Eastern IFCA: Developing shrimp fishery management

July 2018

This document summarises points raised in the informal dialogue (as management proposals were being developed) and sets out EIFCA's response, with references to further information.

Spatial closures (Marine Protected Areas Byelaw 2018)				
What you said	How we listened	More information		
Some areas being proposed for closure are not the sensitive "mixed sediment" habitat that needs protection. We do not fish for shrimps over the sensitive type of ground as it is not compatible with shrimp fishing gear.	We've checked habitat maps with your information and our own survey data.	Spatial closures charts		
	We trimmed closed area shapes to exclude the non- sensitive habitat areas, where we had discretion to do so – please see attached chart 1.	Natural England "feature extent" charts.		
	We understand you do not target the sensitive habitat areas but need to control potential future fishing of such areas.	Eastern IFCA 2013-2017 Habitat Mapping Report.		
Wells to Blakeney is an important shrimping area for some vessels	We have included an "open corridor" within the closure in this area, where fishing will be allowed between 16 th October and 31 st March. We have re-shaped the open corridor following your	Spatial closures charts		
	feedback during workshops – please see attached chart 2.			
There is no point protecting fish nursery areas (e.g. Blakeney Harbour) from shrimp fishing because seals predate the fish anyway.	Shrimp fishing can affect significant numbers of juvenile fish, especially flatfish. We recognise that seal predation is an issue but this is a separate from the current shrimp management work. It is also not a reason to neglect fish nursery areas.	Shrimp fishery assessment		

Estuaries of rivers feeding into The Wash are important shrimping areas for some vessels	We have not progressed the possible closures in estuaries/saltmarsh at this stage but will consider it again in future. We want to more fully understand the impacts this would have on fishing.	Spatial closure charts
We don't go shrimping over mussel beds so why close them?	The closures of mussel beds are precautionary to protect this important reef feature. Future mussel fisheries will still be permitted, subject to the usual assessments and conditions.	Spatial closure charts

Gear restrictions and effort limitation (Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018)				
What you said	How we listened	More information		
We want to continue to use try-nets as part of our shrimping operations	We have included the use of try-nets in the shrimp permit conditions.	Shrimp permit byelaw 2018 – permit conditions		
It is not viable to use veil nets on smaller beams	We sought advice from net manufacturers and SeaFish. We understand that veil nets (separator trawls) can be scaled down to work for smaller beams.	Shrimp permit byelaw 2018 – impact assessment		
We don't use tickler chains in the shrimp fishery	We appreciate that tickler chains are not currently used. We have prohibited use of tickler chains to ensure this does not happen in the future (causing increased damage to the seabed)	Shrimp permit byelaw 2018 – permit conditions		
Different ways of limiting effort in the shrimp fishery will affect fishers in different ways, e.g. could prevent new starters in the fishery or unfairly	We have not yet finalised <i>how</i> effort will be limited in the shrimp fishery.	Reports from industry workshop reports and questionnaires.		

restrict either smaller or larger business models.	It is inevitable that some fishers will be impacted by effort limits; we want to identify the fairest way to limit effort. We will consult further on this.	Shrimp permit byelaw 2018 – Schedule 1
New vessels could enter the fishery to get a track record, thus reducing the available allocation for existing vessels	Creating a track record in this manner will not entitle new vessels to a permit. As above, we have not yet finalised <i>how</i> effort will be limited in the fishery but will consult further as we develop this.	Shrimp permit byelaw 2018 – Schedule 1
Inshore VMS (I-VMS) won't be reliable in The Wash. It will be unfair to penalise fishermen (requiring them to stop fishing) when units stop working.	Inshore VMS is an important part of the management measures. It enables smaller closed areas to be used because it allows better monitoring of fishing activity. The I-VMS units will operate in the Wash and when there is no phone signal they will store data for transmission when a signal is restored. The national I-VMS project is looking at service levels for repair/replacement devices and an enforcement policy will be developed in relation to non- functioning units.	National consultation on I- VMS is anticipated shortly
VMS suppliers are likely to increase reporting costs and fishers will have to pay more	Market forces are likely to mitigate against price increases as different suppliers of iVMS compete. This does not apply to VMS+ as there is only one supplier.	Information and guidance on Inshore VMS is available at weblink below

