



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

HORIZONTAL WORKING GROUP

—
04 July 2023

Agenda

09:00 – 09:20	_____	1	Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome from the Chair (Emiel Brouckaert)• Apologies• Adoption of the agenda• Action points from the last meeting
09:20 – 09:40	_____	2	ICES Advisory Process – Joanne Morgan, ICES ACOM Vice-Chair
09:40 – 10:10	_____	3	EU Nature Restoration Law – Alice Belin, DG ENV
10:10 – 10:40	_____	4	MSFD – the work of TG Seabed – Alice Belin, DG ENV
			Coffee
10:55 – 11:25	_____	5	Evaluation of seafloor impact in the Belgian bottom trawl fishery – Hans Polet, ILVO
11:25 – 12:30	_____	6	Focus Group update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inter-AC Brexit Forum• CFP• Landing Obligation
			Climate & Environment Skates & Rays
			Social Aspects Brown Crab Spatial Dimension (proposed)
			Lunch
13:30 – 13:45	_____	7	Follow up on NWWAC work on control – Discussion led by Patrick Murphy, HWG Vicechair
13:45 – 14:05	_____	8	CIBBRiNA update – Lotte Kindt-Larsen, DTU Aqua
14:05 – 14:35	_____	9	CABfishMAN update – Arantza Murillas, AZTI
14:35 – 14:40	_____	10	AOB
14:40 – 14:45	_____	11	Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair



Action points from the last meeting

1. Add review of Porcupine Bk fisheries management to list of topics to follow-up with NWW MSG.
2. Focus Group Landing Obligation to include an analysis of potential effect should the exemptions be lost.
3. Members to email queries in relation to Richard Cronin's presentation to the Secretariat for written follow up.
4. Topics raised by Richard Cronin to be addressed in relevant Focus Groups (Climate & Environment, potential new CFP package, potential new ORE/spatial squeeze)
5. Members to send questions for the Commission on the topic of protected areas to the Secretariat for written follow up.
6. Secretariat to follow up with Commission to send written response on process of EU involvement in UK MPA consultations.
7. Secretariat to follow up with Henn Ojaveer to send information on scientific data query to Secretariat.
8. Members to submit questions on Celtic Sea overview to Secretariat for written follow up.
9. Secretariat to put forward Ecosystem Overview topic for next MIAC/MIACO meeting.
10. Secretariat to contact the Pelagic AC regarding the proposed new joint Focus Group to identify focus
11. Secretariat to contact other AC Secretariats regarding joint work on CFP package.



- 2 ICES Advisory Process – Joanne Morgan, ICES ACOM Vice-Chair
 - 3 EU Nature Restoration Law – Alice Belin, DG ENV
 - 4 MSFD – the work of TG Seabed – Alice Belin, DG ENV
-



COFFEE BREAK

10:40 – 10:55 CET

ATTENTION ILLICITE
PROPRIETE EXCLUSIVE
LE COFFREORT 2000



5 Evaluation of seafloor impact in the Belgian bottom trawl fishery - Hans Polet, ILVO



6 Focus Group update

- Inter-AC Brexit Forum
- CFP
- Landing Obligation
- Climate & Environment
- Skates & Rays
- Control & Compliance
- Social Aspects
- Brown Crab
- Seismic & Wind energy



Inter-AC Brexit Forum

- Established between PelAC, NWWAC, NSAC, MAC and LDAC
- 5 meetings:
 - 20 October 2022 chaired by the PelAC
 - 20 December chaired by the NWWAC
 - 24 February chaired by the NSAC
 - 15 May chaired by the MAC
 - 30 June chaired by the LDAC
- Commission attendance and updates (confidential)
- Topics at SCF:
 - Fisheries management measures
 - Transfer procedure fishing opportunities
 - Notifications
 - TCA TAC Alignment
 - Special issues (e.g. scallops pilot for non quota species management)



Inter-AC Brexit Forum

- ACs horizontal topics listing
- Provisional EU – UK calendar
 - Week of 24 July Working Group
 - Week of 25 September Specialised Committee on Fisheries
 - Bilateral fishing opps 2024: listing expected end October
- Next meeting: after Sept SCF





CFP

- Chair Alexandra Philippe, EBCD
- Vice-Chair Manu Kelberine, CRPMEM de Bretagne
- 2 meetings (May, June 2023)
- Terms of reference approved by ExCom on 16 June
- NWWAC letter on the joint special group on implementing the Marine Action Plan submitted on 06 June 2023
- Draft advice on the Action Plan in progress



Landing Obligation

- 3 virtual meetings (September, November 2022, February 2023)
- Response to the WW MAP targeted consultation submitted 01 March
- Advice on the management of spurdog fishery 2023 submitted 09 March
- Advice on the 2023 Joint Recommendation Discard Plan submitted on 17 April 2023
- Letter to DG MARE on difficulties with the landing obligation on 13 June 2023
- In-person workshop on the Choke Id Tool scheduled for 04 July led by Michael Keatinge
- 13 July 1st meeting to prepare advice on Commission's Communication and ICES advice on fishing opportunities 2024.

