

Minutes
North Western Waters Regional Advisory Council
Executive Committee
Galway
27th of June 2006

1. Welcome

The Chairman of the NWWRAC welcomed all members, observers and the EU Commission. He informed the meeting that Hans Lassen of ICES and Paul Degnbol of the EU Commission would be joining the meeting later in the day.

- **Apologies**

Apologies were noted from Kara Brydson, Jesus A. Lourido Garcia, John Coleman and Alan Mc Culla.

- **Adoption of Agenda**

The Chairman asked that Barrie Deas brief the meeting on the outcome of the STECF meeting in Ispra, Italy at the end of Agenda item 2. He also explained that Helen McLachlan wished to make an intervention under AOB. The Agenda was adopted with these changes.

- **Adoption of Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were adopted.

2. Reports of Meetings.

- **Meeting with the Commission on the 7th of March and the 7th of April.**

The Chairman asked Barrie Deas to brief the meeting on the outcome of these two meetings. Mr Deas informed the meeting that discussions in these two meetings had centred on the deepwater gillnet fishery, the 'pinger', and the 'marker buoy' regulations.

Mr Deas informed the meeting in case of the pinger and marker buoy issues, the Commission acknowledged the problems with the regulations but were reluctant to refer the issues back to the Council of Ministers. Mr Deas stated that there has been an expert meeting on the pinger issue but not yet on the marking buoy issue. The Secretariat informed the meeting that a letter was sent to the Commission requesting access to these meetings, but were informed that as they were horizontal issues, the RACs would not be invited directly, but members should seek admittance via their ACFA representation.

Regarding the deepwater gillnet ban, Mr Deas informed the members that the Commission had welcomed the NWWRAC proposals for a two-step approach to the lifting of the ban. The NWWRAC proposal was to lift the ban immediately for vessels targeting hake and to implement a short intensive observer scheme to collect data on these fisheries. Mr Deas stated that the ban on the deepwater Hake gillnet fishery was lifted at the last Council Meeting and would take effect imminently. He also informed the meeting that data on the activities of the monkfish and deepwater red-crab fisheries was currently being collected by UK and French scientists. This data would be analysed at the next STECF meeting in July (11-14 July 2006) and it is proposed that this data be used to develop appropriate management measures for these deepwater static gear fisheries.

Comment:

Re: Deep Water Gillnet fishery

Victor Badiola stated that he was disappointed with how the meeting on the 7th of April was conducted and that the NWWRAC views were not supported by the observers present. He stated that the NWWRAC should ensure that this does not happen again.

The Chairman agreed with Mr Badiola and informed the meeting that the issue of protocol for meetings with the Commission would be discussed under item 6 on the agenda.

Re: Pinger and Marker Buoy regulations

Hugo Crisanto suggested that a letter be sent to the Commission to insist that these matters be revisited. He informed the meeting that a young fisherman died recently on a Spanish vessel as a direct result of the extra gear that was now required under the marker buoy regulation. .

Dominic Rihan informed the members that BIM have carried out extensive trials on gear marking and are also studying the various cetacean deterrent devices currently available. The results of the trials on gear marking will be made available to the NWWRAC in the coming weeks.

Action

It was agreed that on the basis of the BIM report and the tragedy in Spain, a letter would be sent to the Commission, once again urging action on these Regulations.

- **RAC Co-ordination meeting on the 22nd of March and 24th of May.**

The Secretariat briefed members on the outcome of both these meetings, which were attended by administrators of the RACs. In the meeting on the 22nd of March a number of budgetary issues arose, as a result the Commission agreed to have a meeting with the RACs, DG Budget and DG Fish to iron out difficulties. At the meeting on the 24th a number of options were explored. The Commission proposed that the RACs be established as 'Bodies Pursuing an aim of general European interest'. This would entitle the RACs to a constant budget and would mean that the budgets would be more flexible. It would also mean that excess budget at a year end could not be clawed back.

Comment:

Miriam Garcia Ferrer of the EU Commission stated that the Commission would welcome the Executive Committees support on this matter as the Commission would like to get the RACs implemented as one of these bodies by the end of this year. Miriam informed members that this would mean changing the Regulation which established the RACs but in order to do this quickly the Commission would need support from the RACs and Member States.

Sean O'Donoghue recommended that the NWWRAC support this change to the Regulation.

Hugo Crisanto requested further information .

