



1. Requirement overview:

Requirements	Evaluation of marine protected area management measures concerning fishing
Requirement detail	<p>Globally 94% of marine protected areas (MPAs) allow fishing (Costello and Ballantine 2015). MMO is responsible for implementation of management measures to ensure fishing is compatible with the conservation objectives of English MPAs, while minimising the socio-economic impact of such MPA measures. Where fishing is not compatible with an MPA's conservation objectives, it is excluded. This requirement is to identify solutions that enhance compatibility and potentially enable fishing activity.</p> <p>This requirement includes identifying examples of successful approaches or measures from comparable habitats and fisheries around the world and considering areas of best practice that could help inform development of MMO measures. In particular, the MMO is interested in measures to ensure effective and proportionate protection of ephemeral and mobile species.</p>
MMO use	<p>Marine Conservation</p> <p>To review current measures against alternative measures elsewhere to identify and implement opportunities to improve effectiveness and proportionality of management approaches.</p>
External interest	Natural England, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science, fishing and conservation organisations from the Fisheries in European Marine Sites Implementation Group
Delivery target	Ongoing

2. Aims and objectives

Aim:

To provide evidence on the most effective and proportionate management measures for fishing in MPAs.

Objectives:

Objectives to deliver this requirement include to

- review management measure or approaches applied globally that are relevant to UK habitats and fisheries
- identify areas of best practice
- evaluate whether identified approaches are proportionate and may improve effectiveness of management, relative to existing management measures

3. Existing evidence

MMO	The MMO has not produced any evidence in this area.
Academic	<p>Kincaid and Rose (2017) examine the effects of an offshore Northwest Atlantic MPA excluding trawling and gill netting suggesting that within a decade fisheries communities, fisheries production, and biodiversity conservation experienced benefits.</p> <p>Fraser et al 2017 explore the potential for “environmental window” management strategies that minimise the impacts of activities, in this case dredging, on specific marine flora and fauna through timing restrictions. Environmental windows were suggested as best considered on a location-specific basis for ecologically important species for which sufficient knowledge exists, a case stronger in MPAs than elsewhere.</p>
Other	<p>Supporting Risk-Based Assessments of Fisheries in MPAs, by ABPmer & Ichthys Marine (2015) successfully trialled a gear component specific approach to reduce uncertainties in data on the distribution and intensity of fishing impacts on habitats and species. A component approach may also be used to identify optimal components for gear modification to reduce impacts.</p>

4. Current activity

The MMO is not aware of any activity in this area.

5. Associated evidence requirements

Ref	Title
R045	Pressures of different fishing gears
R109	Novel technologies to reduce risk to marine protected areas

More information on these evidence requirements is available [here](#)

6. Potential delivery route

The MMO will look to **partnering** and **knowledge exchange** particularly with partner organisations working on the [revised approach to marine protected area management](#). This group includes representation from conservation non-government bodies, statutory nature conservation bodies, regulators and the fishing industry.

7. Contact

For more information or to add further research to the existing evidence list please email evidence@marinemanagement.org.uk

Table 1: Delivery timescales 2017 to 2020

Delivery Route	2017				2018				2019				2020			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Knowledge Exchange																
Partnering																

Key

	No activity
	Actively undertaking
	Outside of delivery target