

Action Points from the SE RIFF meeting of the 15th of February 2023 for communication/follow up outside of the NIFF

1.1 SE RIFF to enquire from BIM if it is appropriate to invite Minister Eamonn Ryan to attend a meeting of the SE RIFF to discuss concerns over ORE;

This is in light of the fact that the Marine Tourism representative of the SE RIFF met the minister recently, and the minister stated that he was open to consultation with stakeholder entities.

Action Points to be brought to the next NIFF meeting from the SE RIFF meeting of the 15th of February 2023.

2.1 Full review and increase of Travel and Subsistence in line with Civil Service rates (SW RIFF)

The SE RIFF wish to state their support for the this along the following lines;

- Travel rates to be aligned with DPER travel rates e. (an average of all rates might be considered)
- Daily rate (LRC) for attending SE RIFF meetings should be increased as €200 is not adequate to cover a fisher attending a meeting in order to give up a days fishing and in consideration of the additional time taken outside of meetings dealing with various issues and making/taking phone calls. €500 was proposed as a suitable rate.
- Daily rate (LRC) for attending SE RIFF meetings should be available for all members. For example, the Seafood Added Value representative was prohibited from receiving this despite having to engage cover for his work while attending SE RIFF meetings.
- Continue with vouched expenses by way of receipts for subsistence including food while attending meetings. Overnight hotel rates also to be increased in line with present hotel rates

2.2 Recommend discussion at NIFF level the immediate establishment of a Government mandated compensation fund/scheme for impacted fishers in Ore development areas

The SE RIFF are putting forward a proposal to NIFF seeking RIFFs comments, amendments and support request NIFF discuss with their RIFFs the basis for a proposal seeking Government mandated commitment for a dedicated fund for those impacted the most by ORE Developments. The SE RIFF propose that this commitment should be set in place/enforced by the Government/relevant department with standardised overall parameters, index linked, ring fenced over the lifetime of the project (recommend 25 years) and a separate requirement but allow allowing ability for local agreement on an ORE project by project basis. Such a dedicated fund is seen as essential to avoid those most impacted by ORE by a decrease/cessation to their livelihoods losing out in the fog of community funds that may have no discernible benefit to them.

The following is a summary of a first draft of potential sectors that would be considered to be eligible for such a dedicated fund;

- Fishers
- Seafood that purchase/depend on landings from the impacted area
- Commercial marine tourism charter boat owners

It is proposed that such a fund needs to be adaptative e.g., if fishing activity is allowed to some extent at the beginning of the operation of an ORE project, but if then further limited or closed to fishing due to safety concerns at a later date, then, the fund/payments needs to be reconfigured to reflect this.



Inshore Fisheries Forums
Fóraim Iascaigh Cois Cladaigh

The issue of displacement of fishing activity and the impact on fishers outside of the ORE project must also be considered.



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