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CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR  
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES  
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN  
WATERS**  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA  
LAS AGUAS  
NOROCCIDENTALES

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# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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15 March 2023

# Agenda

09:00 – 09:10	_____	1	Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome from the Chair (Emiel Brouckaert)</li><li>• Apologies</li><li>• Adoption of the agenda</li></ul>
09:10 – 09:20	_____	2	Keynote address by Rosa Quintana, Conselleira do Mar
09:20 – 09:30	_____	3	Action Points from the last ExCom meeting
09:30 – 09:50	_____	4	Approval of action points from Working Groups
09:50 – 10:30	_____	5	Dialogue with DG MARE- Mr. Fabrizio Donatella, Director MARE C
10:30 – 10:45	_____		COFFEE BREAK
10:45 – 11:15	_____	5	SEAwise update - Jochen Depestele, ILVO
11:15 – 11:30	_____	6	Meetings organised/attended by the NWWAC
11:30 – 11:55	_____	7	NWWAC Work Programme and Budget update Year 18
11:55 – 12:25	_____	8	Overview of EFCA working procedures in 2023
12:25 – 12:30	_____	9	Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair







2 Keynote address by Rosa Quintana, Conselleira do Mar

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# Action points from the last meeting

1. Secretariat to follow up on UK waste waters topic and consider preparation of advice if needed.
2. The ExCom approved the changes proposed in the text to be shared with the PelAC ExCom for approval.
3. Chair to take option A from the meeting policy proposal to the General Assembly for approval.
4. ExCom approved the overview on year 17 accounts to be presented to the General Assembly.
5. Information on the EFCA Advisory Board should be shared with all ExCom members to trigger expressions of interest to attend on behalf of the AC.
6. Secretariat to request input from members on items to suggest for the Inter-AC Brexit Forum agenda.
7. Secretariat to launch written consultation of NWWAC members for input to MIAC and MIACO agendas.
8. Secretariat to get information on Barrie Deas retirement date and prepare an official message from the ExCom thanking him for the contribution to the work of the AC.

# Action points Working Group 1 – Irish Sea

- 1** Secretariat to check with ICES if any research (ongoing and/or planned) on cumulative effects of ORE developments is available. If not, recommendations should be developed by the AC requesting that this topic is investigated.
- 2** NWWAC to recommend the COM that ICES is requested to include climate change impacts on cod spawning – specifically increasing seawater temperature – into the stock assessment.
- 3** Comments made on exemptions to the Landing Obligation should be taken into account in the preparation of the AC advice on the Discard Plan 2024 by the Focus Group Landing Obligation.
- 4** Follow up on recommendations included in the Fishing Opportunities 2023 advice in relation to the Irish Sea and consider new issue raised on pollack assessment (mismatch between landing and catch data).



# Action points Working Group 2 – Celtic Sea & West of Scotland

- 1** Continue NWWAC work on ORE developments jointly with other Advisory Councils if possible
- 2** Working Group members are invited to send their comments on exemptions to the Landing Obligation to feed the preparation of the advice on the Discard Plan 2024 being prepared by the Focus Group Landing Obligation. In particular, members are invited to reflect on measures introduced which resulted in an increase in selectivity and in survivability.



# Action points Working Group 3 – Channel

- 1 CNPMEM to share proposal for advice on red mullet with the Secretariat which will distribute to Working Group 3 for review and then to ExCom for approval.
- 2 Secretariat to inform WG3 members on Member States Group's feedback on whelk advice
- 3 The advice on a joint recommendation for managing the scallop fishing in the Channel is put on hold at the moment. Irish and French members will liaise regarding the use of 97mm rings and come back to the Secretariat once updates are available.
- 4 Discuss the complaint from EAA and IFSUA regarding production of advice on seabass at ExCom. Secretariat to draft procedure to clarify how lack of consensus should be addressed when an advice is prepared.
- 5 Follow developments on designation of MPAs on both EU and UK sides and combine this work with the review of the CFP package.
- 6 Working Group members are invited to send their comments on exemptions to the Landing Obligation to feed the preparation of the advice on the Discard Plan 2024 being prepared by the Focus Group Landing Obligation. In particular, members are invited to reflect on measures introduced which resulted in an increase in selectivity and in survivability.



