

Irish Sea regional benchmark

Benchmark at ICES

- Improving science of assessment
- Compile data
 - Fisheries
 - Fisheries independent – fish, ecosystem
- Improve the assessment model
- Look at the whole region
 - Fisheries
 - Ecosystem

Irish Sea regional benchmark

Irish Sea:

Cod, whiting, sole: no recovery

- Large reductions in fishing effort
- Total mortality remains very high for gadoids
- Changes in growth rates, productivity and maturity.

?????!!?!?!??

Irish Sea regional benchmark

WKIrish:

~ 18 month process,

- find potential drivers (ecosystem and/or environmental)
- how to use that knowledge for new stock assessments
- what does that mean for management (plans) for Irish Sea fisheries

Irish Sea regional benchmark

4 main workshops + inter-sessional work.

- **WKIrish1** (September 2015):
Impact of ecosystem and environmental drivers
- **WKIrish2** (late 2015):
Data compilation
- **WKIrish3** (early 2016):
Stock assessment benchmark
- **WKIrish4** (late 2016 or 2017):
Developing integrated ecosystem assessment

WKIrish1 (Dublin, September 14-15)

Impact of ecosystem and environmental drivers on Irish Sea fisheries management

- a. With stakeholders;
 - Scope current challenges for advice
 - Derive a list of management objectives for exploring ecosystem based management of fisheries

WKIrish1 (Dublin, September 14-15)

- b. Identify potential tools, data and knowledge to investigate
 - for example: productivity changes, carrying capacity, multispecies models, and mixed fisheries approaches

[The tools identified should be available for use throughout the following 12 months to explore the potential interactions of growth, selectivity and mortality on the dynamics of fish populations.]

WKIrish1 (Dublin, September 14-15)

- c. Using the two ToRs above, develop a roadmap to generate the required scientific knowledge;
- d. Identify inter-sessional work needed, including an action list of responsible people for each task to lead the inter-sessional work.

Outcome WKIrish:

Improved assessments & support for ecosystem based fisheries management approach for the Irish Sea