

Process Document 2: Decision Making & Roadmap

1.0 Understanding the Brief to inform Decision Making

1.1 Protection of Marine Conservation Zones

Under Section 154(1) of the Marine & Coastal Access Act (MaCAA), Southern IFCA must ‘...**seek to ensure that the conservation objectives of any MCZ in the District are furthered...**’, with Section 154(2) requiring that ‘...**nothing in Section 153(2) is to affect the performance of the duty...**’. This includes socio-economic considerations.

BSB were designated as features of the Purbeck Coast MCZ and Southbourne Rough MCZ during the second tranche of MCZ designations in 2019. At the same time, BSB were designated as an ‘additional feature’ in the Poole Rocks tranche 1 MCZ.

BSB is the only designated feature in Southbourne Rough MCZ, whereas Purbeck Coast and Poole Rocks also protect a range of intertidal and subtidal habitats and species.

1.2 Route of Designation

BSB are designated under Section 117(5) of the MaCAA to (1) **conserve diversity**, specifically due to their ecological significance (the reoccurring time and place of reproductive behaviours, considered to be of critical importance to the life cycle of BSB), where if not protected the BSB would be affected at population or sub-population level, & (2) **persistence** – where they occur at high densities in contrast to surrounding areas.

BSB are not designated under Section 117(4) of MaCAA as rare or threatened due to limited numbers or limited locations where the BSB are present.

The designation of BSB across the three Dorset MCZs in 2019 was not based on a Condition Assessment, instead Natural England (NE) undertook a vulnerability assessment as a proxy. NE deemed BSB to be vulnerable to bottom towed fishing gear (BTFG), netting and recreational angling and therefore considered BSB to be in an **unfavourable condition** and requiring management. No metrics have been provided by NE to quantify ‘unfavourable condition’ and to date there is no Condition Assessment for any of the three Dorset MCZs.

1.3 Conservation Objectives

Southern IFCA Focus Areas

In the absence of quantification of ‘unfavourable condition’, and in accordance with Southern IFCA’s Section 154 duties under MaCAA, the following **CO Focus Areas** (*as identified via highlights and detail in Figure 1*) were identified to be used as metrics against which the Authority could understand the task at hand and subsequently demonstrate how any management interventions are furthering the conservation objectives of the MCZs.

Conservation objective

5.—(1) The conservation objective is that, in relation to Black seabream (*Spondyliosoma cantharus*)—

(a) the habitat used by members of that species for the purposes of spawning (“spawning habitat”)—

(i) so far as already in favourable condition, remains in such condition, and

(ii) so far as not already in favourable condition, be brought into such condition, and remain in such condition, and

(b) the population (whether temporary or otherwise) of that species occurring in the Zone be free of disturbance of a kind likely significantly to affect the survival of its members or their ability to aggregate, nest, or lay, fertilise or guard eggs during breeding.

(2) In paragraph (1)(a)(i) and (ii), “favourable condition”, with respect to spawning habitat within the Zone, means that the habitat is of sufficient quality and quantity to enable members of the species using the habitat to survive, aggregate, nest, or lay, fertilise or guard eggs during breeding.

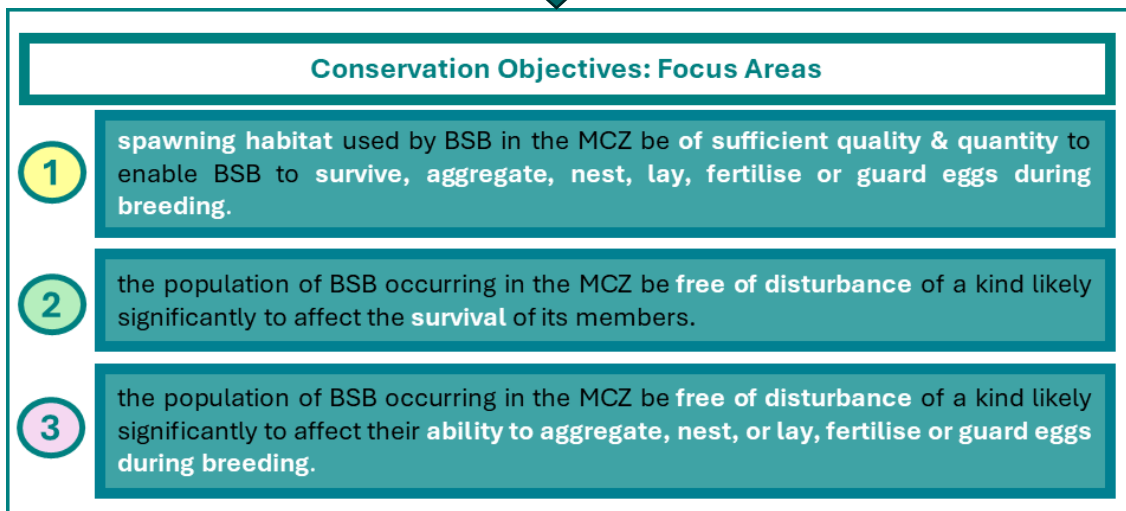


Figure 1: Conservation Objectives relevant to three Dorset MCZs with CO Focus Areas highlighted and identified CO Focus Areas

Key Definitions

From the CO Focus Areas, and based on best available evidence, the following key definitions are taken:

- ‘**spawning habitat**’: BSB nests
- ‘**during breeding**’: 1st April – 31st July, as informed by Section 1.2.1 of the **Black Seabream Literature Review** and the **Black Seabream Site Specific Evidence Packages**
- ‘**likely significantly**’: to probably happen or to be expected in a way that is easy to see or by a large amount
- ‘**sufficient quality & quantity**’: to be defined via Spatial Principles agreed by the Authority (Section 1.4 of this document)

1.4 Defining Principles

In order to facilitate the progression of management considerations the following Legislative, Evidence and Spatial Principles were developed as part of a series of Member Working Groups prior to ratification at the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC):

Legislative

(1) 'further' will be defined as 'to take to a greater degree or a more advanced stage' in line with the Oxford English Dictionary definition

Under Section 154(1) of the Marine & Coastal Access Act (MaCAA), Southern IFCA must '*...seek to ensure that the conservation objectives of any MCZ in the District are furthered...*'; Recognising the lack of a legal definition for 'furthered', the TAC agreed that 'further' and synonyms of, will be defined as "**to take to a greater degree or a more advanced stage**" in line with Oxford English Dictionary definition.

