



Marine
Management
Organisation

Channel Non- Quota Species Fisheries Management Plan:

Working Group Goal Workshops

16-18 January
2023

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...ambitious for our seas and coasts

1. Background information

The Marine Management Organisation's (MMO) Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) team held a series of online workshops from 16 – 18 January 2023 focused on the draft goals of the Channel demersal non-quota species FMP.

These workshops were each based on one of three goal themes: Evidence, Social and Economic, Sustainable Fisheries. During these workshops, the FMP team went through each of the goals within the theme and asked the working group a set of questions:

- Are these the right goals, sub-goals 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?

The feedback of the working group members in attendance at the workshops is summarised by themes. All comments within this document are that of working grouping members and not the FMP team. Please view the [Goal Workshop presentation](#) for detailed information on the drafted goals.

2. Working Group Feedback on Goals

The goals reviewed within this document were in draft form and were the first version that had been shown to the working group. The content of the goals is not finalised and will be reviewed and amended in line with working group, evidence advisory group and Defra policy comments. Wider stakeholders were also able to provide feedback on the draft goals during in person engagement on the south coast over February and March 2023. All stakeholders will be able to provide feedback on the final drafted goals during the public consultation that is due to be held in late summer 2023.

2.1 General goal feedback:

- All goals need to be simplified and think about the language we are using and who the audience is.
- Need further understanding of who is responsible for delivering all of the goals.
- Need further clarification on where the funding will come from and what support will be available to stakeholders to obtain long-term funding.

2.2 Evidence Goals:

- Concerns over who is going to be responsible for collecting data and producing new data collection methods.
- Concern over the lack of funding that is being made available for these goals to be achieved. Funding needs to be long-term instead of short-term.
- Concern over a sub-goal centred around Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM). Other technologies in addition to REM should be explored as well as aiming to

support industry with REM on their vessels and promoting its use as a data collection tool, rather than an enforcement tool.

- The working group can't comment realistically on timeframes until the species prioritisation work has been done.
- Confusion over the difference between the evidence goals and the Evidence Statement created to support the development of the FMP. Need to make it clear within goal wording the difference.
- Need to utilise funding opportunities already available to fulfil evidence goals such as Fisheries Industry Science Partnership (FISP) funding.
- Need more emphasis on collaboration within and between organisations to fulfil evidence needs.

2.3 Social and Economic Goals:

- Need to define what we mean by coastal communities. Will be hard to maximise benefits to everyone and different people will want different benefits e.g. ports.
- It is difficult to understand the benefits to coastal communities derived from NQS alone as it is a mixed fishery.
- Need to be clear around the working group's roles and responsibilities e.g. is it the working group's role to engage in marine planning issues?
- Should recreational and commercial be separated into different goals or included in the same goal. Need to make this clear.
- Could be too optimistic for the FMP to promote consumption of NQS domestically. Promoting NQS could also lead to increased targeting, leading to unintended consequences on the stocks.
- Indirect economic benefit associated with recreational and commercial activity need to be captured here e.g. tackle trade.
- Concern around the development of a management group and the increase in work this may lead to for working group members. Membership of a management group would need to be appropriate and reviewed.

2.4 Sustainable Fisheries Goals:

- Need to refine wording around 'stocks of particular concern'.
- Work is already being done on the impact of fishing in MPAs so, does there need to be a specific goal on it in the FMP or can it be removed/ re-worded to account for work already being done.
- More emphasis on the fact that NQS are part of a mixed fishery. Determining the relationship between NQS and quota fish stocks needs to be done in the short-term and not the long-term.
- More work is required to understand Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) in the context of this FMP.
- Working on decarbonisation is beyond the scope of the FMP, but climatic influences on species needs to be investigated. It may be worth using a Red, Amber, Green (RAG) rating to prioritise actions and trade-offs to establish what is viable for the fleet in terms of modernising/ decarbonisation.
- Adequate protection should be given to sensitive habitat, rather than all habitats. There needs to be space for fishing.

3. Annex:

Table 1: Attendance list for all three workshops

Name	Organisation
Nicholas French	Marine Management Organisation (MMO) Principal Fisheries Manager (Chair)
Georgia Clack	MMO Fisheries Manager (secretariat)
Rachel Thirlwall	MMO Fisheries Manager (secretariat)
Alex Maydew	MMO Principal Fisheries Manager
Jessica Duffill Telsnig	MMO Principal Fisheries Manager
Rebecca Korda	MMO Principal Evidence Specialist
Chloe North	Western Fish Producer Organisation
Juliette Hatchman	South Western Fish Producer Organisation
Chris Ranford	Cornish Fish Producer Organisation
Rachel Irish	MMO Principal Marine Officer SW
Neil Witney	Newhaven Fisherman
Phil McBryde	Defra policy lead
Hannah Rudd	Angling Trust
Gwladys Lambert	Cefas evidence specialist
Matt Mander	Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority
Charlie Brock	Shoreham Fishermen's Protection Society