



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

Work Programme update Year 17

—
General Assembly | 28 September 2022



www.nwwac.org

Main areas of work Year 17

- **Landing Obligation:** Discard Plan, Fishing Opportunities 2023, NWWAC Choke Tool 2022
- **Brexit:** Inter-AC Brexit Forum
- **CFP:** Response to the Commission consultation and MEP Mato's questionnaire
- **Social Aspects:** Draft advice in preparation
- **Offshore wind energy developments and underwater noise:** joint workshop with the PelAC (May 2022), workshop report, draft advice in preparation
- **Climate & Environment:** Response to targeted consultation on the action plan to conserve fisheries resources and protect marine ecosystems & advice on EU public consultation "Sustainable food system framework initiative"
- **Management of stocks:** skates & rays, cod in the Celtic Sea, scallops, whelk, sea bass
- **Collaboration with External Groups:** NWW High Level and Technical Groups, ICES (MIAC and MIACO), EFCA





NWWAC meetings Year 17

- TOTAL number of meetings: 109
- 2 General Assemblies
 - July 2022 (hybrid), September 2022 (virtual)
- 3 Executive Committee
 - March 2022 (virtual), July 2022 (hybrid), September (virtual)
- 9 sub-regional Working Groups
 - March 2022 (virtual), July 2022 (hybrid), September (virtual)
- 3 Horizontal Working Groups
 - March 2022 (virtual), July 2022 (hybrid), September (virtual)
- 12 Focus and Advice Drafting Groups
 - 43 virtual meetings

Members are informed of all meetings via the monthly update available online in the Members Area on www.nwwac.org.

Details of meetings can also be found in both the Members Area and under the Meetings tab.



Year 17 – NWWAC meetings – September 2022

- 11 Meetings between the ExCom Chair, Vice-Chairs and the Secretariat virtual (Oct, Nov, Dec 2021, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June, July, Sep 2022)
- 2 Seabass virtual (Oct 2021, Sept 2022)
- 5 Landing Obligation virtual (Feb, Mar, Apr, Jul, Sep 2022)
- 3 Skates and Rays virtual (Dec 2021, Feb, Sep 2022)
- 6 MSFD virtual (Oct, Nov, Dec 2021, 2x Jan, Feb 2022)
- 7 Social Aspects virtual (Nov 2021, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Sep 2022)
- 3 Climate & Environment virtual (2x Nov 2021, May 2022)
- 2 Whelk virtual (Oct, Dec 2021)
- 1 ADG CFP review (Feb 2021)
- 5 Inter-AC Brexit Forum with PelAC, NSAC, LDAC, MAC virtual (Feb, May, 2x June, Sep 2022)
- 1 meeting with PelAC re. gentlemen's agreement (February 2022)
- 1 ADG Eel (Mar 2022)

Year 17 – NWWAC meetings – September 2022

- 2 ADG Celtic Sea Technical Measures virtual (May 2022)
- 3 NWWAC/PelAC ADG Underwater Noise and Wind energy developments virtual (May, Jun, Sep 2022)
- 1 FG WebGIS tool development (Sep 2022)
- 1 ADG CFP (Sep 2022)

Year 17 – NWWAC meetings – July 2022

- **5 Inter-AC / COM-Secretariat**
 - Commission Inter-AC meeting virtual (November 2021)
 - Commission Inter-AC meeting virtual (January 2021)
 - Commission – Secretariats meeting virtual (February 2021)
 - Commission Inter-AC meeting virtual (April 2022)
 - Commission – Secretariats meeting virtual (May 2022)
- **4 Workshops/webinars (co-) hosted by the NWWAC**
 - Blockchain in the Seafood Supply Chain (with MAC and NSAC), virtual (December 2021)
 - NWWAC online fisheries management chart development (January 2022)
 - SEAwisdom workshop (January 2022)
 - NWWAC/PelAC Workshop on the impacts of seismic and offshore wind energy developments on fisheries

External meetings with NWWAC participation – July 2022

- 11 North Western Waters Member States Group virtual (2x Oct, 2x Nov, Dec 2021, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June, July, Sep 2022)
- 2 EFCA Advisory Board virtual (Oct 2021), in person (Apr 2022)
- 2 CINEA workshops on ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management (EAFM) under the CFP, virtual (October 2021)
- MRAG/ILVO virtual Focus Group meeting on the SANoBA SC06/SC07 Regionalisation of the CFP project (November 2021)
- STECF EWG 22-04 Non-quota species virtual (May 2022)
- STECF EWG 22-05 Landing Obligation virtual (Jun 2022)
- Commission CFP report hybrid workshop (Jun 2022)
- 2nd Mission Atlantic Celtic Sea Stakeholder meeting virtual (Jun 2022)



External meetings with NWWAC participation – July 2022

- Meeting with the EU Ambassador to the UK João Vale de Almeida, in person (Jun 2022)
- ICES MIAC & MIACO hybrid (Jun 2022)
- DG MARE 2022 Seminar on Fisheries Science (Jun 2022)
- UN Ocean Conference 2022 virtual (Jun/Jul 2022)
- DG MARE Meeting on the implementation of the Deep-Sea Access Regulation virtual (Jul 2022)
- 2 Defra Highly Protected Marine Areas in English Waters Meeting with European Stakeholders virtual (Aug, Sep 2022)
- 1 COM Fishing for Litter virtual (September 2022)
- STECF EWG 22-08 Skates & Rays virtual (September 2022)

Letters, Opinions and Advice

Advice on Fishing Opportunities:

- Joint NWWAC/NSAC recommendations on management measures for seabass for 2022 (November 2021)
- Joint NWWAC/PelAC advice on sprat in the English Channel (June 2022)
- Advice on Fishing Opportunities for 2023 (August 2022)

Other:

- Recommendation on seine fishing activity in Eastern Channel (October 2021)
- MAC-NSAC-NWWAC Joint Advice on Production and Marketing of Brown Crab in the EU (October 2021)
- NWWAC submission in reply to the public consultation on the review of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (October 2021)
- Joint LDAC/PELAC/NWWAC advice Deepsea Mining in International Waters (November 2021)
- NWWAC 2021 advice addressing choke risk in NWW after exemptions (December 2021)
- NWWAC advice on management of the whelk fishery in the Channel (ICES 7d and 7e) (December 2021)

Letters, Opinions and Advice

Other continued:

