

MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING
(79th Meeting)

**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
23rd February 2015**

Present:

- William Peggie (WP) – Director of the Environment/Deputy Chief Officer (Chairman)
- Peter Lawrence (PL) – Chief Operating Officer, Marine & Harbour Master
- Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
- Chris le Masurier (CleM) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
- Don Thompson (DT) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
- Paul Bizec (PB) – representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
- Steve Viney (SV) – representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
- Derek Buesnel (DB) – representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
- Chris Isaacs (CI) - representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
- Francis Binney (FB) – representing Société Jersiaise
- Ian Syvret (IS) – representing Jersey Inshore Fishermen's Association
- Natalie Porrit (NP) represent Jersey Merchants
- Chris Le Boutillier (CLB) - representing Boat Owners (Northern Section)

In Attendance:

- Deputy Stephen Luce (SL) – Minister for Planning and Environment
- Greg Morel (GM) – Assistant Director - Marine Resources
- Derek Henry – Deputy Director of the Environment & Natural Resources, St. Helena
- Tony Delahunty (NFFO)
- Dot Miller – Minutes

1. Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising Action

Destruction of green crab – consideration given to extending the netting restriction to St. Ouen's Bay.

Subject to the above point being included, the minutes from the meeting held on 1st December 2014 were approved.

Matters Arising

- Granville Bay meeting for permits for wheeks now has law drafting time, regulation required.

Marine Environment & Administration

2. To receive a briefing on matters discussed at the Granville Bay meetings held in Granville on 5th & 6th February 2015

DT reported to the Panel on the following:

- Ban on spider netting decision was not popular with the Breton fishing industry. Heading towards there being no netting in the Bay during the closed season. To

- be signed of at next JMC. No change to landing spiders from pots.
- Undulate Ray: recording of numbers continues. Fishermen working these grounds are reporting the undulates are forcing other species away.

Chris Le Masurier joined the meeting.

- Submarine power cables: Guernsey to France proposal, it was noted that the cables cause significant problems for fishermen.
- Mobile Gear zone (Ecréhous and Les Minquiers): GM commended the fisherman for their work in putting the report together. There is still work to be done to complete the report before reporting back to the Panel in July.
- Crayfish: Brittany programme to reintroduce spine lobster (possible extinction of the species). The latest position is a closed season for crayfish between 1st January to 31st May in any year as well as a ban on landing females at any time. GM recommended putting these restrictions as a licence condition and then into the Regulation to which the Panel agreed.

GM

3. To discuss the protection of maerl and seagrass beds

The Panel discussed at length and the following was noted:

- Société Jersiaise very keen to see the protection of these areas.
- JFA concerned that this may be just protecting areas of moving sand, however the Société thinks the seagrass may be a larger area that the JFA stating.
- Helpful for the fishing industry to come forward with areas that need to be protected.
- Both biologically and industry valuable areas need to be protected.
- JFA would like to add data to the piece of work already undertaken by the Bretons and Lower Normandy.
- Société Jersiaise will dive or put down drop cameras to check out the area.
- Much further discussion required before amending any charts.
- Société Jersiaise and JFA agreed to meet to discuss further.

4. To discuss the use of disused aquaculture gear

- CLM stated happy to assist with the removal of old gear, however it was noted that none of the gear is his. CLM and FB to liaise.
- It was noted that removal of unused gear is already a condition of the licence but it is hard to enforce. Consideration to be given to develop a system to help enforce the licence conditions.

CLM/FB

GM

CLM left the meeting.

5. To discuss the proposal for the marking of nets

CI ran through the Jersey Recreational Fishermen's recommendations as circulated prior to the meeting.

Panel members discussed the above matter at length and the following was noted:

- Modification to existing regulations (if agreed) would be needed and law drafting required.
- DT disagreed with the case CI had put forward and advised that the JFA are opposed to changing the regulations as there is no evidence to back up the claims that the nets cause a danger to the public.
- IS advised that JFA members were generally supportive of showing flags.
- PL confirmed that there was evidence of boats being tangled in nets but no evidence to show that the nets came for someone who has just set it.
- PL also advised that safety at sea is of prime importance and there is concern about floaty ropes.
- PL requested that any boats getting fouled up to please report this to Harbours, likewise for swimmers and divers.
- CLB confirmed that the Boat Owners (Northern Section) advise members to use a flag and a pole to warn for gear. They do not use floaty rope.

Following discussions it was agreed to:

1. Step up inshore patrols to better police floaty rope, badly or non-marked gear.
2. To issue media release to press, associations, industry etc. to get the message across that fishing gear at sea must be safely set and marked in accordance with fishing regulations; floaty rope must not be used where it could cause a hazard and recommending a small king head on set nets to indicate that a net is present. Also include this information in boat card (French).

Capture Fisheries

6. **To discuss the most recent EU measures in respect of Bass management and agree measures to be proposed locally**

The following were suggested/discussed:

- Pelagic mid channel ban.
- 3 bass per day for recreational fishermen.
- Minimum landing size to increase to 42cms.
- Bag limits to be proportionate between recreational and commercial fishermen.
- Commercial fishermen are ready and willing to contribute to stock management.
- Restriction on shore netting.
- Stop unregulated fish being sold, regulation required.
- JFA agree bag limits a good idea however agreeing to a minimum size requires much further complicated discussion and is not for deciding at this meeting.
- GM to collate and send out an 'issues and options' paper, Panel members to reply with their thoughts.

GM

7. **To discuss French proposals concerning management measures for crayfish**
This item was covered by DT as part of the resume of the Granville Bay meetings

8. Date of next meeting

Monday 27th April 2015, 2.15 p.m., Committee Room, Howard Davis Farm.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 5.10 p.m.

MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING
(80th Meeting)

**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
27th April 2015**

- Present:** William Peggie (WP) – Director of the Environment/Deputy Chief Officer (Chairman)
Peter Lawrence (PL) – Chief Operating Officer, Marine & Harbour Master
Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
Don Thompson (DT) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Jason Bonhomme (JB) – representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Derek Buesnel (DB) – representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Chris Isaacs (CI) - representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Francis Binney (FB) – representing Société Jersiaise
Ian Syvret (IS) – representing Jersey Inshore Fishermen's Association
Chris Le Boutillier (CLB) - representing Boat Owners (Northern Section)
- In Attendance:** Deputy Stephen Luce (SL) – Minister for Planning and Environment
Greg Morel (GM) – Assistant Director - Marine Resources
Dot Miller – Minutes

1. Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising

Action

Destruction of green crab – consideration given to extending the netting restriction.
Undulate Ray: fishermen reporting that other species are forcing undulates away.

Subject to the above being noted the Minutes from 23rd April 2015 were approved.

Matters Arising

- The Panel extended it thanks to Chris Le Masurier for removing all the disused aquaculture gear, especially as none of the gear was his.

Marine Environment & Administration

2. To update on the recent Fisheries Management Agreement meeting with DEFRA

GM gave a brief background on the Fisheries Management Agreement. Early discussions are underway regarding:

- Licence transfer to the UK; piggy back Jersey licences resulting in less administration. A small pool of licences (approx. 6) remain under the control of Government however the UK is receptive to them moving but there are some technical hitches to overcome.
- Difficult getting information from DEFRA.
- FMA needs updating – definitions, members etc.
- GM to check if States approval is required to any changes within the FMA.
- Guernsey FMA available on Guernsey website.
- Quotas between EU and Jersey: insufficient data available to Panel to be able to

GM

- make decisions about quotas.
- Question over whether quota changes would affect Jersey's relationship with France, GM doubtful that this would make any difference.
- Marine Resources to compile updated document for forwarding to DEFRA.
- No dates for future meetings will be agreed until after the general election in May.

GM

Capture Fisheries

3. To review progress in respect of Bass management and agree measures to be proposed locally.

GM reviewed the options paper presentation:

- 1) No pelagic fishing from 1st January to 30th April approved for this year.
- 2) 3 Bass per day for recreational fishing (EU measure). Recreational fishing has been regulated in the past.
- 3) Licence for shore caught fish – new regulation required.
- 4) Limit on gear set – amendment to 2 sets of regulation would be required. Panel to consider what these limits should be.
- 5) Increase in minimum landing size.
- 6) No vehicles on beaches for the setting of fishing equipment. Amendment to Policing of Beaches regulations.

