



**Annual Report 2021 - 2022**

## 1. Introduction

This was the 11<sup>th</sup> year of operation of the Isles of Scilly IFCA. This report details the work that took place between April 2021 and March 2022. The start of this period marked the end of a period of lock down, but in general it also brought a season of relative normality in terms of our operations. All of these came with some restrictions and additional protective measures, but largely we were able to complete all of our research and enforcement goals for this year.

## 2. Review of the year

In our annual plan, we stated that our primary focus was to be the completion of the Fishing Gear Permit Byelaw. During this reporting period, we continued to work with fishermen, Natural England, the MMO and the Committee to try and resolve outstanding issues related to the use of micro trawls and numbers of scallop dredges. These issues were resolved and the byelaw and permit conditions were sent to the MMO for qualitative analysis in November 2021.

We also proposed to continue to conduct research and build collaborative work with the University of Plymouth and the University of Exeter. During this reporting period, two MSc projects were undertaken and they have since both produced reports that have been presented to the Committee. The Fish Intel project started in April 2021, and activities in this reporting period included the deployment of receivers and attachment of transmitters to 36 crawfish. Further crawfish fisheries research has been proposed and is in development with Natural England and Defra.

The Committee also discussed and noted the increasing financial challenges for the IFCA. The 'new burdens' funding provided by Defra under new burdens has not changed since 2011. In combination with the grant provided by the Isles of Scilly Council, this budget has enabled the IFCA to operate for ten years. However, with inflation and growing expectations for our enforcement and research capability and delivery, this budget is no longer sufficient. Options for savings and trying to bring in additional funding and revenue were discussed; and a letter was sent by the Chairman to the Minister of State, Victoria Prentis. A response was received on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 in which meetings were proposed to discuss the situation.

In March 2022, the IFCA launched the recreational permit scheme. An application form and payment system was set up so that 'hobby fishers' could purchase up to six tags for each of their pots.

The extension of membership for MMO representatives Tim Allsop and Nick Jenkins was confirmed.

### 3. Update on key objectives

#### **Fishing Gear Permit Byelaw**

The consultation for the byelaw was run between 22<sup>nd</sup> April and 7<sup>th</sup> June with adverts placed in Fishing News, regional publications and through our own social media and website. Some responses were received from fishermen in Cornwall and Scilly. Following the consultation, some changes were made to the Impact Assessment and considerations were put to the Committee on the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 whether there can or should be changes to the Byelaw. The Committee agreed that advice should be sought from Natural England on whether a small otter trawl would have a likely significant impact on the integrity of designated habitats within the Isles of Scilly complex SAC. The response recommended management actions to prevent this interaction. The Committee also reaffirmed that the total number of scallop dredges remain at eight. The issue of 'micro trawling' was the last of the points raised during the consultation process for the byelaw; and following the decision by the Committee to proceed based on the recommendations from Natural England, the Byelaw progress to the MMO for qualitative review and analysis. During this reporting period, the Byelaw has so far undergone two iterations with small changes implemented to improve the clarity and quality of the Byelaw and Permit Conditions.

#### **Research**

The Fish Intel (Fisheries Innovation for sustainable shared interchannel resources) project started in March 2021. It is led by the University of Plymouth with funding from EU ERDF France Channel/Manche Interreg programme. The Isles of Scilly IFCA are one of 12 project partners that includes CEFAS in the UK and IFREMER in France. The project will conclude in June 2023. The overall aim of the project is to develop and trial the use of acoustic telemetry to inform better management of fish stocks and habitats around the coasts of the UK, France and Belgium. A presentation was given to the Committee on the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 by project scientists, Dr Tom Stamp and Dr Peter Davies. The project will conclude in June 2023.

A procurement process was undertaken to select a contractor to provide 12 receivers and 100 transmitters. The receivers were deployed in an area to the north east of St Martins at a site identified by Tim Allsop. The operation was undertaken with support from skipper and crew of Lyonesse Lady. Transmitters were attached to 36 crawfish during July and August 2021, partly with support and collaboration from scientific divers operating with Tim Allsop and partly with the support of fishermen where we were able to tag any undersize or berried females.



Images showing deployment of receivers on board *Lyonesse Lady* and the attachment of transmitters on the carapace of a crawfish

