 2027.
- Contract management will be by the PMBB Project Manager.

6. Payment Schedule:

2024 / 2025 – £2,500

2025 / 2026 – £1,500

2026 / 2027 – £6,000

7. Tender Process and Requirements

To tender for this contract please submit your proposal which will include:

- Your CV/a summary of background, skills and experience (no more than 2 sides of A4).
- Your approach to delivery and how you will meet key criteria in the brief including our quality expectations (no more than 2 sides of A4).
- Names and contact details of 2 referees or, alternatively, please attach at least 2 testimonials.
- Your day rate/s.

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Evaluation Consultant Brief



- Your availability to start.

Please submit this application to: pmason@devonwildlifetrust.org using PBB Evaluation Consultancy Tender in the subject line. Please let us know your availability for interview when submitting your tender.

The deadline for submissions is 12 Noon, Monday May 20th. Short, Zoom interviews will take place on May 29th, though there is some flexibility around interview times and dates.

Please send any general enquiries to P Mason at the email address above.

We strive to be inclusive in everything we do and input from diverse perspectives will be key to the success of this project. So, if you face any particular challenges, such as a disability, and an adjustment to this service specification or to our outlined approach is needed to accommodate your needs, please do get in touch to discuss.