


APPLICATION PACK FOR THE
NORTH SEA FULLY
DOCUMENTED FISHERIES
(FDF) SCHEME 2020



1a Application Pack for

North Sea Fully Documented Fisheries (FDF) scheme

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

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

The landing obligation came 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). Results gained from the scheme will be used to shape future policy.

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 (subject to specific terms and conditions).

The scheme is intended to commence from 1st July 2020 and will end on 31st December 2020.

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, unless a dispensation is issued to allow discarding of juveniles
- 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
- To comply with all requirements of the terms and conditions
- Where a vessel wishes to fish between ICES Areas 4a and 6a, we will require 100% of data and video coverage. Where this is not provided, quota will be re-allocated to the area where most time was spent fishing.

As part of the scheme we may make data available to Cefas if requested, for use in the SMARTfish project, a scientific project to develop automatic fish recognition software, and other scientific projects that may present themselves.

Landing Obligation

If you have any questions regarding the landing obligation please refer to the guidance at [Landing Obligation Guidance 2020](#) 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, with the fishing activity report (FAR) time logged as the time the net is brought on board. This will enable the analyst to link the video footage times to the logbook times. 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.
- Due to the situation with Covid-19, the master must make himself and the vessel available at a UK port (preferably Peterhead) if requested, for 2/3 days at a future point within the scheme for the MMO to attend and update the system and discuss the processing with the vessel crew to enable the vessel monitoring plan to be updated and completed. This time period will also allow the fitting of a camera in the fish room, needed for estimation of quantities of catch. The vessel will also be required for one day after completion of the scheme for the equipment to be removed if necessary.
- 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 (subject to Covid restrictions) 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 and logged as the time that the net comes on board. 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 exchange the hard drive from the system (where applicable) at the Marine Scotland offices in Peterhead by the 7th day of the month following that which was monitored. The exchange will be on a one for one basis. Any exception to this must be agreed by the MMO in advance. (This will be subject to change depending on the advice about Covid, but will probably be by post at the start of the scheme.)
- Agree to pay the cost of replacing any damaged REM systems or components, including through the use of jet washing equipment.
- Be willing to clean all cameras regularly and at the start of every processing operation in order to maintain a clear image as described in the Terms and Conditions.

Please see the [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 **Monday 22nd June 2020**. 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:

Mobile Telephone Numbers:

4) GEAR TYPE

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

TR1	TR2	Long-line	Gill net

Please describe any net selectivity or other measures that have been taken to avoid unwanted catches of juvenile fish below. **120mm nets will no longer be accepted as a selectivity measure as this is now the baseline mesh size requirement.**

5) MEMBERSHIP OF FISH PRODUCER ORGANISATION

Is the vessel a member of a Fish Producers Organisation? If so, which?

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 THE SYSTEM UPGRADE

a) The vessel must be available for up to three days at some time during the scheme to fit/upgrade the system. 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 the following year 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, (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, except for those

vessels issued with a dispensation to allow the discarding of juvenile fish at sea. **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.

CONTRACT

[The owner or agent of the vessel(s) may sign this contract on behalf of the vessel(s) and their respective master(s)]

I confirm that I/my vessel(s) shall participate in the Fully Documented Fishery (FDF) scheme with Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM) and that I/my vessels(s) shall abide by the duty of care code and terms and conditions of the scheme.

I confirm that all persons employed as master and crew on the vessels are aware of the FDF scheme rules and duty of care code and agree to comply with them. I understand that I am responsible for compliance with the scheme rules and that I may be liable for administrative penalties under these rules in the event there is a breach, whether or not I am personally responsible for the breach.

I understand that once I/my vessel(s) start the scheme it will operate until the 31st December 2020, and that I will be subject to the provisions of the scheme until March the following year.

Name [Please print]:

Signature:

Position in company:

Name of vessel(s) which this contract applies to [Please print all vessels full names and Port Letters and Numbers (PLN's)]

Date:

Please return to:

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