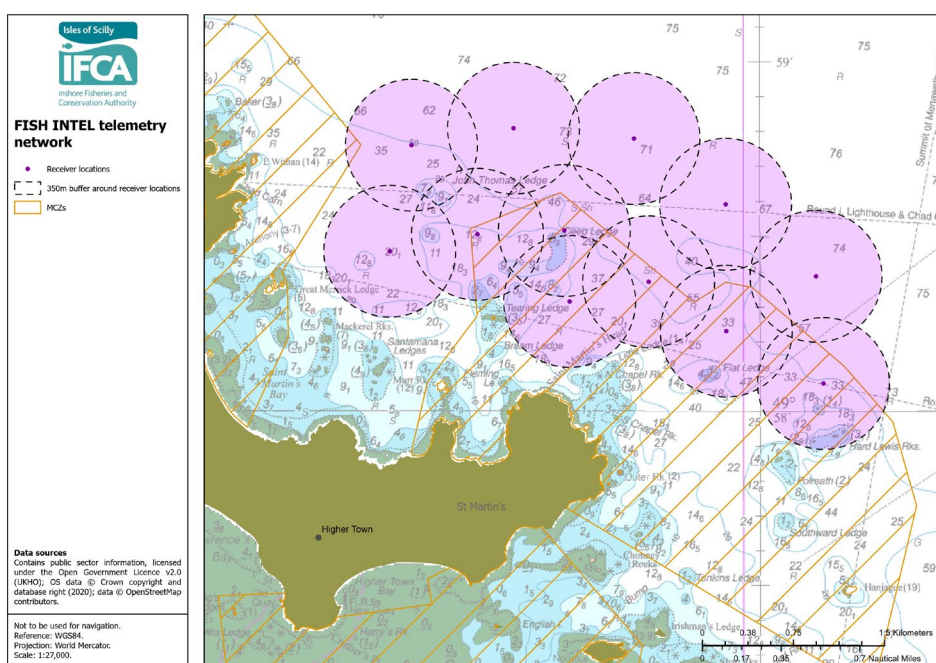


Chart showing the location of the receivers to the North East of St. Martins



Two MSc projects were undertaken with support from the IFCA:

Sarah Morccom from the University of Exeter deployed baited remote underwater video systems (BRUVs) across 3 priority seagrass areas (St. Mary's Harbour, Little Arthur and Broad Ledges, Tresco). 102 deployments recorded 21 species including dog whelk, spider crab, soles and conger eel. The report noted that the mean abundance of species did not vary with site, but did vary between habitats within the sites. There was also a small difference in species diversity between sites, with St. Mary's Harbour recording the lowest diversity. A research paper is being prepared for publication.

Shion Reynell from the University of Plymouth undertook a study of the brown shrimp. She looked at catch per unit effort and size distribution as well as undertaking surveys to build an understanding of the history and social importance of the fishery. A summary of her research will be available on our website.

## **Climate Change**

A report was prepared for the Committee on how the fishery may be impacted by Climate Change and how the IFCA are responding in their research and management. The report provide background on how climate change was impacting food webs and how marine ecosystems also can absorb carbon from the water and atmosphere noting that 'Marine ecosystems are important for climate regulation, sequestering and storing more than half (55%) of the world's carbon, with an estimated value of £7 billion Gross Value Added'.

The report also explained how different fish stocks and sectors of the fleet may be affected noting that 'models predict that shallow water flatfish may be forced northwards by warming and a potential decrease of around 10% of catch potential within the UK EEZ. Studies on larvae and juveniles of European lobster show no clear effects of increasing PH on survival or growth, although there were greater numbers of deformities.'<sup>1</sup>

In respect to Scilly, mitigating the impacts of the fleet is not the responsibility of the IFCA and would need to be undertaken through gradual innovation and support that would enable reliable and cost-effective alternatives.

The Isles of Scilly contain 23.5km<sup>2</sup> of kelp, 3.1km<sup>2</sup> of seagrass and 383.1km<sup>2</sup> of phytoplankton habitat. Total annual sequestration of carbon via photosynthesis is estimated at 136,495 tonnes of carbon per year, predominantly from phytoplankton, followed by kelp then seagrass. The total value of this carbon sequestration is estimated at £53.8 million over 100 years.<sup>1</sup> The carbon storage benefit of offshore habitats has a low contribution in comparison to the areas of kelp or seagrass, but extends over a large area.

The report notes that the IFCA 'can play a role in supporting blue carbon through the management of the impact of fishery activities. No fishing activity takes places within seagrass beds – this habitat lies within the SAC and is a 'red risk activity'. Therefore no further regulatory action is necessary. The new byelaw will help to ensure the integrity of the seabed and the storage of carbon within these habitats.


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<sup>1</sup> Mangi, Davis et al. 2011

#### 4. Report on key objectives for 2020-2021



Objective	Summary
Complete the Impact Assessment and the drafting of the Fishing Gear Byelaw	This objective has been completed. The Byelaw has now been sent to the MMO for qualitative assessment.
Co-ordinate and implement crawfish research as part of an international partnership project	This objective has been started. The Fish Intel Project is progressing well. Receivers are in the water and transmitters attached to crawfish.
Deliver crawfish on board catch data recording and tagging	The project was written and approved by Defra, but did not start until July 2022
Support student research projects with a focus on building long-term data sets for monitoring changes in fisheries and key habitats and species	This objective has been partially started. In collaboration with the University of Exeter and Natural England we have been successful in securing a Doctoral Training Partnership PhD that is focussing on developing a new approach to monitoring change in fisheries and key habitats and species. This will start in September 2021.
Complete MCZ assessments for Bristows to Stones MCZ	This objective has not been completed. From an operational point of view it is important to complete the crawfish research before these MCZs are undertaken. Since there are 40 to be completed in total, a systematic approach is proposed.
Support design and development of recreational tags and implement administrative and financial system for purchase locally.	This objective has been completed. Tags have been purchased and an application form and payment system has been set up.




