



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN
WATERS
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

—
20 March 2024

Agenda

| | | | |
|---------------|-------|---|---|
| 09:30 – 09:50 | _____ | 1 | Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome from the Chair (Emiel Brouckaert)• Apologies• Adoption of the agenda• Action points from the last meeting (27 September 2023, online) |
| 09:50 – 10:30 | _____ | 2 | Approval of action points from the Working Groups |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | _____ | 3 | Dialogue with NWW Member States Group – Jonathan Tholo, Direction Générale Des Affaires Maritimes, De La Pêche Et De L’Aquaculture |
| 10:45 – 11:05 | _____ | 4 | Work Programme and Budget update Year 19 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NWWAC Work Programme Year 20 |
| 11:05 – 11:20 | _____ | 5 | Update NWWAC ExCom elections & NWWAC Chair nomination |
| 11:20 – 11:35 | _____ | | Coffee |
| 11:35 – 12:35 | _____ | 6 | Dialogue with DG MARE– Eva Caballeira, Head of Unit MARE C.5 |
| 12:35 – 12:45 | _____ | 7 | Future meeting schedule |
| 12:45 – 12:50 | _____ | 8 | AOB |
| 12:50 – 13:00 | _____ | 9 | Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair |

Action points from the last meeting

1. Follow up VMEs process and liaise with SWWAC.
2. DG MARE to follow up on two pending questions: Brexit Adjustment Reserve extension request; Linkage between CFP and Nature Restoration Law
3. Secretariat to submit NWWAC advice on UK FMP consultations to the Commission.
4. Pricing issues both on cost and revenue sides to be addressed in joint FG Social Aspects and Secretariat to highlight these issues to the MAC.

Action points Working Group 1 – Irish Sea

- 1 The Chair will propose a candidate vice-chair to be elected at the next WG meeting in July.
- 2 The Chair will look for further information on a previously discussed proposal on a de minimis for haddock.
- 3 It is proposed that a recommendation is made to the Commission for the EU to develop techniques for socio-economic assessments of ORE developments.
- 4 The Secretariat will share the written stakeholder input submitted to STECF following EWG 15-23 on Technical Measures and will share the EWG report once available.



Action points Working Group 2 – Celtic Sea & West of Scotland

- 1 In response to DG Vitcheva's request at the last Inter-AC meeting in February 2024 and following up on the STECF EWG 23-15 meeting, the NWWAC should prepare advice on technical measures in the Celtic Sea. This advice should also include a request to receive results from the data collection campaign recently carried by the UK.
- 2 A webinar should be organized by the NWWAC in June 2024 on scientific assessment of the Celtic Sea cod stock and the impact of climate change, inviting involved scientists, NWW Member States representatives and DG MARE.
- 3 The WG will continue following the work by BIM on spurdog and consider the final report of the ongoing campaign for advice to the NWW Member States.
- 4 Issues and concerns regarding VMEs to be raised with DG MARE at ExCom meeting on 20 March.
- 5 The WG will continue following ongoing work on the Nephrops fishery in the Porcupine Bank. Aodh O'Donnell will share the report from the first assessment from 2023 and additional information when available.



Action points Working Group 3 – Channel

- 1 The WG will continue following the Irish work on scallop trials. Results of upcoming trials should be ready for the WG meeting in July. In the meantime, the Secretariat will keep members updated on work by the NWW Member States Group.
- 2 The Secretariat will collect inputs from WG members on the draft joint recommendation on lemon sole and draft advice to the NWW Member States Group.
- 3 The Secretariat will enquire DG MARE via email about work of their legal services analysing any discrimination, disproportionality and whether the actions are in line with scientific advice regarding the 13 MPAs established by the UK and about how this would be addressed. The WG recommends that the joint NWWAC/PelAC Focus Group Spatial Squeeze follows EU-UK discussions on MPAs and pursues the topic with advice.
- 4 The Secretariat will draft advice to the NWW Member States Group for a joint recommendation on red mullet based on the paper produced by the CNP MEM.



Action points Horizontal Working Group

1. Reported FG proposed work and planning approved. FG Chairs to plan actions.
2. Comments made based on the Inter-AC presentation to be taken forward to DG MARE at AC Secretariats' meeting once scheduled
3. Address topic of 'CFP Reform after COM reform' (Food Commissioner?) in FG CFP and prepare advice, including ACs direct contact with EP and Council

Action points Joint Horizontal Working Group

Part 1 – Spatial Dimension

- 1 Both ACs to formally write a letter to Department in Ireland to object to decision ORE subgroup
- 2 Put UK MPAs on agenda of next Inter-AC Brexit Forum as a priority issue to address
- 3 Write a letter to understand which groups to engage with fisheries in the Special Member States Groups under marine action plan, to break the silo approach now happening. ACs to write letter to the COM to encourage to not work in silo but to bring environmental and fisheries topics in these groups. See if fisheries has a place in special MS groups, now all focused on environmental topics.
- 4 Deltares reports are available in EN by googling 'WOZEP ecosystem effects'. Collect reports and circulate to members.
- 5 Circulate Richard Cronin's notes to HWG participants



Action points Joint Horizontal Working Group

Part 2 – Control & Compliance

- 1 Add concerns on point system and sanctions to list of common PelAC/NWWAC issues. We can see there are different procedures being developed, questions level playing field. Action to ask clarification on layers of sanctioning systems.
- 2 Add article 38 on requirement for continuous monitoring of engine power applicable to 'high risk' vessels to list of common issues. Important to add this to the list of how high risk will be defined in the context of engine power, when implementing acts will be developed.
- 3 Important to look at the objective harmonised control and enforcement. In the new control reg, there is no provision to take into account pre-existing arrangements, retrospective for individual MS. Without this, it's impossible to achieve a level playing field. New layer will not help harmonisation.



Action points Joint Horizontal Working Group

Part 2 – Control & Compliance continued

- 4 Ask Commission for another meeting on CR as matter urgency. Meetings so far too overarching. We need a technical in-depth meeting with the key people involved in the unit. Submit request through a joint letter co-signed by other ACs. Should be in-person meeting. 1 draft for all ACs with this general request.
- 5 Draft another specific NWWAC/PelAC letter on the CR raising key points presented and discussed during the meeting (check slide with basis for joint advice). Request to members: draft letter will be circulated, please be alert on the points you have brought forward to see if it has been captured correctly.





3 Dialogue with NWW Member States Group –
Jonathan Tholo, Direction Générale Des Affaires
Maritimes, De La Pêche Et De L'Aquaculture



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Work Programme Year 19



NWWAC meetings Year 19

- 58 meetings:
- 1 Executive Committee
 - March (virtual)
 - 3 sub-regional Working Groups
 - March (Dublin)
- 1 Horizontal Working Group
 - March (Dublin),
- 7 Focus Groups
 - 14 virtual meetings
 - 1 hybrid workshop

Members are informed of all meetings via the monthly update available online in the Members Area on www.nwwac.org. Details of meetings can also be found in both the Members Area and under the Meetings tab.



Year 19 – NWWAC meetings – March 2024

- 6 Meetings between the ExCom Chair, Vice-Chairs and the Secretariat (virtual, Oct, Nov 2023, Jan, Feb, Mar 2024)
- 1 Secretariat – Performance Review Team (in person, 02 Feb 2024)
- 2 Landing Obligation (virtual Oct 2023, Jan 2024)
- 2 Skates and Rays (virtual, Dec 2023, Feb 2024)
- 3 Social Aspects (virtual, Oct, Nov 2022, Mar 2024)
- 1 Brown Crab follow up (Jan 2024)
- 1 CFP (virtual, Oct 2023)
- 2 Control & Compliance (virtual, Oct 2023 and Jan 2024)
- 2 Inter-AC Brexit Forum with PelAC, NSAC, LDAC, MAC (virtual, Oct 2023, in person, Feb 2024)

External meetings with NWWAC participation – March 2024

- 8 North Western Waters Member States Group (virtual, Oct, 2x Nov, Dec 2023, Jan, Feb, 2x Mar 2024)
- 1 EFCA Advisory Board (hybrid, Oct 2023)
- 1 EU Commission – NWWAC bilateral meetings (Hybrid Feb 2024)
- 1 Inter-AC meetings (in person Feb 2024)
- Special Action Group Marine Action Plan (in person, Oct 2023)
- WKAFPA (hybrid, Oct 2023)
- TG Seabed (hybrid, Oct 2023)
- Blue Forum workshop (hybrid, Oct 2023)
- DG ENV MSCG (hybrid, Oct 2023)
- ICES WKREBUILD 2 (hybrid, Nov 2023)
- ICES WKTRADE 4 (hybrid, Nov 2023)
- Ocean ICU (virtual, Nov 2023)





- EP bottom fishing event (hybrid, Nov 2023)
- Energy Transition Partnership workshop (hybrid, Nov 2023)
- ICES WKASSESS (hybrid, Dec 2023)
- Roundtable discussion with Commissioner Sinkevičius to (Brussels, Dec 2023)
- MIAC / MIACO (Copenhagen, Jan 2024)
- STECF EWG 23-15 (hybrid, Jan 2024)
- Aquaculture AC ExCom (hybrid, Jan 2024)
- Blue Economy Partnership Symposium (hybrid, Feb 2024)
- Celtic Sea Environmental Sensitivity Analysis (in person, Cork Feb 2024)
- STECF Scoping Meeting on the socio-economic impacts of the VME closures (virtual, Feb 2024)
- Commission / Defra meeting on FMPs (hybrid, 21 Feb)
- NMCI Seafarer's Conference 2023 (Limerick, Feb 2024)

External meetings with NWWAC participation – March 2024 (cntd.)

- High seas fisheries and Ocean carbon (virtual, Feb 2024)
- Energy Transition Partnership workshop (hybrid, Feb 2024)
- Commission meeting with ACs regarding the formulation of advice request (hybrid, Feb 2024)
- Shellfish Association of Great Britain (virtual, Mar 2024)
- Fishers of the Future workshop (in person, Mar 2024)
- COM/OSPAR workshop on end-of-life and waste fishing gear policy (hybrid, 20-21 Mar 2024)

Recommendations YR19

| No | Issue/subject | Link with the CFP | WG/FG at the origin of the recommendation | Planned date of adoption (if available) |
|----|---|-------------------|--|---|
| 1 | Advice on Addressing Choke Risk in the NWW after exemptions | Article 2, 14, 15 | WG1, WG2, WG3 | December 2023 <i>In development</i> |
| 2 | Advice following work around the evaluation of the Landing Obligation | Article 2, 14, 15 | Horizontal WG (Focus Group Landing Obligation) | March 2024 |
| 3 | Advice on the implementation of the EU Technical Measures Regulation, including directed fisheries definition | Article 2, 10 | Horizontal Working Group | June 2024 <i>NWWAC letter on ICES 2023 advice on VMEs (Nov 2023)</i> <i>NWWAC response to the questionnaire on the second report of implementation of EU Regulation 2019/1241 (Nov 2023)</i> <i>NWWAC letter regarding requests on hake (Dec 2023)</i> |
| 4 | Advice on Technical Measures as a topic in the execution of the TCA if relevant proposals are put forward by the Commission | Article 2 | WG1, WG2, WG3, HWG | July 2024 |

Planned recommendations YR19 (continued)

| | Advice relating to SCF issues: technical measures, non-quota species etc. | Article 2, 14, 15 | Horizontal WG | December 2023 |
|---|--|---------------------------|---|---|
| 5 | Advice on Fishing Opportunities 2024 & COM Policy Paper | Article 2, 14, 15, 16 | WG1, WG2, WG3, HWG | July 2024 |
| 6 | Advice on the management of skates & rays | Article 2, 10, 14, 15, 16 | HWG (Focus Group Skates & Rays) | May 2024 <i>In development</i> |
| 7 | Advice relating to SCF issues: technical measures, non-quota species etc. | Article 2, 14, 15 | Horizontal WG | December 2023 |
| 8 | Advice related to climate & environment topics, e.g., EU Biodiversity Strategy, EU Green Deal, Farm to Fork Strategy | Article 2 | HWG (Focus Group Climate & Environment) | January 2024 |
| 9 | Advice on social aspects related to fisheries in the NWW | Article 2 | HWG (Focus Group Social Aspects) | February 2024 <i>NSAC/NWWAC advice on Recreational Fisheries (Jan 2024)</i> <i>NSAC NWWAC advice on Generational Renewal (Jan 2024)</i> |

Planned recommendations YR19 (continued)

| | | | | |
|----|---|-------------------|--|---|
| 7 | Advice relating to SCF issues: technical measures, non-quota species etc. | Article 2, 14, 15 | Horizontal WG | December 2023 |
| 10 | Advice on aspects raised in the CFP Communication | Article 2 | HWG (Focus Group CFP and other relevant FGs once identified) | March 2024 NWWAC advice on Communication COM(2023) 103 final (Dec 2023) |
| 11 | Advice on aspects raised in the Action Plan | Article 2 | HWG (Focus Group CFP and other relevant FGs once identified) | March 2024 |
| 12 | Advice on aspects raised in the Energy Transition Communication | Article 2 | HWG (Relevant FG once identified) | July 2024 NWWAC advice on the Communication from the Commission “On the Energy Transition of the EU Fisheries and Aquaculture sector” COM(2023) 100 final (Nov 2023) |