# Action points Horizontal Working Group

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. Commission to send written response on process of EU involvement in UK MPA consultations
7. Henn Ojavaer 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 MICA/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.





3 Dialogue with DG MARE- Fabrizio Donatella,  
Director MARE C

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# COFFEE BREAK

**10:30 – 10:45 CET**



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PROPRIETE EXCLUSIVE  
LE COFFREORT 2000





4 SEAwise update – Jochen Depestele, ILVO

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# Meetings organised/attended by the NWWAC

## MIAC/MIACO

- 12-13 January 2023
- Review of ICES advice activity 2022
- ICES in person attendance at NWWAC meetings in July
- Stakeholder perspectives & engagement strategy
- Emerging science needs
- Letter addressed to ICES with queries from NWWAC fish opps advice not taken into account in TAC and Quota 2023 outcome





# Meetings organised/attended by the NWWAC

## NWWAC/PelAC Briefing on the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 Ireland

- 19 January 2023
- Hybrid meeting held in BIM offices Dun Laoghaire, Ireland,
- Speakers from three Irish government Departments
- Action: renewed application for NWWAC to join the ORE forum in conjunction with the PelAC

# Meetings organised/attended by the NWWAC

## Northern Fisheries Alliance Spatial Squeeze Working Group

- 28 February in London
- Representatives from England, Scotland, Norway, Sweden, Ireland, Denmark and France
- National offshore renewables targets/timelines
- Spatial issues/challenges per country, including environmental impacts
- National pushback strategies & collective action
- Next steps: Terms of Reference & PR strategy



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# Work Programme Year 18

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# Succession of ExCom industry Vice-Chair position

- Current positions held:
  - OIG Vice-Chair                      Alexandra Philippe, EBCD
  - Industry Vice-Chair                Irene Prieto, ANASOL
  - Industry Vice-Chair                Julien Lamothe, ANOP
- Julien Lamothe has been appointed Chair of MAC Working Group and therefore feels he can no longer fulfil the role of Vice-Chair in the NWWAC effectively and efficiently.
- Proposed successor: Jean-Marie Robert, Les Pêcheurs de Bretagne
- in development







# 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





# NWWAC meetings Year 18

- 76 number of meetings:
- 1 Executive Committee
  - March 2023 (Santiago de Compostela)
- 3 sub-regional Working Groups
  - March 2023 (Santiago de Compostela)
- 1 Horizontal Working Group
  - March 2023 (Santiago de Compostela)
- 11 Focus and Advice Drafting Groups
  - 18 virtual meetings

Members are informed of all meetings via the monthly update available online in the Members Area on [www.nwwac.org](http://www.nwwac.org).

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



# Year 18 – NWWAC meetings – March 2023

- 6 Meetings between the ExCom Chair, Vice-Chairs and the Secretariat (virtual, Oct, 2x Nov 2022, Jan, Feb, Mar 2023)
- 1 Management Team – Secretariat – Performance Review Team (virtual, 19 Oct 2022)
- 2 Landing Obligation (in person Nov 2022, virtual Feb 2023)
- 3 Skates and Rays (virtual, Oct, Dec 2022, Mar 2023)
- 4 Social Aspects (virtual, Oct, Nov 2022, Feb, Mar 2023)
- 1 Whelk (virtual, Dec 2022)
- 4 Brown Crab (virtual, Oct, Nov 2022, Jan, Feb 2023)
- 1 Scallop (virtual, 31 Jan 2023)
- 1 WebGIS (virtual, 13 Oct 2023)
- 1 ACFishMap Training Workshop (virtual, 01 Dec 2022)
- 3 Inter-AC Brexit Forum with PelAC, NSAC, LDAC, MAC (virtual, Oct, Dec 2022, Feb 2023)



