



MAHSEER TRUST

RIVERS - FISH - PEOPLE

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1st	April	2022		31st	March	2023

SECTION A: REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name	The Mahseer Trust
Other names charity is known by	N/A
Registered charity number (if any)	1167056
Charity's principal address	Capel Saron
	School Road
	Fairbourne
	Gwynedd
	LL38 2RQ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted, if not for the whole year	Mechanism of appointment
Adrian Pinder	Chair	Whole year	Majority vote of trustees
Ian Pett	Treasurer	Whole year	Majority vote of trustees
Andrew Harrison	Secretary	Whole year	Majority vote of trustees
Derek D'Souza	India Regional Lead	Whole year	Majority vote of trustees

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any (For example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted, if not for the whole year
N/A	

Names and addresses of advisors (Optional information)

Type of advisor	Name	Address
Freshwater ecosystem services	Dr Mark Everard	Associate Professor of Ecosystem Services, University of the West of England (UWE Bristol)

Name of Chief Executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

SECTION B: STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts	
Type of governing document (e.g. Trust Deed, Constitution)	Constitution, last amended 12/05/2016
How the charity is constituted (e.g. Trust, Association, Company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by)	Majority vote by existing trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)	
<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them. 	<p>The charity is run entirely on a voluntary basis, with no paid employees. The organisational structure comprises a number of positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustees ('Members' of the CIO) Responsible for management of the charity and all decisions. Only trustees having voting rights at board level. • Officers Support the charity's objectives and closely involved with planning, but no voting rights at board level. • Advisors Support the charity's objectives and provide advice on planning and other matters, but no voting rights at board level. • Patrons Support the charity's objectives and assist with raising the profile of Mahseer Trust, but no voting rights at board level. • Honorary Members Formally recognised by the trustees as contributing significantly to the charity's objectives, but no voting rights at board level. • Supporters Individuals who pay an annual or one-off (lifetime) subscription to the charity to support the charity's objectives, but no voting rights at board level. <p>Trustees receive a 'Trustee Induction Pack', including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MT Governing Document • MT Data Protection Policy • MT Policy on the Acceptance and Refusal of Gifts and Donations • MT Trustee Code of Governance • MT Conflict of Interest Policy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MT Vulnerable People Policy ● Charity Commission 'The Essential Trustee' ● Charity Commission guidance on Public Benefit ● MT Trustee Declaration (Sign and return) ● MT Trustee Induction Table (Sign and return)
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SECTION C:	OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES
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Summary of the Objects of the charity set out in its Governing Document.	<p>The Objects of the CIO are, for the public benefit, to advance education, and environmental protection and improvement;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) in countries where mahseer species are present by promoting, sustaining and increasing individual and collective knowledge and understanding of mahseer species, and skills and expertise in conservation and aquaculture; (b) in the wider world, to carry out and contribute to research to add to the collective knowledge and understanding of the mahseer species, their life cycle, habitat and their conservation; (c) to contribute to the education and development of young people by training them in conservation; (d) to contribute to the conservation of mahseer species in their natural environment and to encourage and assist international knowledge transfer.
Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these Objects.	<p>With reference to the key objectives defined above:</p> <p><i>Capacity building</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 2022: Adrian Pinder was interviewed by Shyamala Shanmugasundaram of Kahani Takbak to discuss the publication of <i>The Tiger of the River</i> children's book. ● September 2022: Sharing information on culturally significant small fishes of Coorg region of south India with River Otter Conservancy. ● October 2022: Adrian Pinder, Rajeev Raghavan and Steve Lockett meet with doctoral researcher Glavin Rodrigues to help shape his project on invasive characteristics of the introduced blue-finned mahseer. ● November 2022/February 2023: Steve Lockett wrote a reference for an early career researcher into freshwater shrimps to apply for a Rufford Small Grant. Application accepted and researcher will be studying shrimps in mahseer streams of India's Western Ghats as part of ecosystem health. ● January 2023: Steve Lockett invited to join a new platform to discuss issues of sand mining in India, organised by Veditum India

	<p>Foundation (background capacity building, official platform launch expected late 2023).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ongoing: Information about current status of mahseers shared with potential masters and doctoral students in Pakistan, India and Nepal. Used to direct studies into more urgent and/or more useful areas. <p><i>Research</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● September 2022: Requested copies of mahseer photos from 1980s Karnali River research trip taken by Mark O'Shea of Wolverhampton University. Part of ongoing creation of a library of mahseer photos for future study. ● February 2023: Discussions with Rafhiah Kahar about her studies on migration of mahseer Tor tambra in protected areas of the Sultanate of Brunei. ● March 2023: Study trip to Siliguri, north India, type locality of Tor tor by Sushan Mani Shakya and Adrian Pinder with support from Genuine Prajapathi and Ian Christopher. ● March 2023: Dencin Thampy collects fresh samples of Tor remadevii from the type locality (Pambar River) and deposits at Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Science. These are source material for an attempt to sequence the whole genome of this Critically Endangered species. <p><i>Education and Outreach</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 2022: Interview with author and publisher Stephen Harper to celebrate his new book The Mightiest Mahseer, published on YouTube channel. ● May 2022: Derek D'Souza gives a lecture on Migratory Fishes of India to Mangalore College of Fisheries, India for World Fish Migration Day. ● August 2022: Mahseer Trust invited to join the Freshwater Biodiversity Observation Network (FWBON); and SE Asia Limnology Network (SEALNet) ● November 2022: Azim Premji University, India, host Rivers of Life, a week-long exhibition during which thousands of students experience the Em2 river modelling table owned by Mahseer Trust. Also during Rivers of Life: Steve Lockett hosts a whole day remote workshop on Cauvery Biodiversity and Landscape - a comprehensive range of talks from experts working across multiple fields of influence in this important mahseer river.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January/February 2023: Discussions with Roger Tibbrook (UK angler) about sharing ideas of mahseer habitat conservation through his travels in south and north India. Ongoing: Steve Lockett continued to post updates and news on social media platforms, send newsletters to those with interest and worked with Wikipedia, India Biodiversity Portal and Fishbase to update listings on mahseer species' identities, distributions and threats. <p><i>International knowledge transfer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 2023: Steve Lockett gives a remote lecture on Aquaculture for Right Reasons and Sushan Mani Shakya on My Journey in Aquaculture to students of St Albert's College, Kochi, India. <p>We confirm the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit</p>
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Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)	
<p>You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> policy on grant making; policy programme related investment; contribution made by volunteers. 	N/A

SECTION D: ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year	<p><i>Books</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 2022: Publication of children's book <i>The Tiger of the River</i> by Adrian Pinder, Speaking Tiger Books, New Delhi. https://speakingtigerbooks.com/product/the-tiger-of-the-river/ September 2022: <i>The Tiger of the River</i> selected for the Parag Honours List 2023. https://www.paragreads.in/parag-reads/parag-honour-list-2023/
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SECTION E: FINANCIAL REVIEW



Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves.	<p>The Mahseer Trust maintains an operational reserve of £5,000 (five thousand pounds), which is deemed sufficient to meet any terminal liabilities that might arise on the closure of the Trust.</p> <p>These funds are held in a bank account. Future levels of reserves will be determined in accordance with any changes in the Trust's liabilities arising from changes in its levels of activity and expenditure.</p>
Details of any funds materially in deficit	N/A

Further financial review details (Optional information)	
<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted. 	<p>Income for the year 2022-23 totalled £22,303. Supporter Subscriptions totalled £60. Donations increased substantially to £21,876. Gift Aid of £167, claimed on donations totalling £660 made in 2021-22, was received from HMRC. Bank complaint compensation of £200 was also received.</p> <p>Expenditure totalled £3,119. A total of £2,596 was spent on Conservation activities in India and Nepal. Expenditure on activities in mahseer range countries increased with the easing of SARS-CoV-2 pandemic related travel restrictions. This trend should continue in 2023-24. £153 was spent on Outreach activities in India and supporting an Indian scientist to participate in an international conference in Australia. Administration costs totalled £370. Nothing was spent on Marketing or Miscellaneous activities in 2022-23.</p> <p>Funds held at the end of the reporting year totalled £44,201, well above our operational reserve.</p>

SECTION F: OTHER OPTIONAL INFORMATION

N/A

SECTION G: DECLARATION

<p>The trustees below declare that they have approved the trustees report above.</p> <p>Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.</p>		
	Trustee 1	Trustee 2
Signatures		
Full names	Dr Andrew Harrison	Dr Adrian Pinder
Position	Secretary	Chair
Date	25/01/2024	25/01/2024



Receipts and Payments Accounts

CC16a

For the period from

Period start date
01/04/2022



To

Period end date
31/03/2023

Section A Receipts and Payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	21,876	-	-	21,876	1,590
Supporter subscriptions	60	-	-	60	325
Reimbursement	167	-	-	167	-
Income	200	-	-	200	1
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	22,303	-	-	22,303	1,916
A2 Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	22,303	-	-	22,303	1,916
A3 Payments					
Marketing	-	-	-	-	655
Administration	370	-	-	370	-
Conservation	2,596	-	-	2,596	-
Outreach	153	-	-	153	250
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	20
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	3,119	-	-	3,119	925
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	3,119	-	-	3,119	925
Net of receipts/(payments)	19,184	-	-	19,184	991
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	25,017	-	-	25,017	24,037
Cash funds this year end	44,201	-	-	44,201	25,028

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Paypal Account	226	-	-
	Lloyds Bank Account	43,975	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	44,201	-	-
	(Agree balances with R&P account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Final Payment to Sushan Mani Shankya for Hunt for Tor tor Project	Conservation	210	30 April 2023
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signature		Print Name	Date of approval	
Signed by two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Ian Pett (Treasurer)	05/05/2023	
		Adrian Pinder (Chair)	11/05/2023	