- NWWAC response to the targeted consultation on the Action Plan to conserve fisheries resources and protect marine ecosystems (December 2021)
- NWWAC response to the COM questionnaire on the Annual report on the implementation of the Landing Obligation (January 2022)
- Joint ACs letter on weight of AC advice (March 2022)
- NWWAC response to the targeted consultation on the functioning of the CFP (March 2022)
- NWWAC/NSAC letter on Fuel provisioning affecting fisheries in the North Western Waters, North Sea and beyond (March 2022)
- NWWAC letter to the Commission addressing aid to the fishing sector to tackle the current crisis (March 2022)
- NSAC/NWWAC Advice on the MSFD Review (March 2022)
- NWWAC advice on the draft Joint Recommendation on directed fishing for squid (March 2022)
- Joint NWWAC/NSAC advice on eel management (April 2022)
- Joint-AC letter on stakeholder engagement in Specialised Fisheries Committee (April 2022)
- NWWAC response to MEP Mato questionnaire on the state of play of the CFP and perspectives post 2020 (April 2022)

Letters, Opinions and Advice

Other continued:

- NWWAC advice on the 2022 Joint Recommendation Discard Plan (April 2022)
- NWWAC advice on the Seabass Catches Allocation Tool (May 2022)
- NWWAC advice on the draft 2022 Joint Recommendation Technical Measures in the North Western Waters (May 2022)
- NWWAC Advice on best practice measures for the management of skates and rays in the North Western Waters and the North Sea (May 2022)
- NWWAC recommendation to update the economic fleet data to reflect the current commodity price crisis (May 2022)
- NWWAC letter to the Commission on deep sea access and VMEs (June 2022)
- NWWAC advice on Joint Recommendation Technical Measures in the North Western Waters (June 2022)
- NWWAC advice for a non-recurrent request to ICES and request for information on UK Technical Measures (July 2022)
- Joint-AC letter on bringing fisheries matters through to Specialized Committee for Fisheries (SCF) via existing advisory bodies (ACs) (July 2022)
- NWWAC response to public consultation on a sustainable EU food system (July 2022)
- NWWAC advice on Technical Measures in the Celtic Sea (July 2022)
- Joint NWWAC/NSAC Request for harmonisation of skates and rays identification guides on an EU wide basis (September 2022)