Action

It was agreed that the Secretariat prepare a short report and would request comment from members within two weeks of circulation. On the basis of comments , the RACs would write to Member States to request support for this change.

- **Report from the Chairman on the visit to Canada.**

The Chairman stated that the visit to Canada was both useful and informative and that a report from the Commission would be issued in due course which can be referred to in detail. He felt that one of the most important aspects of the trip was that the Chairs of the RACs spent time with the senior officials of the Commission and recommended that each year the Director General and Senior officials spend one day with designated members of the NWWRAC reviewing progress /problems etc.

- **Report from STECF Meeting**

Barrie Deas and Lorcan O'Cinnede reported on a meeting (5-9 June 2006) they attended on mixed fisheries and fishing effort regimes in recovery and management plans (formerly primarily cod recovery). Both were disappointed by the continuing lack of data available to scientists for certain fisheries especially those involved in the recovery programmes, but felt the meeting had been very worthwhile and encouraged the NWWRAC to attend such meetings in future.

The outlook for the Cod stocks in the North Sea, West of Scotland and Irish Sea is pessimistic and although there had been significant reduction in effort by vessels targeting Cod, this reduction was still not considered sufficient and it was suggested there may be further reductions in effort proposed at the December Council. Also a more rapid reduction in effort for vessels targeting Sole in VIIe, (than that being considered by NWWRAC Working Group 3), is being recommended as a result of analysis carried out at this meeting.

- **Consultation on TACs for Deep-Sea stocks for 2007 and 2008**

The Secretariat informed the meeting that the Commission had invited 8 members of the NWWRAC to attend a consultation on the TAC and quotas for deepwater stocks for 2007-2008 on the 17th July 2006.

Action

It was agreed that a maximum of 2 per Member State should be permitted to attend the meeting and that the Secretariat would work with the NS RAC to ensure that the other interest groups were also represented.

3. Reports from Working Groups

Working Group 1

Bertie Armstrong chairman of Working Group 1 summarised the proceedings of the meeting on the 15th of May. Action points were agreed for the following 2 issues:

- **The Presentation from the University of Plymouth on the activity at Rockall.**

Action

It was agreed that the Working Group Chair and Secretariat would write to the University of Plymouth seeking details on how they obtained the data that they presented.

- **Cod Recovery Programme.**

It was agreed that in light of the STECF meeting, the Cod Recovery Programme should be discussed in more detail at this meeting.

Comment:

On behalf of the NSRAC Barrie Deas tabled the following proposal: that both the NSRAC, the NWWRAC, and the Commission jointly host a symposium in Spring of 2007 to bring together world-class experts and all relevant stakeholders in order to move this issue forward.

Sean O'Donoghue stated that he could see the value in having a symposium but that next spring was too late and that he could only support such a process if it did not delay other initiatives that were being developed on a more regional scale.

Lorcan O'Cinnede stated that there is a lot of frustration on the ground as a result of the ongoing delay in reviewing this recovery programme. He informed the meeting that the initiative being proposed by the Irish Sea Working Group was still subject of considerable discussion between scientists, administrations, and industry of the relevant Member States, but it was work in progress that had good momentum and it should not be delayed because of the symposium proposal.

The Chairman stated that the NWWRAC firmly supported the continuing work on the cod recovery programme in Working Groups 1 and 4 and congratulated those involved on the progress so far.

Barrie Deas reassured members that the NSRAC did not want to overshadow the work going on at a more regional level and that it should not stop – quite the reverse - because it demonstrated to the Commission that the RACS and the industry were indeed very serious about Cod Recovery; however these regionally based initiatives should be situated within the framework of an overall strategy that could be developed at the proposed symposium.. Also to encourage these two approaches it would be enormously helpful for the Commission to propose a 'roll over' of the current cod recovery measures for 2007 at the December Council, rather than suffer the 'all too familiar' distractions and economic consequences of another round of cuts and restrictions.

Jacques Bigot supported Barrie Deas in this two pronged approach and agreed it was important that all relevant stakeholders come together to consider the recovery programme.

Helen McLachlan stated that whilst WWF is also frustrated by the delay of the review process the NWWRAC should not be seeking to do nothing - that if a request for 'a steady as she goes' approach for one year is made, then it must be accepted that some short term measures may still be necessary.

