



Marine  
Management  
Organisation

# Channel Demersal NQS FMP: Developing Goals

Goals Workshop  
16-18/01/2023

...ambitious for our seas and coasts



The following slides contain DRAFT goals of the Channel demersal FMP that were presented to the Working Group over three workshops from the 16-18 January 2023.

These goals are not the final version and have been amended since in line with comments received from the Working Group, Evidence Advisory Group and other government organisations.

...ambitious for our seas and coasts

# Aim of the workshops

---

To spend the next three days on the drafted goals focusing on one theme per day.

- 16/01/23 – Evidence Theme
- 17/01/23 – Social and Economic Theme
- 18/01/23 – Sustainable Fisheries Theme

## Intention

To explore and discuss the goals, subgoals and actions under each theme as the primary focus. What we want to know is:

- Are these the right goals, subgoals and actions that we should be looking at?
- Are they fit for purpose and align with the thinking / decision making of the working group?
- Are they developed enough? Do they need further work/refinement/clarity? *Or - Are they over developed/too specific? Should they be simplified/given a higher-level focus?*
- Is it achievable? How will we measure success against this?

...ambitious for our seas and coasts

# Goals progress update

---

What have we done up to date:

- Introduced structure and approach to developing the goals – November WG
- Introduced early content and thematic structure to goals – December Workshop
- Consulted the EAG on the goals – January workshop

Consulted EAG on the Goals:

1. Are the goals and sub-goals feasible?
2. Do the time frames make sense? If not, what time frames would you suggest is realistic?
3. Are the current actions feasible, if not can you provide alternative suggestions? Are they listed logically and are we missing any?

Feedback from EAG due 18/01, we will look to summarise the feedback and share with WG for agreement.

...ambitious for our seas and coasts

# As a reminder...

---

Developing the goals is a process of continual improvement.

- This is not the only opportunity to discuss these goals – we will be revisiting them continually as the FMP develops and the Working Group will be given more opportunities to ensure these are fit for purpose.

Known opportunities to progress the goals:

- Evidence due this week – will be revisited once the evidence is ready.
- South coast engagement – opportunity to refine and take wider perspective.
- Revisited as we complete Chapters 4-8
- Goal sign off by WG during whole FMP review in April.

...ambitious for our seas and coasts

# Sustainable Fisheries Theme

## **Goal: Deliver stock sustainability**

Rationale: To restore or maintain NQS fisheries at sustainable levels.

- Ensure exploitation allows for the restoration and maintenance of species above biomass levels capable of producing MSY (or proxy)
- Deliver effective management of demersal non-quota species in the English Channel
- Establish and implement a precautionary approach where necessary

## **Goal: Deliver wider biological Sustainability**

Rationale: To understand how NQS fishing activity impacts the wider marine environment to identify and minimise any negative interactions. This will protect the marine ecosystem structure and functioning.

- Understand and reduce bycatch issues where possible
- Understand the impact of NQS fisheries on the wider marine environment
- Deliver ecosystem-based management of Channel demersal NQS fisheries.

## **Goal: Explore options around mitigating the carbon footprint of NQS fisheries, and support the industry to adapt to changing climatic conditions.**

Rationale: Reducing the carbon footprint of NQS fisheries will work toward government climate change goals. Supporting the industry through changing climatic conditions will aim to reduce the economic and social impact.

...ambitious for our seas and coasts

## Goal: Deliver stock sustainability

Sub-goals: Goals which help to achieve the long-term goal	Actions: Specific actions required in order to achieve the sub-goal. These should be measurable.	Timeframe	How do we know when we will have achieved it?
1) Ensure exploitation allows for the restoration and maintenance of species above biomass levels capable of producing MSY (or proxy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish MSY (or suitable proxy) for stocks of particular concern.</li> </ul>	Short term (1-2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When sufficient data supports the implementation of MSY or a suitable proxy for priority stocks.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For those stocks that are data poor and consequentially unable to be robustly assessed at MSY, commit to improving assessments/datasets to allow for MSY.</li> </ul>	Medium term (3-5 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When sufficient data supports the implementation of MSY or a suitable proxy for data poor stocks.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish MSY for all stocks in scope of the FMP</li> </ul>	Long term (5-10 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When sufficient data supports the implementation of MSY or a suitable proxy for all Channel demersal NQS stocks.</li> </ul>

...ambitious for our seas and coasts

## Goal: Deliver stock sustainability

Sub-goals: Goals which help to achieve the long-term goal	Actions: Specific actions required in order to achieve the sub-goal. These should be measurable.	Timeframe	How do we know when we will have achieved it?
2) Deliver effective management of demersal non-quota species in the English Channel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and implement management for particular stocks of concern</li> </ul>	Short term (1-2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stocks of concern will have been identified and management put in place.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and implement management of stocks to maintain fishing at MSY.</li> </ul>	Medium term (3 – 5 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following advice of the HSS, all stocks will be managed at or below MSY or suitable proxy.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review interactions between NQS fisheries and other quota fisheries to understand the environmental, social and economic impact, and implications for long-term sustainability.</li> </ul>	Long term (5-10 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A research programme undertaken, and report produced detailing quota/NQS interactions with respect to environmental, social and economic impact, and implications for long-term sustainability.</li> </ul>