Panel discussion on the above points began.

DB felt that all the points seemed only to affect recreational fishermen. The Panel discussed whether the same rules should be set for commercial and recreational fishermen.

- 1) DT advised that the pelagic ban has, and continues to have a huge effect on the number of Bass caught. Anything further that affects commercial fishermen must be considered in depth.
- 2) 3 Bass per day for recreational fishermen – even after lengthy discussion the Panel were unable to agree on this point and agreed to move on to the other points. However the Minister cautioned that if a decision couldn't be reached by the Panel he would intervene and take the decision forward himself.
- 3) The Panel agreed on a licence for shore caught fish. GM and team to progress.
- 4) Limit on gear set – generally agreed. The Panel discussed the feasibility of issuing tags to ensure traceability. Any restaurants found to have fish that do not have tags could be prosecuted. Unsure whether drafting legislation would be required to enable this to happen or if it could be done 'by Order'. GM to investigate.
- 5) Minimum mesh size on nets set on beach seems reasonable with an amendment to inshore regulations, GM to investigate and report back to Panel.
- 6) Also consider closing areas, however this too requires investigating.
- 7) Panel recommends 42cms MLS with caveat that net size can change gradually (phased in over 12 months). Marketing for line caught local Bass – try Business Jersey and Genuine Jersey. SL to investigate banning farmed Bass under 42cms although doubtful the French would agree unless it was EU legislation.
- 8) The Panel agreed that there should be no vehicles permitted on beaches for the setting of fishing equipment. Amendment to existing legislation required,

GM

GM

GM

GM

SL

GM/SL

recommend to EDD via Minister for P&E.
The Panel reverted back to item and continued discussions. The Panel agreed to a 3 bag limited and to move on this as quickly as possible ready to lodge. GM to check legislation.

GM

4. Annual Whelk Trials summary

Due to time constraints this topic was not discussed. It was agreed to ask J. Shrives to forward the summary to panel members for comments. SL stated that he was very concerned at the draconian measures to conserve Whelk stocks.

CLM/FB

5. Date of next meeting

Monday 22nd June 2015, 2.15 p.m., Committee Room, Howard Davis Farm. To be confirmed by email.

Subsequent to the meeting the date agreed is Monday 13th July 2015.



MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING
(80th Meeting)

**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
13th July 2015**

Present: Tim Du Feu (TDF) – Director of the Environmental Protection (Chairman)
Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
Chris Le Masurier (CLM) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
Don Thompson (DT) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Paul Bizec (PB) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Derek Buesnel (DB) – representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Chris Isaacs (CI) - representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Francis Binney (FB) – representing Société Jersiaise
Ian Syvret (IS) – representing Jersey Inshore Fishermen's Association

In Attendance: Deputy Stephen Luce (SL) – Minister for Planning and Environment
Greg Morel (GM) – Assistant Director - Marine Resources
Dot Miller – Minutes

Apologies: N Porrit

1. Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising Action

DB stated he was disappointed in the lack of detail contained within the minutes. TdF advised that the purpose of the minutes is to provide brief notes on what was discussed and to record what is agreed upon along with actions required. DT felt the notes were a fair representation of the meetings.

3. 3) The Panel agreed on a licence for shore caught fish to sell.

Consultation process on netting – size limits apply to both recreational and professional fishermen.

Subject to the above being noted the minutes were approved.

Capture Fisheries

2. Update on the recent Granville Bay meeting

DT thanked Deputy Luce for opening the meeting held in Jersey.

(a) Protection of habitat

The importance of protecting the Maerl beds is noted and once the research being undertaken by Société Jersiaise for the south east of the Island is validated, results will be taken back to the next Granville Bay meeting in October.

FB confirmed that there are a couple of areas off the east coast that are protected but not of high value; a more accurate survey will be undertaken next month then a

proposal will be put forward.