At the time of BSB designation across all 3 MCZs, management measures which were already affording BSB protections were not considered in the NE Vulnerability Assessment. As such, the Authority consider that any qualification of 'furthering' of the COs will be taken from a baseline position of no management.

Evidence

Two Evidence Principles were developed in order to clarify the source of best available evidence used to inform nest locations and detailed how any additional evidence received will be considered appropriately.

(2) The best available evidence used to inform nest locations for black seabream is that provided in:

- The Natural England designated features layer provided to Southern IFCA in 2023
- Data from Cefas Project Report for NE (2021)
- Data from Southern IFCA side scan sonar of Chapmans Pool (2016)
- Data collected by Collins, K. Side scan sonar survey (2010)

(3) Any additional evidence received after the 29th January 2024 will be considered during the period of formal byelaw consultation (where relevant) and then (subject to byelaw ratification), in subsequent byelaw reviews, as determined under the provisions of the byelaw.

When considering wider spawning habitat, i.e., the habitat type which may be suitable for BSB nests, it was determined that there was no evidence available to indicate where this habitat type may occur within the three MCZs. Southern IFCA also undertook specific work with the recreational angling sector to better understand fishing patterns and practice for BSB within the three MCZs, this data is provided in the **Black Seabream Supporting Evidence Packages** and was used to inform understandings of activity as part of the Part B MCZ Assessments detailed in the **Black Seabream Marine Conservation Zone Assessment Package**. It is identified that there are significant evidence gaps on the location and extent of BSB nests within the three MCZs, by compiling multiple sources of evidence as listed under Principle (2), Southern IFCA have created a best available evidence base on which to base management considerations.

Spatial

Six Spatial Principles were developed to describe the process by which 'Indicative Habitat Areas' have been developed, which used the best available evidence and adopted a precautionary approach recognising the need to achieve '**sufficient quality & quantity**' of habitat, as specified in the CO.

(4) In accordance with the best available evidence, three data types are to be used to identify nest locations. 'Nest Data'
a) Individual nests (Cefas and NE data)
b) Polygon data (Southern IFCA data)
c) Nest areas of 50m x 50m where nest(s) have been noted to occur (Collins, K. data)

(5) A 10m buffer will be added to all nest locations to account for confidence in GPS accuracy. This will be referred to as 'GPS Buffer'.

(6) Nest data and GPS Buffer combined will be called 'Nest Units'

(7) Three or more Nest Units existing within 320m of another will be grouped using straight lines to form 'Hotspots'.

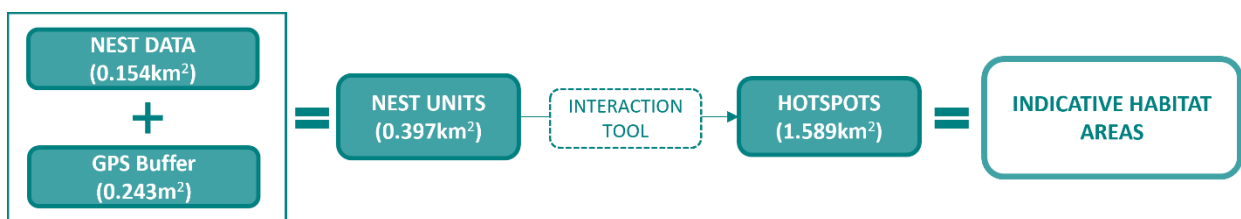
(8) Collectively principles 4-7 build to provide 'Indicative Habitat Areas'.

(9) Management will be considered within 'Indicative Habitat Areas'.

From the best available evidence listed in the Evidence Principle, it was determined that there was collectively 0.154km² of 'Nest Data' across the three MCZs (equivalent to 21 football pitches).

Collectively, the 13 Indicative Habitat Areas covered 1.589km² (equivalent to 222 football pitches).

The process of defining IHA from Nest Data is shown below:



1.5 Testing the Draft Management Proposal: 'No Take Zones' across 13 IHAs

In order to gather information about the BSB fishery operating in the three MCZs, Members initially proposed that a seasonal closure be considered for all 13 IHAs for all fishing activity (recreational and commercial [pots/traps, nets and lines]) between 1st April-31st July. The aim of this initial proposal was to gain an understanding of the potential impact that the introduction of 'no take zones' could have, if applied across the 13 IHAs, as an initial iteration of possible draft measures. Using this proposal as a starting point, a Quantification of Impact Exercise (QIE) was undertaken with the stakeholder community to understand more about the BSB fishery at a site level. IFCA's are required by Defra to ensure that any potential impacts are identified and considered in all decision-making processes to ensure that any subsequent management intervention is proportionate to the risk being addressed.

Quantification of Impact Exercise

The intention of this exercise was not to complete a full Impact Assessment, nor undertake a full consultation, rather, the brief was to conduct targeted engagement with relevant stakeholders to help to provide initial understandings via a snapshot, which could be used to inform the early stages of policy development and understanding risk (fishing activity and feature interaction).

Accordingly, the exercise sought information on fishing activity and any mitigation measures already employed by a particular sector, potential economic, social, cultural, heritage and community impacts.

On the basis of publicly available data and data available through data sharing channels being at a larger spatial scale than the IHAs, Southern IFCA sought information from the following sources:

- **Targeted engagement with stakeholders** – a direct engagement exercise, speaking with key individuals across the potentially affected gear types/sectors/geographic areas to understand specific impact information related to the IHAs.
 - 23 stakeholders engaged through in-person or telephone meetings
 - Charter Vessel Sector = 6
 - Recreational Angling Sector (RSA) = 4
 - Commercial Fishing Sector (spanning 3 different gear types) = 15
- **Data available online on charter vessels** – data obtained from publicly available online sources in relation to charter vessels operating from key ports in the District. This data consisted of costs for trips, number of trips within the April to July season, number of anglers per trip and any other relevant information.
- **Data obtained from the MMO** – data obtained from the MMO under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 for specific vessels known to operate in the IHAs for the period April to July (2018-2023) providing 5 years of data¹
- **Data obtained from literature** – information sourced from published papers or reports, aiming to provide an initial indication of wider economic contributions of different sectors and participation in recreational fisheries.

Outcomes

A cumulative assessment was carried out for the data sources to look at the total potential economic impact for any given season. From a combination of engagement data and online data, it was determined that there would be an annual impact of approx. £1.3m across the sectors, if no take zones were introduced across the 13 IHAs. The information was presented to the TAC and published in a [report](#) (agenda item Marked B).

