

FISHERIES COMMITTEE

OPEN MINUTES

Fisheries Department
Thursday, 3rd September 2020
09:00am

These minutes are draft minutes until confirmed by resolution at the next meeting of this committee

Present:	The Honourable Teslyn Barkman– Chairperson	TB
	The Honourable Roger Spink	RS
	Director of Natural Resources – Andrea Clausen	DNR
	Dr Alexander Arkhipkin	AA
	Mr. Daniel Wood	DW
	Mr. Mike Summers	MS
	Mr. Stuart Wallace	SW
	Mr. Michael Poole	MP
	Mr. Drew Irvine	DI
	Dr Jorge Ramos Castillejos	JRC
	Dr Haseeb Randhawa	HR
	Dr Frane Skeljic	FS
	Mr Brendon Lee	BL

Minute Taker:	Mrs Beverley Glanville	BG
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| 1 | Apologies for Absence | ACTION |
| 1.1 | Chief Executive- Mr Barry Rowland, MLA Ian Hansen and Mr. Hamish Wylie | |
| 2 | Declarations of Interest | |
| 2.1 | Industry representatives declared an interest for all items on the agenda. | |
| 3 | Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th June 2020. | |
| 3.1 | The minutes were all confirmed. | |
| 4 | Matters arising from the Minutes held on the 4th June 2020. | |

4.1 Item 7.5 –MP asked if there was only more movement that took place since the briefing from Haseeb. DNR said no changes at this time.

5 Fishery Update

5.1 DNR gave a brief update on the fishery.

5.2 MS asked when the ExCo paper for the finfish review will be completed, DNR replied that she hoped to start on it by the end of this year. MP said that some FIFCA members are concerned that that this paper will go to ExCo before the members get to see it. DNR insisted that the industry has been briefed on the finfish review already and everything from that report will be copied and pasted to the ExCo paper with comments. MP asked if the industry would know if the FIFD were agreeing with the recommendations or not before the paper when to ExCo, DNR said possibly not due to internal business. MS added that the internal structure of the department is important to them, DNR agreed.

5.3 MP asked if someone from DESIS/Maritime Authority will join the Fisheries Advisory Committee, DNR recommended that the head of FIMA sits on the FAC. MP asked if the new committee that will be formed to oversee the Maritime function will be covered by the Committees Access to Information Ordinance, DNR said no, as it is not a Statutory Committee, is a monitoring committee. MP said that the ToR are not very clear.

DNR

5.4 MS asked if for some reason the Surveyor training is not completed in time, does that mean that Port State Control inspections will not commence in 2021. DNR said that that might be the case, DW said that other options would be considered if this situation arises.

5.5 MP asked why the Pilotage direction ExCo paper didn't come to the FAC, DNR said it was not deliberate, the industry seen most of the information as it was contained in the consultation document.

5.6 SW mentioned that the fact that the catches in the first season weren't huge, this was helping to keep the prices at a good level.

5.7 SW said that the industry was upset by the lack of engagement by FIG with the industry with regards to the specifics of the Brexit negotiations, which will directly impact them. TB said that we will try to arrange a meeting soon with Richard, Andrea, MLA's and the industry to talk it though, and that hopefully Ian Ascough could also join that conversation.

**BG or
TB**

6 Illex licences 2021

- 6.1** DNR gave a brief overview of the paper.
- 6.2** MS asked about Industry priority list, DNR said the priority lists would be received and DNR would consider the applications one by one and the maritime incident data will be used to inform the process.
- 6.3** DNR would like feedback on this, so that the ExCo paper can be completed and can reflect industry views. **FIFCA**
- 6.4** TB said there is a 2 week period being provided for industry feedback on this paper, the industry said that will be adequate.
- 6.5** MP mentioned the movement of the season by 2 weeks to provide an earlier start. He mentioned that it was not envisaged that 2 weeks would be taken off the end of the season to compensate for the 2 week earlier start. MP asked if there is a scientific reason as to why the season cannot continue if the squid is still there and the vessels still want to fish, AA said this is to stop overfishing. MS would like to come back to this after they consider which option they prefer, either to bring the season forward for an earlier start or to leave where it currently is. DNR said this can still be changed at the moment, the final dates would be included in the ExCo paper at the end of October. **DNR**
SW asked for G Licences to be considered in the season move.
- 6.6** MP would welcome a discussion on the discount policy and the ability to buy part seasons. It was decided that they could talk about this at FFLG.
- 7 Licencing advice 2021**
- 7.1** AA gave a brief summary of the licencing advice.
- 7.2** MP pointed out that AA said he would, with regards to skate and SBW licences, be willing to look at within the year depending on fishing plans. AA said as with all fisheries, we will look at on a case by case basis, based on evidence at the time.
- 8 Toothfish MSC**
- 8.1** FS gave a presentation on Toothfish MSC.
- 8.2** MP asked for FIFCA to get a copy of the presentation. **BG**
- 9. Toothfish report**
- 9.1** BL gave a presentation on the target of Toothfish.
- 9.2** SW asked if the result of this work creates any implications for the MSC certification, AA said not yet and while Toothfish is a

