



North East Regional Inshore Fisheries Forum
Via Teams
Wednesday 24th February 2021
Action Points

1. Minutes from the last NE RIFF meeting and matters arising

2. General Discussion of Dundalk Cockle Fishery

The LAC rep and the secretary gave an overview of the progress of the development of a draft new 5-year plan. It was explained that, unlike previous times, DAFM are asking that the plan be forwarded as a NERIFF plan rather than directly from the LAC as this is now the recognised formal procedure for the development of any management of Inshore in the Northeast. It was explained that the plan was still being drafted and that discussions had taken place between the LAC and the MI about potential changes to the rules regarding the per annum floor limit of biomass remaining, and adjustments to the calculation method for annual TAC.

Action: LAC rep to forward completed draft to secretary for circulation to NERIFF members for approval

3. Meeting Joined by representative from DAFM Q&A re Public consultation

The meeting was joined by DAFM to discuss a public consultation on creating a process to allow for authorisation of additional vessels to enter the Dundalk Bay Cockle fishery should this be triggered by the current management rules. The discussion centred around the design of the public consultation draft sent previously to NERIFF by DAFM

Action: Secretary to collate the feedback and send via email to RIFF members for approval before sending on to DAFM.

4. NERIFF communication to industry

NE RIFF communication to industry was discussed.

5. General meeting of all NE inshore fishers

The idea of a general meeting for all NE inshore fishers was discussed.