

# Landing obligation for demersal species – An NGO Perspective

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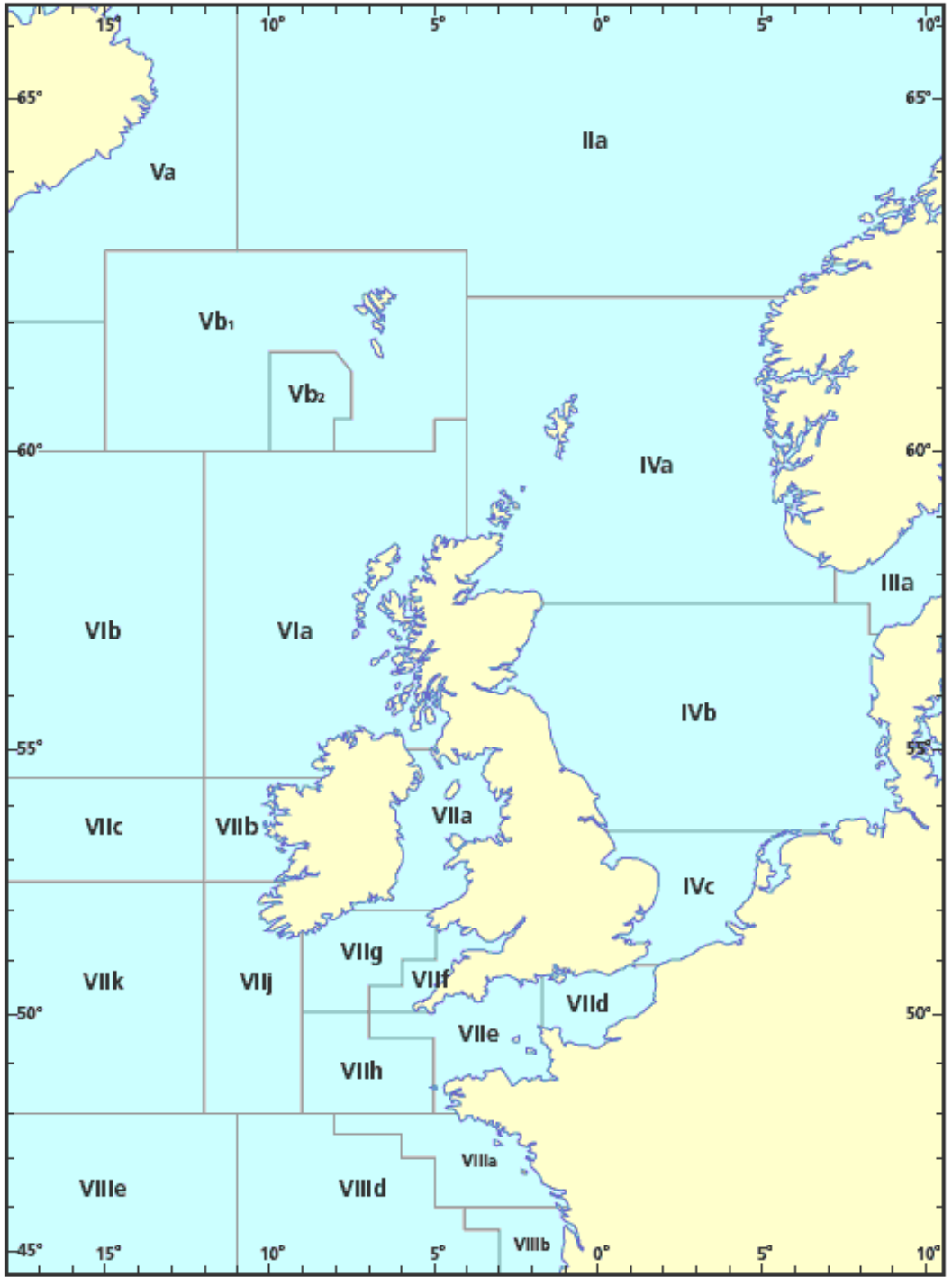
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- What is the discard ban?
- Why do we have a discard ban?
- How it can improve the performance of our fisheries
- Some risks to stocks
- A need for industry support
- A strong need for enhanced monitoring

# What is the discard ban?

Legal obligation to land all catches of species  
subject to catch limits

Discard ban, not a bycatch ban



**North Western Waters Vb, VI & VII (In specific fisheries)**

- haddock
- nephrops
- hake
- sole
- whiting

**North Sea IIa, IV (In specific fisheries)**

- haddock
- nephrops
- hake
- sole
- plaice
- saithe
- northern prawn

# Why do we have a discard ban?

Unnecessarily killing our shared fisheries resources!