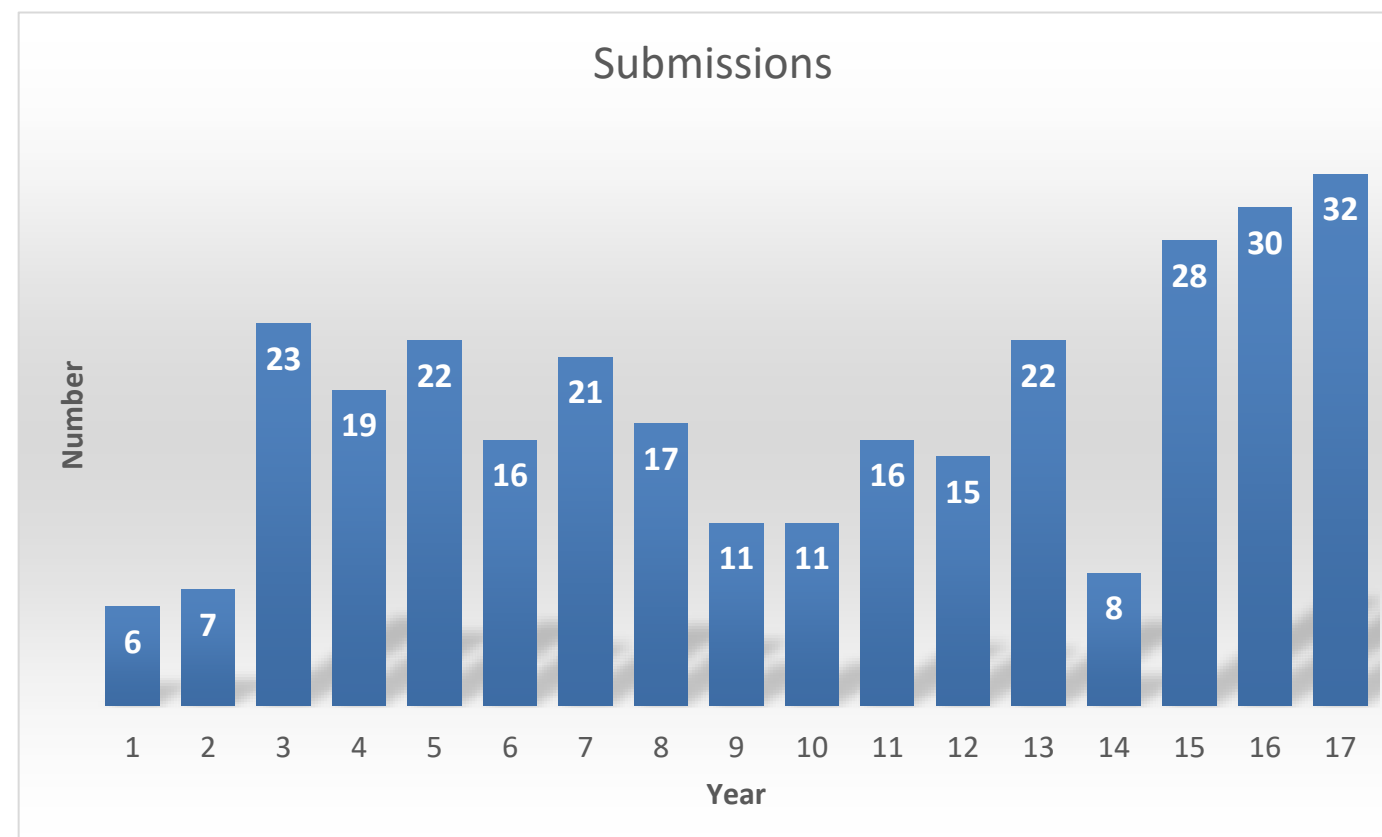
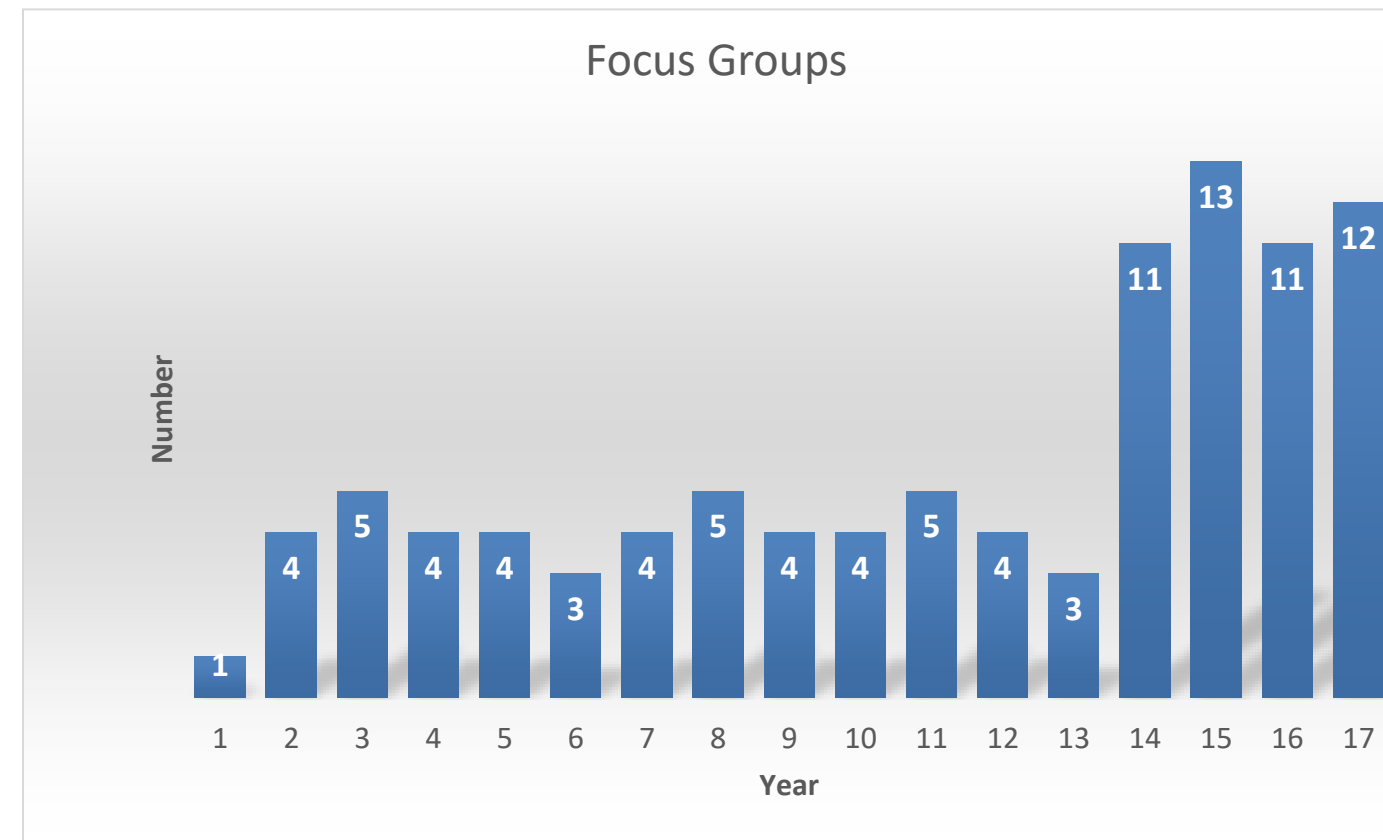
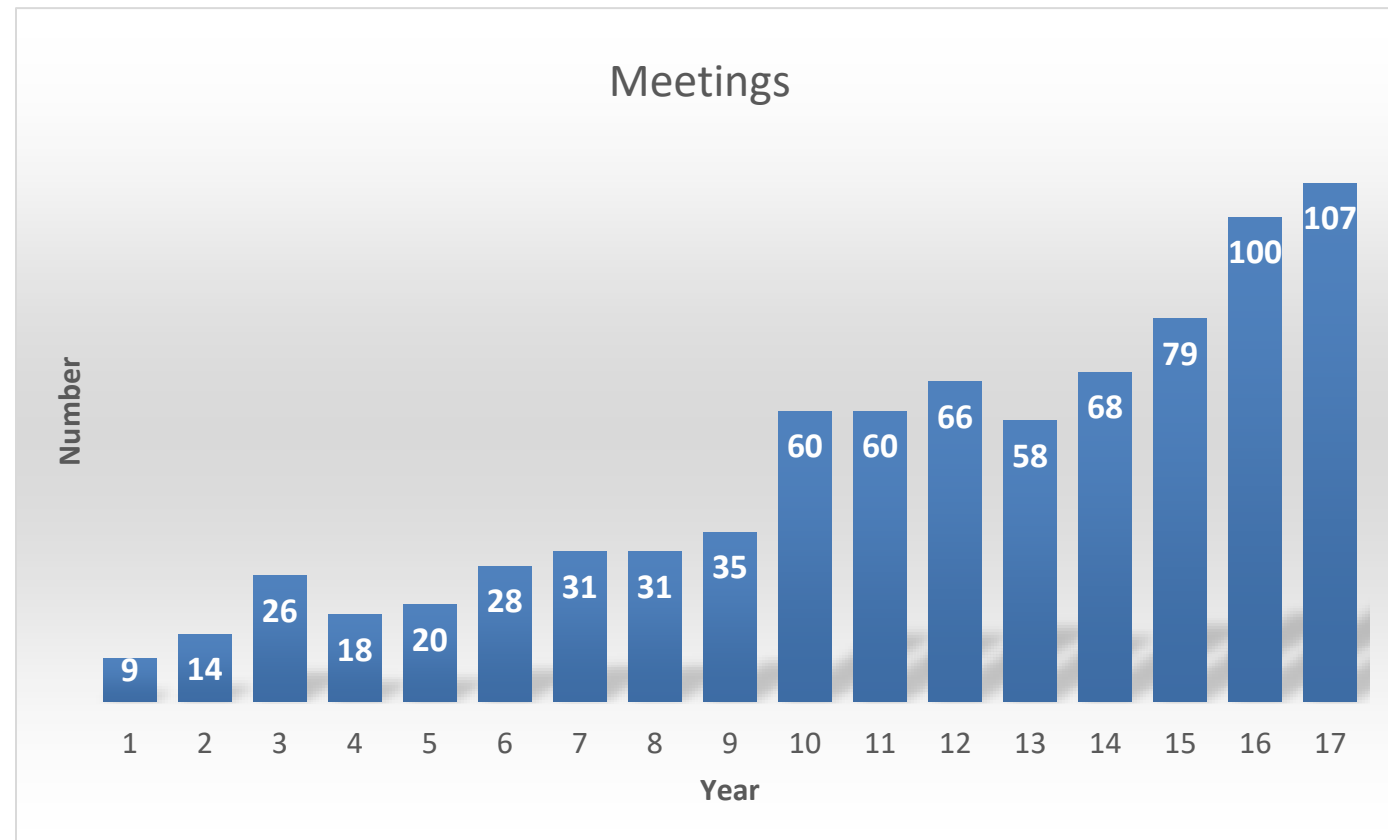
Workshop Reports