## 5. Success Criteria and performance indicators

Success Criteria 1: IFCA's are recognised and heard, whilst working in partnership and engaging with stakeholders				
<p><b>Definition:</b> IFCA's will be a visible, respected and trusted regulator within coastal communities and will maintain and deliver a strategy to communicate their vision and duties effectively. IFCA's will engage with policy makers, industry, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), recreational and commercial users; and other regulators. They will work jointly and collaboratively with partner organisations across boundaries; will participate and contribute to the development and implementation of regional and national marine policy, including the marine planning regime; will take long-term strategic decisions and manage risks effectively. IFCA's may maintain a national body to co-ordinate the activities of authorities that are party to arrangements.</p>				
<p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IFCA will maintain and implement an effective communication strategy.</li> <li>• The IFCA will maintain its website, ensuring public access to current fisheries and conservation information for the district, including management requirements and byelaws. Non-reserved IFCA Committee papers will be published.</li> <li>• The IFCA will contribute to co-ordinated activity at a national level.</li> <li>• The IFCA and its principal partners will have a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities. Opportunities for greater efficiencies, effective joint working and collaboration will be explored and implemented when feasible</li> </ul>				
<p><b>Key achievements for Isles of Scilly IFCA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of website and social media to inform community and stakeholders about our work</li> <li>• Participating in a proportion of national IFCA meetings</li> <li>• Consultations advertised and communicated locally and regionally</li> </ul>				
High Level Objectives (Indicators)	Isles of Scilly workstream	Quarters	Reporting	Status
Stakeholders are well informed and have a clear understanding of what is happening within the IFCA.	Individual and group meetings are held with both the commercial and recreational sectors. Facebook and Twitter accounts are kept up to date.	1 to 4	Use of social media to communicate and update stakeholders on consultations, events and research taking place.	

The website will be an effective communication tool that is being used to inform stakeholders. It will be reviewed and updated each month.	Website used as a means to communicate projects and key messages.	1 to 4	Website continues to be used for news and events. There is no analysis of views or clicks. Fishermen preference is for e-mail or face to face communication.	
The IFCA will have reviewed all of its Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) by 31 March each year. There will be a clear plan in place to update MoUs where necessary, to an agreed timescale.	We had no current Memoranda of Understanding during this report.	1 to 4	No update	
By 31 March each year, the IFCA will have participated appropriately, proportionately and at the right level of delegation, in regional and national fisheries and conservation activity identified in the annual plan.	Officers will attend regional and national meetings as appropriate, recognising the small size and challenge in travelling to the mainland. Summary records of meetings at Association of IFCA and Chief Officers Group will be published in Committee papers.	1 to 4	Officers attended two AIFCA meetings and one TAG meeting.	



<b>Success Criteria 2: A fair, effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place</b>				
<b>Definition:</b> The IFCA enforcement regime is risk-based, makes appropriate use of intelligence, meets legislative standards and complies with the Regulators Code. It should make effective use of the resources available to regulators; complement and align, if possible, with the regimes in adjacent IFC Districts and management by other organisations including the MMO and Environment Agency. Consistency and fairness is important. Regulatory compliance is promoted. Enforcement action is carried out by trained, professional officers working to clear standards of conduct.				
<b>Outcomes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IFCA will publish its enforcement risk register and strategy, clearly setting out its approach to achieving regulatory compliance and potential sanctions that may be applied for infringements and/or offences.</li> <li>• The IFCA will have developed consistency in regulations (byelaws) with other organisations</li> <li>• The IFCA will manage operational activity (e.g. through a Tasking &amp; Coordination Group) and capture, record, evaluate and disseminate intelligence that is compatible with partner organisations. It is engaged in joint working with partner organisations.</li> <li>• Warranted Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officers (IFCOs) will be trained and accredited to nationally agreed standards. They will maintain professionalism and make appropriate interventions to deliver efficient, effective enforcement activity.</li> </ul>				
<b>High Level Objective Indicators</b>	<b>Isles of Scilly IFCA workstreams</b>	<b>Quarters</b>	<b>Reporting</b>	<b>Status</b>
The IFCA will ensure its enforcement risk register and strategy are published and available on its website from 1 <sup>st</sup> April each year.	The enforcement risk register will be reviewed, updated and published on the website	1	Completed and published on website	
The IFCA will demonstrate in its Annual Report how it has worked with other regulators to achieve consistent quality, application and enforcement of management measures.	The Annual Report will include details of joint working and specific examples. We will continue to maintain a risk-based approach to enforcement.	1	There are no other marine regulators present on the Isles of Scilly.	
The IFCA will compile records of enforcement activity in a standard	We will work closely with the MMO to co-ordinate sharing	1 to 4	Enforcement and compliance activity detailed in reports to Committee.	



format, provide them to the National Inshore Marine Enforcement Group (NIMEG) and publish them on the website	of assets and resources. We will publish our enforcement and compliance activity			
The IFCA will adopt the national code of conduct for IFCOs, which will be reviewed annually and published on its website by 1 <sup>st</sup> April	The code of conduct will be adhered to and reviewed internally.	1 to 4	Code of conduct reviewed and adhered to	
Warrant Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officers (IFCOs) will be trained and accredited to nationally agreed standards. They will maintain professionalism and make appropriate interventions to deliver efficient, effective enforcement activity.	New staff will receive training and build experience as part of joint enforcement activities with the MMO	1 to 4	No training took place during this period.	




**Success Criteria 3: IFCA's use evidence based and appropriate measures to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources and deliver marine environmental protection within their districts.**


**Definition:** The IFCA's were created as statutory inshore regulators by the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. They are relevant authorities for implementing international environmental commitments including the Birds, Habitats, Water and Marine Strategy Framework Directives and make an important contribution to securing a network of well managed marine protected areas, including European Marine Sites and Marine Conservation Zones. Fisheries Management Plans identify local management measures which should be based on evidence; be timely; subject to appropriate consultation and in step with national initiatives and priorities. An IFCA should balance the social and economic benefits of exploiting sea fisheries resources with the need to protect the environment. It should make a contribution to sustainable development.

**Outcomes**

- The IFCA will identify issues likely to affect sustainable management of the marine environment in the IFC District; undertake risk assessment and gap analysis; review appropriateness of existing measures; evaluate management options and develop and implement proportionate marine management solutions.
- The IFCA will support implementation of a well-managed network of marine protected areas by: developing a range of criteria based management options; implementing management measures to ensure that inshore fisheries activities comply with the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and the revised approach to managing commercial fisheries in European Marine Sites; and that local management contributes to delivery of targets for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and Marine Plans.
- The IFCA will develop Fisheries Management Plans for priority species where appropriate. Shared objectives will be developed with identified partners; actions identified and best practice reflected so that management makes a contribution to sustainable development.

High Level Objective Indicators	Isles of Scilly IFCA workstreams	Quarters	Reporting	Status
The IFCA will record site-specific management considerations for Marine Protected Areas and report progress to the Authority.	We will complete HRA assessments for remaining activities by the end of this reporting period	1 to 4	The outstanding HRAs are for: nets on subtidal sand and pots on subtidal sand	
The IFCA will publish data analysis and evidence supporting new management measures on its website	We will improve accessibility to data and spatial information on our website	1 to 4	Research reports are on our website. There remain technical and cost barriers to putting spatial information on our website that will be addressed in the next reporting period.	

Management information (e.g. sampling and/or survey results) will be collected periodically after new management measures have been implemented, to demonstrate the extent of effectiveness of the intervention.	Monitoring and surveys to provide baselines and longer-term trends for key features and species will be planned through this year.	2 to 4	The IFCA does not have the resources to undertake long term monitoring	
The IFCA will have developed a range of criteria-based management options that are explained to stakeholders through the IFCA website, and reviewed by 31 <sup>st</sup> March each year.	Improvements to the communication of existing management that is in place will take place through this year.	1 to 4	Reports to the IFCA Committee provided updates and recommended changes to the Fishing Gear Permit Byelaw	
New IFCA management measures selected for development and implementation are delivered within agreed timescales.	Review of the Fishing Gear Permit Byelaw identified as a priority	1 to 4	Worked with stakeholders and Committee to review existing byelaw and develop a new one.	
The IFCA will include shared agreed objectives and actions from Fisheries Management Plans in its own Annual Plan, which will be published by 31 <sup>st</sup> March each year.	Fisheries Management Plans not yet available	N/A		
Progress made in relevant Fisheries Management Plan areas, including Maximum	This year we will be planning and preparing how we can improve our knowledge of our shellfish	1-4	Research planned and taking place in 2022-2023 and 2023-2024	


Sustainable Year commitments, will be noted in the Annual Report.	fishery to establish a better understanding of stock, catch and sustainability			
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#### Success Criteria 4: IFCA's have appropriate governance and staff are motivated and respected

**Definition:** IFCA's are statutory authorities and sit within the local government family. Authority members may be either general members or local councillors. They comply with Codes of Conduct and the Standing Orders that apply to meetings of local government committees. General members are appointed on merit, through open competition and for a term. They are subject to an annual performance appraisal. An IFCA is funded by levy, charged to its member councils. Funding originates in local taxation. An IFCA is accountable for its use of public resources and should ensure that a proper auditing regime provides confidence in its commitment and spend of public money. It should make effective use of its resources, including staff and assets. An IFCA has a statutory obligation to prepare and publish Annual Plans and Annual Reports.

**Outcomes:**

- The IFCA will demonstrate its long-term strategic approach to sustainable marine management by having appropriate plan making, review, update and amendment procedures in place. The IFCA will record its performance against corporate outcomes and indicators as soon as practically possible following the end of the financial year.
- Staff performance management systems will be in place that link to the IFCA success criteria. There will be an induction procedure for new joiners. Staff training and development needs will be identified. Performance will be managed and, where necessary, improvement procedures will be followed.
- The IFCA Committee will be supported by an organised, efficient and effective secretariat. New members will receive an induction pack and briefing from the Authority. There will be a rolling twelve month schedule of quarterly Authority meetings. Notices of meetings and documentation will be made available in line with Standing Orders.