- What are the quotas for?
- Huge amount of waste
- Inefficient
- Large uncertainty in total catches







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THE DEEP HULL CITY CENTRE



870,000 people!



# How will the discard ban reduce unwanted catches?

**UNWANTED** catches

- + counted against quota
- + handling & storage space

**= Strong incentive to avoid them**

# How to reduce unwanted catches?

- Increased mesh size
- Square mesh codends and panels
- Eliminator trawl
- Inclined grids – rigid or flexible
- Coverless trawls
- **Move-on measures / real time closures**
- Precautionary areas
- Changing behaviour – times and areas
- Improve post capture mortality
- Better forecasting





## JUVENILE REAL TIME CLOSURES

Areas closed to all fishing vessels other than pots, scallop dredgers, gillnets and; pelagic trawls, purse seines, driftnets and jiggers targeting Herring, Mackerel and Horse Mackerel

 Juvenile RTCs

## Current Juvenile RTCs

SCO28: 05/09/2011 12:00 to 26/09/2011 23:59

SCO29: 05/09/2011 12:00 to 26/09/2011 23:59

SCO30: 21/09/2011 00:01 to 11/10/2011 23:59

## SCOTTISH COD REAL TIME CLOSURES

Areas closed to all Scottish demersal fishing vessels other than longlines

 Analytical      Seasonal Closures  
 Sample      12nm Limit  
 Buffer Zones

## Current RTCs

RTC 130: 10/09/2011 00:01 to 01/10/2011 23:59

RTC 131-142: 22/09/2011 00:01 to 12/10/2011 23:59

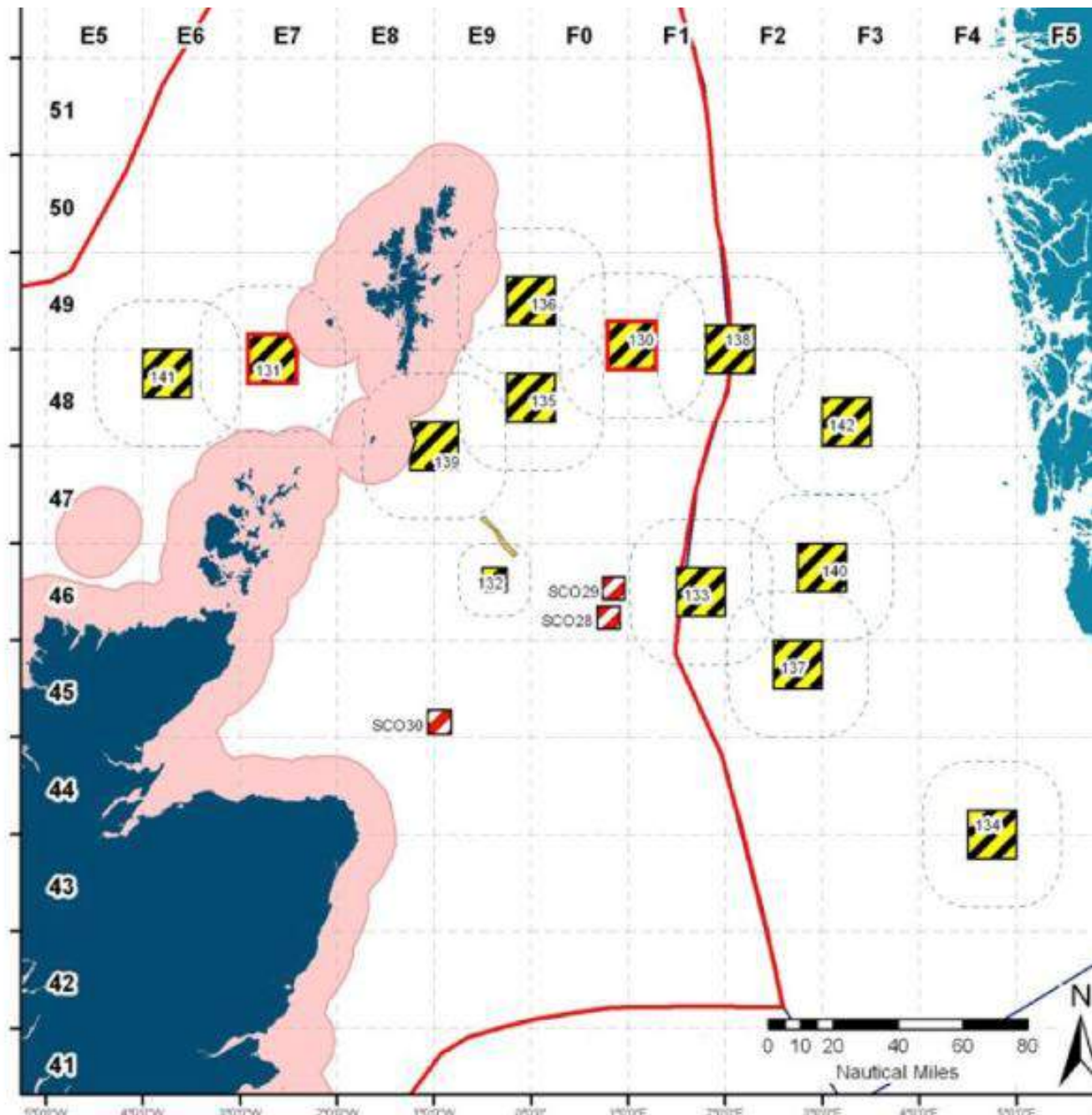
## Seasonal Closures

Long Holes: Closed subject to low Cod sampling

## Coordinates

This map is for illustrative purposes only.  
Coordinates for RTCs can be found at:  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Sea-Fisheries/17681/closures/closed>

Scottish Government Marine Scotland  
