

From: Chief IFCO

To: Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority –
26 November 2024

Subject: Fisheries Management Plan consultations

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Summary:

This report highlights the key sections and actions from the current round of FMP consultations. Included in the FMPs being consulted are the Cockle FMP, the Southern North Sea and Channel skates and rays FMP and the Southern North Sea demersal non-quota species FMP. Feedback from members will be used to structure the KEIFCA response to the consultation.

Recommendations:

This report is for **COMMENT** and **NOTING** only

Introduction

Five new draft Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs) designed to improve the long-term sustainability of UK fish stocks opened for consultation on the 10 October. The draft plans, which have been developed following input from the fishing industry, provide the policies and evidence required to support fish stocks and a healthy fishing sector for generations to come. The formal public consultations offering the fishing industry and other stakeholders a further chance to shape the plans before they are finalised. The consultation runs for 14 weeks, ending on 19 January 2025.

The FMPs being consulted are:

- Cockle
- Southern North Sea and Channel skates and rays
- Southern North Sea demersal non-quota species

- North Sea and Channel sprat
- Queen scallop

Although the FMP documents are shorter than the previous FMP documents that were consulted upon in the summer of 2023, they are still quite long documents, so officers have picked out the key headlines. If the species is of particular interest, then we would recommend reading the whole document.

This round of FMP consultations includes the plans for two important local fisheries, the cockle fishery and thornback ray fishery (part of the skates and rays FMPs), and these plans will be covered in more depth. Although fisheries for sprat and demersal non-quota species have taken place or do take place within the district, these fisheries are of a much smaller scale and lower economic importance. As landings for Queen scallops in the KEIFCA district have been minimal, officers have not included a summary of this FMP.

Cockle FMP

The cockle FMP is a national strategic document that pulls together the key information about the main commercial English cockle fisheries and identifies key actions that cut across each of these fisheries. The cockle FMP does not look to change or alter any of KEIFCAs current or future fisheries management legislation instead it provides a national framework (goals, actions and activities) to help maintain the existing sustainable cockle fisheries and address any emerging cockle fisheries. The text below are extracts taken from the FMP.

Vision

The long-term vision for cockles is to ensure fisheries in English waters are managed to achieve environmental, social and economic sustainability for the benefit of coastal communities and wider society.

Goals

- 1. The FMP will contribute to stocks being environmentally sustainable in the long term and not overexploited.*
- 2. The FMP will improve the evidence base to ensure identified fisheries are managed with adaptive management cycles using an ecosystem-based approach.*
- 3. The FMP will deliver a framework to support the cockle industry, recognising their contribution to coastal communities and the skilled employment they provide.*

Action 1 (goals 1 and 3): to develop a framework to support the role of the FMP in realising sustainable cockle fisheries in English waters

Likely timeframe and current feasibility: long term

Rationale

The evolution of management, harvesting methods and market forces has created 4 distinct and locally specific cockle fisheries. These fisheries are not distributed over wide areas and do not cross fisheries regulator boundaries. Stock assessments have been regularly undertaken and feed into annual adaptive management measures which run under byelaw or regulating order legislation that has been approved by government. We recognise the need to link local management to a national, flexible, strategic approach that can address issues common to all cockle fisheries in English waters. Such issues may include emerging, private or unregulated fisheries, unfished cockle beds, shellfish certification and water quality issues.

Stakeholder views

During stakeholder engagement, fishermen expressed the need for cockle fisheries to continue to be managed at local level. A strong message was the need for cockle management to be adaptive and flexible to allow for the fleet to respond to changes in stock distribution, environmental conditions, and market drivers. There was also a need for transparency in management approaches and assessment of regulatory effectiveness to be communicated.

Potential activities

- *adaptive management cycles using an ecosystem-based approach should be fully developed for all publicly managed and commercially viable cockle beds*
- *in review or renewal of regulating mechanisms, fisheries authorities should demonstrate that:*
 - o *the best available evidence has been used*
 - o *governance structures allow for, and encourage, stakeholder participation in decision-making*
 - o *all proposed measures are subject to public consultation*

Evidence needs

There is a need to:

- *investigate discrepancies between national and regional data collection programmes*
- *understand how a national survey and assessment framework could incorporate emerging fisheries when identified*

Indicators

- *agreed stock boundaries (or functional units), where appropriate*
- *a national survey and stock assessment framework is developed*

Action 2 (goals 1 and 2): consider developing national monitoring and reporting mechanisms to detect inshore and offshore emerging fisheries

Likely timeframe and current feasibility: long term

Rationale

Commercially viable beds require stock sampling at appropriate spatial and temporal scales to ensure harvesting does not adversely affect their continued productivity. There may be unidentified beds that fall outside existing management measures and sampling regimes. The risk is that any unidentified beds may be subject to unsustainable harvest levels should commercial harvesting begin. There are data issues between national and local reporting systems that prevent us from strategically identifying emerging fisheries.

Stakeholder views

Stakeholder feedback urged regulators to make the best use of existing reporting mechanisms, making sure we use the data we have in the most appropriate way.

Potential activities

- Review data collection processes to ensure accurate representation of commercial cockle landings in English waters*
- Assess risks of unregulated fisheries and consider a national prohibition on commercial capture of cockles outside existing management structures*

Evidence needs

There is a need to:

- identify the discrepancies between current regional and national data collection mechanisms, to ensure fisheries authorities use best available evidence in management decisions*
- identify emerging cockle fisheries at appropriate spatial resolutions*
- understand the number and location of private fisheries in English waters and their methods of management used for cockles*

Indicators

- a register of private fisheries in English waters is created*
- guidelines for regulators when considering emerging commercial inshore and offshore fisheries are developed*

Action 3 (goal 2): review the data collection framework and evidence base relating to interactions between cockle fisheries and designated bird prey requirements.

Likely timeframe and current feasibility: long term

Rationale

Current fisheries management must take into account impacts on designated features of MPAs. Regional English cockle fisheries have a proven track record of incorporating these considerations into management decisions. To fully develop an adaptive management approach, the data collection framework assessing annual variation of designated bird requirements should be further developed. Currently developing natural capital approaches could usefully provide enhanced integration of identified ecological requirements by providing regulators with improved data.

Stakeholder views

Stakeholders expressed general concern about the prioritisation of the designated birds over social and economic benefits to the fleet. They have indicated the need for evidence to take into account other prey species, not just cockles, that designated birds rely on for food. 37 of 45

Potential activities

- further develop mechanisms to provide regulators with accurate and timely estimates of bird food prey requirements*
- investigate the evidence of designated birds' reliance on cockles as a primary food source*
- investigate how natural capital approaches can be further integrated into cockle fisheries management decision-making processes*
- investigate how current reporting mechanisms can better reflect societal benefits achieved through appropriate management of ecosystem services*

Evidence needs

There is a need to:

- better understand the data collection framework informing designated bird abundance estimates*
- review the available evidence on designated birds' reliance on cockles as a primary food source*

Indicators

- produce a review of the evidence base used for the bird food model supporting the main cockle fisheries*
- following on from the above, make recommendations on the mechanism used to provide regulators with advice*

Action 4 (goals 1, 2 and 3): assess the data collection framework for social and economic data used to inform management decisions.

Likely timeframe and current feasibility: long term

Rationale

Cockles export trade data is currently aggregated with clams and other arc shells. Disaggregated trade data is needed to better understand trends in the trade balance of cockles. Employment data for the distinct dredge fisheries for cockles are currently aggregated with other similar gear types such as scallop dredges. Disaggregated employment data will better help inform management decisions. Landings, trade and employment data for hand-gathered fisheries is not representative of the major commercial fisheries. Industry has indicated limited market opportunities resulting from the current shellfish certification process. A flexible, adaptive approach is required to support industry development.

Stakeholder views

Stakeholders indicated that we need to improve our social and economic data and mechanisms to better integrate this information into decision-making processes. Such data may include information on markets, exports, employment profitability and value added.

Potential activities

- work with regulators to understand the connectivity between regional and national data collection programmes to address identified data gaps and discrepancies such as landings and registered buyers and sellers requirements*
- explore the benefit of disaggregating socioeconomic data to better inform management decisions*
- explore the use of alternative data sources to understand the potential of streamlining the shellfish certification process*
- investigate alternative solutions to alleviate economic burdens on businesses associated with shellfish health sampling and export certification*

Evidence needs

There is a need to:

- understand the balance of trade, both imported and exported, in cockles to identify market opportunities and limitations*
- understand employment numbers both within cockle fisheries but also associated businesses*
- ensure that data related to hand-gathered commercial fisheries is adequately captured*

Indicators

- a standing item is on the national forum agenda to explore data issues*

- *a report is produced that investigates the economic burdens on businesses associated with shellfish health sampling and export certification*
- *guidelines for regulators when considering emerging commercial inshore and offshore fisheries are developed*

Action 5 (goals 1, 2 and 3): consider establishing a national cockle FMP forum

Likely timeframe and current feasibility: *short term*

Rationale

The establishment of a national cockle forum will help share best practice and identify common issues that have an impact on all English cockle fisheries. Due to the geographic scope and inshore nature of the commercially viable and publicly managed fisheries, the regional IFCA's operate at an appropriate scale to manage the sustainable harvest of cockles while considering wider ecological and socioeconomic considerations. Wider considerations that impact all cockle fisheries, such as shellfish water classification testing and fishery interactions with other bivalve fisheries, could be usefully considered within a national forum to further industry participation. The national forum could also consider possible interactions between cockle fisheries and maritime heritage assets such as underwater archaeological structures and wrecks.

Stakeholder views

Views from stakeholders indicated the need for a more joined-up, strategic approach within government and regulators to address issues common to all cockle fisheries. Potential activities

- *establish a national forum*
- *understand how the cockle fishery interacts with the management of other bivalve mollusc fisheries*

Evidence needs

There is a need to:

- *understand potential alternative approaches of using existing shellfish classification data to manage the harvesting of cockles*
- *understand how cockle fishery management may interact with the management of other species, particularly other bivalve species*

Indicator

- *the national cockle forum is established*

Southern North Sea and Channel skates and rays FMP

Thornback rays are an important local species across the KEIFCA district, and KEIFCA officers contributed to the working group that helped create and structure this FMP. Work undertaken in the SUMARiS project (that focused on the future management of this group of species) was submitted to the group and was used to help frame some of the key actions and management measures in the FMP. The text below are extracts taken from the FMP.

Establishing a skate and ray management group

This FMP sets out a goal for building capacity across the fishing sectors to input into FMP delivery. To support this goal, the FMP proposes creating a skates and rays management group, whose role will be to collaboratively address management needs and concerns. The proposed group may include representatives of:

- the commercial fishing sector
- fisheries scientists
- the recreational fishing sector
- policy makers
- processors and markets
- other interested stakeholders
- the regulatory authorities

Recommended management measures

During this first iteration, 7 areas for priority management intervention have been proposed for consideration.

1. minimum conservation reference sizes (MCRS) (Short term)
2. maximum conservation reference sizes (MaxCRS) (Short term)
3. voluntary guidelines (Short term)
4. establish sentinel fishery for small-eyed ray in 7e (Short term)
5. alternative approaches to the current group total allowable catches (TAC) (Short-medium term)
6. seasonal and spatial closures (medium to long term)
7. sector support measures (long term)

1. Minimum conservation reference sizes (MCRS)

This FMP will consider implementation of an MCRS as a method for protecting stock health and promoting population growth, through affording protection to juvenile skates and rays. Currently two IFCA's (Kent and Essex IFCA and Southern IFCA) within the FMP's spatial jurisdiction have active, non-species-specific MCRS regulations for skates

and rays. The MCRS for Kent and Essex IFCA is 40cm for whole rays, 19cm for a wing; and for Southern IFCA this is 40cm for whole rays and 20cm for a wing. However, there is no national MCRS beyond the 6nm boundary (except for undulate ray). Outside of the FMP area, there are different MCRS for skates and rays around the UK, including the waters of Guernsey (36cm), North-Western IFCA (45cm) and 6 of 77 parts of Wales (45cm). There is also a voluntary code agreed by the North Devon Fishermen's Association (45cm).

This FMP proposes to gather further evidence to understand the potential effectiveness of MCRS as a method for protecting stock health and promoting population growth, through affording protection to juvenile skates and rays in English waters of ICES divisions 4b, 4c, 7d and 7e. In the short term, this will include initiating demographic modelling to better understand the potential benefits of minimum and maximum sizes. It will focus on exploring the efficacy of MCRSs on skates and rays by reducing uncertainties around selection patterns, quota availability and discard survivability. Given each of the FMP species exhibits a differing maturity size, a universal MCRS is less effective than more species-specific measures, therefore the evidence gathered in the short term should help to determine the most appropriate approach to introducing a MCRS in the medium to long term, with options including, but not limited to, a universal MCRS, a species-specific MCRS, brigading MCRS for smaller bodied and larger-bodied species.

2. Maximum conservation reference size (MaxCRS)

Maximum sizes offer protection to larger, more fecund individuals which are important as brood stock. There is a biological rationale in protecting the largest individuals (in general, larger females are more fecund and produce larger eggs, and these may be laid over a more protracted spawning season), though empirical evidence to demonstrate this is lacking, as fecundity-at-length data is unavailable.

This FMP will look to build on existing evidence on skates and rays' maturation and fecundity at length and width to inform the potential use of MaxCRS as a future management tool. Evidence gathering of MaxCRS for prioritised FMP species is proposed for the short term, and implementation of MaxCRS for FMP species in English waters of ICES areas 4b, 4c, 7d and 7e will be considered in the medium to long term, if appropriate. These measures will aim to collect the necessary evidence to support an economic impact assessment of measures set against different maturity sizes. A MaxCRS should be measured across the widest diameter of the fish's wings (wing tip to wing tip). A winged maximum size measured from wing tip to wing tip is not appropriate where wings have been separated from the central body of the ray.

This FMP will consider alternative methods for processing skates and rays. For instance, removing the wings and retaining the part of the central body joining the wings, or

processing in the form of a ‘butterfly’ cut would enable a maximum size to be determined and may be preferable for fishers over landing whole rays. Evidence should be gathered on the correlation between wings’ diameter and total maximum length to support the development of these measures.

3. Voluntary guidelines

This FMP proposes in the short term to introduce handling guidelines for recreational and commercial fishers to ensure skates and rays not intended to be retained can be released in the best possible condition. Guidelines will also serve as an educational tool to help with compliance for managing the stock. In the medium term, using these guidelines to help in species identification, training workshops and data recording, will support the development of future measures under this FMP.

4. Establish sentinel fishery for small-eyed ray in 7e

This FMP considers the merits of establishing a sentinel fishery (to collect fisheries based data) for small-eyed ray in ICES Area 7e, in order to facilitate a sustainable local fishery. In the negotiations between the UK and the EU for the 2024 fishing year, a joint ambition was agreed to lift the non-retention regulation in favour of a scientific fishery for small-eyed ray in 7e, with the aim to improve the availability of data and therefore the quality of the 7de assessment. Limited quota to land small-eyed ray in 7e has been made available for the sentinel fishery in 2024. This measure is being explored in the short term, with a medium-term intention to consider seeking to reopen the 7e small-eyed ray fishery, if appropriate, based on the outcome of monitoring the sentinel fishery.

5. Alternative approaches to the current group total allowable catch (TAC)

Total allowable catch (TAC), as a management tool, works by setting a limit to catches from a given area in a fixed timeframe. Most skate and ray species within this FMP are currently managed under a combined (multi-species) TAC, except for undulate ray in 7d and 7e. The scientific advice notes that the current group TAC management of skates and rays prevents effective control of single-stock exploitation rates. There are concerns that the current group TAC management provides limited protection for vulnerable stocks and under-exploitation of healthy stocks. The indicative roadmap for skates and rays, developed with the EU in the SCF, sets out key steps and considerations to address these concerns. It recommends exploring potential alternatives to the group TACs for those species.

This FMP has identified some priority areas that could be considered as part of that work. This includes exploring the possible introduction of single-species or single stock TACs as recommended in the ICES advice, noting the species’ differing conservation statuses and biological traits. More evidence is required to better understand the impact of this, including the possible choke risks. Importantly, these are jointly

managed stocks with the EU as set out in the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA), and TACs for skates and rays are agreed annually in bilateral negotiations between the UK and the EU. As such any alternative to the current group TAC management will require bilateral work with the EU.

6. Seasonal and spatial closures

In the medium to long term this FMP proposes to explore and, where appropriate, implement spatial and temporal closures to protect essential habitats for skate and ray species. This will be contingent on developing a robust evidence base to identify habitats important for skate and ray recruitment and putting in place appropriate protections to encourage stock health. It will build evidence on the effectiveness of spatial-temporal management such as closed seasons and 'ray boxes' for protecting breeding and juvenile assemblages, including investigating the association between areas of 7d and undulate ray reproduction. It will also seek opportunities to align protections with Marine Protected Area (MPA) closures to maximise sustainability impact for skates and rays, while minimising impact on fishers.

7. Sector support measures

As a long-term measure, this FMP proposes options for providing support to the fishing sector, including:

- exploring options for supporting initiatives that are developing the domestic market for skate and ray products – this will rely on evidence gathering and collaboration with stakeholders to determine appropriate ways of supporting skate and ray markets without compromising stock sustainability
- exploring ways to balance recreational and commercial fishers' needs in the skate and ray fisheries
- implementing strategies identified in the evidence gathered to increase the social and economic benefits of the skate and ray fisheries

Southern North Sea demersal non-quota species FMP

This FMP addresses a number of species that are currently not part of the quota management system.

- bony fish (john dory, red mullet, grey gurnard, red gurnard and tub gurnard)
- elasmobranchs (lesser spotted dogfish and starry smoothhound)
- cephalopods (common cuttlefish, common octopus, curled octopus, veined squid, long-finned squid, European common squid and common squid)

Whilst many of the species covered in this FMP, are not as important to local fishers as species like bass, sole or thornback ray they can provide an extra income to some fishers and do contain species like cuttlefish that could become more abundant and thus economically important as water temperatures rise. The proposed new measures to control flyseining are also broadly welcomed. The text below are extracts taken from the FMP.

Establishing a Southern North Sea fisheries NQS management group

The FMP sets out a goal for building capacity across the fishing sectors to input into FMP delivery. To support this goal, the FMP proposes creating a NQS management group, which will act as a means for addressing management concerns and needs in a participatory manner. The proposed group could include representatives of the commercial and recreational fishing sector, processors and markets, regulatory authorities, fisheries scientists, policy makers and other interested stakeholders.

Recommended management measures

1. Restriction of future flyseining effort

2. Emerging cephalopod fisheries

Stakeholders have reported increasing abundance of squid, cuttlefish, and octopus within the FMP area. Anecdotally, the increase in sightings of these species on the grounds have been highlighted as potentially emerging fisheries allowing the inshore fleet to diversify by providing additional fishing opportunities. To assess the potential of future cephalopod fisheries, the FMP proposes to put in place additional monitoring and a research plan to gather evidence on these emergent fisheries, of the viability of different gears, and the impacts on other species from their population growth. The evidence gathered through this research will be used to introduce management where appropriate to ensure sustainable harvesting of cephalopod stocks.

3. Minimum conservation reference sizes

The FMP proposes to consider the introduction of a minimum conservation reference size (MCRS) for flyseine species, such as red mullet and gurnards, in the medium-long term to compliment the proposed mesh size restrictions. The FMP also proposes to consider the introduction of a MCRS for smoothhound in the medium-long term.

4. Education, adoption of voluntary guidelines and development of codes of conduct

Through partnership working, the FMP will develop voluntary guidelines, education, and codes of conduct for recreational fishers, to improve the sustainability and benefits of the stocks for all sea users. Monitoring will be put in place to record the uptake and efficacy of voluntary measures and explore how additional evidence gathering on removals from the stock could be integrated into future stock assessments. Education programmes and identification guides will also be developed for the commercial sector to improve accurate species identification, data collection and inform management.

Sprat FMP

Whilst not the fishery it once was, there is always the potential for a Sprat fishery to become more important in the future. This FMP describes a vision with goals and proposed actions which set out how management can continue to maintain an MSY approach for North Sea and Channel sprat fisheries, and highlights research areas particularly around science and economics that could lead to refinements to management approaches in the future.

The FMP reflects stakeholder feedback collected during the development of the FMP suggests that a traditional winter fishery for sprat in the North Sea had historically been profitable, however a combination of the introduction of mesh-size limits to netting and economic factors are considered to have contributed to the decline of this fishery. Although most of the goals reflect this large-scale industrial fishery, goal 4 (below) focuses more on the issues that concern smaller inshore boats.

Goal 4: Deliver a framework to support the role of the FMP in realising sustainable marine economies

Rationale

As set out in the JFS and the Act, the UK and Scottish governments hold an ambition to support a modern, resilient, and environmentally responsible fishing industry. This includes managing our fisheries sustainably by balancing environmental, economic, and social considerations, and so that the capacity of fleets is such that they are economically viable, but do not overexploit marine stocks. The JFS notes that the scope

of an FMP may be extended as appropriate, to consider wider fisheries management issues covering environmental, social, and economic concerns.

Stakeholder engagement has highlighted two areas of concern that are currently impacting the economic viability of the fishery:

1. The Channel sprat fishery is not currently active due to market availability and therefore potential economic benefits of the resource are not being realised.
2. Changes to minimum mesh size regulations (move to 50mm; see above current technical measures) have impacted the traditional drift-net winter fishery for sprat in the North Sea.

How could this be achieved: short term

- Consider if an economic assessment of the fisheries may help to identify any barriers to the realisation of economic viability to the coastal communities within the FMP area.
- Consider a review of current technical measures affecting sprat fisheries, to include a consideration of the impact of potential modifications to these measures both for sprat and other species.

How could this be achieved: medium to long term

- Consider how to adapt the FMP to reflect relevant findings from an economic assessment and when new or improved measures are developed as appropriate.

Initial comments

- Building on the feedback from previous tranches of FMPs, the FMPs in this tranche are shorter, more focused and easier to use than the previous rounds FMPs

Cockle FMP

- KEIFCA are already doing many of the things that the FMP asks for and the suggested actions from the FMP would not impact many of our annual processes or day to day management. Most of the actions in the FMP are more national in intent, seem sensible and will hopefully help integrate locally important fisheries into national DEFRA decision making.
- Overall, the goals and actions in the FMP are clear and straightforward and provide KEIFCA with a national framework to work within. Whilst we would agree that need to further actions 1-4 are not immediate, we would be concerned that classing them as long term could mean that these actions fall behind other shorter-term actions identified in other FMPs. Maybe a short to medium or a medium to long term classification of the actions would be better represented the importance of these tasks especially for action 4.
- We strongly support Action 4 (Collecting better social and economic data) and believe clearer employment figures and understanding the balance of trade will help the industry move forward. Streamlining the shellfish certification process and export certification would also be welcomed by everyone.
- We would support a register of private cockle fisheries in English waters. Whilst most cockle beds in the district are in public grounds and either managed under a specific regulating order or a byelaw there are areas within private grounds that are excluded from this management as they have historic rights to harvest oysters as well as cockles. A national register would not challenge the rights of the owners of the private grounds but instead bring these fisheries into a national system that will help draw a clearer national picture as to the importance of all English cockle fisheries. Such a register would also help reduce any ambiguity as to the boundaries of private grounds and clarify what is in public and private ownership, and could help integrate private and public cockle stock management
- A national forum would provide an opportunity to share best practice and actions across fisheries as well as help identify problems at an early stage. A forum would provide a more flexible way of involving quite a diverse set

of fisheries and stakeholders than a management group allowing more people to attend and avoiding the challenge of fairly representing different groups of fishers that work within each of the 4 cockle fisheries.

Potentially the forum could be held annually and in person, maybe hosted by an IFCA or as an additional day at the end of the SAGB conference and reflect progress made and key actions for the following year.

Southern North Sea and Channel skates and rays FMP

- The FMP shows a significant progression from the earlier tranches and is easier to read and follow the why actions and management measures have been identified and prioritised.
- In general, the FMP contains a range of logical actions and management measures that will help focus regional and national work into the future and help address some long running issues as to the management of this complex of species.
- The goals of the FMP could be clearer and more focused. This would help future decision making.
- The FMP clearly outlines the shared nature of many of these stocks with other EU countries but does not outline how the FMP objectives will inform and shape international discussions.
- The action to consider how to define the precautionary approach in mixed fisheries that catch skates and rays, it critical and we would support prioritising this action.
- Support the collection of socioeconomic information for the fishery and the introduction of a management group or similar forum

Southern North Sea demersal non-quota species FMP

- Support the proposed measures on flyseining.
- Support the introduction of a minimum conservation reference size (MCRS) for flyseine species and the consideration of the introduction of a MCRS for smoothhound in the medium-long term.
- Agree that if we put in place additional monitoring and research to understand and sustainably manage fisheries like cuttlefish in the future.
- Support the adoption of voluntary guidelines and development of codes of conduct.

Recommendations:

This report is for **COMMENT** and **NOTING** only