2.0 Review & Refocus

The outcomes of the **Quantification of Impact Exercise** instigated a three-month review of the work undertaken to date. The catalyst for this review was recognition that, whilst the draft management proposal could satisfy 154 of MaCAA in isolation, based on the crudest outcomes of the QIE, it was apparent that there could be significant unintended consequences associated with the introduction of such spatial management. As such, The Authority resolved to undertake a wider analysis of the task at hand, via consideration of Material Considerations.

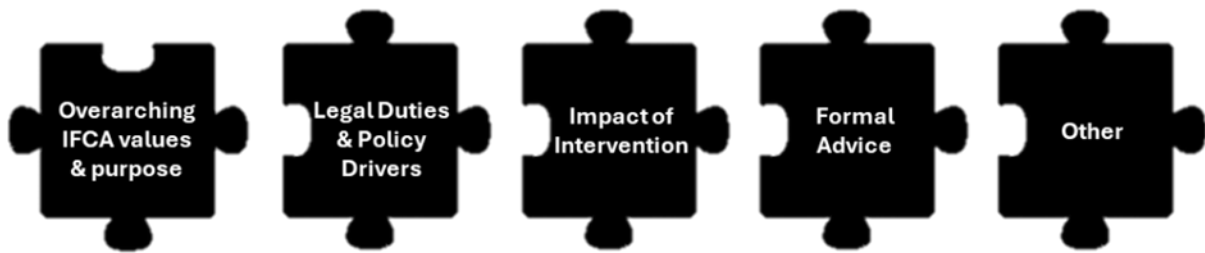
¹ Data from 2020 was not included due to changes in normal patterns of fishing due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

2.1 Material Considerations

Background

As a basic principle of Administrative Law, a decision maker must consider all Material Considerations (MCs) during a decision-making process. Bean *et al* (2022)² notes that some MCs may be expressly stated in legislation (such as 154 duties), however notes that these listings are rarely intended to be exhaustive. Further Bean *et al* (2022) states that, in reaching a decision, that not all material considerations carry the same weight.

Relevant MCs



As part of the decision-making process, the Authority identified the following relevant MCs:

- **The IFCA overarching values & purpose**
 - National IFCA Vision
 - Southern IFCA Vision
- **IFCA Legal duties**
 - MaCAA 153 & 154
 - Fisheries Act 2020 (Joint Fisheries Statement, Fisheries Objectives)
 - Environment Act 2021
 - Marine Strategy Regulations 2010
- **Overarching Policy Drivers**
 - Proportionality
 - Hampton Principles
 - Defra's Guidance to IFCA
 - Collaborative Management
 - Best Available Evidence
 - Precautionary Management
 - Adaptive Management
 - Risk Based Management
- **Impact**
 - Fisheries: Charter Fleet, RSA Sector & Commercial Fleet
 - Marine Environment/Conservation
- **NE Formal Advice**
- **Other**
 - Achieving compliance
 - Maintaining stakeholder relations
 - Reputational risk
 - Unintended consequences
 - Shared space

² Bean, E., Clark, R., Lowther, J. and Williams, M. (2022). Specialist Advice to IFCA and IFCA Decision-Making.

- Existing/pending management
- Consistency as regulators

Further details of each of the MCs and how they informed the decision-making process can be found in [Annex 1](#). Members resolved at the May 2024 meeting of the TAC that as part of the decision-making process, draft measures for BSB in Dorset MCZs would be developed with consideration of social, economic and environmental impact, in addition to all other MCs and that the MCs would be cross referenced to any draft management proposals via a Management Matrix ([Annex 2](#)).

2.2 New Directions

Following consideration and agreement by the Authority at Member Working Groups in April and August 2024 and a meeting of the TAC in May 2024, the BSB Review was subsequently split into two parallel streams of work, each having independent policy objectives and legislative underpinnings: one specific to MaCAA 154 duties and one specific to MaCAA 153 duties. The Primary Policy Objective considering high risk fishing activity to manage BSB as a designated feature of Marine Conservation Zones (MaCAA 154) and the Secondary Policy Objective to consider lower risk fishing activities to improve understandings of BSB across the Dorset MCZs (MaCAA 153).

3.0 Primary Policy Objective – MaCAA 154

Managing BSB as a designated feature of Marine Conservation Zones

3.1 Scope

To **further** the conservation objectives from a baseline position of no management via quantification of existing management measures.

3.2 Legislative Underpinning

To satisfy Section 154(1) of the MaCAA: ‘...seek to ensure that the conservation objectives of any MCZ in the District are furthered...’, with Section 154(2) requiring that ‘...nothing in Section 153(2) is to affect the performance of the duty...’. This includes socio-economic considerations.

3.3 Existing Statutory Measures

Under the **Southern IFCA Bottom Towed Fishing Gear (BTFG) Byelaw 2016** the following protections are afforded to BSB. These spatial protections eliminate, to the following degrees, the highest risk fishing activity (**risk rating from Gear Risk Assessment = HIGH**) relevant to the CO Focus Areas - BTFG across Poole Rocks (100% spatial prohibitions) and Purbeck MCZ (90% spatial protections):

1	Poole Rocks MCZ:	whole site protection for 12 months a year (100% closure to BTFG)
	Purbeck MCZ:	90% closure to BTFG for 12 months a year
	Southbourne Rough:	No protections under this byelaw

2	Poole Rocks MCZ:	whole site protection for 12 months a year (100% closure to BTFG)
	Purbeck MCZ:	90% closure to BTFG for 12 months a year
	Southbourne Rough:	No protections under this byelaw

3	Poole Rocks MCZ:	whole site protection for 12 months a year (100% closure to BTFG)
	Purbeck MCZ:	90% closure to BTFG for 12 months a year
	Southbourne Rough:	No protections under this byelaw

Under the **Southern IFCA Minimum Conservation Reference Size Byelaw**, the following protections are afforded to BSB at a District wide level, applicable to all gear types and throughout the supply chain, which supports the furthering of the CO Focus Areas:

2	Poole Rocks MCZ:	it is prohibited to remove any BSB below 23cm from the fishery (NB: this is a District wide measure)
3	Purbeck MCZ:	
	Southbourne Rough:	