Additional recommendations (March 2024)

- NWWAC response to UK consultation on a fisheries management plan for scallop (02 October 2023)
- NWWAC response to DECC DMAP consultation (02 October 2023)
- NWWAC response to UK public consultation on REM (09 October 2023)
- NWWAC response to UK public consultation on a discards reform (09 October 2023)
- NWWAC submission on the Ecological sensitivity analysis of the western Irish Sea to inform future designation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) Report (09 November 2023)
- NWWAC letter to DG MARE following up on the AC response to the UK consultation on a discard reform (21 November 2023)
- Joint-AC letter on ACs stakeholder input (05 December 2023)

Upcoming NWWAC meetings – March 2024

- Informal meeting of EU fisheries ministers (25 March 2024)
- NWW MS Technical Group (26 March 2024)
- NWW MS HLG (27 March 2024)
- CIBBRiNA Stakeholder Advisory Board (26 March 2023)
- Mission Atlantic / OceanICU (27 March 2024)
- NWW MS Technical Group (15 April 2024)
- NWW MS HLG (16 April 2024)
- Seafood/ORE group (16 April 2024)
- EFCA Advisory Board (26 April 2024)
- NWW MS Technical Group (15 May 2024)
- European Maritime Day (30–31 May 2024)
- NWW MS Technical Group (06 June 2024)
- Special Group Action Plan (18 June 2024)



UPDATE ON YEAR 19 ACCOUNTS

Year 19 – Income – Current Position

| | Original Budget 01 October 2023 | Actual Income at 20 March 2024 | Outstanding |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Member States | € 25,000 | € 25,000 | € 0 |
| Commission | € 336,600 | € 264,000 | Balance EU-grant* € 72,600 |
| Member's Fees + interest on fees + misc. income | €31,450 | € 29,500 | € 0 |
| Total | € 393,050 | € 318,200 | € 391,100 |

* Commission income agreed at €336,600 under new lumpsum approach. 100% grant once work programme is achieved.

Year 19 – Expenditure – Current Position

| | Eligible Predicted Budget 01 October 2023 | Actual Expenditure up to 20 March 2024 | Estimated actual expenditure 30 September 2024 |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Staff | € 172,157.73 | € 82,495.91 | € 172,000 |
| Reimbursements | € 70,073 | € 6,532 | € 70,000 |
| Interpretation & Translation | € 80,947.47 | € 4,300 | € 80,100 |
| Meetings and Information | € 11,705.80 | € 329.05 | € 11,000 |
| Operating costs | € 23,166.00 | € 4,329.17 | € 23,000 |
| Chairman Fees / Audit | € 20,000.00 | € 7,460 | € 20,000 |
| Other contracts | € 15,000.00 | € 5,383.64 | € 15,000 |
| Total | € 393,050 | € 110,829.77 | € 391,100 |





NWWAC Work Programme Year 20

- Development starts now
- 26 April Submission to ExCom
- 10 May Approval by ExCom and submission to GA
- 24 May Approval by GA
- 31 May Submission to Commission

Please review the current work programme available on the NWWAC website and contact us with your suggestions by 12 April!



6 Update NWWAC ExCom elections & NWWAC Chair nomination

- Call for ExCom nominations issued 07 March
 - Deadline for nominations 08 April
 - Approval at ExCom on 03 July
 - Appointment by GA on 19 September
-
- Call for Chair nominations sent 10 January 2024
 - Call open from 10 January 2024 to 10 April 2024
 - No nominations received to date





COFFEE BREAK

11:20 – 11:35 CET

PROPRIETE EXCLUSIVE
LE COFFRE-ORT 2000
ATTENTION ILLICITE
DE POURSUITES



6 Dialogue with DG MARE- Eva Carballeira Fernandez,
Head of Unit MARE C.5

7 Future meeting schedule

- 01 – 03 July NWWAC Working Groups & ExCom, Ghent
Hybrid
- 19 September NWWAC General Assembly
virtual
- 09 October NWWAC geographic Working Groups
virtual
- 10 October NWWAC Horizontal Working Group
virtual
- 22 October NWWAC ExCom
virtual





8 AOB

9 Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair

Thank you.

North Western Waters Advisory Council 