

MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING
(72nd Meeting)

**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
23rd January 2013**

- Present:** William Peggie (WP) – Director of Environment / Deputy Chief Officer (Chairman)
Deputy Robert Duhamel – Minister for Planning & Environment
Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
Don Thompson (DT) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Paul Bizec (PB) – representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Chris Le Boutillier – representing Boat Owners (Northern Section)
Ian Syvret (IS) representing the Jersey Inshore Fishermen's Association
Chris Isaacs (CI) representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Francis Binney (FB) – Societe Jersiaise
Steve Channing – Jersey Fishermen's Association
- In Attendance:** Mike Smith (MS) – Assistant Director Marine Resources
Dave Yettram – Fisheries Officer
Dot Miller - Minutes
- Apologies:** Deputy Carolyn Labey – Assistant Minister EDD
Paul Le Neveu – Jersey Harbours

Action

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

The minutes from the meeting held on 28th November 2012 were approved.

Matters Arising

FEPA applications – analysis of sediment meeting with G. Morel before applications being sent.

2. To receive a briefing on the Marine Resources 2013 Business Plan

It is hoped that from 2014 the Panel will contribute to the BP.

MS reviewed the key performance indicators (KPIs) with the Panel and discussed key objectives in the 2013 business plan, nptably:

- Marine Resources Consultation – before COM last week of February. Minister is due to be briefed.
- Licencing strategy – hopefully agreed by year end.
- Spacial planning
- Marine protected areas
- Maintenance of international treaties
- Electronic databases

- Website information – fisherman's responsibility to check? In the UK yes, Jersey not decided.
- Marine Environment Conference

DT complimented the Fisheries team on the work that they carry out, but queried if, as the workload for the Department becomes boarder, is this affecting the Fisheries work? MS confirmed that the department is trying to set minimum levels of standards for enforcement. It was also noted that the Marine environment budget, which is held by Environment, is also supported by EDD which helped out significantly during 2012.

PB raised concern over the amount of new laws being enforced by Brussels and that Jersey fishermen would be forgotten about as the Fisheries team spend less time on these matters. MS advised that information is received from Brussels and that the Department are trying to address quota management in a more efficient way.

MS confirmed that the Buyers & Sellers legislation is included in the Marine Resources Review consultation document.

Aquaculture

3. **To receive a brief verbal report on progress being made in relation to the development of an industry code of conduct and on the development of an economic strategy for the industry**

Code of Conduct - MS confirmed that the document is still in its first draft but work is ongoing. MT questioned as to whether a code is required as there are already several guidelines for a Ramsar site.

MS advised that there is no decision yet as to code or legal document, industry view is divided, and the draft needs to be reviewed before opinions can be finalised.

FB stated that the Société Jersiaise hope to see vehicle use included.

MS also advised that funding was being sought to commission the development of an Economic Strategy for the industry, to cover fair allocations of concessions and cost recovery from the Industry.

Marine Resources

4. **Reports have been received in respect of low water fishermen failing to return stones to their original positions. The panel is asked to consider how fisherman may be encouraged to return stones correctly**

Following discussion it was agreed to issue an immediate media release on the importance of returning the stones and that further use should be made of the media before big tides to pass out the same message.

MS

Consideration should be given to including the advice on new measuring gauges. **MS**

Research work should be conducted as a project into the impact of failing to return stones. **GM**

5. Shore netting

'Don't take more than you need' literature has been circulated which includes instructions not to leave dead fish on the beach. To understand the scale of the problem, proper analysis is needed. FB stated that the Société are not looking to affect anyone's livelihood, but if a commercial operation is being undertaken it must be recognised as such.

In the first instance, Fisheries officers to speak to those they know are shore netting. **DY**

MS requested organisations to provide feedback in response to the Marine Resources consultation document. **All**

Capture Fisheries

6. To receive a briefing on general industry concerns in relation to fisheries' policy in Europe and how such policy may impact on the local fishery

DT reported on the following:

It is felt by the JFA that EU measures are detrimental to Jersey fishermen and that they are not on a level playing field with the EU, therefore why should Jersey feel so obliged to adopt EU regulations. DT stated that there was a need to look into what can be done to free Jersey fishermen from some of the rules in the Common Fisheries policy which the JFA feel are unreasonable quotas/regulations.

MS reminded the meeting that Jersey has signed up to the agreement. Deputy Duhamel stated that it may not be as simple as the JFA hoped to extricate from the agreement, however he would be prepared to look at this, although there was merit in teaming up with the French for the marine park.

Deputy Duhamel enquired about the fixed quota allocations. MS advised that the mechanism to use these is via the UK and whilst the JFA aspirations are probably not achievable, there possibly could be negotiations over quotas.