3.4 Existing External Measures

The spatial closures created by the Lulworth Ranges which, based on best available data, are known to be closed to all activity in the Inner Ranges area for c.32% of the available time between 1st April and 31st July each year, overlaps with c.33% of the Purbeck Coast MCZ and 57% of the BSB nest areas within the site. This provides additional protection for BSB populations from all fishing gear types during the breeding season. The Outer Ranges will also be closed periodically, whilst no information is available to quantify this, the closure of the Outer Ranges would provide additional protections to BSB over (in combination with the Inner Ranges) c.54% of the site. Additionally, the Lulworth ranges continue to operate outside of the breeding season, providing extended protections to BSB outside of the breeding season. The spatial protections provided by the Lulworth Ranges, applicable to all gear types, supporting the furthering of the CO Focus Areas:

1	Purbeck MCZ:	it is prohibited to operate a vessel (including all fishing activity, commercial and recreational) within the area of the Lulworth Firing Ranges when the ranges are closed (c.32% time closure to all gear types between 1st Apr – 31st Jul across c.33% of the site, potential to be increased to c.54% with outer ranges), closures cover 57% of BSB nests within the site.
2		
3		

3.5 Development of New Statutory Measures

Between 2020 and 2023, the **Southern IFCA BTFG Byelaw 2023** was developed, and made by the Authority in order to satisfy multiple aims. Of relevance to BSB Review, increased spatial protections for BSB have been developed relevant to the Purbeck MCZ (an **increase** of protections to 93%), in addition to the introduction of **whole site** BTFG protection across the entirety of the Southbourne Rough MCZ. The area of Purbeck Coast which remains open to BTFG poses no risk to BSB due to the absence of nest areas and suitable habitat, as agreed by Natural England through the outcome of the Part A Assessment for Purbeck Coast MCZ under the BTFG Review Phase I³.

The development and subsequent ratification of the Byelaw by the Secretary of State on the 7th July 2025 has further increased the spatial protections afforded to BSB, via removal of the highest risk activity BTFG:

1	<p>Purbeck MCZ: Increase to 93% closure to BTFG for 12 months a year (100% not achievable due to unreliable NE data)</p> <p>Southbourne Rough: Introduction of whole site protection for 12 months a year (100% closure to BTFG)</p>
2	<p>Purbeck MCZ: Increase to 93% closure to BTFG for 12 months a year (100% not achievable due to unreliable NE data)</p> <p>Southbourne Rough: Introduction of whole site protection for 12 months a year (100% closure to BTFG)</p>
3	<p>Purbeck MCZ: Increase to 93% closure to BTFG for 12 months a year (100% not achievable due to unreliable NE data)</p> <p>Southbourne Rough: Introduction of whole site protection for 12 months a year (100% closure to BTFG)</p>

3.6 MCZ Assessments

Part A MCZ Assessments identified that **Anchored Nets/Lines** (all three MCZs), **Pelagic Fishing** (all three MCZs), **Traps** (all three MCZs) and **Demersal Trawl** (Southbourne Rough MCZ)⁴ have the potential to pose a likely significant effect through relevant pressures.

A **Gear Risk Assessment** was subsequently carried out to explore the level of risk posed by each relevant gear type in each MCZ, with consideration of site-specific fishing activity known to be present in the MCZs. Table 1 provides the outcomes, which removed the pressure of abrasion for Anchored Nets/Lines and Traps, and thus the removal of traps and associated forms of pot fishing⁵ as a relevant fishing gear interaction to be taken forward for management consideration.

³ The remainder of the Purbeck Coast MCZ is subject to feature data which has been deemed unreliable in terms of location and/or extent by Natural England and is therefore not suitable as a basis for making management determinations. The feature data does not relate directly to BSB, and it has been confirmed by NE through the Part A Assessment process for the BTFG Review Phase I that the area of the MCZ which remains open to BSB poses no risk to BSB as a designated feature.

⁴ The Part A Assessments for Southbourne Rough and Purbeck Coast in relation to BTFG were carried out as part of the Southern IFCA BTFG Review Phase I. These Part A Assessments were also included in the Part A Assessments conducted for BSB given the relevance of these assessments to the consideration of BSB as a designated feature of the Southbourne Rough and Purbeck Coast MCZs.

⁵ Full detail of the determination of risk is provided in the **Black Seabream Marine Conservation Zone Assessment Package**, this considers best available evidence on fishing effort and location, as provided in the **Black Seabream Site Specific Evidence Packages**, commercial landings and peer-reviewed literature provided in the **Black Seabream Literature Review**.

Table 1: Risk levels assigned to relevant gear types in relation to the feature of BSB. (activities & pressures which are crossed through were removed as a result of the gear risk assessment)

Gear Type	Sector	Pressure	Risk
Demersal Trawl	Commercial	Abrasion	HIGH
		Removal Non-Target	HIGH
		Removal Target	HIGH
		Smothering & Siltation	HIGH
Traps	Commercial	Abrasion	LOW
Anchored Nets/Lines	Commercial	Abrasion	LOW
		Removal Non-Target	LOW
		Removal Target	LOW
Pelagic Fishing	Commercial	Removal Non-Target	LOW
		Removal Target	LOW
	Recreational	Removal Non-Target	MED
		Removal Target	MED

Subsequently Part B MCZ Assessments concluded that BSB spawning habitat is already afforded protection from high-risk fishing activity during the breeding season, allowing for that habitat to be found in sufficient quality and quantity to avoid any likely significant effect.

Further, additional measures which are relevant to low and medium impact fishing activity concluded no likely significant impact.

In relation to fishing activity, and non-fishing activity no in-combination effect was identified.

The MCZ Assessments documents and explanation of the MCZ process can be found here – www.southern-ifca.gov.uk/black-seabream-fisheries.

3.7 Satisfying Policy Objective 1

It is concluded that appropriate mitigative measures are already in place via a combination of spatial and technical statutory mechanisms, which are collectively furthering the Conservation Objectives relevant to BSB across three Dorset MCZs.

This is primarily being achieved via the **elimination of BTFG activity** across the entirety of Poole Rocks MCZ (whole site) and Southbourne Rough MCZ (whole site) and via a BTFG spatial closure across 93% of the Purbeck Coast MCZ, thus removing the highest risk fishing activity almost in its entirety across the three Dorset MCZs.

Additionally, the furthering of the COs is being achieved **via enforcement of a MCRS** for BSB at a District wide level, applicable to commercial and recreational users, which is also applicable to the wider supply chain.