Joint NWWAC/NSAC Focus Group Skates & Rays

- Led by the NWWAC
- Chair John Lynch, IS&EFPO, Vice-Chair Johnny Woodlock, Irish Seal Sanctuary
- 3 virtual meetings (October, December 2022, March 2023)
- In person workshop held on 09 February 2023
 - 37 participants
 - 8 Member States + UK
- Workshop report published
- Joint NWWAC/NSAC letter on the prohibited species list submitted on 06 April 2023, response received
- Joint NWWAC/NSAC Advice on skates & rays management submitted on 02 May 2023, response received

- Next meeting September





Climate & Environment

- Chair Jacopo Pasquero, EBCD
- Need to review Terms of Reference taking into account the content of the CFP package - next proposed task: preparation of advice on the Communication on energy transition



Joint NSAC/NWWAC Focus Group Social Aspects

- Led by NSAC since 01 October 2022
- Chair Kenn Skau Fischer, Danmarks Fiskeriforening
- 4 virtual meetings (Oct, Nov 2022, Feb, Mar 2023)
- Joint NWWAC/NSAC advice on social aspects in fisheries submitted on 20 December 2022
- Joint NSAC/NWWAC Advice on the Evaluation of Directive 97/70/EC on harmonised safety regime for fishing vessels of 24 metres in length and over submitted on 11 May 2023
- Next meeting planned for July/August to focus on generational renewal (national perspectives and projects) and recreational fisheries in the CFP



Joint NWWAC/NSAC/MAC Focus Group Brown Crab

- Established in October 2022
- Led by the NWWAC
- Chair Norah Parke, KFO
- 5 virtual meetings (October, November 2022, January, February, March 2023)
- Hybrid workshop held on 16 May in Paris
 - 41 participants (industry and OIG)
 - 6 Member States + UK + Norway
- Advice drafting in progress
- Report to be published



Joint NWWAC/PelAC Focus Group Spatial Dimension

- Joint NWWAC/PelAC advice on the impacts of underwater noise and offshore wind energy developments on commercial fisheries submitted on 11 October 2022
- Joint NWWAC/PelAC Briefing on the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 Ireland held on 19 January 2023
- Draft Terms of Reference prepared by the Secretariats:
 - review previous advice submitted (as detailed above) in relation to potential impacts on commercial fish species from seismic activities, including underwater noise, and the development of ORE and follow up on identified issues where needed.
 - investigate the extent to which fisheries in the ACs remit areas are likely to be impacted by spatial squeeze due to the various developments taking place and planned for the future. This includes but is not limited to ORE developments and MPA designations.





LUNCH

12:30 – 13:30 CET

7 Follow up on NWWAC work on control

Focus Group Control, Enforcement & Compliance

- Chair Patrick Murphy, IS&WFPO
- Vice Chair Arthur Yon, FROMNord
- 2 virtual meetings (December 2022, May 2023)
- Terms of reference approved by ExCom on 14 June
- Letter to EFCA on the report on evaluation of compliance with the landing obligation in the NWW on 14 June 2023
- Next meeting in July to review preliminary agreement of new control regulation
- Pending: organisation of workshop with EFCA and NWW Member States on evaluation of compliance with the LO

Terms of Reference – FG objectives:

All control, enforcement and compliance topics relevant to NWW fisheries. These include but are not limited to:

- The implementation of the existing and revised Control Regulation, considering where AC advice on control measures might be needed.
- Compliance with the landing obligation, especially considering the issue of article 27 of the technical measures regulation. Joint-AC work, especially with the Pelagic Advisory Council, might be considered where relevant.
- The impacts of the post-Brexit landscape on fisheries control. In particular, the FG will follow the work of the Inter-AC Brexit Forum¹, both feeding on the information conveyed there and providing issues for discussion. This liaison will be done through the Secretariat and FG members who also participate in the Forum.
- Relevant actions and items raised in the Commission's package on the Common Fisheries Policy adopted on 21 February 2023.



EFCA / NWWAC liaison

Single Programming document

2023 – 2027 Multiannual Work Programme

2023 Annual Work Programme



1. Review of 2022 operations
2. Planned Work Programme for 2023
3. Objectives, structure and targets for Joint Deployment plans 2023
4. The release of the detailed information on the JDP to allow the AC to fully evaluate the findings
5. The training and mandate of the inspectors carrying out the JDP, particularly vessel inspections at sea
6. EFCA analysis of the data amassed from their inspections during 2022-2023
7. Data figures of compliance within the European Union fishing fleet by member state fleets
8. How are the Risk Analysis Procedures and Methodologies applied in order to choose a vessel for boarding and inspection
9. EFCA's progress on achieving Equalisation and Standardisation of both Control Measures and Outcomes across all Regions within EU waters

[NWWAC views on and issues with the definition of directed fishing from August 2020](#)

- 
- A dramatic sunset over the ocean. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with bright golden light breaking through from behind the sun, creating a silhouette of a fishing vessel on the water in the foreground. The overall mood is serene and powerful.
- 8 CIBBRiNA update – Lotte Kindt-Larsen, DTU Aqua
 - 9 CABFISHMAN update – Arantza Murillas, AZTI
 - 10 AOB
 - 11 Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair

