Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority – *where do we fit?*



Kent & Essex

There are three tiers of fisheries management

International - ICES

National – UK (Trade and Cooperation Agreement)

Regional - KEIFCA



- 10 IFCAs around the English coast
- The seaward boundary is 6 nautical miles
- Rye Bay in Kent to the River Stour in Essex.
- District covers 3,412 km² of sea





0 1888 the Sea Fisheries Regulation Act - Each county or county borough council could apply for a Sea Fisheries
Committee to manage the fisheries of its district

Manage fisheries within the territorial sea (3 nautical miles)

Globally, one of the first formal fisheries management bodies ever created

Since 2011..... Kent and Essex IFCA

Management of inshore fisheries

(a) seek to ensure that the <u>exploitation of sea fisheries resources is carried out in a</u> <u>sustainable way</u>,

(b) seek to <u>balance</u> the <u>social</u> and <u>economic</u> benefits of exploiting the sea fisheries resources of the district with the need to protect the <u>marine environment</u> from, or promote its recovery from, the effects of such exploitation,

(c) take any other steps which in the authority's opinion are necessary for the purpose of making a contribution to the achievement of sustainable development,

(d) seek to balance the different needs of persons engaged

Protection of Marine Conservation Zones (MCZ's)

The authority for an IFC district must seek to ensure that the conservation objectives of any MCZ in the district are furthered





Team and Resources







QUARTERLY MEETINGS



Kent & Essex IFCA meet on a quarterly basis, and these meetings are held in public. The agenda for the meetings and the minutes of the meetings will be published on this website. We will publish the date and location of our public meetings and the associated papers in a timely manner.

From 30 January 2018 we will provide the decisions made by IPCA Members at their meeting next to the relevant agenda kern.

The following dates have been agreed by members for the Kent & Essex IFCA Quarterly meetings:

10.00am, 25 May 2021 - Garden Suite, Thurnok Hotel, Ship Lane, Aveley, Thurnok RM19 11% 10.00am, 25 November 2021 - venue tha 10.00am, 28 November 2021 - Chelmsford Council offices 10.00am, 28 January 2022 - Gravesham BC offices MEETING PAPERS & AGENDA:

25 MAY 2021

NOTICE is hereby given that a meeting of the KENT AND ESSEX INSECRE FISHERIES AND ECONSERVATION AUTHORITY will be held at the Garden Suite, Thurnek Hotel, Ship Lane, Aveling, Thurnek RMT9 IVN on Tuesday 25 May 2021 at 10,000m to transact the following business: UNRESTRUCTED TEMS.

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

A, AUTHORITY BUSINESS

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman. Cir Lamb was re-elected as Chairman and Nr Nichols re-elected as Vice Chairman

2. Declaration of Members' Interests. Mr Ratiley declared a prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda items 83 and 84

3. Minutes of 29 January 2021 Members approved the minutes

B. MATTERS FOR DECISION

1, 2020/21 Final Budget Monitoring Duthim Report, Annual Return and Internal Audit report (C Green) Appendix 1. Appendix 2. Appendix 3. Appendix 3. Appendix 3. Appendix 5. Monthers approved the underspand and requested that £30,000 to placed in an investment account with the remainder transferred to general reserve. Members noted the report of internal audit and the recommendations that had been made and approved the Annual Return and 2021/22 Internal Audit plan.

2. Transury Management Strategy 2021/22 (C. Green). Members requested that the Financial Advisor investigate the option of IFCA funds being held in a 30 day account rather than a 7 day account.

3. Code: TECPU located fibery management (D Balley) Members were informed of a induced TAC of F60 convest for the 2021 fishing due to poor incritent fiber fishery in 2019 and 2020. Surveys had taken place as usual and had included Area 15 (Margute Sands) as 1.5 thousand tornes of good quality cachies had been faunded tornes for the 2021 fishing of the same induced taken fiber and been faunded and tornes for the 2021 fishing of the same induced taken fished in fished in fished areas had last been faunded. The surveys of this ske is 2021 had found good sized cackies but not in sufficient quantities to apport it. At the annual licence had been faunded areas had been received from the industry making representations to Members to allow the bis assee had a latter had been received from the industry making representations to Members to allow the bis cace and a latter had been received from the industry making representations to Members to allow the bis avec. Members agreed the management insthads as stated in the repear and noted that Area 15 would be re-surveyed in a latter had been faunded area had been faunded were and the state of the faund area were industry making representations to allow the issue of 14 licences to these that had held then previously with no additional licences granted. Members were inminided that the TECP would run out in September 2024 and it was the intention of officers to begin consultations of 10 on what would replace it.

4. Permitted Cockle Fichery Management (D Balley) Members were advised that surveys carried out in April 2021 had found insufficient cockles to permit the opening of this cockle fishery. Members agreed the cockle fishery would not open in 2021 and that all permit fees should be refunded

5. Marine Protected Area – Tranche 3 MCZ Update (W Wright). Members noted that MMO had agreed that the IFCA would take the lead on the development of management measures for the Goodwin Sands MCZ site and noted the survey work that was planned to be undertaken.

6. Richenics Regeneration Working Group update (WWight) Appendix 1 Appendix 2 Members received the notes of the two meetings of the Working Group that had been held and approved an invitation to the Head of Fisheries Funding Policy at Defra to attend the next IFCA meeting to discuss the historic issuing of funds to the area and the opportunities available to fishermen from the Fisheries and SeaTood Scheme

7. Review of Standing Orders and Constitution (J Cook) Members noted the report

8. Approval of the Annual Plan 2021/22 (D Balley) Members approved the Annual Plan

C. FOR INFORMATION/NOTING

Authority members



KEIFCA is to consists of 21 members,

- 9 councillors
- **9** "general members" or MMO appointees
- 1 Marine Management Organisation officer
- **1** Environment Agency officer
- 1 Natural England office

2021/22 budget of **£904,585**

Annual plan



Annual report



•

Impact of our byelaw





Spatial distribution of average annual fishing effort (mW fishing hours) in the Greater North Sea during 2012–2015, by gear type. Fishing effort data are only shown for vessels >12 m having vessel monitoring systems (VMS).





2012 Thanet Coast SAC – prohibition of bottom-towed gear byelaw

The UK has 75% of the chalk reefs in Europe

Thanet's 23 km of chalk cliffs with caves, stacks and arch formations form the longest continuous stretch in the UK.



Medway Marine Protected Areas 70% loss of

Overlapping designations

Ramsar Site: International wetlands Special Protection Area: International Birds Marine Conservation Zone: UK marine habitats/ species Site of Special Scientific Interest: UK habitats

Birds (18 species) Roosting Breeding Feeding Wintering



Habitats Mudflat Saltmarsh

Rare species Green tentacled lagoon worm



ALC: NO

Marketon Patrony MCZ



2016 - Medway Nursery Area byelaw

No Take

Elphinstone

Point

Zone



PROHIBITIONS

Hoo Marina

No person shall fish for sea fish within any specified area of the River Medway.

No person shall have in their possession any fishing gear within a specified area unless that gear is stowed or stored in a manner in which it may not easily be deployed.

Medway Nursery Area The UK's largest no-take zone



- Provides a nursery area for a range of key commercial and recreational angling fish stocks
- Aids in recovery of national bass populations and helps contribute to locally sustainable bass stocks
- Long-term economic benefits to fishermen of having a stable sustainable fishery
- Ensures protection of future benefits by maintaining a healthy ecosystem
- Protection for international conservation designations

Nursery Areas important for a range of fish



Many of our key species use estuaries as nursery grounds, tending to utilise the inner estuary for the first one to three years of life and progressively moving downstream as they age.

Other commercially valuable species also use these areas

- sprat
- eels
- sand smelt
- gilthead sea-bream

Developing nursery areas helps protect all these species.

Additional benefits of protection

Important due to historic loss of saltmarsh

Direct

- Fisheries
- Tourism
- Farming
- Sea defence

Indirect

- Carbon storage
- Intrinsic value

Saltmarshes

Sea defence Carbon storage

Agriculture

Nursery habitat







Riverfestival

Thousands of fish will be decorated by the local children, and the wider community. By decorating fish people will learn and celebrate the fish that live in their river.

Sole

Mullet

Flounder

Sea bass

Herring

The **five key fish** conserved by the Medway Nursery Area are very distinctive, from the oval body of sole to the sharpspined fins of a bass.

2021 - Goodwin Sands MCZ





Designated features & conservation objectives





Ross worm reefs (Sabellaria spinulosa): **Recover**



Subtidal coarse sediment: Maintain



Blue mussel beds (Mytilus



English Channel outburst flood features: *Maintain*



Moderate energy circalittoral rock: *Recover*



Subtidal sand: Maintain



What has been collected to date?



ARIS (Adaptive Resolution Imaging Sonar)



Since 1994...Managing fishing within MPAs





Thames Estuary Cockle Fishery

Cockle fishery

- One of the largest cockle fisheries in the UK
- A few years ago 50% of all cockles landed in the UK came from the Thames
- Worth £3 million first sale £6 million secondary sale per year
- The major part of the fishery is managed under the Thames Estuary Cockle Fishery Order





Thames Estuary Cockle Fishery





Cockles from each of these samples were counted, aged and weighed to provide data on the condition of the stock and set a Total allowable catch.

Over 1200 samples are taken from an area of 132 km².



Set annual total allowable catch (TAC) which is divided between 14 licences We can use satellite tracking to monitor fishing effort and increase compliance





The future.....



Fisheries Management Plans - Bass





2020 CHAPTER 22

An Act to make provision in relation to fisheries, fishing, aquaculture and marine conservation; to make provision about the functions of the Marine Management Organisation; and for connected purposes. [23rd November 2020] [23rd November 2020]

Fisheries objectives, fisheries statements and fisheries management plans

Fisheries objectives

- (1) The fisheries objectives are-(a) the sustainability objective,
- (b) the precautionary objective,
 (c) the ecosystem objective,
- (d) the scientific evidence objective
 (e) the bycatch objective,
- (f) the equal access objective
- (g) the national benefit objective, and (h) the climate change objective.
- (2) The "sustainability objective" is that-
- (a) fish and aquaculture activities are-
- (i) environmentally sustainable in the long term, and (ii) managed so as to achieve economic, social and employment benefits and contribute to the availability of food supplies, and
 (b) the fishing capacity of fleets is such that fleets are economically viable but do not overception marine stocks.



Benyon Review Into Highly Protected Marine Areas

Final Report

Helping deliver... the KNP strategy



Priority habitats



Subtidal mud (nominated)



Intertidal chalk and subtidal chalk (nominated)



Harbour and Grey Seals

Indicator species







What has Cefas research revealed about the lives of sea bass?





bass population dynamics: data storage tags



Centre for Environment Fisheries & Aquaculture Science

How should fisheries be run in the future?





- FMPs can give us a much better transparent structure to look at where regional management is important and where national and international management is important.
- FMPs will help us integrate, maximise and prioritise regional management measures.
- FMPs will be vital component in how KEIFCA looks to make legislation in the future and how we prioritise work in the medium term.