Furthermore, **spatial restrictions via an exclusion zone** in the Purbeck Coast MCZ, which equates to quantifiable closures for c.32% of the breeding season, across c.33% of the MCZ (increased to c.54% with the outer ranges), as enforced by the Ministry of Defence (MOD), are further enhancing protections to BSB in the Purbeck Coast MCZ **across the entirety of gear types** (commercial and recreational) via closures applicable to all users.

Collectively, the Southern IFCA statutory measures (as well as those enforced by the MOD) are providing protections to BSB above and beyond the three MCZs' collective footprint, at a temporal scale beyond that of the breeding season, which provides additional protections to BSB populations outside of the MCZs and outside of the breeding season. As such,

collectively, these statutory measures are providing protections to BSB nesting sites and populations at a level which exceeds the scope of the COs. In combination, these measures are furthering the COs for BSB across the Purbeck Coast MCZ, Poole Rocks MCZ and Southbourne Rough MCZ and are thus satisfying the Primary Policy Objective to further the COs from a baseline position of no management.

4.0 Secondary Policy Objective – MaCAA 153

Improving Understandings of BSB across the Dorset MCZs

4.1 Scope

In satisfying the furthering of the COs across the three Dorset MCZs, Members determined that there was a **need to consider additional management opportunities** relevant to the BSB fishery within the MCZs; which could both complement the protections already afforded, as well as advance understandings of the health of the BSB fishery over time.

This decision recognised the absence of a Natural England Condition Assessment for the three MCZs at the point of designation and up to present day; coupled with recognition of the concurrent development of a national Seabreams Fisheries Management Plan (FMP).

Members committed to exploring the development of a Shared Principles Model of management with the Dorset community.

4.2 Legislative Underpinning

Under Section 153 (2) of the MaCAA, when managing the exploitation of inshore fisheries, Southern IFCA 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, and
- d. seek to balance the different needs of persons engaged in the exploitation of sea fisheries resources in the district

4.3 Policy Drivers

Members agreed the following policy drivers to underpin the exploration of a **Shared Principles Model**:

- (1) To improve understandings of BSB behaviours, fisheries and ecosystem management, recognising that these are currently data poor.
- (2) To be proportionate in the application of precaution, complementing existing statutory measures for lower impact fisheries (adaptive management approach).
- (3) To be precautionary, as despite evidence suggesting that current effort is not having an impact, this remains data poor. Additionally, potential future impact also remains unknown.

4.4 Headline Objectives

Subsequently, Members drafted the following headline objectives which provide the rationale for the exploration of additional management solutions:

- (1) To ensure current and future sustainability of BSB populations for the benefit of the marine environment and all sectors.
- (2) To improve understandings via data collection.
- (3) to monitor and review measures (adaptive management).
- (4) include users in policy development and ongoing management interventions.

4.5 Co-Development of Shared Principles

Stage 1: Member Management Proposals

In August 2024 Members discussed the following Management Proposals that they wanted to be taken forward to the stakeholder community for further discussion:

Measure	Member Management Proposal
Spatial	No take zone in IHAs during breeding season (April – July inclusive)
Temporal	
Gear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of circle hooks • Use of barbless hooks
Effort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational bag limit (5 or 6) • 0% bycatch during breeding season in IHAs (April – July inclusive)
Technical Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase MCRS to 30cm (to align with L50) • Introduce Max. landing size April – July (to avoid removal of males)
Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational data collection • Fishery dependant and independent data collection • Supplementary info. for commercial data (where not already provided for by other means) • M&C Programme with thresholds.

Stage 2: Stakeholder Management Proposals

In October 2024, an Industry Workshop was held with representatives from the commercial (12) and recreational/charter (10) sectors, covering all relevant gear types. Attendees at the Industry Workshop were provided with a contextual underpinning framed around the Drivers and Headline Objectives developed by the Members. Attendees were invited to comment on proposed management options and put forward any additional industry informed management suggestions:

Measure	Industry Management Proposal
Spatial	No take zone in IHAs during breeding season (April – July inclusive) where there is less social economic impact, e.g. IHAs 4&5. NB – not a preferred option
Temporal	
Gear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of less impactful types of hooks
Effort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreational bag limit (6) Commercial effort cap 6.2tpa (rod, line, netting)
Technical Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase MCRS to 29cm
Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreational data collection and charter logbooks to include: no. of fish caught, no of fish retained, no. of oversized, no. of undersize, no. of anglers, areas fished, no. of hours fished in MCZs.

Stage 3: Officer Feasibility Exercise & Management Matrix

Between August and November 2024, the suggested management options proposed by the Members and Industry were reviewed by officers who undertook a plausibility & feasibility check against all Material Considerations (MCs). This exercise encompassed cross-checking of all of the draft proposals with compatibility of the MCs listed in Section 2.1.

In addition, the **literature review** for BSB was finalised, with the inclusion of updated evidence coming from publications on BSB tagging studies in Sussex by the University of Plymouth FishIntel Project.

A **Management Matrix** was developed to identify how management scenarios proposed under the Secondary Policy Objective would meet the MCs relevant to BSB under the six main categories (as outlined in Section 2.1).

All scenarios considered the implementation of additional management alongside the spatial and technical management already in place. The three scenarios tested were:

- Scenario 1: BTFG Byelaw 2023, MCRS Byelaw & External Spatial Closures + **No Take Zones across 13 IHAs: 1 Apr – 31 Jul**
- Scenario 2: BTFG Byelaw 2023, MCRS Byelaw & External Spatial Closures + **Co-Developed Principles**
- Scenario 3: BTFG Byelaw 2023, MCRS Byelaw & External Spatial Closures + **No additional management**

The full Matrix and associated outputs are given in **Annex 2** to this document.

Each management scenario was categorised as having **met**, **partly met** or **not met** each of the Material Considerations, of which there were 65 in total. The pie charts in Figure 2 illustrate the outcome of this process. The greatest number of MCs were achieved under the ‘Co-Developed Principles’ scenario (98.5%) compared to the ‘no additional management scenario’ (23.1%) and the ‘No Take Zones across 13 IHAs: 1 Apr – 31 Jul’ scenario (6.2%).