High Level Objective Indicators	Isles of Scilly IFCA Workstreams	Quarters	Reporting	Status
Prepare and publish an Annual Plan setting out main objectives and priorities for next financial year. A copy will be sent to the secretary of state.	Development of the Annual Plan will involve all staff and take on board guidance from members and stakeholders in the creation of the 2019/20 annual plan. Key sections will be put to January meeting in 2019.	3-4	Completed	




#### Success Criteria 4: IFCA's have appropriate governance and staff are motivated and respected

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#### Outcomes:

- The IFCA will demonstrate its long-term strategic approach to sustainable marine management by having appropriate plan making, review, update and amendment procedures in place. The IFCA will record its performance against corporate outcomes and indicators as soon as practically possible following the end of the financial year.
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High Level Objective Indicators	Isles of Scilly IFCA Workstreams	Quarters	Reporting	Status
Prepare and publish an end of year report setting out main objectives and priorities for next financial year. A copy will be sent to the secretary of state.	Development of reports is led by the Chief Officer, with input from staff, the Strategic Development Manager and approved by members and then published on	4	Completed	

#### Success Criteria 4: IFCAs have appropriate governance and staff are motivated and respected

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#### Outcomes:

- The IFCA will demonstrate its long-term strategic approach to sustainable marine management by having appropriate plan making, review, update and amendment procedures in place. The IFCA will record its performance against corporate outcomes and indicators as soon as practically possible following the end of the financial year.
- Staff performance management systems will be in place that link to the IFCA success criteria. There will be an induction procedure for new joiners. Staff training and development needs will be identified. Performance will be managed and, where necessary, improvement procedures will be followed.
- The IFCA Committee will be supported by an organised, efficient and effective secretariat. New members will receive an induction pack and briefing from the Authority. There will be a rolling twelve month schedule of quarterly Authority meetings. Notices of meetings and documentation will be made available in line with Standing Orders.


High Level Objective Indicators	Isles of Scilly IFCA Workstreams	Quarters	Reporting	Status
	the website.			
IFCA staff will support Committee meetings which are held quarterly and are quorate. Meeting documentation will meet standing orders.	Preparing meeting reports and working with key Council staff to ensure timely publication and	1 to 4	Four Committee meetings held, quorate and with items published in advance	

#### Success Criteria 4: IFCA's have appropriate governance and staff are motivated and respected

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#### Outcomes:

- The IFCA will demonstrate its long-term strategic approach to sustainable marine management by having appropriate plan making, review, update and amendment procedures in place. The IFCA will record its performance against corporate outcomes and indicators as soon as practically possible following the end of the financial year.
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- The IFCA Committee will be supported by an organised, efficient and effective secretariat. New members will receive an induction pack and briefing from the Authority. There will be a rolling twelve month schedule of quarterly Authority meetings. Notices of meetings and documentation will be made available in line with Standing Orders.

High Level Objective Indicators	Isles of Scilly IFCA Workstreams	Quarters	Reporting	Status
	appropriate public access.			
Staff management system in place including performance monitoring and an improvement procedure.	Work within Isles of Scilly Council performance management and development programme. Ensure all officers have at	1-4	Both staff have completed personal development plans and had an annual appraisal meeting.	

#### Success Criteria 4: IFCA's have appropriate governance and staff are motivated and respected

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**Outcomes:**

- The IFCA will demonstrate its long-term strategic approach to sustainable marine management by having appropriate plan making, review, update and amendment procedures in place. The IFCA will record its performance against corporate outcomes and indicators as soon as practically possible following the end of the financial year.
- Staff performance management systems will be in place that link to the IFCA success criteria. There will be an induction procedure for new joiners. Staff training and development needs will be identified. Performance will be managed and, where necessary, improvement procedures will be followed.
- The IFCA Committee will be supported by an organised, efficient and effective secretariat. New members will receive an induction pack and briefing from the Authority. There will be a rolling twelve month schedule of quarterly Authority meetings. Notices of meetings and documentation will be made available in line with Standing Orders.

High Level Objective Indicators	Isles of Scilly IFCA Workstreams	Quarters	Reporting	Status
	least one appraisal meetings per year.			




#### Success Criteria 5: IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives

**Definition:** IFCA's are statutory regulators for their Inshore Fisheries and Conservation District. Decision making should be based on evidence. All IFCA's are supported by officers who pool their expertise and share best practice as a Technical Advisory Group (TAG). A programme of research activity and monitoring is planned, developed and updated in consultation with partners. The programme informs management decisions and

supports justification for additional research and evidence gathering.

### Outcomes

- A strategic research plan that contributes to greater understanding of the marine environment and delivery of cost effective management of sea fisheries resources.
- Standard Operating Procedures describe how data is captured and shared with principal partners.
- A list of research databases held by the IFCA and the frequency of their review.
- Non-confidential meta-data collected through the IFCA research programme should be recorded in a database available to the marine research community.

High Level Objective Indicators	Isles of Scilly Workstreams	Quarters	Reporting	Status
The IFCA will demonstrate progress that has been made towards identifying its evidence needs by publishing a research plan each year	A research plan has been incorporated within the annual plan	1	Complete	
The IFCA will publish a research report annually that demonstrates how evidence has supported decision making	A research report summarising activities and how data has been used to support good decision making will be produced as part of the annual report	4	Research report will be incorporated within the Annual report with links to separate research reports.	
The IFCA's contribution to TAG and progress that has made towards a national evidence needs programme will be recorded in the IFCA's Annual Report	The Isles of Scilly IFCA will keep abreast and informed of national developments. Where possible it will engage with IFCAs on key technical issues where interests and needs align. During 2021-2022 we will take a lead role in crawfish research monitoring and research needs	1 to 4	Regular discussions with research teams at other IFCAs were instrumental in helping to inform and guide our own work. We remain actively engaged in TAG discussions and meetings.	





## **6. Risk Management**

The Isles of Scilly IFCA, as a statutory body, recognises its responsibilities to manage risk and take all reasonable steps to ensure delivery of the Authority's objectives, maximise responsibility and minimise threat.

Risk may be defined as the combination of the probability of an event and its consequences, whether a positive opportunity or a negative threat. Risk cannot always be eliminated, but it is possible to develop a strategy to provide a structured approach to enable the Isles of Scilly IFCA to identify, manage and monitor the more significant threats that it faces.

There are two main categories of risk – strategic and operational – although environmental and technical risks should also be considered. Strategic risks need to be taken into account in judgements about the Authority's medium to long-term goals. Operational risks are day to day risks in the delivery of a service.

All employees and members should have regard to risk when carrying out their duties. Risk management is part of all decisions at both manager and member level and all Authority processes. There are many key roles within the risk management process including the effective management of the risk process particularly in the areas of service delivery at sea and on land.

Risk assessments look at all working environments, such as around harbours and quays, boarding boats, RIB work, shoreline work, lone working and the hazards of working with machinery. Risks are reduced as far as possible through planned professional training and certification in areas such as sea survival, fire-fighting and local navigation examinations. Strategic risks will look at threats to the service such as loss of records, long-term staff illness and legal challenges amongst others.

Description	Risk				Mitigation	Residual Risk
	Impact	Risk Score (I*L)	Category	Reputation		
A reputation for smart and prudent stewardship	Loss or damage to reputation from poor press and public relations	3 * 2	Strategic	Potential loss of faith in Isles of Scilly IFCA's governance and organisational structure	Reviewed immediately and followed by issue of positive messages	Loss of independence as the smallest IFCA in the country
Breakdown in local stakeholder engagement	Loss of reputation and confidence in the IFCA	3*3	Strategic and Operational	Loss of faith and reputation	Attending and engaging in regular meetings with commercial and recreational associations and groups	Breakdown of collective ownership of fisheries stewardship
Statutory Responsibilities	Failure to meet statutory duties as set out in legislation	2*3	Strategic	Loss of faith in Isles of Scilly's IFCA's governance	Ensuring legislation is understood and applied	As above
Disaster planning for major incident such as loss of vessel	Loss of operational capability	3*2	Strategic and Operational	Failure to continue enforcement and monitoring duties will reflect badly on the IFCA	Make provision for chartering another vessel	Loss of enforcement and environmental monitoring capabilities
Officers acting beyond their statutory remit	Damage to reputation of the IFCA plus legal implications	2*3	Strategic and Legal	Damaged	Regular training and adherence to the nationally approved code of conduct for inspections at sea and ashore	Frequent changes to legislation may lead to human error

Protection of the marine environment in general and of the designated Marine Conservation Zone.	Loss of important habitat and species. Conservation objectives of MCZs not met	3*2	Environmental	IFCA's reputation as stewards of the marine environment will be damaged	Ongoing monitoring of fisheries activities within the District. Possible introduction of emergency or long-term byelaws	Certain fishing activities may have a negative impact on the many features of conservation interest in the Isles of Scilly
Fish stocks collapse	Collapse of local fishing industry and recreational resource	4*4	Environmental and economic	Loss in confidence of the IFCA's ability to manage fisheries	Consultation with the industry on possible management schemes. Vigorous enforcement and possible introduction of permits for commercial and unlicensed fishermen.	Continual checks on stock levels and a watch on outside factors such as climate change
Loss of key Staff	Lack of key staffing resources to deliver the service and to ensure that staff have adequate skills training to achieve performance requirements	4*4	Strategic and operational	Damaged reputation due to inability to carry out enforcement and monitoring responsibilities	Ensure staff are fully trained in as many areas as possible to cover contingencies	A way of ensuring continual delivery of objectives is to reduce the risk by training
Insufficient resources	Unexpected budget demands and variations and failure to reach agreed budget targets.	4*3	Strategic, organisational and financial	Damaged through being under-funded to fulfil duties	Monitoring budget on a monthly basis	Monthly progress reports and quarterly IFCA meetings

Failure to effectively monitor and enforce legislation	Unregulated fishery. Increased non-compliance	3*5	Operational, Environmental, Political.	Committee's performance is judged on its ability to effectively monitor fishing activity and prevent illegal activity from occurring.	Adaptive co-management approach to fisheries improves understanding and compliance with management measures.	Some legislation difficult to enforce effectively.
Injury to staff due to unsafe working practices	Death or injury of staff	4*4	Operational, reputational	Poor morale of staff leading to problems with retention	High quality PPE issued to all staff. Adequate training and mentoring system	Regularly working in hazardous environments
Failure to maintain survey / sampling programme.	Absence or lack of accurate data leading to poor management of fisheries	3*4	Reputation, Environmental.	High expectation that fisheries are well managed by Authority using best evidence.	Research staff well qualified and experienced with local fisheries.	Planned surveys lost due to poor weather or vessel breakdown.
Failure to secure data.	None compliance with Data Protection Act. Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations. Prosecution case files compromised.	2*4	Operational, reputational.	Stakeholders no longer believe that confidential information they have supplied is secure.	All computers are password protected. MCSS accessed by unique identifier. Important documents secured under lock key/ safes.	Limited ability for personnel to access files.

