

SWQAG meeting: 27/05/2020 – Web-ex Conference Call – 15:00-16:30

Attendees

Rachel Irish
Edward Baker
Richard Stride
Scott Wharton
Robert Preston
John Balls
Martin Youell
Johnny Peters
Karen Pringle
Aubrey Banfield

Apologies

Paul Trebilcock
Nick West
Beshlie Pool
Shaun Kay

Meeting chaired by Rachel Irish.
Minutes by Madalein Bradshaw.

1. Introduction & housekeeping

2. Minutes of last meeting

N/A

3. Actions from last meeting

Arrangements for agreed committee members: If a member has not attended 3 consecutive meetings without sending apologies, nor sent a representative on their behalf, they will cease to be included in future meetings and a replacement sector representative will be found.

4. Individual SW fisheries

VII Anglerfish

U10: 52T landed so far of 290T. 17.9% uptake.

Overall uptake is down 30T since 2019.

O10: 16T landed so far of 19.7T. 81.2% uptake.

Can support from U10s but with caution.

Catch limit: 2T.

RS: Is it applied with caution to trade 90T from U10s to O10s?

EB: Always applied with caution. Happy to trade to O10s. It has already been done before.

MY: Trading can go both ways. If Ed traded and then ran out, he would likely trade in again. It is not a one way street.

VIIb-k Cod (excl.d)

U10: 6T landed so far with 9.1T available. 65.9% uptake.

Forecast to run out by November. Doing best to stretch out remaining quota.

300kg of additional quota.

All O10s landings less than 30kg.

Under-10m Catch limit: 25kg (strictly by-catch only).

VIIb-k Haddock

U10: 4.6T landed so far of 82.7T. 3.8% uptake

Catch limit: 3T.

More if needed. Possibly raise to 4T in June.

O10: 0.5T landed so far of 1.3T. 38.5% uptake

Western Hake

U10: 0.2T landed so far of 182.8T. 0.1% uptake.

Catch limit: 15T.

Catch limits can be unlimited if needed.

Herring VIIe-f

U10: 13.1T landed so far of 132T. 9.9% uptake.

Catch limit: 15T.

Western Mackerel

U10: 17T landed so far of 105T. 16.1% uptake.

Catch limit: Remain at 2T.

Hand line Mackerel

111T landed so far of 1250T. 8.8% uptake

EB: Safe to trade 250T? Are you content for me to support U10s and O10s trawlers and netters from the hand line allocation?

EB: Request to extend allocation to 7d but has not yet been followed up.

RP: Happy for 250T trade out.

RS: 7d trade – MAC has been fickle in the past. This may be the reason for not hearing back as the trade is uncertain. Is it only hand line?

EB: Yes, only for hand line. This would mean hand line MAC would be unlimited in 7d. It would be a licence variation change and then would go to DEFRA to be made more permanent.

Update: A 10T limit is now being considered on a trial basis. This is being discussed at the South East Quota meeting.

The current allocation for trawls and netters is 2T in 7d.

VIId&e Plaice

U10: 125T landed so far of 788T. 15.9% uptake.

Catch limit: 12T.

Overall uptake down ~50% compared to 2019.

O10: 23T landed so far of 70T. 32.9% uptake

Catch limit: 10T.

VIIIf&g Plaice

U10: 1.1T landed so far of 55.6T. 2% uptake.

Catch limit: 4T.

VI/VII Pollack

U10: 208T landed so far of 510T. 40.7% uptake.

Catch limit: 10T.

VI/VII Skates and rays

U10: 84T landed so far of 496T. 16.9% uptake.

Catch limit: 10T.

O10: 29T landed so far of 113T. 25.7% uptake

Catch limit: Remain at 10T.

Uptake down 50% compared to 2019.

Hit by low prices. Trades from the last 3 months may not be reflective of the market.

SW: Also agreed. Reduced effort in rays will bring up prices on the market. Increased effort will happen when prices increase. At present, making the decision not to land.

Small-eyed ray (f&g)

Catch limit: 2T.

JB: Shaun Kay asked for increase, Scott Wharton also in favour. More trade now that the French market is open again.

JB: Best to keep trips short and land a reasonable amount of fish to secure prices.

Undulate ray (7d/e)

Closed until 31/08/2020.

Vlle Sole

U10: 18.4T landed so far of 107.8T. 17% uptake.

Catch limit: 1T for June or wait until July?

O10: 6T landed so far of 14.7T. 40.8% uptake.

Catch limit: 400kg

MY: Prices plummeted. ~70-80% of what it was getting last year. But increasing again and now approximately £12/kg for SOL. Open to trade.

EB: Must speak with O10m non-sector. Work with MY to get more quota.

Vllf&g Sole

U10: 2.7T landed so far of 38T. 7.1% uptake.

Catch limit 1.5T.

JB: Looking for increase around September time.

VIIIb-k Whiting

U10: 17T landed so far of 122T. 13.9% uptake.

Catch limit: Unrestrictive. Max landings 1.5T in 2019.

SP: SMP lets out a lot of WHG but most fishermen require them to be compliant.

NW: Should not trade as may need it later in the year.

5. Any Other Business

EB: Leasing quota out of business hours: Approval from Julian Roberts/Leanne Stockdale who is escalating to Michael Coyle. Will have an answer by next meeting on the flexibility.

SW: Grateful for the derogation being brought back in but noted North Devon 100mm cod-ends were purchased to adhere to CSPZ net requirements and then the derogation was brought back in. SW wanted it noted that it cost him money to purchase new nets that were not needed.

Agreed SWQAG minutes would be circulated within 2 weeks of the meeting and attendees would respond within 1 week. SWQAG minutes are only to be published online once agreed by the group. The terms of reference have been updated to this effect.

6. Date of next meeting – TBC once booked

Thursday 20th August 2020 (depending on tide times).

Location to be confirmed – conference call/venue.

7. Useful Links:

Current u10m catch limits

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/current-catch-limits-10-metres-and-under-pool>

Current o10m catch limits

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/current-catch-limits-over-10-metre-non-sector-pool>

Uptake Statistics

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/quota-use-statistics>

Trading

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fishing-quota-trading-and-swaps>

Catch limit consultation (front page of MMO website during last 7-10 days of each month)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/marine-management-organisation>

2020 Reserve quota consultation

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/fisheries/consultation-on-english-rq-and-qmr-2020/>

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