INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) is managing the Fully Documented Fishery (FDF) scheme in 2019 in the North Sea.

The landing obligation comes into full effect in 2019, with all fish species subject to quota limits having to be landed and counted against quota.

The MMO has a key objective of embedding monitoring technology into its control and enforcement function. As such, participant vessels will be fully monitored for compliance with all fisheries legislation through the use of remote electronic monitoring (REM).

As well as setting a high standard of accountability in the North Sea fishery, we are keen to ensure that our expertise in this field of technology is used to test and influence operational enforcement approaches at UK and EU level. This may include testing more recent developments in REM technology such as remote access to REM data.

Quota from the reserve pool for North Sea cod, saithe, haddock, whiting, turbot and brill, will be made available for participant vessels. There may also be scientific quota available. Under certain circumstances a dispensation may be offered to allow undersized fish to be discarded provided it is reported and counted against quota uptake.

The scheme will run from 1st July 2019 and will end on 31st December 2019.

Core requirements

- All landing obligation (LO) species caught shall count against quota
- All LO species caught shall be retained on board, landed and recorded for quota uptake purposes
- At the end of each haul the master must record the catch on the E-log, including any below minimum conservation reference size (MCRS) fish, retained or discarded (haul by haul recording)
- To comply with all aspects of fisheries legislation

As part of the scheme we will make data available to Cefas for use in the SMARTfish project, a project to develop automatic fish recognition software.

Landing Obligation

If you have any questions regarding the landing obligation please refer to the guidance at Landing Obligation Guidance 2019 or contact your local MMO office.

SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION

Vessels will be selected to participate on the basis of the criteria set out below:
Mandatory criteria

Vessels wishing to participate in this scheme must meet the following criteria:

- Masters must ensure that discards and Landing Obligation species below MCRS are recorded in the logbook after every haul. The Master, or any agent acting on their behalf, must submit a landing declaration that includes the below MCRS fish.

- The Master will be responsible for ensuring that the REM equipment is fully functioning at all times and must notify the MMO of any breakdown as soon as it happens. They must arrange for any maintenance and repair to the REM system, and ensure that this is completed before returning to sea, using engineers authorised by MMO (Woodson's at present).

- Vessels must be English administered and be a member of a Producer Organisation.

- The master must make himself and the vessel available at a UK port (where possible) for a period of up to 3 days within the first two months of the scheme to allow an installation/upgrade of the monitoring system if the MMO considers this necessary, and for one day after completion of the scheme for the equipment to be removed.

- The vessel must satisfy accommodation standards as specified in the Terms and Conditions; have a current MCA safety certificate; and be willing and able to take an observer to sea when required as part of this project.

- All vessels must have adequate insurance cover for the vessel and for personnel on board.

- A vessel engaged in Pair Trawl activities shall only be eligible for the scheme if both vessels are signed up to the FDF scheme, unless the MMO has issued pre-agreement in writing.

- All vessels operating in the scheme must complete a fishing logbook in accordance with article 14 of Council Regulation (EC) 1224/2009. In addition to this requirement, and to allow for corroboration of data, the logbook must be completed following every haul. All catches (retained sized and retained undersized/damaged) of stocks subject to the landing obligation must be recorded separately in the logbook. All discards must also be recorded as DIS.

- Be able to provide, in writing, all measures that have been taken to increase net selectivity/avoidance of juvenile fish.

- Be willing to return by recorded delivery, at the cost of the vessel operator, and before the 15th day of each month, the previous month’s hard drive (disc) in the pre-addressed envelope provided by the MMO. This will enable the vessel to provide proof of postage if requested. Each vessel will be accountable for their own hard drives.
• Agree to pay the cost of replacing any damaged REM systems or components, including through the use of jet washing equipment.

Please see the New Terms and Conditions of the scheme for full details.

Submission of the application
The application form attached below must be completed and submitted, by electronic copy to ukcatchquota@defra.gov.uk or, by hard copy to:

Future Fisheries Team
Marine Management Organisation
Lancaster House
Hampshire Court
Newcastle
NE4 7YH

Queries about the application
Clarification of the application requirements can be given. Please email queries to ukcatchquota@defra.gov.uk

Timetable
Applications must be received by 12.00hrs on 14/06/2019. Applicants will be informed of the results as soon as possible.
APPLICATION FORM

FULLY DOCUMENTED FISHERY WITH REMOTE ELECTRONIC MONITORING SYSTEM: NORTH SEA STOCKS [Please use this to submit your application - Failure to provide the requested information may result in the application being rejected].

1) NAME OF APPLICANT (in capitals)

   Name:

2) ADDRESS & CONTACT DETAILS (in capitals)

   Address for contacting over this application:

   Daytime phone numbers and mobile number:

   Email address:

3) VESSEL NAME & SKIPPER

   Vessel Name:

   Vessel Registration Number:

   Skipper/s:

4) GEAR TYPE

   Please mark which gear types are intended to be used by your vessel during 2018 in the box below.

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<tr>
<th>TR1</th>
<th>TR2</th>
<th>Long-line</th>
<th>Gill net</th>
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   Please describe any net selectivity or other measures that have been taken to avoid unwanted catches of juvenile fish below.
Please fully describe the process that the fish go through from bringing the net on board to the point where they are iced in the fish room. The MMO analyst may, if necessary, request that the process be changed slightly to allow them to fully observe all aspects of the process and be able to estimate more accurately the size and quantity of fish passing the cameras.

5) MEMBERSHIP OF FISH PRODUCER ORGANISATION

The vessel must belong to a Fish Producers Organisation.

I confirm that the vessel is a member of a Fish Producers Organisation, (delete as appropriate)

Yes/No

The PO which the vessel is a member of is:

6) ELECTRICAL SUPPLY

The vessel must have a reliable electricity supply.

I confirm that the vessel has a reliable electricity supply, (delete as appropriate)

Yes/No

On board voltage is [ ] volts.

7) OBSERVER CAPACITY

The vessel must have the capacity to carry at least one observer and the facilities to enable observer(s) to remain on board overnight if required.

I confirm that the vessel has the capacity to carry at least one observer and the facilities to enable an observer to remain on board overnight if required, (delete as appropriate)

Yes/No

8) Availability for System Fitting/Upgrade

a) The vessel must be available for up to three days within the first month of the scheme to fit a system/assess the benefits of, and upgrade the equipment. These days will be arranged at a mutually convenient time for the applicant and MMO and
it will be the responsibility for the vessel owner to arrange for engineering contractors to be on site subject to MMO agreement.

I confirm that the vessel will be available for 3 days at a mutually agreed time, (delete as appropriate).

Yes/No

b) The vessel must be available for one day between March and April 2020 for the equipment to be removed. This will be arranged for a mutually convenient day between the applicant and MMO.

I confirm that the vessel will be available for 1 day at a mutually agreed time between March and April 2020, (delete as appropriate).

Yes/No

9) CERTIFICATION

Applications for vessels 10m LOA to less than 15m LOA must include:

• A copy of a valid Marine & Coastguard Agency Fishing Vessel Decal certificate issued by an appointed MCA surveyor after inspection to ascertain the vessel's general seaworthiness and compliance with The Small Fishing Vessels Code of Practice for Fishing Vessels under 15 metres LOA, MSN 1813.

Applications for vessels 15m LOA to less than 24m registered length must include:

• A copy of a valid Marine & Coastguard Agency Safety Certificate issued by an appointed MCA surveyor after inspection to ascertain the vessel's general seaworthiness and compliance with The Code of Safe Working Practice for 15m (LOA) to less than 24m (L) Fishing Vessels.

Applications for vessels over 24m LOA must include:

• A copy of a valid International Fishing Vessel certificate (Certificate of Compliance) issued by an appointed MCA/Lloyds surveyor after inspection.

10) INSURANCE

All vessels must have adequate insurance cover for the vessel and for personnel on board. {You may wish to detail your P&I and personnel insurance and the limits of financial liability on each.}

I enclose a copy of the current vessel insurance, (delete as appropriate)

Yes/No

I confirm that additional insurance cover for the REM equipment will be arranged prior to the start of the scheme and a copy of the cover note sent to MMO, and I understand that I am responsible for any insurance excess or other shortfall of insurance cover in the event of damage to REM equipment. (Delete as appropriate)
Yes/No

11) DISPOSAL OF UNDERSIZED FISH

Participants are required to dispose of undersized fish by sending them for processing into fishmeal or offering as bait to static gear operators. **Vessel operators must supply documentary proof of landings of undersized and unmarketable BMS fish with the landings declaration for quota uptake purposes.** Please describe how you will fulfil this obligation.

12) ADDRESS FOR HARD DRIVE RETURN

Please supply an address that the MMO can return all hard drives for the vessel to below. Someone will be required to sign for the delivery.

Name (Please print):

Position in Company:

Signed:

Date: