
Report from the Chairman – Work Progress to Date

General Assembly
Dublin Castle
28th October 2009



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF
RÉGIONAL POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
REGIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO
REGIONAL PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

Year 4

Work Programme Review

October 2008 - September 2009



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF
RÉGIONAL POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
REGIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO
REGIONAL PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

12 NWWRAC Meetings held in Year 4



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF
RÉGIONAL POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
REGIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO
REGIONAL PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

NWWRAC Meetings Year 4 (i)

- 1 Annual General Assembly:
 - Dublin, 19th of November 2008
- 4 Executive Committee:
 - Paris, 8th of October 2008
 - Dublin, 19th of November 2008
 - Paris, 21st of April 2009
 - Madrid, 8th of September 2009



NWWRAC Meetings Year 4 (ii)

- 2 Sets of Working Groups:
 - 1 set of 4 Working Groups → Madrid, 17th-18th of February 2009
 - 1 set of 4 Working Groups → Paris, 8th-9th of July 2009
- 1 Horizontal Working Group on CFP Reform
 - Paris, 10th of July 2009
- 4 Focus Groups:
 - Technical Conservation Measures – Paris, 9th of October 2008
 - LTMP for Northern Hake – Santiago, 17th of June 2009
 - West of Scotland Haddock – Aberdeen, 3rd of July 2009
 - Irish Sea Fisheries – Belfast, 30th of September 09



Other Meetings with NWWRAC participation in Year 4



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF
RÉGIONAL POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
REGIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO
REGIONAL PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

Other Meetings with NWWRAC participation in Year 4 (i)

- Joint RACs-ACFA Meeting on Fishing Opportunities for 2009
Brussels, 16th of October 2008
- EC Coordination Meeting with ACFA-RACs
Brussels, 24th of November 2008
- 27th Annual Meeting of NEAFC – London, 10th-14th of November 2008
- Annual Meeting between ICES and RACs (MIRAC)
Copenhagen, 26th-27th of January 2009
- ICES-STEFC Workshop on Fishery Management Plan Development and Evaluation – Copenhagen, 28th-30th of January 2009
- ICES Benchmark and Data Compilation Workshop for Roundfish Celtic Sea Cod – Copenhagen, 16th-23rd of January 2009
- ACFA Working Group 3: Review of CMO – Brussels, 4th of February 09
- ICES Benchmark Data Compilation Workshop Flatfish Channel Sole and Plaice – Cph, 6th-13th Feb



Other Meetings with NWWRAC participation in Year 4 (ii)

- EC Workshop on Managing Fish Stocks without Catch Option Tables
Brussels, 13th of February 2009
- CFCA Advisory Board – Vigo, 6th of March 2009
- Meeting RACs-ICES on improving data quality for Deepsea Species
Copenhagen, 9th of March 2009
- EC Workshop on Cetaceans – Brussels, 24th of March 2009
- EC Marine Natura 2000 Seminar for the Atlantic Sea Region
Galway, 24th-25th of March 2009
- EC Seminar on the State of Fish Stocks in European Seas
Brussels, 23th of July 2009
- CFCA Advisory Board – Vigo, 14th of September 2009
- RACs-ACFA Meeting on Fishing Opportunities for 2010
Brussels, 29th of September 2009



19 NWWRAC Opinions, Letters & Advice published in Year 4



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF
RÉGIONAL POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
REGIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO
REGIONAL PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

19 RAC Opinions, Letters and Advice (i)

Main areas of Work for this period:

- Review of the Functioning of the RACs
- EC Fishing Opportunities for 2009 & 2010
- Reform of Control System
- TCM for North Western Waters
- Discards
- Skates and Rays
- Management Plan for Northern Hake



19 RAC Opinions & Letters (ii)

Main areas of work for this period:

- LTMP for West of Scotland haddock
- State of gear marking regulation
- Review of Reference Points for 7e Sole
- TCM for Scallops stocks in the Channel

Etc.



Opinions & Advice published (1/3)

- ❑ Response to the Proposal on Technical Measures for the protection of blue ling spawning aggregations in ICES area VI (10/10/2008)
- ❑ NWWRAC Opinion concerning fishing opportunities in 2009 (24/11/2008)
- ❑ NWWRAC Opinion on Technical Conservation Measures (12/01/2009)
- ❑ NWWRAC Advice on the Review of the functioning of the RAC's (23/03/2009)
- ❑ NWWRAC Advice on Review of EC Regulation establishing Fishing Opportunities for 2010 –"TAC & Quota"- (22/04/2009)
- ❑ NWWRAC Letter to ACFA-EP on Market Initiatives in relation to Regulation 744/2008 (22/04/2009)
- ❑ NWWRAC Letter on Harmonization of Conversion Factors (22/04/2009)



Opinions & Advice published (2/3)

- ❑ NWWRAC Opinion on Skates and Rays (22/04/2009)
- ❑ NWWRAC Opinion on Eastern Channel Cod management (22/04/2009)
- ❑ NWWRAC Opinion on Discards in Nephrops fisheries in Area VII (05/05/2009)
- ❑ NWWRAC Letter on Timing of Legislation re TCM and Discards (07/05/2009)
- ❑ NWWRAC Advice on the Reform of the Control System (12/06/2009)
- ❑ NWWRAC Opinion on 7e Sole Management (31/7/2009)



Opinions & Advice published (3/3)

