

FISHERIES COMMITTEE

OPEN MINUTES

Fisheries Department
Thursday, 10th March 2022
10:00am

These minutes are draft minutes until confirmed by resolution at the next meeting of this committee

Present:

The Honourable Teslyn Barkman– Chairperson	TB
The Honourable John Birmingham	JB
Director of Natural Resources – Dr Andrea Clausen	DNR
Dr Andreas Winter	AW
Mr Alex Reid	AR
Mr Michael Poole	MP
Mr Hamish Wylie	HW
Mrs Cheryl Roberts	CR
Capt. Joanna Cox	JC
Ms Veronica Iriarte	VI

Minute Taker: Mrs Beverley Glanville BG

Public: 3

1	Apologies for Absence	ACTION
1.1	Chief Executive- Mr Andy Keeling and Mr T Costelloe.	
2	Declarations of Interest	
2.1	Industry representatives declared an interest for all items on the agenda.	
3	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 2nd December 2021.	
3.2	Item 7.11 HW asked for “in his opinion” to be removed as it is a fact not an opinion that the figures were in Euros.	BG
4	Matters arising from the Minutes held on the 2nd December 2021.	

- 4.1 Item 4.1 DNR asked AW if this table was now included in the FFLG summery, AW confirmed that it has been inserted.
- 4.2 Item 4.2 DNR asked VI if we have the population of seabirds and seals, next to the level of interactions. VI confirmed that this is in her presentation.
- 4.3 Item 6.4 JC said that the IMO audit when superbly well. We are hoping to have our mock audit in November 2022.
- 4.4 Item 6.5 JC confirmed that the draft legalisation is with legal now and once they have finished with it that paper will be sent back out to industry consultation. This will formalise the current situation.
- 4.5 Item 6.6 CR and JC said that this has been discussed and is working well.
- 4.6 Item 7.15 MP thanked ExCo for redacting that information and asked if there was any feedback from ExCo members about how useful that information was and what it was actually used for in the licence fee application process? TB to check this.
- 4.7 CR asked for all financial confidential information be included in part 2 of the agenda, like it always was before. TB appreciates this and will be more careful of this in the future. CR would like to add that the information should be correct as is not necessarily the same as what is in the registry office.

TB

5 Fishery Update

- 5.1 DNR gave a brief update on the fishery.
- 5.2 DNR noted she would like to review the approach to SED deployment in the first season given the fact that SEDs have been deployed earlier and earlier over recent first seasons. Following the analysis of historical data, DNR will discuss with industry.
- 5.3 MP asked if the ToR discussed in December FAC were the final version. DNR replied that the industry feedback was passed back to MEP and taken into account alongside the final ToR.
- 5.4 MP asked about the FIGAS flight, DNR said that this in not a new surveillance technique, it has just been reinstated after a short absence as our Fisheries Protection plane (Bravo Oscar) has been busy with other duties.

6 Maritime Update

- 6.1 JC gave a brief overview of the paper.
- 6.2 AR would like to thank FIMA for their help during the time when the Sil was grounded in February. They were fantastic and dealt with things very professionally.

7 Catch efficiency as a function of vessel-build characteristics in the Falkland Islands calamari fishery

7.1 AW gave a presentation on the catch efficiency in the Calamari fishery.

7.2 HW asked for NRT to be looked at instead of GRT. AR added that when using GRT they try to fit as much Fishing efficiency in the vessel as possible, but in doing so the crew accommodation suffers. HW added that in these times when it is getting increasingly difficult to attract people to sea and as important as crew welfare is, long term we also have to think about manning the vessels.

7.3 AR added that as a fleet they continue to improve and hope that we can find a way to make a bigger vessel without being penalised.

7.4 DNR said that all of the improvements in new tonnage and new equipment has been recognised by the Department. DNR said that we will have to analyse all the data and potentially make changes to reflect the changing world.

7.5 MP asked AW if he looked at a single season, then biomass would be the same for everyone in that year, would that give more a better understanding? AW said although it was not mentioned in this presentation, he did include the seasons as a so call random variable so the model does of set it. AW added that there are variability's that matter and they can't all be controlled.

7.6 DNR asked for feedback relating to this, so that we can expand our analysis as required.

FIFCA

8 Net binding trials

8.1 VI gave a presentation on the net binding trials.

8.2 AR said it is still very unfortunate that the vessels accidently kill some birds, but on average 180 observed birds, is not drastic. VI replied that fishing in the area of Beauchene Island during breeding time, that can last up to 2 weeks, can be drastic for the birds as 16 vessels are catching >100MT per day of Loligo from the birds feeding ground, during the time when the birds need it most. VI added that these mortalities are focused during these weeks.

8.3 TB added that we need to collect more data on this as at the moment we are looking at suggested trends, not hard data.

8.4 CR stated that the Falkland fishery has worked so hard over the years to decrease bird mortalities and the bird population has increased because of it,

VI agreed.

- 8.5** JB added that this conversation warrants more discussion on this at a future date. DNR added that we need to look at more up-to-date seabird population data. TB suggested to set up another meeting date, to talk about this further.

BG

9. Date of next meeting

- 9.1** The date of the next meeting is 9th June 2022 at 09:00

No Part 2.

Minutes confirmed this day of March 2022
Chairman **Secretary**