Changes in funding streams due to BREXIT negotiations and outcomes	Loss of operational capability	3*5	Strategic and Operational	Failure to continue enforcement and monitoring duties. The IOS Scilly IFCA is dependent on New Burdens funding	Continued discussions with Defra through the AIFCA and the development of new funding streams	Loss of enforcement and environmental monitoring capabilities
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**Risk Register Matrix**

Likelihood		Impact						
		1	2	3	4	5		
Very Unlikely	1	1	2	3	4	5	Risk Score = 1-5 <b>Low</b>	<b>Acceptable – Acknowledge and accept</b>
Unlikely	2	2	4	6	8	10	Risk Score = 6 -10 <b>Medium</b>	<b>acceptable – Monitor</b>
Possible	3	3	6	9	12	15	Risk Score = 12-15 <b>Medium</b>	<b>acceptable – Monitor</b>
Likely	4	4	8	12	16	20	Risk scores 16-25 <b>Very High</b>	<b>Unacceptable – Act</b>
Almost certain	5	5	10	15	20	25		

## Annex 1 – The Committee

The Isles of Scilly IFCA is led and directed by a committee that consists of eight members, these are as follows:

- Three elected representatives of the Council of the Isles of Scilly.
- Four persons appointed by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and this must include at least one employee of the MMO.
- One representative of Natural England (NE).

The Principal Committee meets quarterly in order to receive reports from the Authority's officers and enable the members to direct officers to conduct work and discharge its functions. To aid governance a number of Subcommittees have been established to oversee specific delegated elements of Authority work including finance, compliance and technical matters. Unlike the other nine English IFCAs, there is no representation from the Environment Agency.

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| • Cllr Andrew Guy (Chairman)     | <i>Isles of Scilly Council</i>              |
| • Cllr Harry Legg                | <i>Isles of Scilly Council</i>              |
| • Cllr Steve Watt                | <i>Isles of Scilly Council</i>              |
| • David Milligan                 | <i>MMO Representative</i>                   |
| • Daniel Moore                   | <i>Natural England Representative</i>       |
| • Timothy Allsop (Vice Chairman) | <i>MMO Appointee – Commercial Diver</i>     |
| • Shamus Pender-Frazer           | <i>MMO Appointee – Commercial fisherman</i> |
| • Nicholas Jenkins               | <i>MMO Appointee – Commercial fisherman</i> |

Appointees to IFCAs are legally required to represent all local commercial and recreational fishing and marine environmental interests in the waters of the IFCA District in a balanced way, taking full account of all the economic, social and environmental needs of the district. Members should recognise that they are part of a committee and must not regard themselves as representing solely one particular interest within the IFCA District. The Members are collectively and individually responsible for providing governance and direction for the Authority and for promoting the efficient use of resources within the Isles of Scilly IFCA.

All members of the Isles of Scilly IFCA are bound, when acting as a Member of the Committee, by the Council of the Isles of Scilly Code of Conduct for Members and co-opted Members of the Council. As a result, all Members should register their disclosable pecuniary interests with the Monitoring Officer and, when a matter is considered by the Committee or any of its sub-Committees, in which a Member of the Isles of Scilly IFCA may have a disclosable pecuniary interest or a non-registerable interest, they should declare their interest and act in accordance with the Code at all times.

Members must not undermine the credibility of the Isles of Scilly IFCA. Any Member found to have been convicted of an offence under fisheries or environmental legislation, or any matter relevant to their appointment to the IFCA, will have their appointment terminated, and they will not be eligible for re-appointment (section 11 & 12 of The Isles of Scilly Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010 SI No.2213 2010). Members must not, in their official capacity or under any other circumstances, conduct themselves in a manner which could reasonably



be regarded as bringing their office, the Isles of Scilly IFCA Committee or IFCA's in general into disrepute.

The Chief Officer is responsible for the day to day management and operational leadership of the Authority. As the officer accountable for the Isles of Scilly IFCA's budget and reserves, the Chief Officer is guided by the Council of the Isles of Scilly Section 151 Officer to ensure all financial regulations and internal procedures are followed. The Chief Officer has general responsibility for taking reasonable actions to provide for the security of the Isles of Scilly IFCA's assets and for ensuring that the use of these resources is legal, is properly authorised, provides value for money and achieves best value.