# External meetings with NWWAC participation – March 2023

- 3 North Western Waters Member States Group (virtual, Oct 2022, 2x Feb 2023)
- 1 EFCA Advisory Board (hybrid, Oct 2022)
- 2 EU Commission finance meetings (virtual Oct, Nov 2022)
- 2 Inter-AC meetings (virtual Nov 2022, in person Mar 2023)
- WKEMBY (virtual, October 2022)
- EFCA Seminar on the Five-Year Independent External Evaluation of the European Fisheries Control Agency (Vigo, Oct 2022)
- WKRRCOD (Edinburgh, Nov 2022)
- SEAwise workshop (virtual, Nov 2022)
- DGENV MSFD workshop (Brussels, Nov 2022)







- **MSE Optimizing sustainable fishing on rebuilt fish stocks** (virtual, Nov 2023)
- **'Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030": an Atlantic-Arctic lighthouse** (Cork, Nov 2023)
- **ICES ADGVME2** (virtual, Nov 2023)
- **Mesa de la Ciencia Pesquera** (Vigo, Dec 2022)
- **Roundtable discussion with Commissioner Sinkevičius to** (Brussels, Dec 2022)
- **AC Chairs & Secretariats meeting** (Copenhagen, Jan 2023)
- **MIAC / MIACO** (Copenhagen, Jan 2023)
- **Launch of EFCA's chartered patrol vessels** (Vigo, Jan 2023)
- **Seafish meeting on UK Fisheries Management Plans** (virtual, Jan 2023)
- **NMCI Seafarer's Conference 2023** (Limerick, Feb 2023)
- **Northern Fishing Alliance Spatial Squeeze WG** (London, Feb 2023)
- **ICES WGMIXFISH** (virtual, Mar 2023)
- **ICES ADGVME** (virtual, Mar 2023)

# Planned recommendations YR18

No	Issue/subject	Link with the CFP	WG/FG at the origin of the recommendation	Planned date of adoption (if available)	State of Play
1	Advice on Addressing Choke Risk in the NWW after exemptions	Article 2, 14, 15	WG1, WG2, WG3	December 2022	Delivered 09/12/2022
2	Advice following the finalisation of the Discard Plan 2021 – 2023	Article 2, 14, 15\e	Focus Group Landing Obligation	May 2023	Development of advice on post 2023 Discard Plan in progress
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	NWWAC advice on CFP reporting delivered 24/10/2022
4	Advice on the implementation of the EU Technical Measures Regulation, including directed fisheries definition	Article 2, 10	Horizontal Working Group	June 2023	Potential advice on hake management in the Celtic Sea Potential advice on cod management in Irish Sea
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	Cancelled
7	Advice on the management of Brown Crab	Article 2	Focus Group Brown Crab	June 2023	Development following May workshop



# Planned recommendations YR18 (continued)

No	Issue/subject	Link with the CFP	WG/FG at the origin of the recommendation	Planned date of adoption (if available)	State of Play
8	Advice on the management of Scallops	Article 2	Focus Group Scallops	June 2023	In development
9	Advice on the management of Whelks	Article 2	Focus Group Whelks	April 2023	Delivered 02/02/2023
10	Advice on Fishing Opportunities 2024	Article 2, 14, 15, 16	WG1, WG2, WG3, Focus Group Landing Obligation	July 2023	Planned for July 2023
11	Advice on the management of skates & rays	Article 2, 10, 14, 15, 16	Focus Group Skates & Rays	November 2022	Advice on the management of picked dogfish fishery in the NWW in 2023 delivered 09/03/2023 Skates & Rays in development
12	Advice relating to SCF issues: technical measures, non-quota species etc.	Article 2, 14, 15	Horizontal WG, WG3, Focus Group Whelk, Focus Group Scallop	December 2022	Advice on Whelk management submitted on 2 February 2022 Advice on Scallop management in progress Proposal for advice on red mullet
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	NWWAC/PelAC advice on impact of underwater noise and offshore wind energy delivered 11/10/2022 Feedback on energy transition delivered 01/12/2022
14	Advice on social aspects related to fisheries in the NWW	Article 2	Focus Group Social Aspects	February 2023	Delivered 20/12/2022, 2 <sup>nd</sup> advice in progress