GM advised the Panel that the amount of work undertaken by both DT and FB is underestimated and thanked both of them for their input.

(b) Harmonisation of fishing regulations

It is recognised that the regulatory framework for managing the bay needs to be improved; this theme ran throughout the meeting.

(c) Spider crabs

Jersey's wish to increase the MLS from 120 mm to 130 mm could be up for discussion in the future.

Zone in the Bay of Granville where netting ban applies. Fishing for spider crabs with netting is not permitted during the closed season.

(d) Stock measures

Undulate Ray – the UK has a quota for ray, but unsure how this is going to be allocated.

Bass – increase in MLS to 42cms decided in July (CI though June, GM to check and confirm).

GM

The concept behind the Ray and Bass is to see how measures are being regulated to check if Jersey, Normandy and Brittany's measures are in alignment.

(e) Scallops

Reports of more and more French boats taking an interest in Jersey waters.

PB confirmed the French have a closed season for landing scallops.

GM advised that new scallop licences must have a valid permit from their flag state to fish for scallops or whelks in Jersey waters.

(f) Co-habitation North of Jersey

3. Issue of Scallop Permits

The following points regarding the issuing of scallop permits by DT were noted:

- Permits need to be reviewed and need to be fit for purpose.
- Separate commercial from recreational.
- Flag state should issue permits to divers.
- Consider stopping selling permits to the French – when the system started the French had to be allowed permits but they are using Jersey permits to circumnavigate the French rules.
- Commercial divers and dredgers are supportive of permits/licence, but there should be no disparity between the two; currently dredgers do not pay.

It was also noted that this area of fishery is becoming very successful, second to lobster with the majority of the product sold on Island and very profitable.

Marine Resources to investigate and present suggestions at the next Panel meeting.

GM

4. JAA proposals to change the length of lease of beach concessions for aquaculture fish farmers from the present six years to a more flexible and secure model

The Jersey Aquaculture Association (JAA) is proposing the lease for new entrants and extensions to concession areas to be two years (currently six) as this will help to manage resource better.

- After two years the lease should automatically be increased for another six years, if properly managed and used.
- After eight years a longer term lease would be required.
- Establish timetables to ensure the concessions are properly looked after and used.

FB reported that the Société Jersiaise is supportive of the above proposal, however the lease would need to include removal of unused gear.

DT queried if there was a regime to check if only bona fide Jersey companies owned the leases, whilst at the same time not discouraging foreign investments. GM stated that this could be focussed on in the conditions within the licence.

The Panel agreed in principle, however SL advised that he would need to take legal advice on this matter.