- NWWAC/NSAC/MAC webinar report: Blockchain and other new technologies for the transmission of traceability information and other data in the seafood supply chain (January 2022)
- Report from the NWWAC/PelAC workshop on the impacts of seismic and offshore wind energy developments on commercial fisheries (July 2022)

Other:

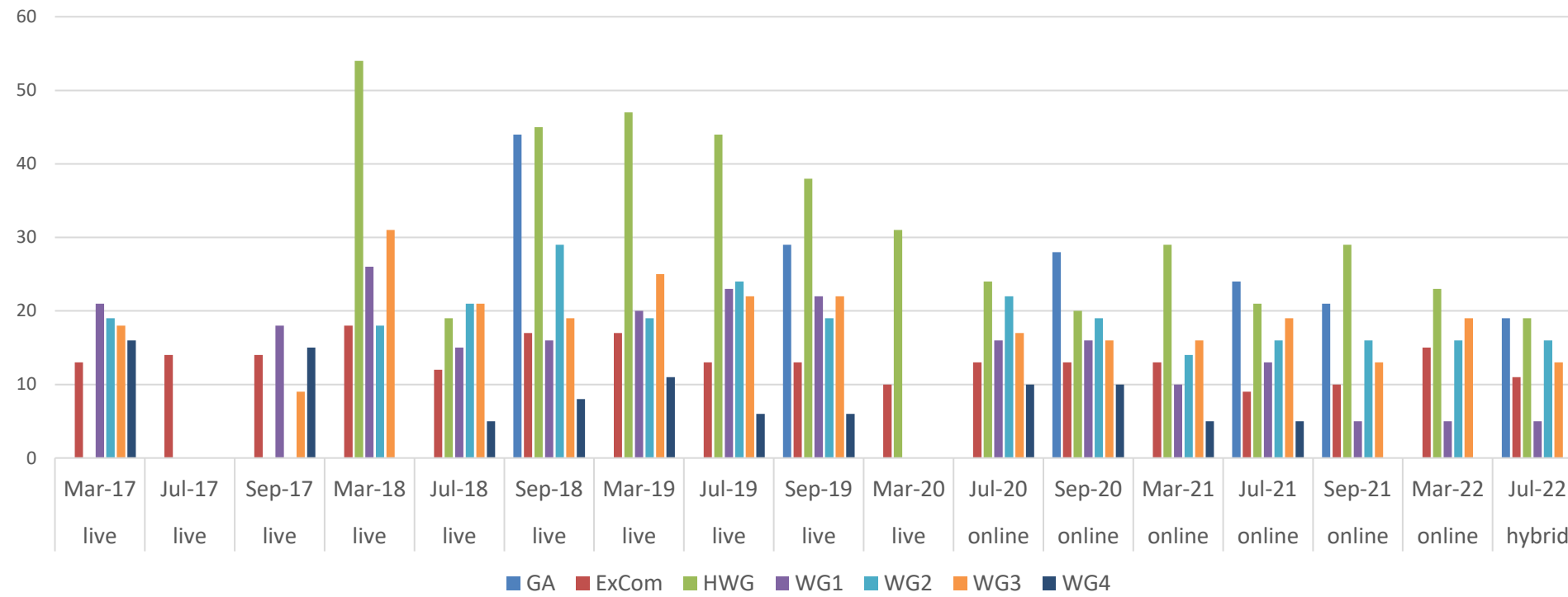
- Gentlemen's Agreement between the NWWAC and the PelAC on joint work on sprat and greater silver smelt (April 2022)

