



SW Regional Inshore Fisheries Forum

9th of May 2018

External Action Points

- **NE Scallop Proposal**

Action point Consensus that the elements that apply nationally ie section 1 re dredge limits are acceptable. This limits are more liberal than local arrangements around Castletownbere therefore RM to ask Berehaven Harbour Ass to comment. RM to revert by 18th of May.

- **Consultation on a Review of Trawling Activity Inside the 6 Nautical Mile Zone.**

Action Point: Observation paper to be edited to reflect that it is in response to consultation. Circulate to SW RIFF

- **Proposal from Northwest Kerry Shellfish Co-op re New conservation Measure for Crayfish**

Action point: Submit proposal to NIFF for consideration by other RIFFs and progress through to completion.

- **Islands Heritage Bill**

Action Point As a matter of policy the SW RIFF tries not to create divisions among inshore fishermen and much of the fleet has had its origins in the various islands around the coast. We are open to looking at solutions to address the challenges facing the islands but wish to do so without causing a 2 tier society among fishermen. Bearing this in mind we want to consider the Bill however there are a number of clarifications required before we could engage in constructive debate and make a meaningful submission.

For example, given the transcript from the debate there appears to a question of an additional secondary license awarded to individuals that re currently registered polyvalent <12M, the purpose of which is to give access to quota stocks. How is it envisaged that this addresses an issue when their current license already gives them access to quota stock?

The Bill also references non-transferable community quota, we assume in relation to under 12M vessels but does not specify what species or volumes? Given that the quota already available is not exhausted how do the proposers of the Bill envisage this helping island operators?



Internal Action Points

- **Retirement Scheme for Fishermen was deferred from last meeting.**

Action Point: Secretariat to email RIFF regarding material / information to inform debate.

- **Invitation extended to Berehaven Harbour Association to take up seat at SW RIFF.**

Confirmed that this had been sent. RM reported that John Orpen had received no correspondence.

Action Point to confirm who it had been sent to.

- **V notching & TCM**

Action Point Invitation to Oliver Tully re TCMs deferred to next meeting.

- **Request from Irish Elasmobranch Group re Marine Institute Fishery plan**

Action Point: The SW RIFF looks forward to seeing the plan and considering it. Direct Industry involvement in the development of any fishery plan is critical and the ideal place for the plan to be developed is at a local level and up through RIFF and NIFF structure.

Action Point: Request update from Maurice Clarke on Marine Institutes plan for the developing a fishery plan for North Kerry.

- **Presentation on Marine Spatial Planning by Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government**

Action Point: Email Marine Spatial Planning presentation around to SW RIFF and MSPs from Scotland and Northern Ireland

- **Profitability and Effort in Pot Fisheries –Is there an issue?**

It was unanimously agreed that there is a problem. **Action Point:** Review what systems other countries use to protect profitability.