

Inshore Fisheries – Mapping the Future

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What is inshore fishing?

“Geographically and politically, for the purposes of management, the area defined as inshore extends to 6nm from land, but fixed definitions of what the inshore is are not helpful. The 6nm does not contain the limits of the inshore fishery, nor does it limit the access of the offshore fishery to the inshore.” (Scottish Fishermen’s Federation, Inshore Fisheries Policy Brexit and beyond, 2019)

“The term ‘inshore’ is something of a misnomer. We use it here as shorthand for fishing boats which are typically under-10m that work close to shore, mainly in pursuit of shellfish, and do not own Fixed Quota Allocation units. Larger vessels catching quota species and designed to operate well offshore can and do fish in inshore waters from time to time.” (Shetland Fishermen’s Association, Rebuilding Scotland's Inshore Fisheries, 2019)

So what's the problem?

Criticisms of current management approach:

- Unnecessary complexity
- Lacking consistency
- Does not deliver sustainability goals
- Ignores interdependence between 'inshore' and 'offshore'

A need for change

Previous attempts to address issues have suffered from:

- Lack of stakeholder support
- Resource constraints
- Changes in political climate and/or priorities

See Sustainable Access to Inshore Fisheries (SAIF) Recommendations for Reform of the English Inshore Fishing Fleet 2010.

Why now?

EU Exit provides an opportunity to change our approach.

There is both a desire for change and the will to make it happen.

There is a growing culture of collaboration.

What will we do?

Steering Group comprising industry, Government and research community.

Establish a Blueprint for the future management of inshore fisheries management regime that is truly sustainable.

Long-term project, it will take time to foster and implement change.

This is not about finding a 'one-size fits all' solution.

The journey so far: gathering information

Understanding the issues:

- Commissioned research
- ‘Issues and Ideas’ Workshop:
 - 50 participants
 - 5 core themes
- Workshop report published



The journey so far: Starting a dialogue

A promotional poster for a conference. The background is a photograph of a harbor scene with a lighthouse and fishing boats. The text is overlaid on the left side. The main title is in large, bold letters, with "The" and "Future" in red and "of our Inshore Fisheries Conference" in white. To the right, there is a hashtag and event details in smaller white text.

**The
Future
of our
Inshore
Fisheries
Conference**

#FutureOfOurInshoreFisheries
Tuesday 8 and Wednesday
9 October 2019, London
Free to attend

The journey so far: Starting a dialogue

- 190 stakeholders.
- 50 fisherman's bursaries.
- Research findings and case studies from international experts.
- 18 facilitated table discussions on 6 key themes.

Bursary sponsors



Next steps

Discussion notes reviewed and summarised into a report.

Captures the varied and complex issues and the emerging priorities of delegates.

Next week the Steering Group will review and agree recommendations for establishing a Blueprint for future UK Inshore Fisheries Management.

Get in touch and get involved

We aim to gather together stakeholders from across industry and the research community.

We want to promote a collaborative approach.

Contact us with your ideas and suggestions: kirsten.milliken@seafish.co.uk

Visit our website and sign up to our newsletter to find out more:

www.seafish.org

Thank you.

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