MS, WP and Mike Entwistle to meet and agree where to pitch. **MS/WP**

7. To discuss and recommend the memberships and mandate of a Whelk Working Group (as recommended at the previous Panel meeting)

DY updated the Panel on progress since the last meeting.

Working group to include:

Jonathon Shrives
Paul Bizec
Don Thompson
Willie Peggie

Terms of reference to be drafted.

Part of the working groups role will be to make recommendations to the Panel and Minister.

8. To consider whether a news release should be issued to provide general information in relation to any of the above items

It was agreed that a media release would be issued for January, to include plans to improve quota and advice to the public on returning stones.

MS

9. Date of next meeting

Monday 4th March 2013 at 2.15 p.m.

10. Any other business

Composition of Panel – clarification should come out of the consultation document.

Tractors – commercial boats could be pulled by tractor for over 1km, non commercial boats up to 1km. WP to write to DVLS for clarification.

WP

There being no other business the meeting closed at 5.25 p.m.

MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING
(73rd Meeting)

**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
13th May 2013**

- Present:** Dan Houseago (DH) – Director of Rural Economy (Chairman)
Deputy Robert Duhamel – Minister for Planning & Environment
Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
Don Thompson (DT) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Paul Bizec (PB) – representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Chris Le Boutillier – representing Boat Owners (Northern Section)
Ian Syvret (IS) representing the Jersey Inshore Fishermen's Association
Derek Buesnel and Chris Isaacs (CI) representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Francis Binney (FB) – Societe Jersiaise
Deputy Carolyn Labey – Assistant Minister EDD
- In Attendance:** Mike Smith (MS) – Assistant Director Marine Resources
Greg Morel – Marine and Coastal Officer
Hayley Gueno – Fisheries Officer / Minutes
- Apologies:** Paul Le Neveu – Jersey Harbours
Nathalie Porritt – Jersey Merchants
William Peggie – Director of Environment/Deputy Chief Officer

- Action**
1. **Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising**
- The minutes from the meeting held on 23rd January 2013 were approved.
- The Panel were reminded that the use of tractors on the road and beach had previously been raised and that William Peggie had written to DVS enquiring as to the situation. A response had been received from DVS alluding to correspondence with the JAA, but unfortunately due to a change in Secretary, that information had not been relayed to the Panel.
- MT agreed to ask Trevor Le Cornu for details of previous correspondence **MT**
2. **To receive a briefing on the Marine Resources Consultation**
- GM presented a general overview of the Marine Resources Consultation. Explaining the importance and the strategy to complete the consultation involving all stakeholders. The process of creating a questionnaire to target stakeholder's opinions was outlined. The purpose of this panel meeting being for the panel to assist in the creation of the questionnaire by assessing the relevance of questions

presented.

3. **Assessment of statements/questions presented by the consultation strategy**

Each of the 45 statements were discussed and explained further where necessary. Panel members then voted accordingly to reflect their view on including each question proposed for the questionnaire. The voting papers were collected at the end of the meeting for further review by members of the fisheries and marine resources section.

4. **Any other business**

Beach Netting.

DB raised concerns that the quantity of nets being set on beaches is increasing, with vehicles being regularly used. The Panel was reminded that beach fishing activity had been discussed in depth at the Panel meeting of 25 January 2012 and that at that meeting a number of recommendations were made and it was agreed that these would be incorporated in the response to the MR Consultation. The MR Consultation is due to be launched in July and already contains a number of recommendations relevant to beach set nets."

DT raised concerns about the FMA and the implications for quota allocations, FQA's etc. giving some boats advantages over others. DT asked that this subject be revisited by the panel.

DT also enquired about the possibility of holding the channel potting conference in Jersey. – DH and MS to discuss with JFA

MS

MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING
(74th Meeting)

**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
16 September 2013**

Present: William Peggie (WP) – Director of Environment (Chairman)
Deputy Carolyn Labey – Assistant Minister EDD
Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
Don Thompson (DT) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Paul Bizec (PB) – representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Chris Le Boutillier – representing Boat Owners (Northern Section)
Ian Syvret (IS) - representing the Jersey Inshore Fishermen's Association
Chris Isaacs (CI) - representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Paul Le Neveu – representing Ports of Jersey
Barry Goldman (BG) – representing Ports of Jersey
Natalie Porritt (NP) – representing Jersey Merchants
Paul Chambers (PC) – Societe Jersiaise

In Attendance: Mike Smith (MS) – Assistant Director Marine Resources
Greg Morel – Marine and Coastal Officer
Jonathan Shrives (JS) – Fisheries Officer R&D
Dot Miller - Minutes

Apologies:

Action

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

The minutes from the meeting held on 16 May 2013 were approved, subject to amendment from Derek Buesnel.