Lorcan O'Cinnede stated that while he understood the WWF position, the difficulty with this process is that we have gone for 5 years down this road of constant cuts and it still has achieved nothing. It is time to stop and consider our bearings and to ask ourselves is a single year or multi-year or another management approach the correct one to take?

The Chairman agreed that it is important to stress that in proposing the NWWRAC is not trying to avoid the issues - quite the contrary . The idea of the symposium is to try to produce a long term management plan for cod recovery that is achievable, and which holds the hope of moving away from the cycle of cuts in effort and other restrictions year-on-year that have so far done little to recover cod.

Action

It was agreed that Barrie Deas, Lorcan O'Cinnede and Bertie Armstrong would draft a letter to the EU Commission together with the relevant personnel in the NSRAC, to propose the Symposium. It was also agreed that this symposium should not affect the progress of the regional based programs that are being developed by Working Groups 1 and 4 of the NWWRAC. These will be developed in tandem with the preparations for the symposium.

Working Group 2

Hugo Crisanto Gonzalez Garcia gave a summary of the outcomes of the meeting of Working Group 2. Action points were agreed for the following issues:

- **Electronic Log-books**

Action

It was agreed that the Secretariat will write to the Commission seeking clarification on the progress of these regulations including the implications for first hand sales.

- **Twine Thickness**

Action

It was agreed that the NWWRAC should write to the Commission to suggest that a more practical approach be taken, in the form of guarantees from manufacturers, to monitor mesh thickness.

- **Tuna Drift Netting**

It was agreed that, as this item was not resolved in the working group, it should be tabled at the Galway Executive Committee meeting..

Michael Fitzpatrick re-presented the proposal to carry out trials on Tuna driftnet fisheries on behalf of the Irish South and West Fishermens Producer Organisation (ISWFO). He stated that there is a major anomaly in the EU Regulations on one hand they are imposing cetacean deterrent devices for all static gear to prevent cetacean bycatch while on the other they have banned a fishing gear because of the cetacean bycatch. Therefore the ISWFO are proposing trials be carried out to assess the by catch of cetaceans in driftnets with pingers attached.

Victor Badiola stated that he was completely opposed to this proposal and that that the credibility of the NWWRAC would be called into question if a reopening or even a trial of this fishery was recommended.

Barrie Deas stated that although his organisation would support the reopening of this fishery, the credibility of the NWWRAC will be called into question if this is pursued now because, on one hand the RAC has agreed that the pingers developed so far are not practical, while on the other it is suggested that this fishery be reopened with the use of these pingers. He suggested that the NWWRAC defer this issue until the technical problems relating to pingers are resolved.

Jacques Pichon agreed with Barrie Deas and stated that a ban on types of gear is not the way to manage stocks and there is a need for research. The Commission really need to work with the industry to ensure that regulations governing the use of static gears are effective and practical because with the rising cost of fuel these are the types of gears that many fishermen will be opting to use.

Helen McLachlan stated that the issue here is not only the use of pingers; the STECF report which closed the fishery also cited birds and turtles and sharks as bycatch species in these nets. These animals would not be deterred by pingers. In addition the UN Ban restricted nets beyond 2.5Km, and in an economic study it was found that one Km of net was needed to sustain one crew member. It is not economically viable to reintroduce this fishery.

Sean O'Donoghue stated that there is no mention in the proposal of a reopening of the fishery but that given the new technologies developed since the ban was introduced, a trial should be done. However if the NWWRAC feels that there is a credibility issue then the trials should be deferred until such time as a more reliable pinger is developed.

Action

It was agreed that the issue should be parked until such time as an effective pinger is produced- in the meantime the Chairman has requested that all sides reflect on this issue. The proposal that is being made is perfectly legitimate and it will be reconsidered when the technologies have been adequately developed.

It was also agreed that Helen McLachlan would supply the STECF report to the Secretariat for circulation.

Working Group 3

Daniel LeFèvre and Jim Portus gave a summary of the outcomes of Working Group 3. Action points were agreed for the following issue:

- **Scallop Management**

Action

It was agreed that a meeting on scallops should be held in September. The Secretariat will work with Working Group 3 to organise this and will request that Member States provide data for this meeting.

- **Sole Recovery**

In light of the recent STECF meeting it was agreed that the Sole recovery programme should be discussed in more detail here.

Jim Potus presented the proposal from Working Group 3 and asked that the Executive Committee endorse this paper and send it to the Commission as soon as possible. In summary the paper proposes a multi-annual plan for the management of Sole with a staged reduction in effort to achieve a fishing mortality of 0.31. In light of the recent effort restrictions the next effort cut should not be made until 2009.