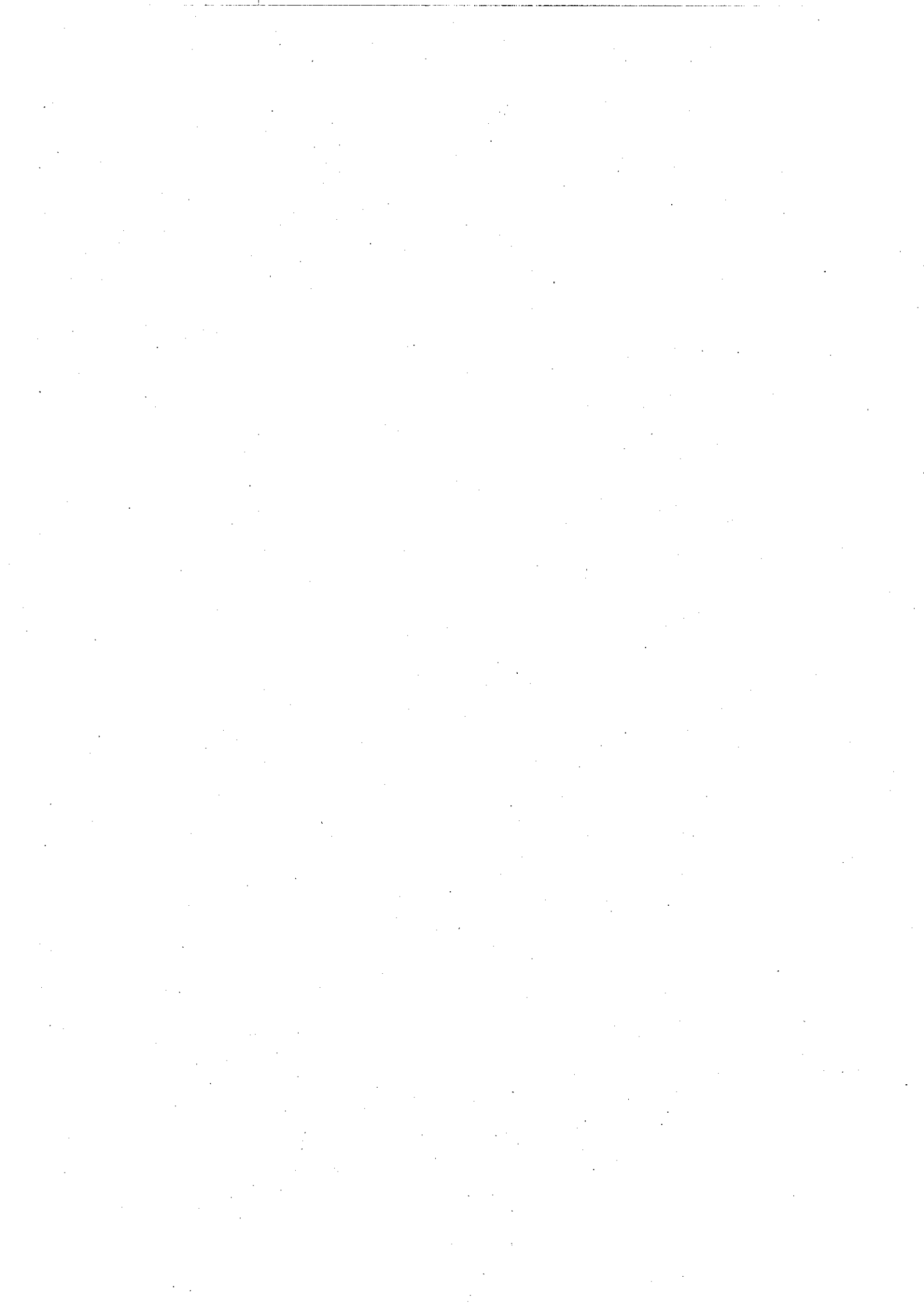
SL

GM to piece together and have an update at next Panel.

GM

5. Date of next meeting

Monday 14th September, 2.15 p.m., Committee Room, Howard Davis Farm.



MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING
(81st Meeting)

**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
14th September**

Present: Willie Peggie (WP) – Deputy Chief Officer/Director of Environment (Chairman)
Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
Chris Le Boutillier (CLB) – representing Boat Owners (Norther Section)
Chris Le Masurier (CLM) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
Don Thompson (DT) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Paul Bizec (PB) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Derek Buesnel (DB) – representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Chris Isaacs (CI) - representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Francis Binney (FB) – representing Société Jersiaise
Natalie Porrit (NP) – representing Jersey Merchants
Ian Syvret (IS) – representing Jersey Inshore Fishermen's Association

In Attendance: Deputy Stephen Luce (SL) – Minister for Planning and Environment
Greg Morel (GM) – Assistant Director - Marine Resources
David Yettram (DY) – Senior Marine and Fisheries Officer
Dot Miller – Minutes

Apologies:

1. Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising Action

The Minutes from the previous meeting held on 13 July 2015 were approved.

Matters Arising

- Scallop permits: GM advised that for commercial dive permits are controlled through the main licence issued by the flag state.
- Longevity of Aquaculture licences: no update at present.

Marine Management

2. To receive an update on Ramsar

- Detailed representation for Société Jersiaise, National Trust etc.
- Proposal for independent Chair separate from Panel.
- Minister happy with arms-length approach.
- Letter to be sent from the department inviting Ramsar Management Authority (RMA) to have a representative on the Marine Panel.

