



## DRAFT MINUTES

### WORKING GROUP 3 (ENGLISH CHANNEL)

**Room 21.04 “Jacob Van Artevelde” - Virginie Lovelinggebouw (VAC)  
Koningin Fabiolalaan, 9000 Gent**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2018  
16:30 – 18:00**

#### 1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair Pascal Coquet opened the meeting welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Javier Lopez (Oceana). The agenda was adopted as drafted.

The Secretariat updated the meeting on the action points from last meeting in Madrid (8<sup>th</sup> March 2018):

1. The NWWAC to continue discussion on King Scallops to develop a regional management proposal

Discussions are currently ongoing between member States. The NWWAC will ask for an update at the next NWW Member States Meeting (11 July)

2. After publication of the ICES advice on seabass, the need for a Focus Group on Seabass would be evaluated

The NWWAC received a request for advice from the COM (14<sup>th</sup> June, [link](#)) on the measures for both commercial as well as recreational activities to take for 2019 in order to promote the recovery of sea bass. As discussed at the ExCom meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> July), the NWWAC will coordinate with the NSAC to organize a joint Focus Group meeting and draft advice. The NWWAC will ask for an extension of the deadline.

3. A draft letter, provided by the French industry, will be distributed to support the EC request to ICES to provide earlier advice on undulate ray.

The letter has been finalised and sent to the COM on 11<sup>th</sup> May ([link](#)). The reply is available on the website (7<sup>th</sup> June [link](#))

**ACTION:** The NWWAC to follow-up the discussions in the Regional Group on King scallops



## 2. ICES advice for the English Channel

Mr Ghislain Chouinard (ACOM Vice-Chair) presented the advice for the stocks in the English Channel on behalf of ICES.

After the presentation, the chair opened the floor for questions and invited members to provide specific feedback that will form the basis of the NWWAC response to the fishing opportunities for 2019.

In response to questions raised by members, Mr Chouinard clarified:

- The framework that is used to produce advice on seabass and cod was consistent with the MSY approach. This implies that zero catch advice is given when the stock is below Blim and chances to reach Blim in the following year is nihil.
- ICES examined the evidence for potential shifts in distribution for various fish stocks in 2017 including sole in 7.e. Based on this information, no apparent shifts in distribution for this stock were detected. More information is available in the report<sup>1</sup>.
- The NWWAC produced advice on a management strategy for sole 7.d in 2016 (29<sup>th</sup> November, [Link](#)) and 2017 (22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017, [Link](#)). Last year the ACs proposal was specifically reflected in the catch options table in the ICES advice. This year, given that SSB in 2018 is below Bpa, the ACs proposals would correspond with fishing at a level of fishing mortality =  $F_{MSY}$ . Fishing at  $F_{MSY}$  in 2019 would result in total catch of 3,181 t<sup>2</sup>.

Specific comments raised by members include:

- The trend in the seabass advice is positive. This can benefit the industry without increasing the mortality per fishery. The discards can be swapped for those vessels that have by-catches of seabass. Further discussion on seabass management will take place at the Focus Group meeting organized in August.

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

1	The NWWAC to follow-up the discussions in the Regional Group on King scallops
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<sup>1</sup> See p. 55, Figure 3.5.6 in ICES. 2017. Report of the Working Group on Fish Distribution Shifts (WKFISHDISH), 22–25 November 2016, ICES HQ, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2016/ACOM: 55. 197 pp.

<sup>2</sup> See Table 3 in the advice sheet at

<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2018/2018/sol.27.7d.pdf> )



## Annex 1 – List of Participants

<b>NWWAC members</b>	
Rederscentrale	Emiel Brouckaert
Asociación Nacional de Armadores de Pesca de Gran Sol (ANASOL)	Purificación del C. Fernández Alvarez
Lonja de La Coruña S.A.	José Luis Otero Gonzalez
Organización de Productores Pesqueros de Lugo (OP-LUGO)	José Manuel Fernández Beltran
FREMMS	José Luis Otero Gonzalez
Pescagalicia-Arpega-Obarco	Juan Carlos Corrás Arias
Seas at Risk	Debbie Crockard
Comité Départemental des Pêches Maritimes et des Élevages Marins du Finistère (CDPMEM 29)	Erwan Quemeneur
Comité Départemental des Pêche Maritimes et des Elevages Marins du Morbihan (CDPMEM 56)	Emmanuel Kilberine
Comité National des Pêches Maritimes et des Élevages Marins (CNPMEM)	Caroline Gamblin
Coopérative Maritime Bretagne Nord (COBRENORD)	Franck Le Barzic
Les Pêcheurs de Bretagne (LPDB)	Jean-Marie Robert
BirdWatch Ireland	Fintan Kelly
Irish Fish Producers' Organisation (IFPO)	Francis O'Donnell
Irish Fishermen's Organisation	John Lynch
Irish Islands Marine Resource Organisation	Seamus Banner
Irish South and East Fish Producers Organisation	Hugo Boyle
Irish South and West Fish Producers' Organisation	Patrick Murphy
Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation	Sean O'Donoghue
National Federation of Fishermen's Organisation (UK)	Barrie Deas
South Western Fish Producers Organisation Ltd.	Jim Portus
<b>Observers</b>	
Fundació ENT	Lydia Chaparro
ClientEarth	Heather Hamilton
European Bureau for Conservation and Development (EBCD)	Maria Aira
The PEW Charitable Trusts	Jean Christophe Vandeveld
Comité Départemental des Pêches et des Élevages Marins du Calvados (CDPMEM 14)	Lionel Bottin
Comité Régional des Pêches Maritimes et des Élevages Marins (CRPMEM) Hauts de France	Stéphane Pinto
France Pêche Durable et Responsable	Pascal Coquet
Organisation de Producteur Coopérative Maritime Etaploise Manche Mer du Nord (OPCMEMMN)	Dominique Thomas
Organisation des Pêcheurs Normands (OPN)	Mathieu Vimard
Dutch Elasmobranch Society	Irene Kingma
Stichting van de Nederlandse Visserij (Dutch Fisheries Organisation) (2)	Geert Meun
Scottish Fishermen's Organisation	Paul McDonald
West of Scotland Fish Producers' Organisation	Kevin McDonnell