# Additional recommendations (March 2023)

- Joint NWWAC/SWWAC letter on stakeholder engagement over the implementation of the Deep-sea Access Regulation (10 November 2022)
- NWWAC letter on the display of fisheries management related data (09 December 2022)
- Joint ACs letter to the Commission on promotion of Advisory Councils (03 February 2023)
- AC response on the targeted consultation on the Western Waters Multiannual Plan (09 March 2023)

# Year 18 WP Meetings (March 2023)

No	Date (for the first 6 months, please provide precise dates)	Topics/ subjects of meeting	If Commission participation requested, specific issues to be dealt with	Actual date held
1	10 October 2022	Focus Group Sea bass	Sea bass advice for fishing opportunities 2023, catch allocation tool, EU-UK harmonisation	Via written procedure
2	13 October 2022	Focus Group Landing Obligation		29 November
3	18 October 2022	Focus Group Social Aspects		13 October
4	24 October 2022	Focus Group Whelk	Discussion of the results from STECF EWG 22-04	05 December
5	28 October 2022	Focus Group Brown Crab	Discussion of the results from STECF EWG 22-04	18 October
6	01 November 2022	Focus Group Climate & Environment		
7	07 November 2022	Focus Group Scallop	Discussion of the results from STECF EWG 22-04	28 September
8	24 November 2022	Focus Group Skates & Rays	Discussion of the results from STECF EWG 22-08	14 October
		FG Brown Crab		30 November
9	30 November 2022	Focus Group Sea bass		Via written procedure
		FG Skates & Rays		08 December
10	16 December 2022	Focus Group Social Aspects		20 February
11	10 January 2023	Focus Group Brown Crab		24 January
		NWWAC/PelAC Briefing		19 January
		Focus Group Scallop		31 January
12	31 January 2023	Focus Group Control		14 December
13	08 February 2023	Focus Group Climate & Environment		
		NWWAC/NSAC Workshop on Skates & Rays Management		09 February
14	22 February 2023	Focus Group Social Aspects		03 March
		FG Landing Obligation		06 February
		FG Brown Crab		28 February
		FG Skates & Rays		02 March
15	13 March 2023	Working Group 1 Irish Sea	Technical measures, Discard Plan beyond 2023	
16	13 March 2023	Working Group 3 English Channel	Technical measures, Discard Plan beyond 2023, non-quota species	
17	14 March 2023	Working Group 2 Celtic Sea & West of Scotland	Technical measures, Discard Plan beyond 2023	
18	14 March 2023	Horizontal Working Group	TCA & SCF, UK Technical Measures, EU public consultation Protecting the seabed from bottom trawling by fishing vessels	
19	15 March 2023	Executive Committee	Dialogue with DG MARE: Overview on ongoing dossiers and upcoming advice requests; EU-UK negotiations, fishing opportunities 2024,	

# Year 18 Upcoming Meetings (March 2023)

	27 March	FG Crab	
	30 March	FG Skates & Rays	
	16 May	Brown Crab Workshop	
20	03 July 2023	Working Group 1 Irish Sea	ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts
21	03 July 2023	Working Group 3 English Channel	ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts
22	04 July 2023	Horizontal Working Group	depending on the topics discussed a DG MARE expert will be requested
23	04 July 2023	General Assembly	
24	04 July	Working Group 2 Celtic Sea & West of Scotland	ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts
25	05 July 2023	Executive Committee	Dialogue with the Commission and Member States; EU-UK negotiations, fishing opportunities 2024
26	21 September 2023	Horizontal Working Group	depending on the topics discussed a DG MARE expert will be requested
27	21 September 2023	Working Group 1 Irish Sea	Stock specific discussions relating to technical measures, landing obligation, discard plan, non-quota stocks etc with DG MARE experts
28	22 September 2023	Working Group 2 Celtic Sea & West of Scotland	Stock specific discussions relating to technical measures, landing obligation, discard plan, non quota stocks etc with DG MARE experts
29	22 September 2023	Working Group 3 English Channel	Stock specific discussions relating to technical measures, landing obligation, discard plan, non quota stocks etc with DG MARE experts
30	23 September 2023	Executive Committee	Dialogue with DG MARE: Overview on ongoing dossiers and upcoming advice requests; EU-UK negotiations, fishing opportunities 2024
31	23 September 2023	General Assembly	