WP

Capture Fisheries

**3. To discuss management measures for important stocks
(a) Bass**

- GM confirmed that law drafting instructions had been given to Law Drafting Officers for minimum landing size and length.
- Minimum bag limits need to go through the UK.
- Minimum mesh size is for debate and is not part of the drafting instructions.
- Timescale difficult to confirm but a few weeks before being sent to the UK and then six weeks to lodge, so certainly a minimum of two months.
- DT stated that mesh sizes would be helpful for fishermen so they can target the right size.
- DB commented that it was nice to see that nursery areas exist and need protection.

(b) Ray

- Stock across the range is still in difficulties in some places.
- EU has agreed to have a by-catch.
- 20k live weight per trip.
- Closed period.
- Department is looking to get involved in scientific monitoring.
- DT advised that only one boat is catching Ray. To rebuild this sector with no expertise will see the last boat go. Fishermen need to be able to land Ray which are plentiful in Jersey waters.

(c) Ormer

- It was noted that this is mainly a recreational activity, however there is a growing trend of people taking boats to catch as many Ormers as they can and far more than could be needed for personal consumption. Additionally, stones are not being replaced properly. Whilst there is no indication at present that stocks are in danger, there is a need to preserve the Ormer fishing tradition and stop exploitation of stocks.
- The Panel discussed what actions could be taken, some suggestions were - bag limit, law in place to re-set stones, limit 6 crew to a boat, limit catch by person and by boat etc.
- It was agreed to amend legislation to an individual bag limit of up to 20, boat limit of 100 (or lowest number would apply). It was noted that these limits would apply to all, including the French. These amendments can be done by Order, allowing the Minister to have the changes introduced quickly.

GM

4. To discuss an amendment to the no-dredging zones on the north coast

- The no-dredging zone is currently 20 metres, JIFA would like the possibility of increasing this to 25 metres to be explored. IS confirmed that whilst there is no evidence that any damage has been caused, aesthetically and politically it is not very pleasing that dredging can be so close to the shore.
- Société Jersiaise is looking to undertake research by the end of 2018, however the cost of such a project would be approximately £200k and finances need to be secured.
- DT stated that before reopening discussions there needs to be an evidence based process in place, currently there is a lack of information so this should be tabled at a later date once the Société Jersiaise has amassed scientific evidence.

Aquaculture

5. To consider the monitoring of aquaculture sites and consider any changes (JAA)

- MT queried if the company producing ormers had stopped trading as the subtidal cages did not seem to be being tended and therefore concerned that there may be some environmental or disease risk for oysters.
- GM advised that the Department does carry out annual checks on aquaculture equipment, however this was more difficult in subtidals and is usually done by conversation.
- If there are any alleged breaches of the rules then the Department will investigate. Department to establish state of play with this business.
- Annual statistics are requested, however this needs to be monitored so sites are properly used. There may also be a need to change subtidal conditions.

GM

5 Shilling Shell

- The Panel discussed what measures could be taken to protect the 5 Shilling Shell. It was agreed to prepare an MD banning the taking or raking of the species until scientific evidence is gathered.

GM

Cockles

- Raking cockles to be on the agenda for the next Panel meeting.

6. Date of next meeting

Monday 9th November, 2.15 p.m., Howard Davis Farm.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 3.55 p.m.

MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING
(82nd Meeting)

**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
23rd November 2015**

- Present:** Willie Peggie (WP) – Deputy Chief Officer/Director of Environment (Chairman)
Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
Don Thompson (DT) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Paul Bizec (PB) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Derek Buesnel (DB) – representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Chris Isaacs (CI) - representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Francis Binney (FB) – representing Société Jersiaise
Natalie Porrit (NP) – representing Jersey Merchants
Ian Syvret (IS) – representing Jersey Inshore Fishermen's Association
- In Attendance:** Deputy Stephen Luce (SL) – Minister for Planning and Environment
Greg Morel (GM) – Assistant Director - Marine Resources
Jonathan Shrives (JS) – Marine and Coastal Manager
Dot Miller – Minutes
- Apologies:** Chris Le Boutillier (CLB) – representing Boat Owners (Northern Section)

1. Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising

Action

The Minutes from the previous meeting held on 14th September 2015 were approved subject to the following changes:

Dredging zone: the research project Société Jersiaise hope to carry out after current work is completed could cost approximately £200k *if* undertaken commercially.

