

Appendix 4: Natural England correspondence – NOIR Report 2016

Date: 26 August 2015
Our ref: 8631 - 162553
Your ref: NOIR report



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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Dan

Fisheries in European Marine Sites: Habitats Regulations Screening Assessment of non-occurring Amber and Green interactions (NOIR report)

Thank you for your consultation dated 12 August 2015. The following constitutes Natural England's formal statutory response.

Natural England has reviewed your updated report, in which you lay out which amber and green interactions are not occurring in the Eastern IFCA District. The report is very well structured, easy to follow and provides a good audit trail for decisions made for these interactions. Natural England agrees that the listed interactions can be screened out from further assessments.

We understand that if fishing activity currently listed as non-occurring is identified within the European Marine Sites within the Eastern IFCA district, the relevant fishing gear and feature interactions will undergo a Habitats regulations Assessment (HRA) and the report will be updated.

We particularly welcome the addition of section 2.4 and appendix 5, in which you list high risk interactions that currently do not occur, but which will need to undergo a HRA should the fishing activities be taken up within the Eastern IFCA District. This section greatly aids in managing future risks.

We would welcome notification of any updates to the non-occurring interactions report and if you suspect that a high risk activity is taking place or is likely to take place in the near future.

For any queries relating to the content of this letter please contact me using the details provided below.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Unterhollenberg".

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