



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF
RÉGIONAL POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
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REGIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL

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October 2006

Meetings to date



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NWWRAC Meetings

- General Assembly 30th of September, Dublin
- Working Groups November 7th and 8th, Paris
- Executive Committee November 22nd, Brussels
- Executive Committee January 31st, Madrid
- Working Groups 28th of February and 1st of March, The Hague
- Focus Group 17th of March, London
- Working Groups 15th-17th of May, Glasgow
- Executive Committee 27th of June, Galway
- Meeting with NSRAC on MSY and Cod Recovery 13th and 14th of September, Schipol



Other Meetings

- RAC Co-ordination meeting with the Commission October 2005
- Commission 23rd of November -TACs and quotas 2006 Ban on Deepwater gillnets
- ICES 24th of February
- Commission on the 7th of March-Deepwater Gillnet Ban, Fixed Gear Markings, Pingers
- Inter RAC meeting and RAC Co-ordination 22nd of March
- Commission on the 7th of April -Progression of Deepwater Gillnet Ban Issue
- Commission on the 24th of May- Budgets
- Directors meeting with the Commission on the 28th of September



Opinions Published to date



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Opinions Published

- TAC and quotas 2005
- Deepwater Gillnets
- Gear marking
- Cetacean Deterrents
- Simplification
- Sole Recovery Programme
- TAC and Quotas for deep-sea species



Future Work Programme

Proposed Timetable



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Meetings

Meetings Set:

- Meeting on Scallops 10th of October
- Working Groups 2nd and 3rd of November Paris
- Executive Committee 22nd of November Brussels
- Working Group meeting 25th and 26th January Bilbao

Meetings Proposed:

- Cod Symposium March 9-10th Scotland
- Executive Committee meeting early March
 - Choice: Scotland or France?
- Working Groups 8th and 9th of May Ireland
- Executive Committee 18th of June in the Netherlands
- General Assembly 27th of September in Spain



Future Work Programme

Proposed Topics



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Proposed Topics

- Needs to be decided by people here but proposed topics include:
 - Cod Recovery
 - Long-Term Management (MSY)
 - DEEPNET- proposal
 - Technical Conservation Measures
 - Pingers and Gear Marking
 - Maritime Strategy
 - Eco-labelling and MSC
 - Control- Electronic Logbooks, Control agency
 - Non-quota species



Commission Proposed Topics

- Long-term Management
- Maritime Policy
- Discards
- Destructive Fishing Practises
- Stakeholders



Overall Opinion of Working of the NWWRAC to date

**as presented to the Directors Meeting
on the 28th of September**



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Good experiences

- Improved relations with the Commission and Staff and improved understanding by the members
- Improved understanding between Industry Members of different Member States
- Improved work between RACs
- Improved understanding between stakeholders- although still teething problems
- Improved contact with scientists- although this took some time



Issues- Expectations

- The Commissions expectations may be too high
 - Some responses, proposals or attendance to meetings have been requested without enough time
 - Difficult to be proactive at current working levels
- The members expectations
 - Still lack of understanding between some stakeholders
 - Consensus can be difficult to produce without undermining individual organisations objectives/remits



Issues -Funding and Size

- Funding-Translation and Interpretation
 - This is a vital issue. Stakeholders must be able to understand one another – the NWWRAC is struggling with the current blanket €50,000
- Size and Structure of RACs
 - Is the NWWRAC too big or just under resourced?
 - Struggling with the balance between representing the Grass roots and having meaningful meetings
 - Struggling with diversity of issues



Issues to be considered here to-day



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Issues to be considered today

- Structure- how do we get it right?
 - Need to encourage working groups to take the initiative and then advise the executive committee
 - RACs are bottom up organisation
 - Need to Improve work between meetings
 - Should there be more working group meetings and less executive committee meetings?



Issues to be considered today

- Stakeholders- how to we ensure we are getting to the grass roots?
 - Balance between working groups representing all stakeholders but small enough to get work done
 - What can be done to encourage contact/input with stakeholders?
 - Meeting at weekends or at the ports- are these realistic?
 - Payment to attend meetings?
 - Press?
 - Presence at various expos?



Issues to be considered today

- Relationships-
 - How do we build trust within the RAC?
 - Language issues- how do we improve communication in the three languages?
 - How do we ensure that members respect protocols?
 - How can we achieve consensus more often





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