

Administration and Management Report

1. Fly-Grazing On One Island Pond Sub-Site

- 1.1 In mid-August three horses were reported grazing on the hill overlooking One Island Pond. The horses were tethered on long leashes and provided with a water supply. Given that the horses are frequently moved to differing locations on the hills, it seems that they are being fly-grazed rather than abandoned.
- 1.2 It will be necessary to engage a specialist contractor to remove the horses.

2. One Island Pond Fishing

- 2.1 Over the summer months there have been a number of complaints alleging that people were fishing One Island Pond and removing the fish, either for their own consumption or to transfer to another pond.
- 2.2 In August local police and an officer from the Environment Agency visited the pond. At the time of their visit nobody was fishing but they did note a small number of dead fish near the pond edge, which they attributed to a lack of oxygen due to the low water level in the pond.
- 2.3 Their subsequent verbal report to the Manager recommended that the Conservators consider a no fishing policy in the pond.
- 2.4 In the past the Board has considered such an option but have been of the view that it would be unenforceable. One and Seven Islands ponds have however been periodically destocked and this action has reduced the fishing pressure until the stocks build-up again.
- 2.5 In light of the fish deaths the Board may wish to consider destocking One Island Pond this winter.

4. BBQs in Merton

- 4.1 Merton Council is considering prohibiting BBQs in Council-owned greenspaces. Members' views are sought on whether Mitcham Common should be included in the list sites where BBQs are not permitted.

6. Management Plan: Quarterly Work Programme

- 6.1 The programme covering the period October – December 2018 will be posted on the website in the near future.

Martin Boyle
August 2018