fisheries stock, we will be fine. But the population is much larger and with some stock coming and going from Chile, the population is not closed.

10. Loligo Research Cruise

10.1 JRC presented the Loligo Research Cruise paper.

10.2 SW asked if there were any observations about maturity scales what were found, AA said this was normal. SW asked why there is so much squid in the north this season, AA said that we are working on it.

10.3 DI asked for a copy of the presentation.

BG

10.4 RS asked if there is an increase of catches earlier in the season can it be moved. AA said that we cannot move the beginning of the season as the pre-recruitment survey is just before the season starts.

11. Hake Research Cruise

11.1 TB & SW thanked HR for the work he has done in the Fisheries Department.

12 MMO first season report

12.1 VI gave a presentation on the first seasons MMO report.

12.2 AA added that Fixed Aerial arrays are not effective during shooting, because the net is floating on the surface of the water and as the net might not be cleaned well enough the birds are attracted to it. However, bycatch has decreased when compared to previous years and so AA thanked the industry and the vessels for helping to reduce mortalities by actions they have taken in following FIFD advice.

SW asked about the Waste disposable systems on vessels, VI said that this will happen over time as it cannot happen overnight.

13 Foreign Fishing Vessel Safety & Regulations

13.1 DW gave a brief summary of the Foreign Fishing Vessel Safety, there was then an in-depth discussion.

13.2 MP indicated that if we were to push the jiggers too hard to stick to all of the safety regulations right now, they won't bother coming for licences and will just stay on the high seas.

13.3 MP mentioned the issue of the Falkland Islands regulations and the issue of Torremolinos being the standards expected of a foreign vessel but then inspection standard being MSN1873, it is not the easiest to communicate to foreign vessel owners. The

industry would like absolute clarity on what the inspection standard would be and where there are variations, which on will you be holding a vessel too? DW said that if during an initial inspection the foreign flagged vessel does not have a certificate stating it complies with Torremolinos standards the inspector will continue to inspect against MSN1873, which is the standard that is applicable under Falkland Island law . DNR said that there is nothing different to what we have previously discussed; it is just the process we are discussing. If the certificate isn't on board, then the inspector will carry out a more detailed inspection. They will use the checklist and guidelines industry have, DNR asked for feedback on this so that it can be included in the ExCo paper that is due to go to the October meeting.

13.4 MP & MS asked about the exemption options. DNR said that we will agree not to inspect against certain things as per the annex, but cannot issue an exemption certificate to any foreign flagged vessel.

13.5 MP said that they will provide full feedback, and note concerns that they have including possible delays for implementation with regards to accommodation, emergency radio systems and rescue boats.

13.6 DNR stated that we intend to inspect 5 jiggers, as per the policy of inspecting 5% of the vessels. It was noted that DW has been quite clear about how the vessel will be selected, using intelligence. DNR re-stated that industry feedback is required to finalise the ExCo paper.

14 Fisheries Compliance Summary 2020

14.1 DNR presented the Fisheries Compliance summary 2020 paper, and asked industry for feedback on content and layout of the data, noting that work on historic records was incomplete and that when completed would be brought to the Committee for information.

14.2 MS asked what for examples of issues that would be logged, DNR said it could be anything to do with out-of-date life vests, broken piolet ladder, MARPOL or any other licence conditions.

14.3 SW asked to know how many infringements were committed by the vessels and what they were, also infringements by category. DNR replied that we would be happy to send company to company reports on a confidential basis as required.

15 Date of next meeting

15.1 The date of the next meeting is 3rd December 2020 at 09:00.

No Part 2.

Minutes confirmed this day of 2020.

Chairman

Secretary