Addendum to Appendix 3: Intertidal biogenic reef: mussel beds

Please note this addendum to Appendix 3 was not included in the original Appendix 3 due to oversight. The interaction 'beam trawling shrimp' with 'intertidal biogenic reef: mussel bed' was not considered at the time of the production of the Eastern IFCA Non-Occurring Interactions Report (NOIR). Had that consideration taken place this interaction would have been scoped out at an earlier stage.

Interactions between shrimp beam trawls and the *intertidal biogenic reef: mussel bed* sub-feature are scoped out of further assessment as shrimp beam trawling does not occur on the *intertidal biogenic reef: mussel bed* sub-feature within The Wash and North Norfolk Coast Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (Eastern IFCA, Senior IFCO, *Pers. comm.*). These areas are not beam trawled for shrimp as:

- Mussel beds are not key habitat for shrimp, which tend to inhabit soft-sediment (sandy and muddy ground) (Neal, 2008);
- Beam trawling on mussel beds could cause extensive damage to fishing gear, meaning that fishers actively avoid these areas;
- Beam trawling on mussel beds could cause damage to commercially important, regulated shellfish stocks that are of economic importance to fishermen.

Maps of the location and data on the extent and density of mussel beds are provided to fishers annually to support their understanding of mussel beds within the SAC. This allows fishers to easily avoid protected *intertidal biogenic reef: mussel bed* when beam trawling.

Therefore, the interaction will not be considered further in this assessment.

References:

Neal, K.J. 2008. *Crangon crangon*, brown shrimp. In Tyler-Walters H. and Hiscock K. (eds) Marine Life Information Network: Biology and Sensitivity Key Information Reviews, [online]. Plymouth: Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom. [cited 30-01-2018]. Available at: https://www.marlin.ac.uk/species/detail/2031