Information and guidance on Inshore VMS: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inshore-vessel-monitoring-system-ivms</u>

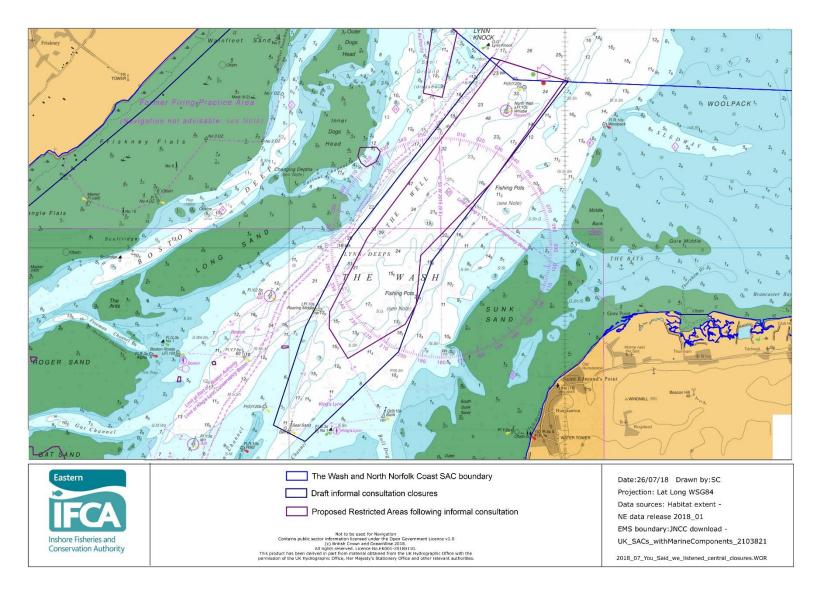


Chart 1: Proposed restricted areas before (dark blue line) and after (purple line) informal consultation.

Eastern IFCA – Shrimp management measures – formal consultation – July 2018

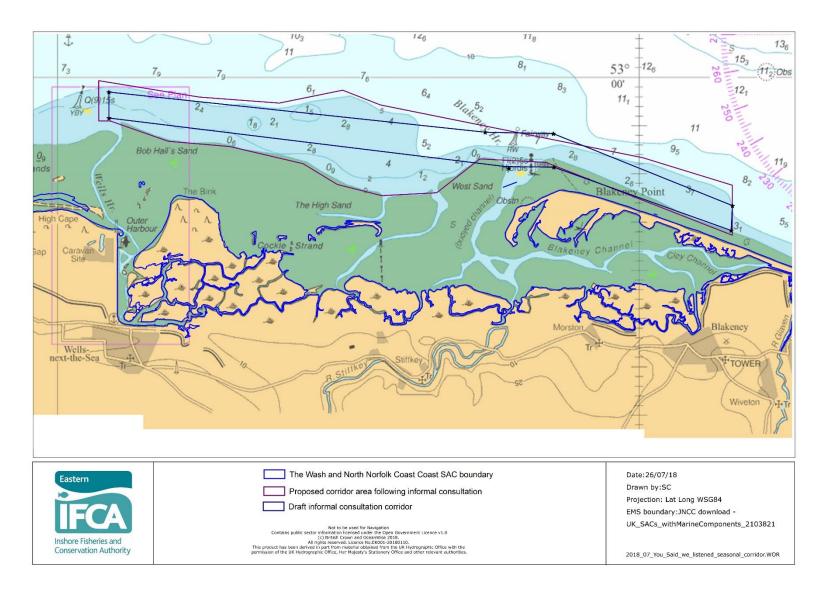


Chart 2: Proposed seasonal corridor before (dark blue line) and after (purple line) informal consultation.

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