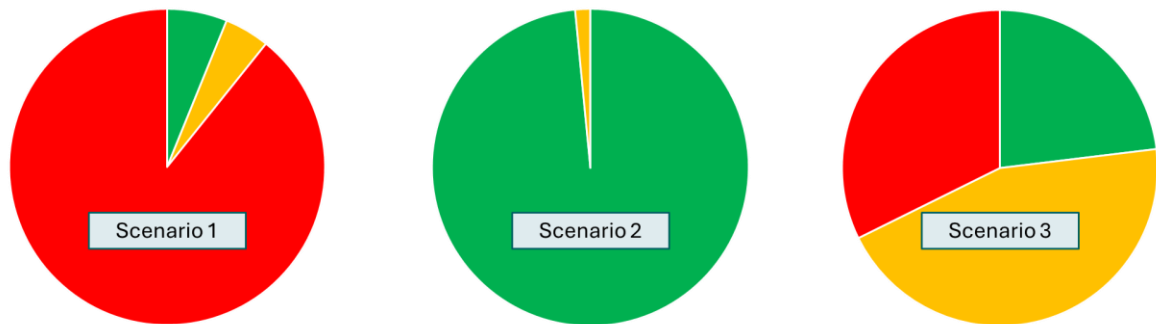


Figure 2: Outputs of the Material Considerations Matrix for three management scenarios showing the proportion of MCs which were met (green), partially met (yellow) or not met (red) for each scenario.

Figure 3 (found in [Annex 3](#)) summarises the outputs of this process for each individual management proposal under the Officer Feasibility Exercise and the outcomes consider the MCs against theoretical application of both non-statutory and statutory management solutions. Each management scenario was categorised as having **met**, **partly met** or **not met** each of the MCs.

Impact

An understanding of the potential impact of the Co-Developed (CoD) Principles, as one of the Material Considerations, is derived primarily from the information gained during the Quantification of Impact (QIE) Exercise, carried out prior to the Review and Refocus stage of management development and supplemented through additional engagement during the co-development process.

As detailed in Section 1.5 of this document, the QIE provided information on fishing activity and any mitigation measures already employed by a particular sector and, in addition to a focus on informing the early stages of policy development, generally facilitated understandings of economic, social, cultural, heritage and community aspects associated with BSB fisheries in the three Dorset MCZs. Through the QIE, detail was provided on mitigation measures already employed within BSB fisheries which are aligned with the CoD Principles (recreational bag limits, increased MCRS, good handling and fishing practices) with support expressed for measures such as these being considered as management options, a perspective which was maintained by the community through the co-development staged process.

The approach taken in the co-development process under the Secondary Policy Objective is also aligned with the general message from the QIE which was mirrored across all sectors:

Given the current population of BSB, why can't management seek to do a little to aim to maintain those numbers (which seems plausible with current activities) rather than seeking to do a lot; the response would appear to be disproportionate to the risk. Across all gear sectors, if the BSB population was in decline, then there would be support across the board for management measures. Given the current population being seen, it is felt that the good will of industry/individuals to help will be lost which then couldn't be recovered if the population ever reached a point where more stringent management was necessary.

Further discussions on potential impact formed part of Stages 2 and 5 of the co-development process with an overall indication that, in providing the opportunity for the Dorset community to be part of the process and have opportunities to feed in and shape management options, the level of impact economically, socially, culturally and to wellbeing was greatly reduced from that identified through the QIE with input primarily reflecting benefits of the approach. Whilst it is not possible at this stage to quantify the impact of the Co-Developed Principles, the information available from community participation indicates that the material consideration for impact

across all sectors is only able to be fully met through the application of Co-Developed Principles and continued co-development through an adaptive approach.

Stage 4: Finalising Co-Developed Principles

In February 2025 a Members Working Group was held, with the overall objective of drawing together and reviewing all of the co-developed components and to consider these in parallel with the outcomes of the officer feasibility exercise. The Members subsequently finalised the following Co-Developed Principles (CoD), as well as their application, to be taken forward for public consultation:

Application of CoD Principles:	
Voluntary, applying within the 3 Dorset MCZs, and in force during the period 1 st April to 31 st July.	
Proposed CoD Principles:	
Minimum Conservation Reference Size	28cm
Maximum Conservation Reference Size	38cm
Recreational Bag Limit	6 fish per person per day
Guidance	Good practice fishing & handling
Data Collection	Year-round, all sectors

Stage 5: Public Consultation

A public consultation was held between 6th May to 22nd June 2025. Both in-person and online engagement options were available to stakeholders throughout the duration of the consultation, to include, coastal drop-in sessions, a targeted industry workshop, coastal engagement, community forums, stakeholder group meetings, an online meeting and an online questionnaire.

The consultation received 124 responses, the highest number ever received by Southern IFCA during an informal consultation. Responses were received from charter vessels (33), recreational anglers (65), commercial fishers (23) and other representatives (3). The BSB community were engaged with the consultation and were supportive of the Co-Development approach, wanting to continue to work with Southern IFCA to ensure the future health of the BSB population.

All Co-Developed Principles, as taken to consultation, received majority support through the consultation responses.

In August 2025, Members discussed the outcomes of the consultation focussing on five discussion areas. Subsequently Members resolved to take forward the Co-Developed Principles with no amendments. [Further details can be found here](#) (agenda item Marked D).

Stage 6: Authority Adoption

At an Extraordinary Meeting of the Technical Advisory Sub-Committee on 4th December 2025, Members discussed the proposed BSB Management Package in full, incorporating all Process Documents and support documentation. The Authority resolved to implement the Co-Developed Principles, to satisfy the Second Policy Objective, from 1st April 2026.

Satisfying the Secondary Policy Objective

The introduction of the CoD Principles across the entire footprint of the 3 Dorset MCZs during the recognised BSB breeding period (1st April to 31st July), provides a suitable management mechanism by which Southern IFCA can both **satisfy** and **facilitate** progress towards the overarching goal, which is to **advance understandings of the BSB fisheries over time**. This approach provides a mechanism which satisfies both the Policy Drivers and Headline Objectives which frame the Secondary Policy Objective, as set by the Authority.

Policy Drivers

- (1) To **improve understandings** of BSB behaviours, fisheries and ecosystem management, recognising that these are currently data poor.
- (2) To be **proportionate** in the application of precaution, complementing existing statutory measures for **lower impact fisheries** (adaptive management approach).
- (3) To be **precautionary**, as despite evidence suggesting that current effort is not having an impact, this remains data poor. Additionally, potential future impact also remains unknown.

Headline Objectives

- (1) To ensure **current and future sustainability** of BSB populations for the benefit of the marine environment and all sectors.
- (2) To improve understandings via **data collection**.
- (3) to **monitor and review measures** (adaptive management).
- (4) **include users** in policy development and ongoing management interventions.

