

# Bass Authorisation Review- an overview



A new report has been published on an MMO led review of the system used to authorise UK commercial fishing vessels to land bass.

- Guided by goal 2 of the Bass Fisheries Management Plan (FMP).
- The review was supported by engagement with nearly 300 stakeholders across 20 events around the English coast.
- Discussion topics: track records, vessel transfers, gear and discards.

## Recommendations

Here are a few examples from the 24 recommendations in the report:



### Opportunities

Create opportunities for new entrants and young fishers to join the industry.



### Fishing methods

Allow fishers to switch from fixed gill nets to hook and line fishing.



### Discards

Improve the recording and administration process.



### Gear trials

Carefully consider the implications of gear trials on the ecosystem.



### Vessel size

Make changes to the vessel size and power restrictions for fishing.

## Important information and next steps

Recommendations in the report are proposals and will now enter a formal decision-making process. They do not represent the official position of Defra or MMO at this stage.

This process, led by Defra and the Bass Management Group, may include further consultation, evidence gathering, and assessment of wider impacts before any decisions are made.

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