



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR  
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES  
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN  
WATERS  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA  
LAS AGUAS  
NOROCCIDENTALES

## MINUTES

### WORKING GROUP 2 (CELTIC SEA)

**CNPMEM, Paris**  
**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2016**  
**14:00 – 15:00**

Chair: Jesús Lourido Garcia

Rapporteur: Paul Trebilcock

#### 1. Welcome and introductions

Jesús Lourido Garcia (JLG) welcomed members, Commission and Member State representatives, and observers to the meeting. There were no apologies received.

The agenda<sup>1</sup> was adopted as drafted.

The meeting was informed that the following action points from the last meeting in Edinburgh (8<sup>th</sup> July 2015) had been completed:

- To inform the Executive Committee of the issues regarding ICES advice for Sole and Plaice;
- To request the Executive Committee to consider how the NWWAC can improve its method of working in order to improve its core function to produce relevant and credible advice (in relation to seabass, in particular)
- To recommend that a letter be drafted by the NWWAC asking the Commission specific, detailed questions on the landing obligation.
- To support the establishment of a focus group to work on the development of NWWAC advice on MAPs;
- To fully support the CEFAS Spurdog research project and write to the Commission and CEFAS expressing its support for this project.

#### 2. The DAMARA project

Norman Graham gave an update on progress and the current status of the DAMARA project.

The model is available online to examine and interact with at: <https://shiny.marine.ie/damara> Username: damarauser Password: Orang3roughy). Members of WG2 were encouraged to visit this site and provide feedback.

It was felt this was a potentially important and useful tool for WG2 and others, for testing various management scenarios.

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<sup>1</sup> All relevant documents to the meeting can be found at the NWWAC website: [link](#)



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The meeting was informed that there was a need for ongoing maintenance and data input to ensure that the model remained up to date and relevant and produced useful and realistic outputs for stakeholders and managers.

**ACTION:** WG2 recommends that the Executive Committee endorse the continued support of the NWWAC for this important project and consider ways that the NWWAC could support ongoing maintenance, data up-dating and the progression to application stage of the tool, to test the impacts of proposed management measures.

### 3. The Haig Fras Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Victoria Metherringham from MMO (UK) and Declan Tobin from JNCC (UK) gave a presentation on proposed management measures for this SAC. The full presentation is available on the NWWAC website and further information may be found [here](#) and [here](#) (available in English only).

In summary, the DEFRA proposal is that the Haig Fras site be closed to towed demersal gears. Pelagic and static gears would continue to be permitted. There would also be additional satellite reporting requirements for vessels operating in the area.

Members were informed that a formal consultation with other Member States will commence in March.

France, Ireland and UK fishing interests expressed surprise and disappointment as these proposals did not reflect previous meetings held by JNCC on management measures for this site.

French and Irish administration representatives made it clear this was a UK proposal not a joint member state proposal.

**ACTION:** WG2 recommends that the Executive Committee approves the establishment of a focus group to develop a comprehensive response to the formal consultation on proposed management measures for the Haig Fras SAC and similar areas.

### 4. Management of Sole in Area VII fg

It was proposed that work to develop a management plan for sole in area VII fg (similar to that of the work carried out for sole in area VIId) should begin urgently.

The meeting was informed that ILVO (Belgium) had conducted some initial work and a request for STECF evaluation of this preliminary work had been submitted by Belgium.

**ACTION:** WG2 recommends that the Executive Committee establish a focus group to develop proposals for a management plan for Sole in area VII fg.



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## 5. Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair

- ACTION 1:** WG2 recommends that the Executive Committee endorse the continued support of the NWWAC for this important project and consider ways that the NWWAC could support ongoing maintenance, data up-dating and the progression to application stage of the tool, to test the impacts of proposed management measures.
- ACTION 2:** WG2 recommends that the Executive Committee approves the establishment of a focus group to develop a comprehensive response to the formal consultation on proposed management measures for the Haig Fras SAC and similar areas.
- ACTION 3:** WG2 recommends that the Executive Committee establish a focus group to develop proposals for a management plan for Sole in area VIIIfg.

## Annex 1 – List of Participants

NWWAC members		
Jesús A.	Lourido García	Puerto de Celeiro S.A. OPP-77
Paul	Trebilcock	Cornish Fish Producers Organisation
Severino	Ares Lago	Fundación Rendemento Económico Mínimo sostible e Social
Anne-Margaret	Anderson	The Scottish White Fish Producers Association
Bertie	Armstrong	Scottish Fishermen's Federation
Hugo	Boyle	Irish South & East FPO
Emiel	Brouckaert	Rederscentrale
Juan Carlos	Corrás Arrias	Pescagalicia Arpega Obarco
Debbie	Crockard	Seas at Risk
John	Crudden	European Anglers Alliance
Dave	Cuthbert	New Under Ten Fishermen's Association
Barrie	Deas	National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations
Caroline	Gamblin	CNPMEM
Rachel	Lagiere	OP COBRENORD
Romain	Le Bleis	Comité Départemental des Pêches Maritimes et des Elevages Marins du Finistère
John	Lynch	Irish Fishermen's Organisation
Francis	O'Donnell	Irish Fish Producers Organisation
Sean	O'Donoghue	Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation
Lydia	Chaparro	Fundació ENT
Eibhlin	O'Sullivan	Irish South & West FPO
José Luis	Otero	Lonja de la Coruña S.A.
Jim	Portus	South West FPO
Mercedes	Rodríguez Moreda	OPP-07-LUGO



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Observers		
John	Anderson	Scottish Fishermen's Organisation
Emily	Baxter	Cumbria Wildlife
David	Beard	Manx Fish Producers Organisation
Stéphan	Beaucher	Consultant
Tom	Bryan-Brown	Mallaig and North West Fishermen's Association
Andrew	Clayton	The Pew Charitable Trusts
Vera	Coelho	The Pew Charitable Trusts
Alan	Coghill	Orkney Fish Producers Organisation
Gonzague	De Moncuit	Ministère de l'écologie, du développement durable et de l'énergie
Ross	Dougal	Scottish Fishermen's Federation
Juana	Poza Poza	Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente
Robert	Griffin	European Commission
Heather	Hamilton	Client Earth
Laurent	Markovic	European Commission
Kevin	McDonnell	West of Scotland Fish Producers Organisation
Victoria	Metheringham	UK Marine Management Organisation
Declan	Tobin	JNCC
Colm	Osuilleabhain	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
Glenn	Quelch	European Fisheries Control Agency
Johnny	Woodlock	Irish Seal Sanctuary
Phil	Tailor	RSPB
Geert	Meun	Dutch F.O.
Gael	Lavialle	Cobrenord
Kåre	Nielsen	VIT – Mareframe
Dominic	Rihan	BIM Ireland
Luis Francisco	Marin	OPPAO
Hugo	Gonzalez	ARVI
Norman	Graham	Marine Institute Ireland
Alan	Addison	SWFPA, Skipper Venture II BF 326
Allan	McCulla	ANIFPO
Patrick	Murphy	Irish South & West Fish PO
NWWAC Secretariat		
Conor	Nolan	Executive Secretary
Barbara	Schoute	Deputy Executive Secretary
Sara	Vandamme	Project Development and Communications Manager