Activity Overview Year 17

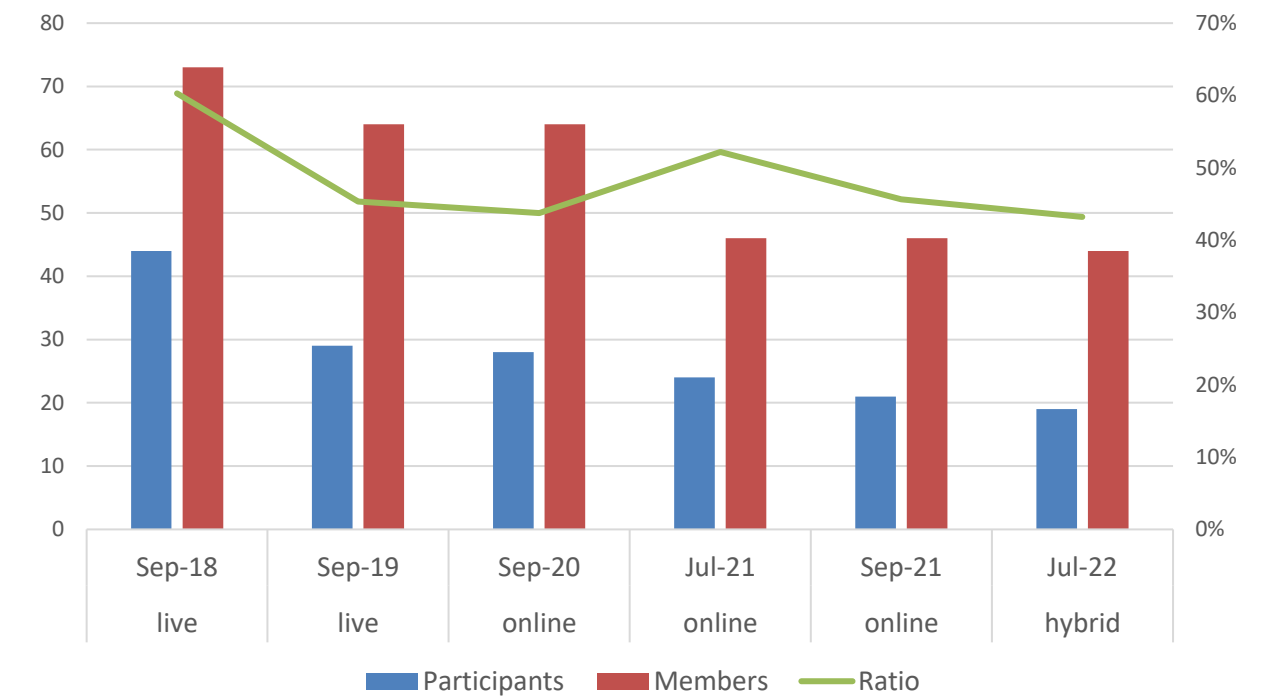


Activity Overview Year 17

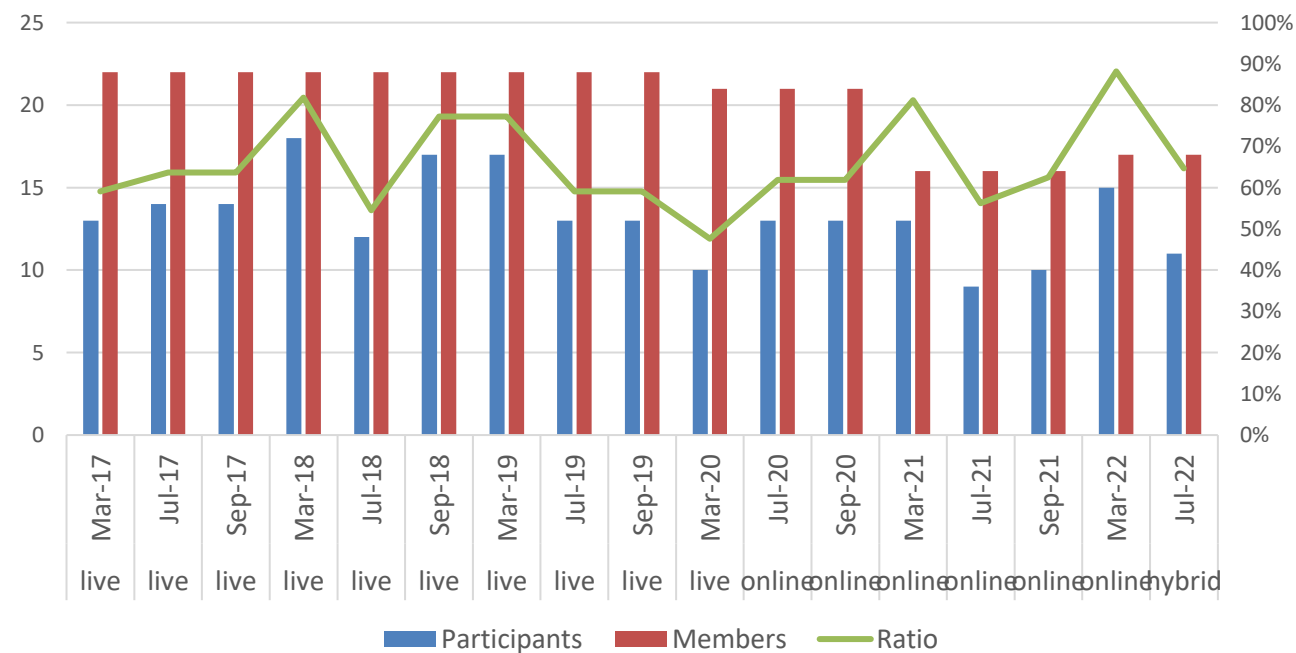
NWWAC overall participation



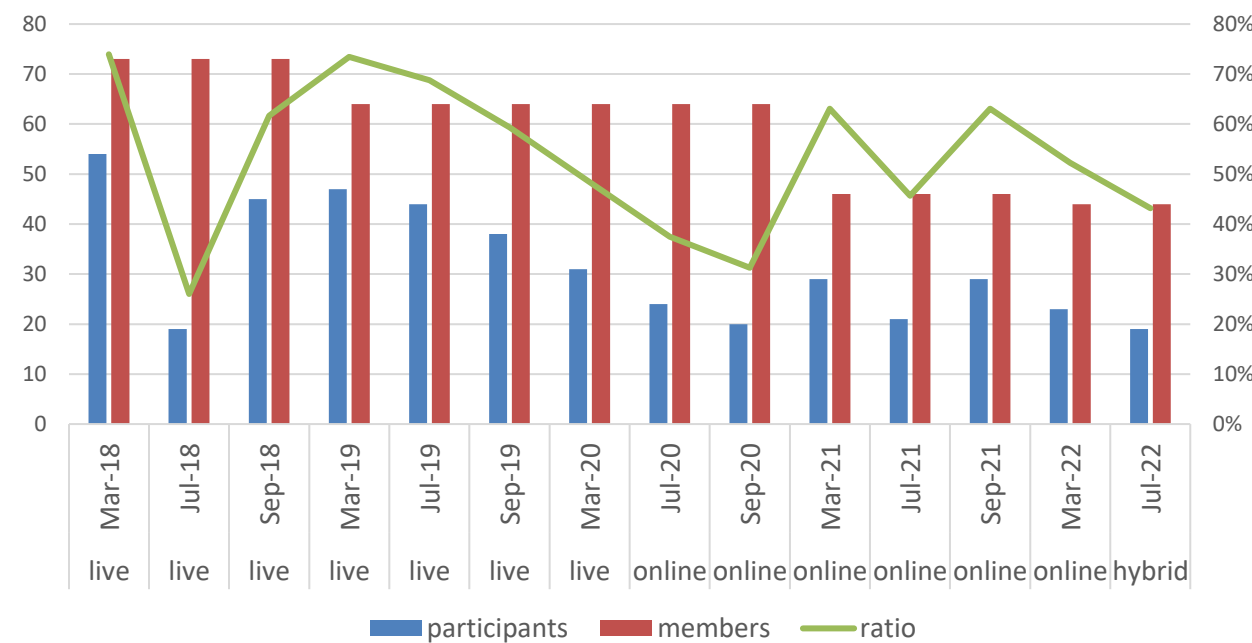
NWWAC GA participation



NWWAC ExCom participation

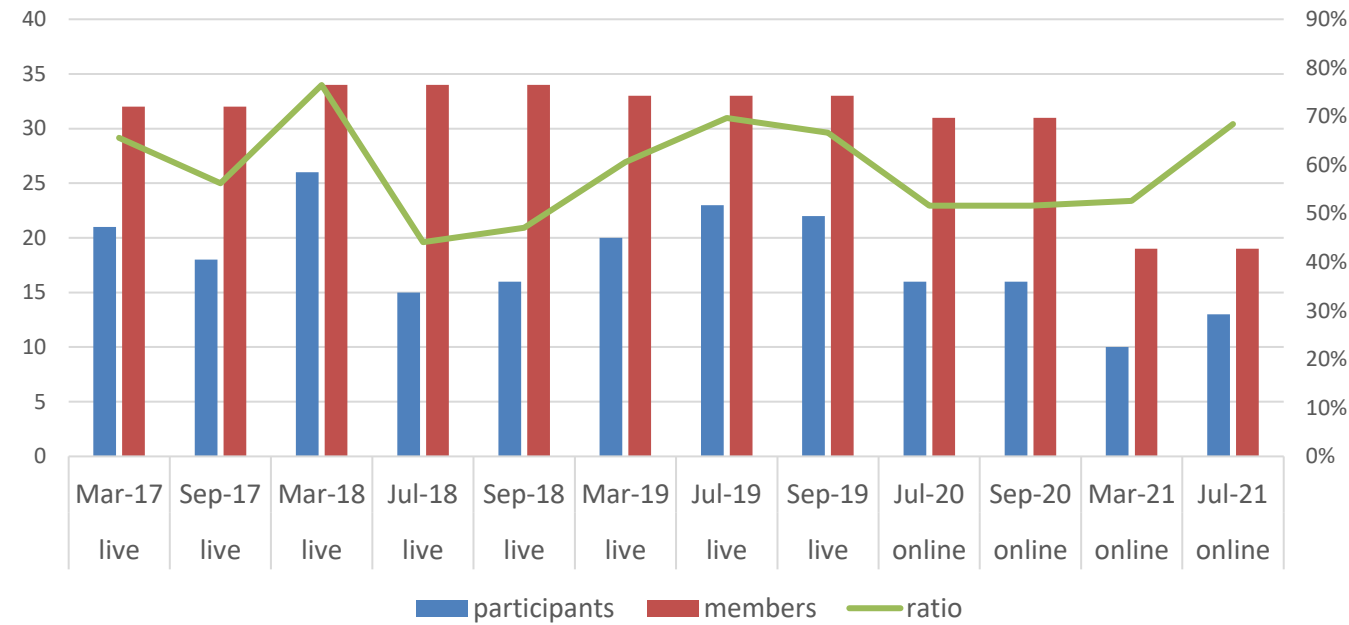


NWWAC HWG participation

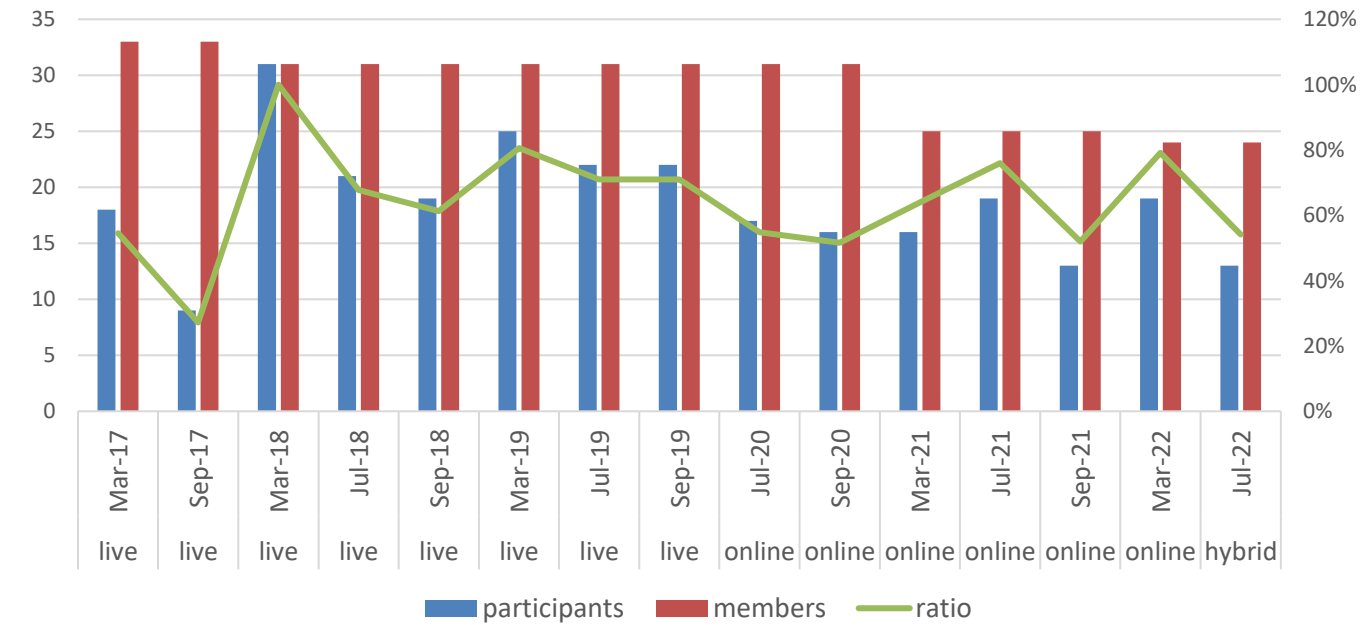


Activity Overview Year 17

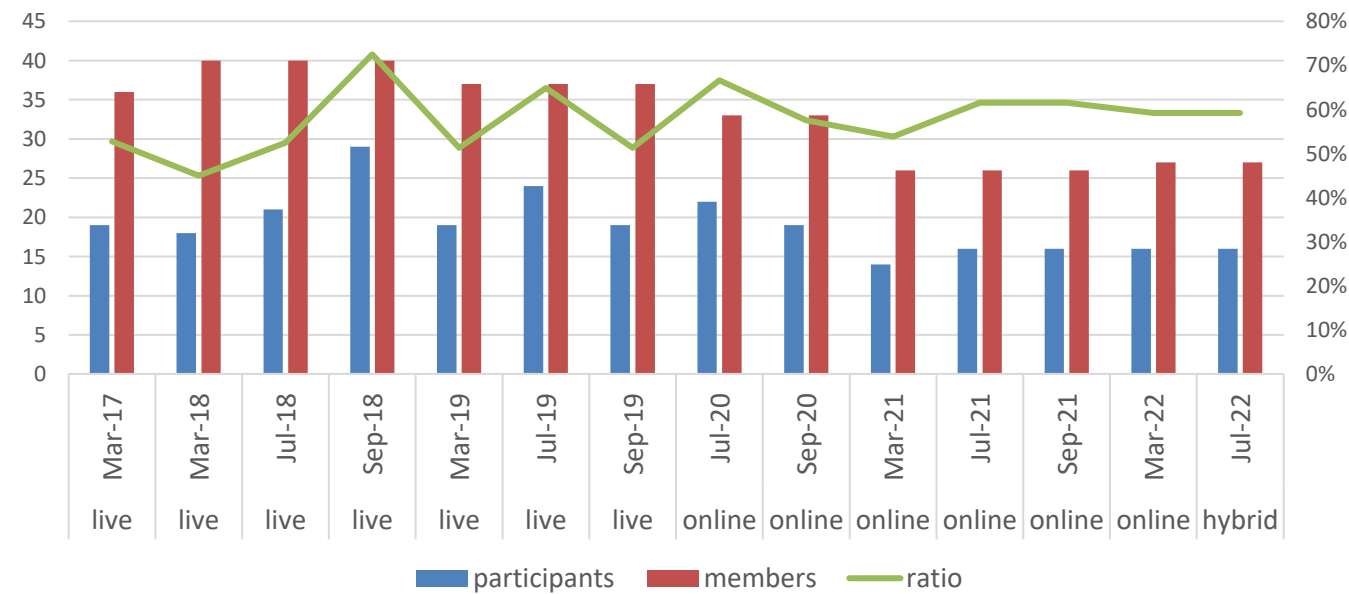
WG1 participation



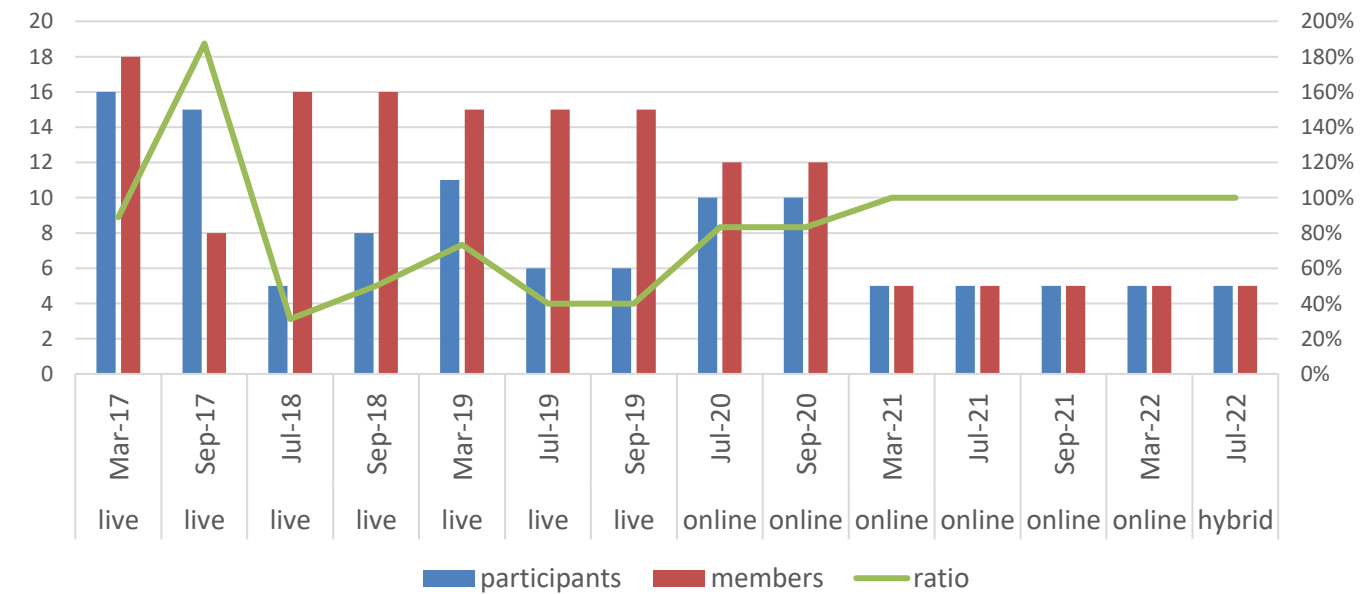
WG3 participation



WG2 participation



WG4 participation





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Work Programme Year 18



3 Discussion and approval of NWWAC Work Programme & Budget Year 18

- **Commission report on the CFP**
- **Landing Obligation**
- **Technical Measures**
- **Non-quota species**
- **WW Multi-Annual Plan**
- **TACs & quotas**
- **Impact of the EU-UK TCA**
- **Ecosystem based approach to fisheries management**
- **Environment**
- **Social Aspects**
- **Control and Compliance**
- **Overall follow-up of achievement of the CFP objectives**



Work priorities identified for each Working Group

- **Working Group 1 – Irish Sea**
 - TACs & Quotas
 - Technical Measures
 - Choke Mitigation Tool
 - Ecosystem based approach to fisheries management
- **Working Group 2 – Celtic Sea & West of Scotland**
 - TACs & Quotas
 - Technical Measures
 - Choke Mitigation Tool
 - Ecosystem based approach to fisheries management
- **Working Group 3 – Channel**
 - TACs & Quotas
 - Technical Measures
 - Choke Mitigation Tool
 - Non-quota species via relevant Focus Groups
- **Horizontal Working Group**
 - Functioning of the CFP
 - Landing Obligation
 - Other CFP Objectives and impact of the EU-UK TCA
 - Ecosystem based approach to fisheries management
 - Environmental aspects relating to fisheries in the NWW, including the EU Farm to Fork Strategy, the Biodiversity Strategy etc.
 - Social Aspects
 - Control & Compliance
 - Overall follow-up of achievement of the CFP objectives

Planned recommendations YR18



No	Issue/subject	Link with the CFP	WG/FG at the origin of the recommendation	Planned date of adoption (if available)
1	Advice on Addressing Choke Risk in the NWW after exemptions	Article 2, 14, 15	WG1, WG2, WG3	December 2022
2	Advice following the finalisation of the Discard Plan 2021 – 2023	Article 2, 14, 15\e	Focus Group Landing Obligation	May 2023
3	Advice following the Joint workshop on the Landing Obligation Compliance Evaluation in relation to CFP evaluation	Article 2, 14, 15	Focus Group Landing Obligation	March 2023
4	Advice on the implementation of the EU Technical Measures Regulation, including directed fisheries definition	Article 2, 10	Horizontal Working Group	June 2023
5	Advice on Technical Measures as a topic in the execution of the TCA	Article 2	WG1, WG2, WG3, HWG	July 2023
6	Advice on management measures for sea bass 2023	Article 2, 14, 15, 16	Focus Group Sea bass	November 2022
7	Advice on the management of Brown Crab	Article 2	Focus Group Brown Crab	June 2023
8	Advice on the management of Scallops	Article 2	Focus Group Scallops	June 2023
9	Advice on the management of Whelks	Article 2	Focus Group Whelks	April 2023
10	Advice on Fishing Opportunities 2024	Article 2, 14, 15, 16	WG1, WG2, WG3	July 2023
11	Advice on the management of skates & rays	Article 2, 10, 14, 15, 16	Focus Group Skates & Rays	November 2022
12	Advice relating to SCF issues: technical measures, non-quota species etc.	Article 2, 14, 15	Horizontal WG	December 2022
13	Advice related to climate & environment topics, e.g., EU Biodiversity Strategy, EU Green Deal, Farm to Fork Strategy	Article 2	Focus Group Climate & Environment	January 2023
14	Advice on social aspects related to fisheries in the NWW	Article 2	Focus Group Social Aspects	February 2023



