

#### Marine Management Organisation



# The Landings Obligation & Discards: Experience and evidence gained from using monitoring technology

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## Landing obligation timeline

The Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) basic regulation includes firm dates for the introduction of landing obligations for all quota stocks.

2017 is the second year of the demersal landing obligation.



#### Electronic monitoring – it works but should it be used?

For the purpose of monitoring compliance with the landing obligation, Member States shall ensure detailed and accurate documentation of all fishing trips and adequate capacity and means, such as observers, closed-circuit television (CCTV) and others. In doing so, Member States shall respect the principle of efficiency and proportionality.

Art. 15 CFP

Control Criminal sanctions Accountability Flexibility **Risk-based** Data Selectivity and avoidance measures **Reduced** waste Sustainable fishing mortality **Reduced regulation Policy influence** Scientific data **Outcome focussed compliance Buy-in** 

Results based management

What electronic monitoring has allowed us to do

- Audit incentivised 'catch quota schemes' more quota in return for no discards.
- Develop methodologies for fully documented fisheries
- Audit high volumes of industry reported data relating to;
  - Discards and the landing obligation
  - Protected species
  - Gear selectivity
  - Undersized fish
  - Catch reports
- Collect data relating to;
  - Length frequency
  - Spatial variance



REM – key principles

Audit process

- 100% coverage with risk based audit
  - Stage 1 Data Integrity
  - Stage 2 Observation
  - Stage 3 Counts/Measures
- Data protection and disclosure protocols
- Sanctions

Communication

- Clear objectives
- Duty of care and rules
- Vessel monitoring plan
  - Owner/agent
  - Skipper
  - Crew
- Continuous feedback

### Fully documented fishery

#### **Discard monitoring methods**

- Random ten percent audit of all REM data (cameras, sensors, GPS) – discard rates
- Check of catch reports and market grading data: FDF vs. non-FDF vessels
- Length-frequency
  measurements



North Sea Cod – FDF vs. non-FDF









Mapping juvenile abundance





#### Verification of self-reported data





### In summary

- Electronic monitoring can be effective at achieving a fully documented fishery.
- It should be used as a results based management tool to drive a culture of compliance and best practice.
- It can generate substantial amounts of data which should be fully utilised.
- The results to date show generally negligible discard rates for key species.
- 2016 was more challenging for newly introduced landing obligation species.
- Incidents of tampering have been rare.



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#### Reports and results can be found at:

#### https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/catch-quota-trialsreports