- ❑ NWWRAC-SWWRAC Joint Opinion on a Management Plan for Northern Hake (25/8/2009)
- ❑ Opinion on EC Communication on Fishing Opportunities for 2010 ("*Policy Statement*") (11/09/2009)
- ❑ Letter to UK & Ireland re timing for Via Anglerfish surveys (11/09/2009)
- ❑ Opinion on a LTMP for West of Scotland haddock (11/09/2009)
- ❑ Letter on state of gear marking regulation (11/09/2009)
- ❑ Opinion on TCM for Channel Scallops stocks: minimum landing sizes (11/09/2009)



Work Programme Year 5

October 2009 – September 2010



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF
RÉGIONAL POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
REGIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO
REGIONAL PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

Calendar of Meetings Proposed for Year 5 (i)

- ❑ Horizontal Working Group meeting on the Reform of the CFP: October 28, Dublin Castle
- ❑ Joint RAC Workshop on Decision-Making in the Reform of the CFP – November 3-4, Edinburgh
- ❑ Focus Group on Nephrops – early November 2009, Scotland?
- ❑ Executive Committee – January 29, Paris
- ❑ Working Groups – March 2-4, Madrid



Calendar of Meetings Proposed for Year 5 (ii)

- ❑ Executive Committee – *April 15 / June 7?*, Madrid
- ❑ Working Groups – July 6-8, Paris
- ❑ Executive Committee – September 15, Madrid
- ❑ General Assembly – October / November, Dublin
- ❑ 4 more Focus Groups to be agreed

Year 5

Focus Groups: Terms of reference

- Funding for 5 Focus Groups (1/2 day duration each)
 - Max. 8 members per meeting
 - Already one booked for Nephrops management
- Call of interest:
 - Suggestions of Topics
 - Application forms
 - Final Selection
- Interpretation services only if requested
 - depending on funding availability



Proposed Topics

- The following are topics emerging from the DG MARE proposed work programme for 2009-2010:
 - EU Fishing Opportunities for 2010 (4th quarter 2009)
 - EU Action Plan to reduce incidental catches of seabirds in fishing gears (Dec 2009)
 - Control and enforcement (3rd & 4th quarter 2009)
 - Orientations for Community Position in NEAFC
 - IUU fishing: port state measures and rules for implementation of Reg. 1005/2008
 - Integration of maritime surveillance in the EU
 - Draft TCM Regulation for North Western Waters (4th quarter 2009)
 - Long Term-Management Plans:
 - Application of Reg. 1342/2008 on LTMP for cod stocks (3rd quarter 2009)
 - Proposal of Regulation on LTMP for Hake (4th quarter 2009 / early 2010)
 - Data collection: Action Plan for a European Marine observation and Data network → November 09



Proposed Topics: Commission and ICES

- ❑ Deep sea stocks: Amendment of Reg. 2347/2002 (1st quarter 2010)
- ❑ Reform of COM in fishery and aquaculture products (4th quarter 2010)
- The following are topics drawn from ICES workplan for 2009:
 - ❑ Methods to evaluate and estimate the precision of fisheries data used for assessment (WGPRECISE) → ICES HQ, date to be determined
 - ❑ Methods of Fish Stock Assessments (WGMG) → Nantes, October 20-29
 - ❑ Workshop on Age estimation of European Hake (WKAEH) → Vigo, November 9-13

Proposed topics: ICES

- Quantification of all Fishing Mortality (WGQAG) → ICES HG, Nov 24-26
- Workshop on Form of the Advisory Framework → Lisbon, 1-3 December
- Workshop on Format of ICES Advice → Lisbon, 3-5 December.
- Study group on Risk Assessment and Management Advice (SGRAMA) → Madrid, December 7-11

Proposed work programme

- Proposed priority areas for NWWRAC for 2009-2010 (*extracted from the NWWRAC Work Programme for Year 5 presented to the Commission in August 2009*):
 - CFP Reform
 - Identify key issues and develop a response to the Commission's Green Paper
 - Work closely with fellow RACs in a Workshop on Governance / Decision-Making
 - Discarding and By-catch
 - Work with Commission to develop tangible ways forward in developing ways to reduce discards and improve selectivity while ensuring socio-economic viability for the fleets
 - Set up a focus group / workshop on discards for Area VII
 - Work with Commission to improve information on by-catch of cetaceans and/or birds to highlight problem areas and develop solutions to reduce by-catch.
 - Technical Conservation Measures
 - Work with Commission in amending the current regulation and developing a "fishery by fishery" approach and assist them to define those workable measures for each specific NWW sub-areas.
 - Quality of Scientific and Economic Data
 - Work with Scientists to improve data available to scientists for stock assessments
 - Attend all relevant ICES groups and workshops and carry on work (if need be) at focus group level
 - Liaise with national institutes / experts to obtain useful data and reports that can be used as background information for RAC meetings and feed into RAC advice



Proposed work programme

- Long-term Management Plans
 - Progress on work done up to date for several stocks (CS cod, northern hake, VIa haddock, VIIe sole...) and explore options and define a proposed way forward for “new” stocks (VIIa whiting, nephrops...)

- Marine Spatial Planning & Natura 2000
 - Follow up on Progress of MPAs/SACs in NWWRAC areas
 - Review and respond to MSP document
 - Engage in consultations with national agencies with licences to other marine activities (e.g. wind farms, gravel, oil and gas industries...)

- Control and Enforcement
 - Work with Commission on simplification of legislation & “level playing field” rules
 - Work with CFCA to develop a culture of compliance and assist in development and roll out of work program in NWW area for 2010

- Common Markets Organization
 - Assist the Commission in the organization of a multistakeholder workshop to deal with all relevant market policy aspects and a more efficient implementation of EC Regulation 744/2008



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF
RÉGIONAL POUR
**LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES**

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
REGIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO
REGIONAL PARA
**LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES**