

## Shellfish Fisheries Management Plans: Key points and how to get involved

We have produced this short paper to give you some background information on:

- How Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs) are being developed.
- The work that is underway to develop the specific crab & Lobster FMP and the whelk FMP
- How you can get involved and share your views.

### What is an FMP and why are they being developed?

An FMP describes the steps we will take to improve the management of our fisheries. It sets out the actions we want to take to make sure our fisheries are sustainable now and into the future. The [Fisheries Act 2020](#) means we must manage our fisheries so that we can deliver biological, social, and economic sustainability and so that they can continue to support a thriving seafood sector.

We have an opportunity to change the way we manage our fisheries so that we can have flexible, and transparent approaches which are appropriate to different species, fisheries, and locations. FMPs will be how we will do this, but they will only work if fishermen and the wider industry get involved.

Seafish is supporting industry and government to develop two key FMPs in England; the whelk FMP and the crab and lobster FMP.

These two FMPs will set out aims and objectives and management proposals that will apply to all commercially harvested whelk, crabs and lobster caught in English waters. The FMPs will apply to all vessels, of all sizes, and from all nations (both UK and non-UK) which operate in English waters. These two plans will be the primary way we will deliver well managed whelk, crab, and lobster fisheries.

### What does this mean for me?

FMPs will change the way fisheries are managed. It will decide what research will be done and the management changes that will need to be made. The FMPs will run for five years (whelk) and six years (crab and lobster) initially. Each year there will be a detailed work programme which will set out the research and the management that will be undertaken on these fisheries. FMPs are designed to be long-term and will change and evolve to reflect the changing needs of the fishery. Industry and wider stakeholders will play a central part of this process.

If you fish for whelk, crab or lobster or if you process these species, you should get involved in this important work so that your views and your aspirations for these fisheries are included.

### How are the FMPs being developed?

All FMPs are being developed with a co-management approach, this means they will be developed **collaboratively** between industry, government, and researchers. The whelk FMP work is being led by the Whelk Management Group (WMG), and the crab and lobster FMP by the Crab and Lobster Management Group (CMG). These are industry-led co-management groups which bring together catchers, processors, researchers, and government.

### How can you get involved?

Seafish is hosting a series of in-person events at key harbours and ports around the UK to speak to anyone with an interest in whelk and/or crab & lobster fisheries and their management. These

events are open to anyone with an interest in these fisheries, and we want to encourage as many people to come along to each meeting as possible.

This is your opportunity to learn more about FMPs, to share your perspective on the fisheries in your area, and to make sure your voice is heard on how these should be managed in the future.

Online events will also be held to gather feedback from stakeholders who were unable to attend an in-person event. You can find up to date information on in-person and online events for the whelk FMP and the crab and lobster FMP by visiting the [Seafish FMP landing page](#).

For more information or to register your interest in an event please contact [fisheriesmanagementplans@seafish.co.uk](mailto:fisheriesmanagementplans@seafish.co.uk). No prior registration is required to attend an in-person event, just come along!

For online events you will need to contact Seafish to get a link to the meeting before you can attend. Just email us at the address above.

### **Where can I get more information on FMPs?**

You can find more information on FMPs by visiting the [GOV.uk page on Fisheries Management Plans](#); for more information on shellfish (whelk, brown crab, lobster, and scallop) FMPs please visit the Seafish page on Shellfish FMPs [Fisheries Management Plans \(FMPs\) | Seafish](#)

### **What happens next?**

These engagement sessions are just the start of the conversation. The key dates for getting the FMPs finalised are listed below:

- Stakeholder engagement events to gather feedback on the draft FMP – **November to December 2022**
- Update the FMP to reflect what we have heard – **September to January 2023**
- Provide the first draft FMP to Defra – **January 2023**
- Formal public consultation on draft FMP by Defra – **April to June 2023**
- The whelk, and crab and lobster FMPs will be finalised and published – **Autumn 2023**

For more information on any aspect of the whelk FMP please contact the Seafish team at [fisheriesmanagementplans@seafish.co.uk](mailto:fisheriesmanagementplans@seafish.co.uk) We want to hear from you.

## Whelk FMP engagement events

Seafish is hosting a series of in-person and online events to discuss the Whelk Fisheries Management Plan.

These events are important because they are your opportunity to:

- Learn more about the whelk FMP and what it will mean for you.
- Share your views on the FMP.
- Share your perspective on the fisheries in your area, and to make sure your voice is heard on how these fisheries are managed in the future.

Events are open to anyone with an interest in English whelk fisheries. The success of these plans needs your involvement so please do come along to meetings or join on-line. For more information or to register your interest in an event please contact [fisheriesmanagementplans@seafish.co.uk](mailto:fisheriesmanagementplans@seafish.co.uk)

<b>Date and time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November, 1000-1200	<b>Weymouth</b> Best Western Hotel Rembrandt, 12-18 Dorchester Road, Weymouth, DT4 7JU
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November, 1000-1200	<b>Ilfracombe</b> The Royal Britannia- Royal Britannia Hotel, Ilfracombe, EX34 9EE
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November, 1300-1430	<b>Wider stakeholder engagement event</b> Online via Microsoft Teams
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November, 1600-1800	<b>Shoreham-by-sea/Eastbourne</b> Shoreham Yacht Club, 85/89 Brighton Road, BN43 6RF
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November, 1400-1530	<b>All areas online engagement event</b> Online via Microsoft Team
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November, 1600-1800	<b>Fleetwood</b> The Queens Hotel, Beach Road, Fleetwood, FY7 8PR
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December, 1400-1530	<b>All areas online engagement event</b> Online via Microsoft Teams
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December, 1700 - 1900	<b>Cromer</b> Oddfellows Hall, Lifeboat Plain, Sheringham, NR26 8BG

## Crab & Lobster FMP engagement events

Seafish is hosting a series of in-person and online events to discuss the Crab & Lobster Fisheries Management Plan.

These events are important because they are your opportunity to:

- Learn more about the crab and lobster FMP and what it will mean for you.
- Share your views on the FMP.
- Share your perspective on the fisheries in your area, and to make sure your voice is heard on how these fisheries are managed in the future.

Events are open to anyone with an interest in English crab and lobster fisheries. The success of these plans needs your involvement so please do come along to meetings or join on-line. For more information or to register your interest in an event please contact

[fisheriesmanagementplans@seafish.co.uk](mailto:fisheriesmanagementplans@seafish.co.uk)

<b>Date and time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November, 1600-1800	<b>Salcombe</b> Salcombe Yacht Club - Cliff House, Cliff Rd, Salcombe, TQ8 8JQ
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November, 1000-1200	<b>Ilfracombe</b> The Royal Britannia- Royal Britannia Hotel, Ilfracombe, EX34 9EE
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November, 1600-1800	<b>Padstow</b> Padstow Harbour Hotel, Station Road, Padstow, PL28 8DB
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November, 1300-1500	<b>Newlyn</b> Wheal Betsy room, The Centre Newlyn, Chywoone Hill, Newlyn, Penzance, TR18 5AR
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November, 1700-1900	<b>Bridlington</b> Bridlington Spa, South Marine Drive, Bridlington, YO15 3JH
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> November, 1700-1900	<b>Amble</b> The Radcliff Room, Charles Rd, Amble, Morpeth, NE65 0RA Queens Hotel, Beach Road, Fleetwood, FY7 8PR
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November, 1400-1530	<b>All areas online engagement event</b> Online via Microsoft Teams
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November, 1300-1500	<b>Shoreham-by-Sea/Eastbourne</b> Shoreham Yacht Club, 85/89 Brighton Road, BN43 6RF
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November, 1300-1500	<b>Wider stakeholder online engagement event</b> Online via Microsoft Teams
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> December, 1400-1530	<b>All areas online engagement event</b> Online via Microsoft Teams
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December, 1700-1900	<b>Cromer</b> Oddfellows Hall Lifeboat Plain, Sheringham, NR26 8BG