Capture Fisheries

2. **To receive a briefing on the Granville Bay meetings held on 25 – 27 June 2013**

MS reviewed the President's briefing notes.

The following was noted:

- Stabilisation of Granville Bay Permits – internal meeting in France in September to review their position. DT commented that whilst the Granville Bay permits haven't quite achieved what was intended, there is now more transparency.
- Whelk Management – recognition that common management is needed.
- Spider Crab closure – same dates as last year.
- Granville Bay recording zones in logbook – remind French

fishermen.

- Ray Fishing Ban – more research data needed, JFA happy to support.
- Normandy 3 cable by JEC on track for March 2014.
- Guernsey has asked Jersey to help them meet with France. Meetings must not take place within the Granville Bay framework, however JFA happy to meet with Guernsey, but Guernsey fishermen must attend.

Marine Environment

3. To receive a briefing on the integrated catchment work being undertaken by Environmental Protection

Dr. Tim du Feu, Director for Environmental Protection, joined the meeting.

TdF gave a presentation on the work being undertaken in St. Aubin's Bay – monitoring and regulations of marine waters. He outlined the monitoring being undertaken by the department and summarised the findings to date. Next step will be the St. Aubin's workshop on 18 September to 'trash out the science'.

TdF left the meeting.

4. To receive and discuss a brief verbal report concerning the large volumes of shotgun shell plastic inner sections being found during cleaning of the Island's beaches

Howard Durrell joined the meeting.

It was noted that wadding from shotgun cartridges have been appearing in volume on all Jersey beaches.

After general discussion it was noted that:

- biodegradable cartridges are available
- GM to write to MMO, on behalf of WP, to find out if this issue is happening elsewhere.
- Societe will collect and record

GM

FB

General

5. To be advised of the results of the public consultation and subsequent public meeting relating to proposed Port/Pilotage/VTS limits for St. Helier and associated Guidance Restrictions.

BG gave a background overview of the consultation.

BG requested that any issues regarding the consultation should be forwarded to him for consideration before publication.

Noted that those parts of the appropriate General Directions that relate to fishing activity also need to be published in Portuguese.

BG

6. To discuss the protection and conservation of maerl and to make recommendations to the Minister for such protection

Kevin McIlwee (SeaSearch), Bob Tompkins, William ? (Bouley Bay Dive Centre), Rob Titterington joined the meeting.

GM gave background information for the protection and conservation of maerl (paper was also circulated prior to the meeting).

KM is the Channel Island coordinator for SeaSearch, whose primary function is to gather data from the seabed, advised that dives were carried out in July of this year, during which time dredging took place. KM circulated before and after photographs.

BT stated that maerl is very slow growing (1mm per year) there is a possibility that invasive species will move into these areas if maerl is destroyed.

KM advised that after dredging maerl is destroyed with no evidence of significant recovery.

KB, BT, W? and RT left the meeting.

The Panel engaged in detailed discussion.

- Maerl is a slow growing and essential to many species.
- One local sample has contained 21 species of crustacean, including one crab not recorded locally for 100 years.
- After dredging possible 70% drop in species inhabiting beds (survey carried out in Scotland).
- Possible that damaged/destroyed maerl could result in slipper limpets infestation in the area, this would stop maerl growing.
- More research needed.
- Dredging high profile with the media at present, Panel must make the correct decision.
- Clear case for pristine areas, eg. Ecrehous, but broadening out needs to be discussed in more detail with the fishing industry.
- Fishing displaced in one area could have other consequences.
- Better charts needed, liaison with dredgers to agree a voluntary closed area.

Deputy Labey advised that the environmental case has been clearly made, action now needs to be taken.

The following recommendations were agreed:

1. The Department, together with partners, continue survey work to further improve the knowledge, both spatial extent and status, of maerl and other critical habitats. Knowledge gained will be used to continually assess which areas are in most need of protection and may result in adjustments to the boundaries of zones where activities are restricted.