5.0 Holistic Fisheries & Conservation Management

5.1 Unifying Management Solutions

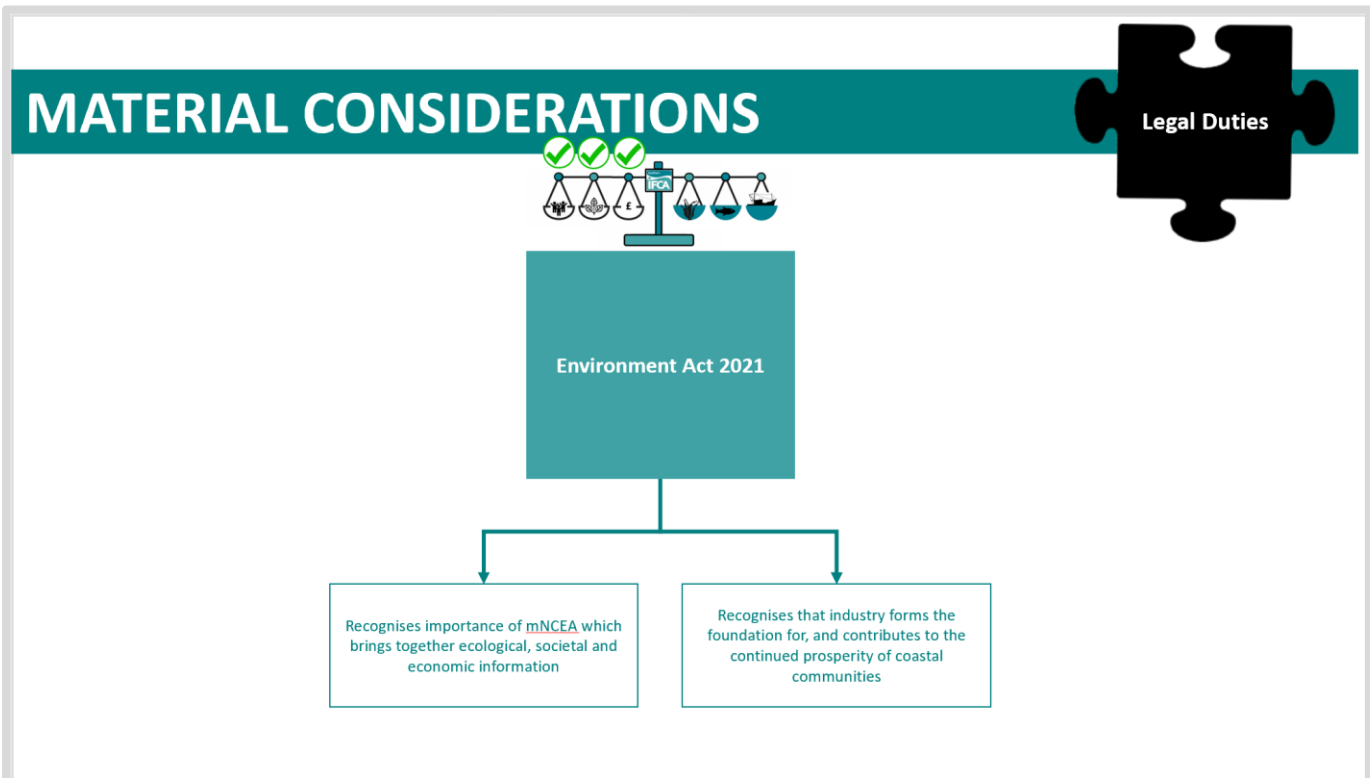
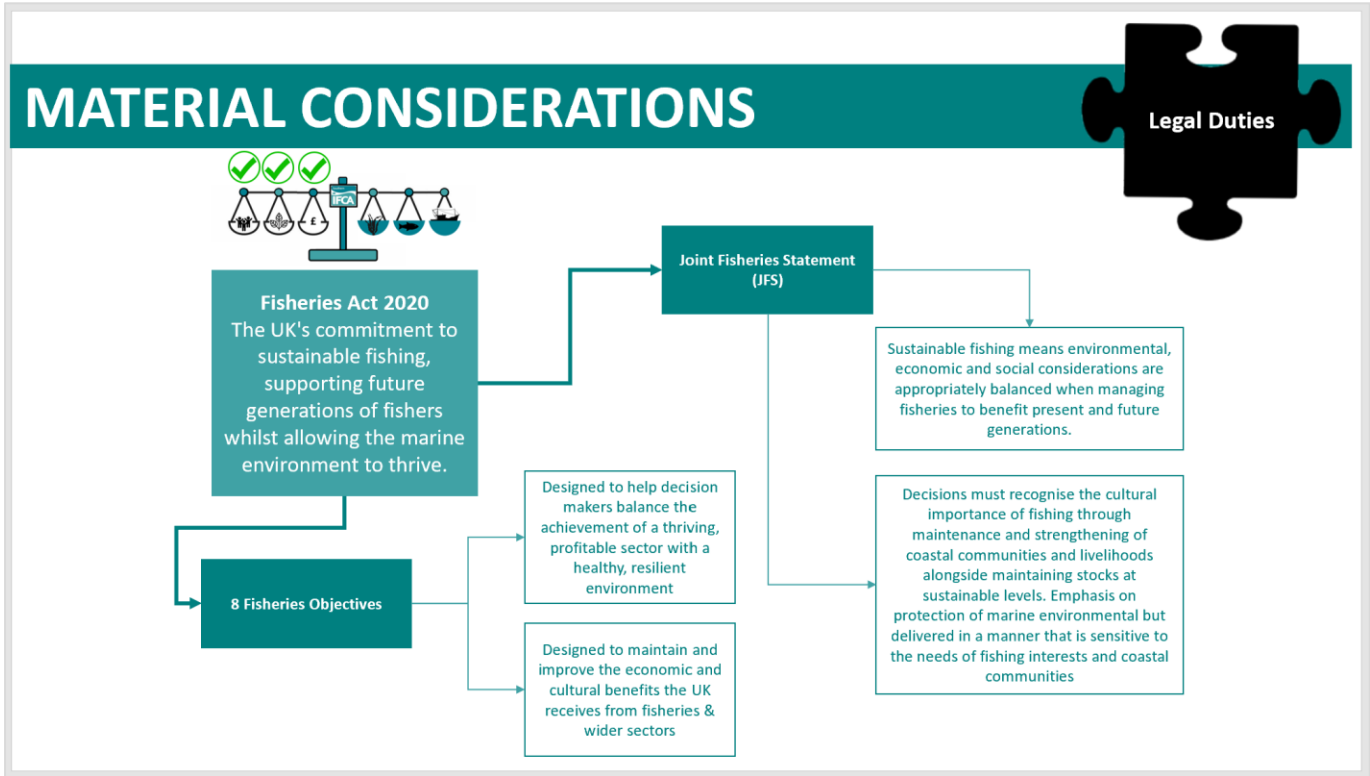
In satisfying both sets of Policy Objectives, via the application of dual legislative function, and in unification of the resulting management solutions applicable to each, Southern IFCA, with the support of the Dorset community are collectively championing a proportionate management approach which fundamentally seeks to improve **understandings of the BSB population, information which is vital in current and future approaches to sustaining** the BSB fisheries across the three Dorset MCZs and beyond. This approach allows ongoing management to be based on improved evidence as supported and informed via ongoing co-development with the community.

