



North Western Waters Regional Advisory Council

Working Group 1

West of Scotland and Western Approaches (ICES Vb & VI)

Thursday 9th July 2009, 09.15-13.00

CNPMEM - Paris

Summary of Recommendations and Actions

Chairman: Bertie Armstrong
Rapporteur: Kara Brydson

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed members. The report of the last meeting (17th of February 2009, Madrid) and the agenda for this meeting were adopted without comment.

2. Review of ICES Advice 2009 for VIa & b

The Chairman welcomed Manuela Azevedo from ICES and thanked her for presenting ICES scientific advice on area VI stocks. Manuela's presentation is available in NWWRAC website.

Recommendations to the Executive Committee:

- Working Group 1 proposes that the NWWRAC writes to the Member States engaged in the survey (Scotland – UK and Ireland) to ask for clarification on the change to the timing of Anglerfish surveys from autumn to spring, and to convey members' concerns regarding this change.

Actions:

- Sean O'Donoghue will draft a letter regarding Anglerfish survey timings. The Secretariat will circulate this draft electronically to the Executive Committee for agreement.
- The Secretariat will invite Paul Fernandes, from Marine Scotland Science, to present findings from the Monkfish survey to the next Working Group 1 meeting.

- The Secretariat will ask ICES to supply a calendar of dates for its 2010 Data Benchmarking Workshops, which help ICES decide on the most appropriate way of interpreting and using biological knowledge, incorporating or validating new data into the assessment and forecasting different scenarios through simulation models to address its advice following requests from fisheries managers.

The Secretariat will work closely with ICES to coordinate the available data coming from NWWRAC members so it can be provided in an appropriate format and well in advance of the benchmarking workshops.

- The Secretariat will explore with ICES possible ways of cooperation in fisheries-science partnership projects with the aim to improve data quality.

3. Regulation of gadoid species in the West of Scotland

The Chairman, as Chief Executive of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation, presented a list of mortality/discard reduction measures used or considered for use in Scotland. This 'tool box' of measures is proposed to meet the management aim for West of Scotland gadoid species, and allow the fishery to continue. The initial proposal presented for discussion at the meeting is available on NWWRAC website.

Actions:

- The Chairman will circulate to Working Group 1 a more detailed list of tool box 'contents', with an indication of which measures are preferred and how they are used. This document will be discussed at the forthcoming Working Group 1 meeting before being put forward to the Executive Committee.
- The Chairman and Secretariat will respond to Marine Scotland's kind offer of facilitating a further meeting to find consensus on the toolbox approach as applied to the West Coast gadoid fishery. This meeting should take place before the next WG 1 meeting.

4. EC Communication on Fishing Opportunities for 2010

The NWWRAC is invited to comment on the Commission's Communication on fishing opportunities for 2010. The Chairman welcomed Ken Patterson from the Commission and thanked him for his presentation on this agenda item.



In particular, Mr. Patterson asked the NWWRAC to advise the Commission how the various functional units of Nephrops could be managed separately in view of the ICES advice that they are in different biological conditions.

The Chairman noted the Commission's request for evidence-based advice from the RACs, but highlighted the difficulties in the burden of proof lying with the industry. The Chairman called for sensitive measures to reduce fishing mortality and contribute to the rebuilding of stocks, for example through the toolbox approach to management.

Actions:

The Chairman and Secretariat will circulate text to Working Group 1, and then to the Executive Committee, for agreement. This process must be completed electronically and quickly to meet the Commission's deadline of 31 July, although the Secretariat may be able to secure a short extension to this deadline.

End of the meeting

ANNEX I. LIST OF ATTENDEES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Surname/s</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Status</u>
Kristel	Adriaenssens	NWWRAC Secretariat	Secretariat
Bertie	Armstrong	Scottish Fishermen's Federation	WG1 Chairman
Manuela	Azevedo	ICES Advisory Committee	Scientific Expert
Alain	Biseau	IFREMER	Scientific Expert
Kara	Brydson	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	Member – Rapporteur
Alan	Coghill	Orkney Fisheries	Member
Patricia	Comiskey	NWWRAC Secretariat	Secretariat
Juan Carlos	Corrás Arrias	Pescagalicia Arpega	Member
John	Crudden	European Anglers Association	Member
Louise	Cunningham	Marine Scotland	Member State Rep.
Barrie	Deas	NFFO	Member
Colin	Faulkner	Scottish Executive	Observer
Antonio	Flórez	MARM	Member State Rep.
Caroline	Gamblin	CNPMEM	Member
Ian	Gatt	Scottish Fishermen's Federation	Member
Hugo	González	ANASOL	Member
John	Hermse	MNWFA	Member
Sam	Lambourn	NWWRAC Chairman	NWWRAC Chairman

Julien	Lamothe	ANOP	Member
Colm	Lordan	ICES WG on Northern & Southern Shelf Demersal Fisheries	Scientific Expert
Jesús A.	Lourido García	Puerto de Celeiro S.A.	Member
Joe	Maddock	Irish Fishermen Organisation	Member
Alan	McCulla	ANIFPO	Observer
Kevin	McDonell	West of Scotland FPO	Member
Conor	Nolan	BIM	Observer
Lorcan	O'Cinnéide	IFPO	Observer
Gerard	O' Flynn	Irish South & West Fish Producers Organisation	Member
Sean	O'Donoghue	Killybegs Fishermans Organisation	Member
José Luis	Otero	Lonja de la Coruña S.A.	Member
Kenneth	Paterson	European Commission	Member
Jacques	Pichon	FROM Bretagne	Observer
Jim	Portus	SWFPO	Observer
Alexandre	Rodríguez	NWWRAC Secretariat	Secretariat
Mercedes	Rodríguez Moreda	OPP-07-LUGO	Member
Jane	Sandell	Scottish Fishermen's Organisation	Member
Pieter-Jan	Schon	ICES WG on Northern & Southern Shelf Demersal Fisheries	Scientific Expert
Paul	Trebilcock	Cornish Fish Producers Organisation	Observer
Michael	Walsh	ISEFPO	Observer