

REGIONAL FISHERIES GROUP

Meeting Notes Monday 13th July 2021

South West 7efg

16:00 – 18:00 MS Teams Conference Call

Attendees:

DEFRA

Lydia Osbourne – Fisheries & Reform
Johnny Peters – Quota
Jon Davies - FMPs
Stella Bartolini - FMP

CEFAS

Carl O'Brien – Chief Advisor
Jim Ellis - Director of Cefas' Fisheries
International Centre of Excellence

MMO

Rachel Irish – Chair (PMO South)
Ed Baker – Quota
Katie James – Quota
Carley Elson – PMO South West
Michael Johnson – Grants

IFCA

Ian Jones – Southern IFCA
Samantha Davis – Cornwall IFCA
Simon Pengelly – Southern IFCA
Matt Mander – Devon & Severn IFCA

INDUSTRY

David Smith – Newlyn Fisher HL
Tich Preston – SWHL Association
Juliette Hatchman - SWFPO
Richard Caslake – Sardine Association
Stephen Parker – U10 Devon Fisher
Nick West – U10 Mevagissey Fisher / FA
John Balls – North Devon Fisher / ND FA /
NFFO
Martyn Youell - WFPO
Dale Rodmell - NFFO
Chloe North - WFPO
Jim Portus - SWFPO
Neely McPhail – Fisher
Wesley Loveland – Devon Fisher O10m
Rob Adams – U10 Devon Fisher
Joel Dunn – Devon Fisher
Paul ?
Graeme Searle - Fisher

1. Quota Presentation by Katie James, MMO

Comments in Appendix 1

2. TOR – Rachel Irish

Comments provided by email have been included and any further comments to be fed back to the Regional mailbox. Updated ToR to be sent out after this round of RFG meetings.

3. MMO Grants – Michael Johnson, MMO - Fisheries and Seafood Scheme (FaSS)

FaSS - Designed by Defra administered by MMO financial support for projects in England across a number of sectors.

Small scale coastal fishers up to 80% funding

Coastal fishers up to 50% funding

Question posed by industry of: When will grants system balance its self-up on the monetary % difference given for under 10 and over 10 metre vessels on projects?

ACTION - Michael Johnson: take away this to the policy team

It was raised why are Engines not being funded. MJ – mentioned outdated policies and guidance from previous schemes are being reviewed to bring it in line with current times so engines are not currently a part of the 1 year scheme.

Webpages link - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/fisheries-and-seafood-scheme>

Telephone: 020802 65539

Email: FaSS.queries@marinemanagement.org.uk

4. Celtic Sea Measures

Covered by recent industry, DEFRA, CEFAS, MMO “West Channel Selectivity measures” meeting on the 28th of June.

ACTION: Rachel to include Sam Davies in Fututre Fisheries group

5. Collaborative Science - Jim Ellis, Cefas

Small Eye Ray

CEFAS, Jim Ellis informed that the Endeavor surveys are too deep and won't catch them. At it's shallowest it reaches 18m which is not shallow enough.

Acknowledged presence of Small Eye in Start Bay.

Industry - small boats can't fish certain areas because there's so many Small-Eye. Many people would welcome working with Cefas to investigate .

Cefas, Jim Ellis said it would be useful to get logbook data now and is happy to start liaising and getting information from fishermen. Please contact Jim on Email: jim.ellis@cefaz.co.uk

6. Introduction to Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs) – Jon Davies

Government requirement to publish list of intended Fisheries Management Plans within 2 years of Fisheries Act entering into force.

Considering different types of FMPS e.g. stock or species specific, groups of stocks, or sea areas and types of fisheries.

RFGs will get chance to input into the development of FMPs. Industry have the opportunity to put proposals for FMPs to government.