2. Restrictions will be introduced as soon as is practicable to prohibit the use of mobile gear (towed demersal gear and all dredges) in the area defined in Figure 1. That is the area where scallop dredges are currently restricted under legislation or licence condition.
3. Restrictions will be introduced as soon as is practicable to prohibit the use of mobile gear (towed demersal gear and all dredges) in that part of the yellow area shown in Figure 2 that falls within the three mile exclusive territorial sea.
Individual fishermen who wish to have an exemption to this restriction for parts of this area will be able to put forward a case for such an exemption. Exemptions will only be given if evidence exists to show that the activity will not have an adverse impact on maerl or seagrass habitats.
4. It is recognised that protection of the Ramsar site at the Paternosters from mobile gear impact would be beneficial and easy to accomplish in regulatory terms, as it falls within the Island's three mile exclusive fishing limit. The JFA will discuss with its members the possibility of such a closure or of an area within that Ramsar zone that has slightly different boundaries. The JFA will report back to Panel on these discussions.
5. It is recommended that protection from fishing activity (and other human activity) having an adverse impact on seagrass and maerl should be achieved for the remaining Ramsar sites and the yellow area in Figure 2 that falls between the three mile exclusive fishing limit and the median line. It is acknowledged that French fishermen have a right of access to those areas and as such any restrictions will need to be introduced in a non-discriminatory way. France is also under obligation to protect these habitats in French waters where Jersey fishermen have access and so these matters will need to be progressed in accordance with procedures established under the Agreement concerning Fishing in the Bay of Granville. Exact areas may take account ongoing research and may require the definition of boundaries so as to protect the habitats, but not cause unnecessary loss of fishing opportunity.
6. In discussions with France in connection with protection of the areas at point 5, priority will be given to ensuring protection for the maerl beds at Les Ecrehous.
7. An assessment should be made of the impact of other methods of fishing in both areas where critical habitats are known and in locations designated as marine sites, as illustrated in Figure 2. Where appropriate, restrictions should be developed with stakeholders to minimise any such detrimental impacts.
8. Consideration will also need to be given to ensuring that any impact from recreational fishing is minimised.
9. Marine Resources will provide the JFA with more detailed charts of the areas needing protection, to assist in the development of

DT

GM

the points above.

10. In areas identified as needing protection, JFA members will act responsibly to minimise any adverse impacts of their fishing activity, even if such activity is for the time being permitted.

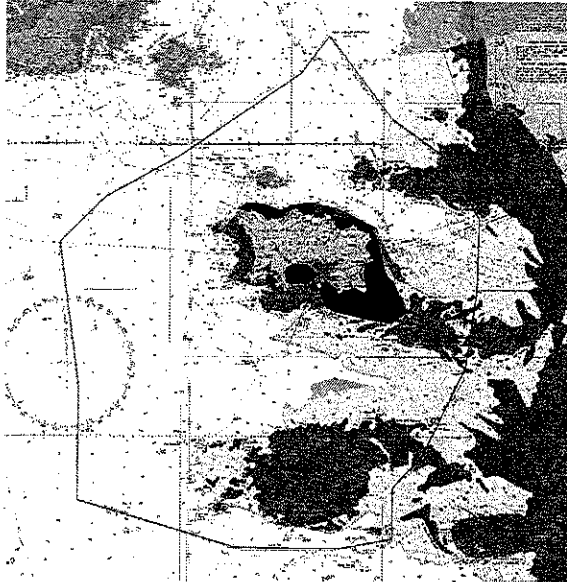


Figure 1. Current zones closed to dredges (under fishing licence condition Oct 2010). - These areas will become no mobile gear zones.

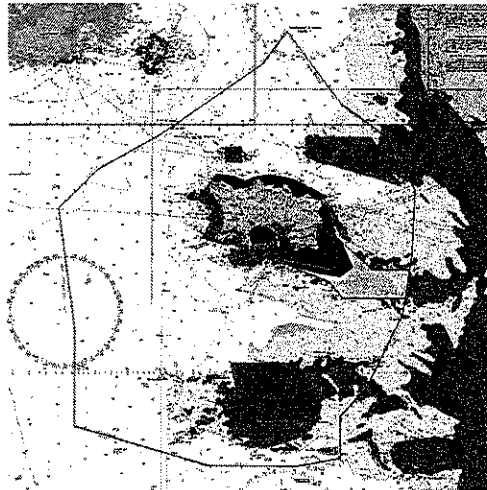


Figure 2. Proposed additional zones closed to mobile gear (MPAs (green) and maerl present (yellow)) – Of these the Yellow zone situated within the three mile exclusive limit will be closed to mobile gear and the other areas will be subject to further discussion.

7. To receive a briefing on Marine Resources legislation being

drafted and on website developments in respect of fisheries management

Progress being made with under 10m vessel logbooks.
Scallop licences aiming to be on line by January 2014 (no limit so holidaymakers can apply).

Living Aquatic Resources – MD ready for Minister to approve.

8. Any Other Business

Whelks

Meetings have been held to discuss quota, days at seas, etc.

Industry keen to separate east from west.

Progress being made. Permit scheme required but yet to be discussed.

9. Date of next meeting

Monday 16th December at 2.15 p.m., Committee Room, Howard Davis Farm.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 5.50 p.m.