## **Annex 2 – IFCA vision and objectives**

The national IFCA vision, shared by all the ten authorities in England is as follows:

**“Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities will lead, champion and manage a sustainable marine environment and inshore fisheries, by successfully securing the right balance between social, environmental and economic benefits to ensure healthy seas, sustainable fisheries and a viable industry.”**

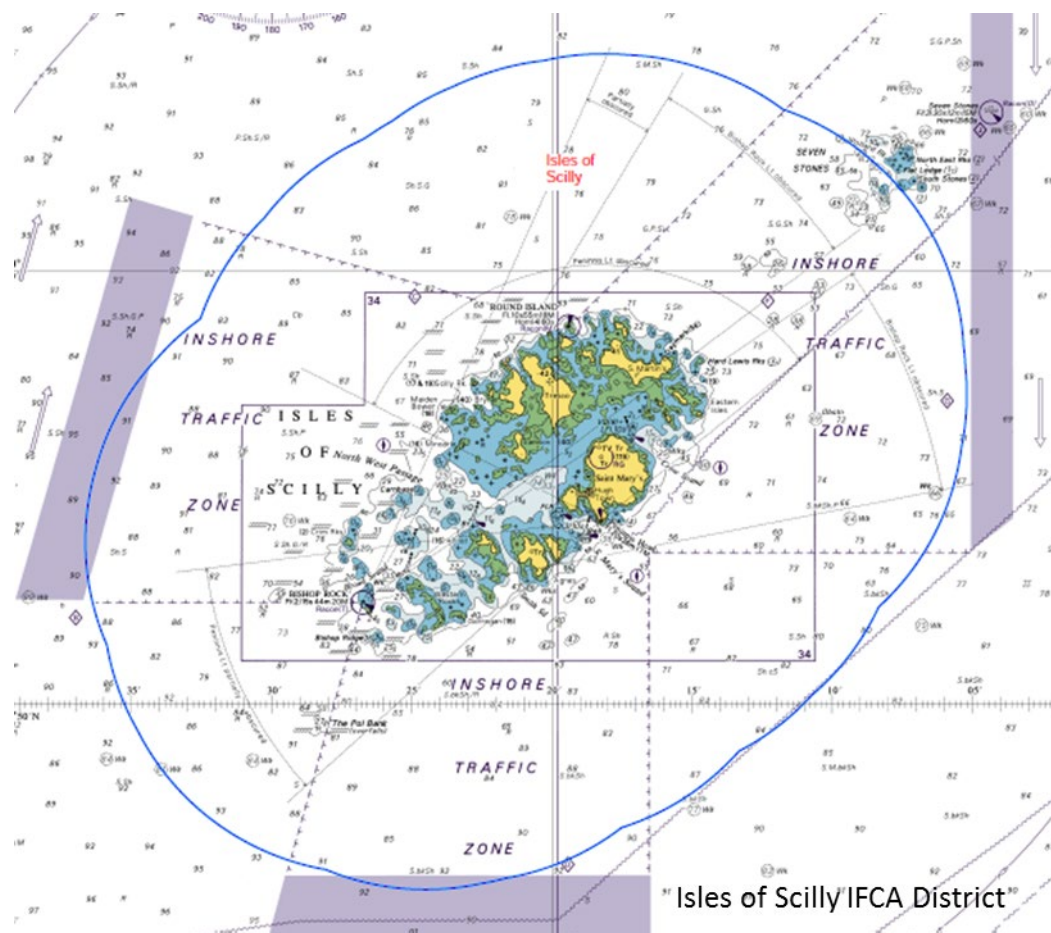
The main focus, as in previous years, will be to deliver these duties and be guided by the High Level Objectives;

- **Achieving a sustainable marine economy;**
- **Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;**
- **Living within environmental limits;**
- **Promoting good governance;**
- **Using sound science responsibly.**

### Annex 3 – Isles of Scilly district

The Isles of Scilly Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010, Section 3 defines the extent of both the landward and seaward elements of the Isles of Scilly Inshore Fisheries and Conservation District as summarised.

The Isles of Scilly IFCA district is declared to extend six nautical miles seaward from the baseline from which the United Kingdom territorial waters are measured, and includes the waters on the landward side of these baselines. The Isles of Scilly IFCA is responsible for carrying out its duties within over 912 square kilometres of sea.



## **Annex 4 – Legislation**

### **Domestic Legislation**

The duties for the Isles of Scilly IFCA set out within the Marine and Coastal Access Act, 2009 sections 153 and 154 are:

1. Isles of Scilly IFCA must manage the exploitation of the sea fisheries resources in its district, in doing so it must:
  - a) Seek to ensure that the exploitation of sea fisheries resources is carried out in a sustainable way.
  - b) Seek to balance the social and economic benefits of exploiting the sea fisheries resources of the district with the need to protect the marine environment from, or promote its recovery from, the effects of such exploitation.
  - c) Take any other steps which in the authority's opinion are necessary or expedient for the purpose of making a contribution to the achievement of sustainable development.
  - d) Seek to balance the different needs of persons engaged in the exploitation of sea fisheries resources in the district.
2. Isles of Scilly IFCA must also seek to ensure that the conservation objectives of any MCZ in the district are furthered.

### **European Legislation**

As defined as a 'Competent and Relevant Authority' the Isles of Scilly IFCA is required to perform its duties in regards to:

- **The 'Habitats Directive'**  
Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.
- **The 'Water Framework Directive'**  
Council Directive 2000/60/EC of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for community action in the field of water policy.
- **The 'Marine Strategy Framework Directive'**  
Council Directive 2008/56/EC of 17 June 2008 establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy. The Isles of Scilly IFCA is created by the Isles of Scilly Inshore Fisheries and Conservation order 2010, No.2213.

## Contact

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