Matters Arising

- 5 Shilling Shell: MD prepared to ban taking or raking of the species until scientific evidence is gathered.
- Ormers: work by the department to check if a certain ormer company is still trading is completed.
- Discussion on the importance of turning stones back after collecting ormers, agreed best way to get the message across is by advertising to remind people to do this.
- Chris Le Boutillier is standing down as the representative from the Boat Owners association at the end of this year, GM to invite both CLM and his replacement to the next Panel meeting.

GM

Capture Fisheries

2. To update on UK Fisheries Management Agreement

- Jersey's FMA is needing updating and is currently under revision.
- The UK unilaterally suspended Guernsey's FMA earlier this year. Licences are still

valid, however sale/transfer is not.

- GM confirmed that Jersey has assured the UK of our best intentions.
- DT advised that a judicial review may throw up some ideas about how quota is managed.
- GM stated that the licences section needs rewritten, however clear data would be needed if there was a wish to change quotas.
- No change to Jersey fishermen in the 3 – 12 around Guernsey.

3. To discuss unlicensed fishing (JFA)

- DT tabled his proposals for discussing unlicensed fishing.
- Grandfather clause only considered for Bass, no other species.
- The Panel discussed the topic at length, the following comments were noted:
 - Difficult to get commercial quantities of fish from the beach with all the other measures that have been brought in.
 - Rather than approach each species one at a time, a 'this is how we fish' is needed.
 - A Buyers/Sellers regime would take it back to the boat it was sourced from. Commercial fish must come from a licenced source.
 - Bass is under pressure, anyone who wants to sell them must be a commercial fisherman.
 - Make it illegal to buy from anyone but a commercial fisherman.
- The general consensus of the Panel is to stop unlicensed selling, however the mechanism needs to be agreed on. If a Buyers/Sellers regime is a consideration, DB offered his time to do this.
- GM stated that the essence of what has been suggested and discussed would have the Department's support, but the implementation is the difficulty.
- It was agreed that the Department would come back to the next Panel meeting with a time frame and plan of action.

GM

4. To discuss minimum mesh size for beach set nets

- General discussion among the Panel members with the following comments being noted:
 - DB stated there was a desperate need for fish to be protected, increasing mesh size will help this, however we should also be looking at areas with no netting or trots.
 - CI felt the Panel shouldn't just discuss beach set nets, discussion should include nets from boats – mesh size should affect all.
 - GM advised that there was no need for consistency between beach and boat mesh.
- The Panel agreed 110mm mesh for beach netting. No decision taken about commercial boat netting so this will remain as is – the Panel sees no need to link the two.
- The agreement reached and the support of the commercial sector on the mesh size for beach set nets, was made possible by and subject to, the condition that clear note was made that no further discussion on mesh sizes could refer to the JFA support (on this occasion) of a minimum mesh size of 110mm. Any future discussion with implications for the genuine commercial sector will need to

consider a mesh size more precisely tailored to the MLS of the target species.

Aquaculture

5. To update on the proposed amendments to the sanitary survey

- JS recapped and explained the geography for grading.
- New applicants for west and south no longer need to apply for additional sanitary surveys.
- Via Planning, remove additional planning and EIA but keep decisions at Panel. Hoping to remove bureaucracy and streamline the consenting process.
- JS advised that the Department are trying to avoid small companies having to go through the planning process, however would still be viewed case by case.
- CI stated that the majority of the tables run east – west, but some run the other way causing problems however having a break in the table would solve this.
- JS confirmed the Minister has the ability to include these specifics in the licence.
- GM confirmed that outside this area applications can be made but would have to go through the full consenting process.

6. Date of next meeting

Monday 18th January, 2.15 p.m., Howard Davis Farm.

Dates for the remainder of the year to be agreed at next Panel.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 5.15 p.m.