Planned meetings Year 18

No	Date	Topics /subjects of meeting	Type of meeting (physical/planned/hybrid)	European Commission participation requested (yes/no)	If Commission participation requested, specific issues to be dealt with	Priority for a Commission participation (from 1 to 4) (1= highest priority)
1	10 October 2022	Focus Group Sea bass	virtual	yes	Sea bass advice for fishing opportunities 2023, catch allocation tool, EU-UK harmonisation	1
2	13 October 2022	Focus Group Landing Obligation	physical	no		
3	18 October 2022	Focus Group Social Aspects	virtual	no		
4	24 October 2022	Focus Group Whelk	virtual	yes	Discussion of the results from STECF EWG 22-04	1
5	28 October 2022	Focus Group Brown Crab	virtual	yes	Discussion of the results from STECF EWG 22-04	1
6	01 November 2022	Focus Group Climate & Environment	virtual	no		
7	07 November 2022	Focus Group Scallop	virtual	yes	Discussion of the results from STECF EWG 22-04	
8	24 November 2022	Focus Group Skates & Rays	physical	yes	Discussion of the results from STECF EWG 22-08	1
9	30 November 2022	Focus Group Sea bass	virtual	no		



Planned meetings cntd.

No	Date	Topics /subjects of meeting	Type of meeting (physical/planned/hybrid)	European Commission participation requested (yes/no)	If Commission participation requested, specific issues to be dealt with	Priority for a Commission participation (from 1 to 4) (1= highest priority)
10	16 December 2022	Focus Group Social Aspects	virtual	no		
11	10 January 2023	Focus Group Brown Crab	virtual	no		
12	31 January 2023	Focus Group Control	virtual	no		
13	08 February 2023	Focus Group Climate & Environment	virtual	no		
14	22 February 2023	Focus Group Social Aspects	virtual	no		
15	13 March 2023	Working Group 1 Irish Sea	hybrid	yes	Technical measures, Discard Plan beyond 2023	1
16	13 March 2023	Working Group 3 English Channel	hybrid	yes	Technical measures, Discard Plan beyond 2023, non-quota species	1
17	14 March 2023	Working Group 2 Celtic Sea & West of Scotland	hybrid	yes	Technical measures, Discard Plan beyond 2023	1
18	14 March 2023	Horizontal Working Group	hybrid	yes	TCA &SCF, UK Technical Measures, EU public consultation Protecting the seabed from bottom trawling by fishing vessels	1
19	15 March 2023	Executive Committee	hybrid	yes		1



Year 18 – Upcoming meetings

No	Date (for the first 6 months, please provide precise dates)	Topics/ subjects of meeting	Type of meeting (physical/ planned/ hybrid)	European Commission participation requested (yes/no)	If Commission participation requested, specific issues to be dealt with	Priority for a Commission participation (from 1 to 4) (1= highest priority)
20	03 July 2023	Working Group 1 Irish Sea	hybrid	yes	ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts	1
21	03 July 2023	Working Group 3 English Channel	hybrid	yes	ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts	1
22	04 July 2023	Horizontal Working Group	hybrid	yes	depending on the topics discussed a DG MARE expert will be requested	1
23	04 July 2023	General Assembly	Hybrid	no		
24	04 July	Working Group 2 Celtic Sea & West of Scotland	hybrid	yes	ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts	1
25	05 July 2023	Executive Committee	hybrid	yes	Dialogue with the Commission and Member States; EU-UK negotiations, fishing opportunities 2024	1
26	21 September 2023	Horizontal Working Group	virtual	yes	depending on the topics discussed a DG MARE expert will be requested	1
27	21 September 2023	Working Group 1 Irish Sea	virtual	yes	Stock specific discussions relating to technical measures, landing obligation, discard plan, non- quota stocks etc with DG MARE experts	1
28	22 September 2023	Working Group 2 Celtic Sea & West of Scotland	virtual	yes	Stock specific discussions relating to technical measures, landing obligation, discard plan, non quota stocks etc with DG MARE experts	1
29	22 September 2023	Working Group 3 English Channel	virtual	yes	Stock specific discussions relating to technical measures, landing obligation, discard plan, non quota stocks etc with DG MARE experts	1
30	23 September 2023	Executive Committee	virtual	yes	Dialogue with DG MARE: Overview on ongoing dossiers and upcoming advice requests; EU-UK negotiations, fishing opportunities 2024	1
31	23 September 2023	General Assembly	virtual	no		

Year 18 – Upcoming meetings

- **NWWAC meeting policy:** Proposal from the Executive Committee to hold NWWAC plenary meetings in person in March and July. Members are required to attend in person to fully participate. If members are unable to travel, they have the possibility of following proceedings online **as observers only** without the option to intervene.
- 30 September ADG CFP (virtual)
- 04 October NWWAC OIG meeting (virtual)
- 11 October Commission – AC Secretariats finance & administration meeting (virtual)
- 24 October EFCA Advisory Board (in person, Vigo)
- 24 October NWW MS Technical Group (virtual)
- 25 October EFCA Seminar on the Five-Year Independent External Evaluation of the European Fisheries Control Agency (in person, Vigo)
- 17 November Inter-AC with DG MARE (virtual)
- 21-23 November IOC – UNESCO Marine Spatial Planning (in person, Barcelona)
- 12 January MIACO (in person, Copenhagen)
- 14 – 16 March NWWAC plenary meetings (in person, Madrid)
- 04 – 06 July NWWAC plenary meetings (in person, tbd)
- September NWWAC plenary meetings (virtual)

Thank you.

North Western Waters Advisory Council 