

Action Points from the SE RIFF meeting of the 6th of December 2022 for communication/follow up outside of the NIFF.

1.1 Write to the Irish Environmental Network (IEN) regarding their view/policy on ORE including;

- The potential negative impact of ORE on the environment including marine habits/marine and bird species, including the impact of site suitability assessment studies by the ORE sector.
- EU policy that ORE should be outside of 20km from the coast but is being carried out within the inshore areas of the Irish coast.

Action Points to be brought to the next NIFF meeting from the SE RIFF meeting of the 6th of December 2022.

2.1 After receiving a response from the IEN (under 1.1 above) to submit a proposal to the NIFF

The SE RIFF to request the NIFF to seek clarification from the appropriate government departments as to why ORE in Ireland is being located wholly inshore in the initial phase(s) contrary to the EU policy of being located outside of 20km.

2.2 Propose a review of the Inshore Forums

It was agreed that the SE RIFF propose/ask the NIFF to seek a review to be carried out on the effectiveness of Inshore Forums as a structure since their formation in 2014, and to propose recommendations on how they could be more effective and better resourced. This is in light of the fact that many of the RIFFs are becoming disillusioned with the apparent lack of results of the forums i.e., ability to achieve the objectives set out in its strategy. This is also reflected by the industry. The issue of inadequate resources for the forums was also highlighted at the RIFF/NIFF ORE Networking event in Carlow on the 9th of November 2022.