Barrie Deas acknowledged that a lot of work has been done by this group to develop these proposals but warned that when considering the STECF advice the Commission would simply ignore the proposed NWWRAC recommendations and hence this may affect the NWWRAC credibility. Barrie suggested that rather than submitting a proposal that the NWWRAC should engage the Commission to develop this issue with them.

Jim Portus agreed that this was a draft proposal but stated that it had been arrived at after considerable consultation with DEFRA and CEFAS. In addition STECF has already agreed that a target of 0.31 is justifiable. He further stated that he would be happy to work with the Commission on this but that there may be some delay in the process because of this, and suggested that the paper be forwarded and the Commission be invited to suggest amendments if they felt it was necessary to do so.

Action

It was agreed that the paper would be submitted and that the Commission would be invited to work with the NWWRAC to progress this issue over the coming months if need be.

Working Group 4

Lorcan O’Cinnede informed the meeting of the progress of Working Group 4. As the Cod recovery programme had been dealt with in detail earlier in the meeting he did not dwell on this issue but simply stated that work was progressing. He also informed the Executive Committee that the initial discussions had commenced on the implementation of SACs in the NWWRAC waters. It was agreed that, although this was a horizontal issue, discussions would continue in this working group.

4. Reports from Focus Groups

The Chairman informed the meeting that the only Focus Group that has met to date is the Simplification Focus Group. The TCM Focus Group has not met as they are awaiting the release of a second Paper from the Commission on this issue. Alan Mc Culla from the MSY Focus Group met with a NSRAC group on this issue and a report was circulated (discussed under Agenda item 5).

Barrie Deas informed the members that a meeting on the simplification issue was held on the 17th of March 2006. The meeting was very successful and the paper produced was well received by the EU Commission. Mr Deas stated that the NSRAC has agreed to support the NWWRAC position.

5. Discussion Items

- **Scientific input**

Hans Lassen of ICES and Poul Degnbol of the EU Commission joined the meeting at this stage.

The Secretariat briefed the members on the meeting with ICES in February and the progress made on the input of the NWWRAC to the ICES MoU with the Commission. The NWWRAC submitted a short comment to the Commission on the initial MoU. The second draft of the agreement is now available for comment. The Secretariat also informed the meeting that the Chairs of all the RACs wrote to the Directors of the National Institutes (EFARO) (*letter attached*) and that although the RACs are still waiting for a formal response, the initial feedback was positive from the meeting at which the letter was discussed. The Institutes agreed to provide some form of scientific input into the RAC meetings.

Hans Lassen of ICES informed the meeting that the RACs had been given a prominent position in the new ICES MoU and the Commission will be the focal point and conduit for the RACs to seek advice from ICES. The new MoU also encourages stakeholder involvement in the assessment process from January 2007 onwards. Discussion is also continuing between ICES and the Commission to encourage further measures which will increase the transparency of ICES processes and meetings.

Poul Degnbol of the EU Commission added that the MoU also provides for funding for the RACs for ICES participation in RAC meetings. The logistics of this will be discussed with the RACs at the beginning of 2007.

The Chairman thanked Hans Lassen, Poul Dengbol and the Secretariat and stated that the NWWRAC welcomed these developments as scientific involvement was one of the most vital aspects of the process.

Comment:

Sean O’Donoghue asked Hans Lassen if it was possible for the RACs to request advice directly from ICES without having to go through the Commission. While acknowledging that this would not be encouraged as common practice, he stated that there may be times when the RACs wish to ask questions that the Commission does not like

Hans Lassen responded that the Commission and ICES decided that access to ICES for the RACs should be via Commission, because the RACs and ICES would need a focal point through which to communicate. He reminded the meeting that ICES Secretariat was a small body and that the scientists

involved in ICES came from a large network of institutes. If the RACs chose not to go down the Commission route of requests to ICES, they (the RACS) would be welcome to make individual special requests but these would have financial ramifications for the RACs.

Poul Degenbol of the EU Commission stated that what is in the present MoU is not meant to cut off this process- there is an offer from the Commission side to take onboard any requests that the RACs may have – this does not pre-empt the RACs in having a separate connection with ICES.