# Upcoming NWWAC meetings – March 2023

- Inter-AC Brexit Forum (virtual, 20 March 2023)
- NWWAC/NSAC/MAC Focus Group Brown Crab (virtual, 27 March 2023)
- Focus Group Landing Obligation (virtual, 28 March 2023)
- NWWAC/NSAC Focus Group Skates & Rays (virtual, 30 March 2023)
- Meeting between the Chair/Vice-Chairs and Secretariat (virtual, 05 April)
- NWWAC/NSAC/MAC Workshop on Brown Crab (hybrid, Paris, 16 May 2023)
- NWWAC WGs and ExCom (Ghent, 03 – 05 July 2023)
- NWWAC WGs, ExCom and GA (virtual September 2023)
  
- NWWAC WGs and ExCom (Dublin, 13 – 15 March 2024)



# Upcoming external meetings with NWWAC participation – March 2023

- NWW MSG Technical Group (virtual, 16 March 2023)
- CABFISHMAN final symposium (Bilbao, 22 March 2023)
- OREDP II (Dundalk, 24 March 2023)
- EFARO Webinar: the future of the bottom trawl (virtual, 31 March 2023)
- NWW MSG Technical Group (virtual, 04 April 2023)
- NWW MS High Level Group Group (virtual, 11 April 2023)
- Pre WGNSSK (virtual, 12 April 2023)
- EFCA Advisory Board (virtual, 19 April 2023)
- Commission update on the review of the VME list (virtual, 25 April 2023)
- NWW MSG Technical Group (virtual, 25 April 2023)
- ICES WKRRCOD (Edinburgh, 23 May 2023)
- European Maritime Day (Brest, 24 – 25 May 2023)
- STECF EWG 23 – 07 Annual Economic Report on the EU Fishing Fleet II (Ispra, 12 – 16 June 2023)
- Commission launch of the partnership on the Energy Transition in the EU fisheries and aquaculture sector, (Brussels, 16 June)





# UPDATE ON YEAR 18 ACCOUNTS



# Year 18 – Income – Current Position

	Original Budget 01 October 2022	Actual Income at 15 March 2023	Outstanding
Member States	€ 22,000	€ 17,600*	€4,400*
Commission	€ 330,000	€ 264,000	Balance EU-grant** € 66,000
Member's Fees + interest on fees + misc. income	€38,750	€ 32,600	
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 390,750</b>	<b>€ 314,200</b>	<b>€ 70,400</b>

\* Contribution from Spanish administration due May 2023.

\*\* Commission income agreed at €330,000 under new lumpsum approach. 100% grant once work programme is achieved.



# Year 18 – Expenditure – Current Position

	<b>Eligible Predicted Budget 01 October 2022</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure up to 15 March 2023</b>	<b>Estimated actual expenditure 30 September 2023</b>
Staff	€ 170,466.85	€ 72,674.54	€ 170,466.85
Reimbursements	€ 82,002.50	€ 8,783.70	€80,283.10
Interpretation & Translation	€ 60,472.66	€ 16,653.74	€60,000
Meetings and Information	€ 8,234	€ 10,883.06	€12,000
Operating costs	€23,674.00	€ 4,785.47	€24,000
Chairman Fees / Audit	€20,000.00	€ 2,500.00	€20,000.00
Other contracts	€25,900.00	€ 5,731.50	€24,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>€390,750</b>	<b>€ 122,012.01</b>	<b>€390,750</b>





# BIM – NWWAC agreement

- NWWAC originally facilitated fully via BIM following establishment in 2005
- Slow separation of administration and positions over the years
- Fully independent Secretariat since July 2020
- Support agreement in place on 3-year cycle covering office space and facilities, meeting room facilities, expert support, IT support (hardware & software)
- Current agreement 01/10/2020 – 30/09/2023
- Annual fee of € 16,000
- BIM moving premises in 2023 once sanction has been given by the Department
- NWWAC Board of Directors have reached out to BIM to ensure NWWAC office is accommodated in this move species list in development



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Thank you.

North Western Waters Advisory Council 