

## SW Regional Inshore Fisheries Forum

Via Microsoft Teams - 16th of June 2021 at 20:00 hrs

### Action Points

#### 1. NW RIFF Mackerel Proposal

In light of the DAFM closure of the Mackerel Fishery and the QMAC meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup>, it was felt that the NW RIFF Mackerel Jigging Proposal needed to be revisited.

**Action Point:** The SW RIFF would support the NW proposal to seek an increase in allocation.

**Action Point:** The SW RIFF would support a management plan as outlined by DAFM with the following amendments:

- Authorisation for the fishery is not required and should be dropped from the management proposals. Any vessel with a polyvalent general licence has an entitlement to target mackerel within species allocation limits. At no time should an authorisation supersede a polyvalent general fishing licence.
- A managed fishery should include monthly limits from May to September, trip limits and an allocation for u8m vessels. Any unused allocation within these monthly limits should be returned to the Pelagic sector at the end of the Mackerel Hook & Line fishery in September.

**The SW RIFF proposes to withdraw support for the increase in landing limit to 1,500kg per trip while the current allocation of 400t is in place. To allow a further increase at this time without a corresponding increase in allocation, would see the fishery closed in 3-4 weeks. It would also have concerns that to increase the trip landing limit would see even more effort targeting the hook and line mackerel fishery creating a dedicated nomadic fleet that would/could push out opportunities for regional inshore vessels.**

#### Action Points:

The SW RIFF will ask NIFF Secretary to forward this amended proposal to all other RIFFS for their consideration/views.

Request that the NIFF seek a timeline for the conclusion of the Judicial Review.

Ask the DAFM to reopen the fishery with a management plan in place. This is the first time that the fishery has been closed, denying opportunities to West, South West, South, and South East regions.

#### 2. Brexit Taskforce Briefing

**Action Point:** The taskforce is looking for proposals to on how to deliver support to vessels that target non quota species.