The Chairman acknowledged that the Commission had gone a long way to accommodate the RACs wishes but felt that as the RACs are independent entities a clause should be added to the MoU which would facilitate the RACs with direct access to ICES in certain well-defined situations.

Poul Degenbol stated that if the NWWRAC would like to submit a proposed clause for the Commission to consider that would cover such a situation, they were welcome to do so before the 15th of August.

Action

It was agreed that the NWWRAC would work in conjunction with the other established RACs to submit a proposed clause.

- **Maximum Sustainable Yield**

Barrie Deas updated the meeting on the work of the NSRAC on the MSY issue. Members of the North Sea RAC invited experts to a meeting in Edinburgh.(2-3 March 2006) The report of the meeting was circulated but one of the most important outcomes was a checklist of what needs to be done to achieve MSY for fisheries by 2015. The NSRAC had now identified certain fisheries to apply this checklist.

He stated that by adopting this process the RACs could define the objectives for a fishery; the economic performances of the fleet; whether to go for a TAC and quota system or something different like technical measures. The idea is to examine a fishery under the various headings and to consider the options and the timeframes for achieving the objectives. The NSRAC have allocated co-ordinators to progress work on individual fisheries and would welcome participation from members of the NWWRAC in this process. So far Jacques Pichon has agreed to be a co-ordinator for the Saithe fishery. The co-ordinators will meet to discuss the process in late July or early September.

Comment:

Sean O'Donoghue agreed this was a very useful template- but that the Commission must be involved in this process .

Bertie Armstrong stated that he too supported this approach. To date MSY has meant many things to many people but this was a very practical approach to achieving it.

Barrie Deas assured the meeting that the Commission were aware of this suggested approach but warned that the task of defining the fisheries , allocating co-ordinators and doing the work would not be easy..

Action

It was agreed that the NWWRAC would continue to work with the NSRAC and suggest members to participate in the forthcoming meeting of co-ordinators.

- **Status of Technical Conservation Measures**

Francois Theret of the EU Commission briefed members on the forthcoming paper on TCMs which is due to be produced by the Commission towards the end of July 2006.

The following are some of the proposals for the new regulation:

- To regroup all the TCMs and amendments to 850/98 in one regulation
- To take into account the existence of the RACs and the regions they represent
- Individual changes to mesh sizes or diameter will be done gradually and in consultation with stakeholders

- The Codend will be defined as the last 8m of the trawl.
- There will be 2 main considerations for the conservation of species: marine environment and reducing discards.

The Chairman thanked Francois Theret for the information and suggested that due to the amount of information provided, that the NWWRAC should wait until the paper is issued by the Commission before making comment.

- **Proposed Secondee to the NWWRAC**

The Secretariat informed the meeting that since the Executive Committee met in January, a meeting was convened by the Commission for the Secretariat and Member States of the NWWRAC to discuss the proposal from the UK. At this meeting only Spain had a difficulty with the UK putting forward a secondee. It was agreed at this meeting that the UK and Spanish administrations should try and find a solution to this problem and present it to the Executive Committee.

Ben Cattermole from DEFRA informed the meeting that the UK had approached Spain with a possible solution which was to arrange co-funding with Spain on an equal basis for someone to work with the RAC rather than appoint someone from within DEFRA. The co-funding would mean that the RAC could openly select a relevant member of staff and would not be limited to a Member State official.

Hugo Crisanto Gonzalez Garcia responded on behalf of Spain and informed the meeting that Spain would not accept the UK offer, but would be prepared to fund a 2 year placement of a MAPA secondee to the NWWRAC after which time the UK or another Member state could fund the position. The Chairman thanked MAPA for their very generous offer.

Action

It was agreed that as DEFRA could only provide part funding and no other Member State would facilitate co-funding, the offer from Spain would be accepted on the following conditions:

- Candidates will report only to the NWWRAC or any other person as directed by the NWWRAC
- Officials in MAPA will select a panel of at least three candidates from which the RAC will choose the final candidate.
- The Vice Chairs and the Secretariat of the RAC will form the selection committee.
- Candidates will be fluent in English, French and Spanish and that they would have a good knowledge of European fishing matters
- Candidates will be based in Dublin.

- **Fuel/Oil**

The Chairman suggested that due to time constraints this item be put on the agenda for discussion at the next Executive Committee meeting.

- **Salmon Management**

The Chairman suggested that due to time constraints this paper be circulated by the Secretariat with a request for comments from the NWWRAC members. The item is also be put on the agenda for discussion at the next Executive Committee meeting.

6. Protocol Issues

Again because of time constraints it was agreed that only the protocol on 'the overlap of issues in the Working Groups' would be discussed. The other protocols would be circulated to Members for comment.

- **Overlap of issues in the Working Groups**

The Secretariat presented the short paper on this issue and suggested that one of the following three options be taken to prevent repetition of issues in working groups.

- Working Groups allocate a time for common issues to be discussed
- Focus Groups be developed on Common issues
- Working Groups offer to champion various issues.

Action

It was agreed that the third option would be the most appropriate and would be put into practice for the next round of Working Groups.

7. Review of Budget

Due to shortage of time, the budget was not reviewed in detail, but the Secretariat informed the meeting that the NWWRAC mid-term review had been submitted to the Commission and the second part of the grant aid had been applied for. In general the Commission is satisfied with the progression of the NWWRAC's budget. However there is a shortfall in the number of claims for reimbursement from Members attending meetings and the Secretariat asked that a deadline be permitted for receipt of claims

Action

It was agreed that a cut off point at the end of August would be implemented for all claims for reimbursements for year 1. Claims sent after this date will not be honoured. The Secretariat will inform members of this action as soon as possible.

8. Work Timetable

The Chairman suggested that Members be informed of this item via email. Before completing this agenda item, Victor Badiola offered on behalf of the Spanish membership to host the NWWRAC Working Groups meeting in January 2007 in Bilbao, Spain. This offer was accepted with thanks.

9. AOB Helen McLachlan of WWF presented a paper on Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Certification of fisheries and felt that this was a very positive approach and that it would be a useful issue to allocate to a focus group .

Barrie Deas agreed that traceability is becoming more important, however to concentrate on one model such as the MSC approach be short-sighted- as the MSC has yet to grapple with mixed fisheries ,and so would recommend the RAC consider a number of different models.

Lorcan O'Cinnede agreed that the NWWRAC should not confine itself to one model only.

The Chairman concluded that the NWWRAC needed more time to discuss this and will allocate a slot on the next agenda.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 5.30pm.

List of participants of the NWWRAC Executive Committee Meeting, 27th June, 2006, Galway, Ireland
 La Liste des Participants
 La Relación des Asistentes

Sam Lambourn	Chairman NWWRAC
Miriam Ferrer Garcia	EU Commission
Francois Theret	EU Commission
Poul Degnbol	ICES
Hans Lassen	ICES
Francis Foulon	French Government – Dept. of Agriculture
Isabel Parra	Spanish Government – MAYA
Daniel Le Fevre	CRPMEM
Beatrice Harmel	CRPMEM
Claire Eno	Countryside Council for Wales
Sean O’Donoghue	Killybegs Fishermen’s Organisation
André Gueguen	OPOB
Jacques Pichon	ANOP
Mike Fitzpatrick	ISWFPO
Hugo Crisanto Gonzalez Garcia	ANASOL, Vice Pres. NWWRAC
Victor Badiola	OPPAO
Barrie Deas	NFFO
Bertie Armstrong	SFFO
Anton Dekker	Nederlanse Visserbond
Pim Visser	representing EAFPA
Nathalie Steins	Dutch Fisheries Organisation
Peigi Rhyder	Mna na Mara
Jacques Bigot	Marins Pecheurs
Konstantinos Kalamantis	EBCD
John Crudden	European Anglers Alliance
Helen McLachlan	WWF
Brendan Price	Irish Seal Sanctuary
David Wall	Irish Whale & Dolphin
Xavier Harlay	CME OP
Patsy Peril	Irish Seal Sanctuary
Jim Portus	South West Fish Producers Organisation
Lorcan O’Cinneide	IFPO
Cathal Boyle	Killybegs Fishermens Organisation
Pat Fitzpatrick	ISWFPO
Paul Trebilcock	Cornish Fish Producers
Ben Cattermole	DEFRA
Alan Coghill	Orkney Fisheries Association & Orkney Fish Producers Organisation Ltd
Eileen Sung	DARD Northern Ireland
Joseph Maddock	IFO
Eamonn Kelly	National Parks & Wildlife
John Ward	IFPO
Dominic Rihan	BIM
Patricia Comiskey	NWWRAC Secretariat
Dolores Hanratty	NWWRAC Secretariat
Matthew Farrell	NWWRAC Secretariat