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NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION.



# What are the risks?

Fishers keep discarding despite receiving a quota uplift



# Solutions

## Buy-in

- Reduce chance of choke situations as much as possible.
- Flexibility (within the TAC)
- Regionalisation
- Effective communications with fishers
  - Justification and benefits to management
  - Awareness of rules
  - Access to support or advice on quota trading etc.

# Solutions

## Incentives

- Funding – £35M EMFF now available
- Additional quota, effort, access to areas or exemptions contingent adoption of best practice selectivity, avoidance and monitoring measures.

Eg. Area VII, common sole, up to 3 % of total annual catches of this species is exempt by vessels using gear with increased selectivity

# Solutions

## Deterrents

- Meaningful fines for deliberate abuse (Skipper + **owner**)
- Points on licence and fishing suspension
- Penalties for noncompliant Member States?
- Effort or quota restrictions



# Monitoring

CCTV & Observer coverage must be bolstered.

*Art. 15(13): '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.'*

# CCTV



- Support level playing field
- Much needed catch & length data
- Vessels truly becoming research platforms

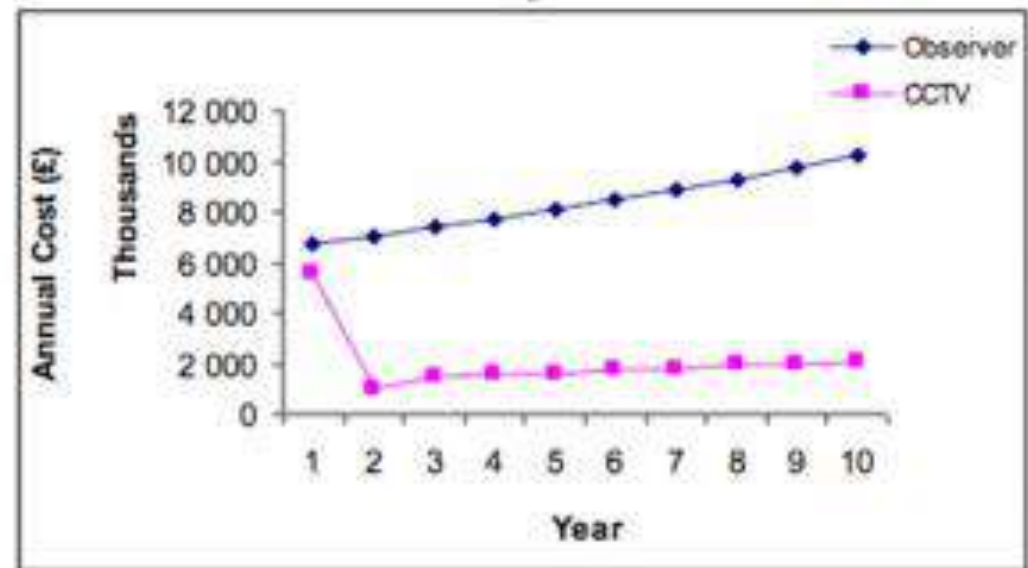


MMO 2013

# CCTV vs Observer

Capabilities comparison – single observer vs. single REM vessel / analyst

	Onboard Observer Scheme	REM Sampling Scheme
Counts	Yes	Yes
Lengths	Yes	Yes
Age	Yes	No
Sample whole haul	No	Yes
Sample every haul in trip	Yes	No
Trips sampled	Few	Many



Source: Dinsdale (2013)

Hypothetical 20% observer coverage. Dinsdale 2013.



Thank you

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