...ambitious for our seas and coasts



## Goal: Deliver stock sustainability

Sub-goals: Goals which help to achieve the long-term goal	Actions: Specific actions required in order to achieve the sub-goal. These should be measurable.	Timeframe	How do we know when we will have achieved it?
3) Establish and implement a precautionary approach where necessary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define the precautionary approach in the Channel NQS mixed fisheries.</li> </ul>	Short term (1 -2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Channel demersal NQS methods paper will have been produced, defining the precautionary approach, how it is applied, mechanisms and triggers for initiation, undertaking research and data collection, and actions for implementation.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where insufficient evidence is available and there is concern from industry or government, take a precautionary approach and put in preliminary management if required.</li> </ul>	Short term(1 - 2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management will be implemented when required under the precautionary approach under a temporary basis.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement a research protocol to ensure the precautionary approach has a limited lifespan.</li> </ul>	Medium term (3 – 5 years)	

...ambitious for our seas and coasts

## Goal: Deliver wider biological Sustainability

Sub-goals: Goals which help to achieve the long-term goal	Actions: Specific actions required in order to achieve the sub-goal. These should be measurable.	Timeframe	How do we know when we will have achieved it?
1) Understand and reduce bycatch issues where possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate current bycatch issues and potential solutions</li> </ul>	Short term (1-2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research undertaken to identify and reduce unwanted bycatch.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If relevant, conduct gear trials or alternative technologies to reduce bycatch in NQS fisheries</li> </ul>	Medium term (3 – 5 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendations from research taken forward to address bycatch concerns.</li> </ul>

...ambitious for our seas and coasts

## Goal: Deliver wider biological Sustainability

Sub-goals: Goals which help to achieve the long-term goal	Actions: Specific actions required in order to achieve the sub-goal. These should be measurable.	Timeframe	How do we know when we will have achieved it?
2) Understand the impact of NQS fisheries on the wider marine environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand and work to mitigate the impact of NQS fishing on MPAs within the scope of the FMP.</li> </ul>	Short term (1-2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NQS fishing impacts on MPAs identified. Management implemented where relevant to mitigate impacts.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and incorporate wider environmental indicators (e.g. UKMS) related to NQS fisheries into data collection mechanisms.</li> </ul>	Medium term (3 – 5 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NQS fishing impacts on wider environment identified and assessed against appropriate indicators / descriptors.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce negative impacts of NQS fisheries in order to achieve domestic and international agreements (e.g. UKMS, GES, 25 environment plan).</li> </ul>	Long term (5 – 10 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actions put in place to mitigate environmental impacts of Channel demersal NQS fishery contributing with domestic and international environmental objectives.</li> </ul>

...ambitious for our seas and coasts

## Goal: Deliver wider biological Sustainability

Sub-goals: Goals which help to achieve the long-term goal	Actions: Specific actions required in order to achieve the sub-goal. These should be measurable.	Timeframe	How do we know when we will have achieved it?
3) Deliver ecosystem-based management of Channel demersal NQS fisheries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver a mixed and multi-species management approach in the Channel demersal fishery.</li> </ul>	Medium term (3 – 5 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approach to mixed species management in the Channel identified and tested.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecosystem based management approach applied to regulating Channel demersal NQS fishery.</li> </ul>	Long term (5 – 10 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approach to ecosystem based management identified, trialled and implemented.</li> </ul>

...ambitious for our seas and coasts

## Goal: Explore options around mitigating the carbon footprint of NQS fisheries, and support the industry to adapt to changing climatic conditions.

Sub-goals	Actions: Specific actions required in order to achieve the sub-goal. These should be measurable.	Timeframe	How do we know when we will have achieved it?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a watching brief on climate change-related issues of interest to the fishing sector.</li> </ul>	Short term (1-2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A mechanism for incorporating climate concerns and national action included within the plan.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek to improve resilience to climate change in the fishery – flexibility and adaptation in permitted catch tolerances</li> </ul>	Medium term (3 – 5 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate focused TORs included within the remit of the WG.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify opportunities for reducing emissions in the NQS fisheries</li> </ul>	Medium term (3 – 5 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake research into the drivers of carbon emissions in the Channel demersal NQS fishery.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand the impact of climate change on NQS.</li> </ul>	Medium term (3 – 5 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake research into the impact of climate change on NQS.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage improvements in NQS fisheries to reduce carbon emissions where possible and economically viable.</li> </ul>	Long term (5 – 10 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiate an action plan to trial mechanisms for reducing the Channel demersal NQS climate footprint.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify where climate change mitigation and adaptation measures can be implemented.</li> </ul>	Long term (5 – 10 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research will be undertaken to identify opportunities to implement climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build capacity for fishermen to transition to green technology</li> </ul>	Long term (5 – 10 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding options for a green technologies transition will be identified.</li> </ul>

...ambitious for our seas and coasts