Appendix 1

Stock	U10's Comments	O10's comments	Additional quota
Angler VII	No comments	No comments	<p>If there is an increase for fishermen with quota, why have the caps stuck on 300t a year not been increased?</p> <p>Uncap licences for new entrants and prevent aggregation. Most caps are on small vessels which, if lifted, could help youngsters get into the industry.</p> <p>Will the AQ be minimum tonnages and growing in future years due to Brexit and the TCA? MMO response No at present AQ is based on a % of aviable TAC and therefore cannot be a minimum tonnage.</p> <p>10m and under have no chance of catching AQ. Better use could be made of AQ in 2022. Sector and O10 Non-Sector are more able to plan if they know what they are getting. Would support a temporary uncap of licences.</p> <p>Government should never cause industry to have a huge change in fishing patterns.</p> <p>O10 non sector should come first, they need more quota and should be viable to receive it.</p>
Cod VIIb-k Ex d	<p>100kg limit is too low.</p> <p>Increase on a temporary basis, suggest 150kg?</p>	<p>Suggestion that quota could be traded out from U10s?</p> <p>30kg limit is too low.</p> <p>Increase on a temporary basis, suggest 150kg?</p>	<p>They are not going to get anywhere near using AQ with 100kg month. This is poor allocation, they are not targeting at this time of year. Maybe anglers are targeting it?</p> <p>Sector are likely to exceed allocation but have a problem with bycatch. Under the Fisheries Act, there was a provision for Government to allow vessels to land accidental bycatch but charge them to prevent profit. This would be good for cod. Is there any progress on that scheme?</p>
Haddock VIIb-k	Haddock is unpredictable at the moment. Last year was bad, this year non-existent. Wouldn't make rash decisions.	Haddock is unpredictable at the moment. Last year was bad, this year non-existent. Wouldn't make rash decisions.	No comments
Western Hake	No comments	No comments	No comments

Herring VIIe-f	No comments	No comments	No comments
Western Mackerel	No comments	No comments	No comments
Handline Mackerel	No comments	No comments	Prefer to start trading out, fear having a lot left at the end of the year. Handline Association will be against giving quota to ring netters. There has been previous conflict and ring netters don't abide by their agreement.
Mackerel WS - Additional Quota	No comments	No comments	<p>AQ mackerel would be useful for ring netters. They exceed 15% bycatch and have to look for quota which costs them money. MMO clarified: This would be a policy decision.</p> <p>Concerns with swapping out to pelagic/ ring netters in the mackerel box. We don't need to encourage the keeping of mackerel by pelagic. Can't understand why they need extra bycatch if they don't target.</p> <p>MMO response AQ is getting traded out to POs for other stocks to support U10m. POs have ring netters in their membership therefore it's a PO decision.</p> <p>Is mackerel box defunct? Can we apply to catch mackerel by trawl if that's the case?</p> <p>15% of monthly catch is a lot and is open for abuse.</p> <p>Sounds like they are trying to get quota for O10 from U10.</p> <p>Pelagic do not target, this is monitored strictly.</p> <p>ACTION MMO to explain the mackerel box rules.</p>
Plaice VIId-e	No comments	Request for increase to 9t.	No comments
Plaice VIIf-g	No comments	No comments	No comments
Pollack VII	No comments	No comments	Fixed net - What's going to happen about next year? Are we going to have another winter of not knowing what we have then not being able to use it in the rest of the year?

			<p>MMO response we expect more certainty next year. BREXIT negotiations ran on longer than expected in 2021. Intent is to have negotiations complete before 1 January 2022.</p> <p>Handline - June's landing were lighter than usual due to not getting out. Last time we discussed it- the tonnage was increased from 6-10t which was more than welcome. This was needed and a positive move.</p>
Skates and Rays Area VII ex.d	No comments	No comments	No comments
10m Sole VIIe	<p>Increase in August to 2.5t and 3t in September which is peak fishing. It's the weather that stops U10 fishing later in year, not a lack of fish on the ground.</p> <p>Keep as it is unless anyone asks for more. Don't neglect the Nov-Dec U10 trawlers catching sole. Leave about 1t for that time, any more would be a bonus.</p> <p>Amount won't be a problem towards end of year for trawlers, but would like an increase if possible.</p> <p>POs will always trade out if they can. Whether they trade more to U10 depends on international quota swapping.</p>	Non sector need a small increase, maybe 100kg, as they are catching now.	It is not the Government's job to encourage displacement or change fishing patterns. We need to keep our eye on vessels from further away targeting this 'honeypot' area.

10m Sole VII-f-g	No comments	No comments	No comments
10m Whiting VII-b-k	No comments	No comments	No comments
Undulate Ray VII-d-e	No comments	No comments	No comments
Small Eyed Ray VII-f-g	MMO proposed decrease to 1t due to lack of quota this year. Question: Is it discardable? MMO response - yes	No comments	No comments
Megrim VII -Additional Quota	No comments	No comments	No comments
Ling West Coast - Additional Quota	No comments	No comments	No comments
Sprat VII-d-e-Additional Quota	No comments	No comments	No comments