This holistic approach to management provides not only a solution to the primary legislative driver, namely the furthering of COs to satisfy the MaCAA 154 duties but also facilitates holistic approaches which remain true to the wider functions of the IFCA, as specified under section 153 of the MaCAA.

Annexes

Annex 1 – Material Considerations

As discussed by the Members at a Working Group in April 2024.



MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Legal Duties

MaCAA 2009 (153 duties)

Fisheries Act 2020

Environment Act 2021

Marine Strategy Regulations 2010



Requires fisheries bodies to take action to achieve or maintain Good Environmental Status (GES) in UK waters: use of the marine environment is at a level that is sustainable, thus safeguarding the potential for use and activities by current and future generations. Discusses social value.

MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Overarching Policy Drivers

Proportionality

Management must be proportionate to the risk being addressed



BSB were not designated under MaCAA 117(4) as rare or threatened due to limited numbers or limited locations where present, they were designated under MaCAA 117(5) to conserve diversity. Specifically, as Highly Mobile Species (HMS) due to ecological significance (area considered to be of critical importance to life cycle of HMS, where if not protected the BSB would be affected at population or sub-population level) & persistence (where they occur at high densities in contrast to surrounding areas).



NE Advice to Defra (2019) concluded that the value of site-based (MCZ) management for BSB following the 3rd party proposal was 'moderate'



NE & JNCC paper: 'moderate need' defined as management options likely to reduce the effect of damaging activities on proposed species

MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Overarching
Policy Drivers

Proportionality	Management must be proportionate to the risk being addressed		
Hampton Principles	Regulators should only intervene when there is a <u>clear case for protection</u> and legislation should be the last resort		
DEFRA's Guidance to IFCA's	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>IFCA's must ensure that potential impacts are identified and considered in the Decision-Making Process</td> <td>A byelaw should only be introduced when it can be demonstrated that existing activity is having an impact or that it may in future.</td> </tr> </table>	IFCA's must ensure that potential impacts are identified and considered in the Decision-Making Process	A byelaw should only be introduced when it can be demonstrated that existing activity is having an impact or that it may in future.
IFCA's must ensure that potential impacts are identified and considered in the Decision-Making Process	A byelaw should only be introduced when it can be demonstrated that existing activity is having an impact or that it may in future.		
Collaborative Management	JFS 3.4: Co-Management, Fisheries Objectives. Clearly sets out vision for co-designed fisheries management		

MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Overarching
Policy Drivers

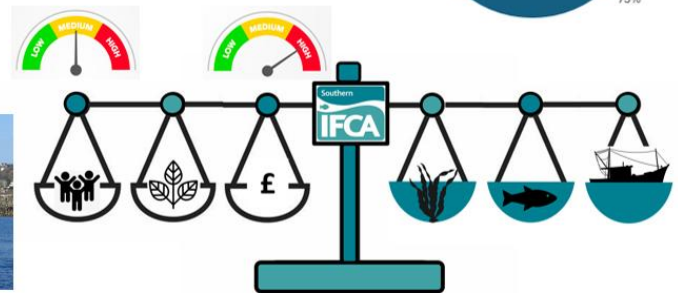
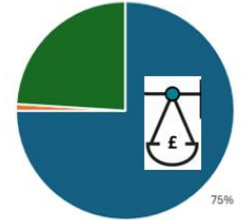
Best Available Evidence	IFCA's must have regard to this guidance when carrying out their functions. The guidance outlines the best practice for the delivery and implementation of byelaws, which must be based on sound evidence.
Risk Based Management	A risk-based approach to byelaw development may be used to assess the potential risks that fishing activity may present to the marine environment. A risk assessment would provide the evidence base for prioritising the development of management measures, enabling IFCA's to carry out their duties in an evidence based, strategic and proportionate way.
Adaptive Management	In response to best available evidence, consideration of what management tools look like to achieve this
Precautionary Approach	The precautionary principle is applied in the circumstances where there are reasonable grounds for concern that an activity is <u>harmful</u> but where there is uncertainty about the degree of risk and harm. In simple terms, this means that where a risk assessment leads the IFCA to conclude that there is an unacceptable risk of harm to the environment or fish stocks, but conclusive evidence is lacking, this should not be used as a reason for not acting. In these situations, a precautionary approach would involve the IFCA taking proportionate action to address the risk whilst gathering further evidence to understand the issue better.

MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS



The Charter Fleet

Economics:
 Poole: c. £332k
 CC: c. £38k
 Weymouth: c. £464k



MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

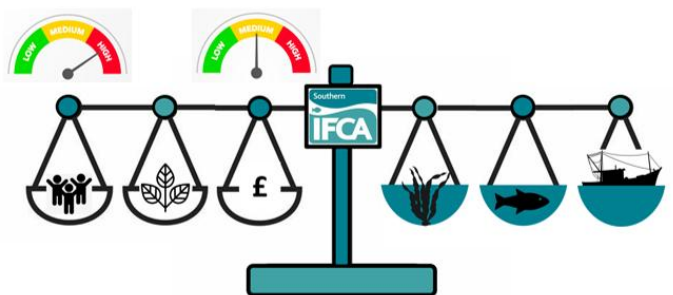


The RSA Sector



Decisions must recognise the cultural importance of fishing through maintenance and strengthening of coastal communities and livelihoods alongside maintaining stocks at sustainable levels. Emphasis on protection of marine environment but delivered in a manner that is sensitive to the needs of fishing interests and coastal communities

The Fisheries Objectives are... 'designed to maintain and improve the economic and cultural benefits the UK receives from fisheries & wider sectors...'

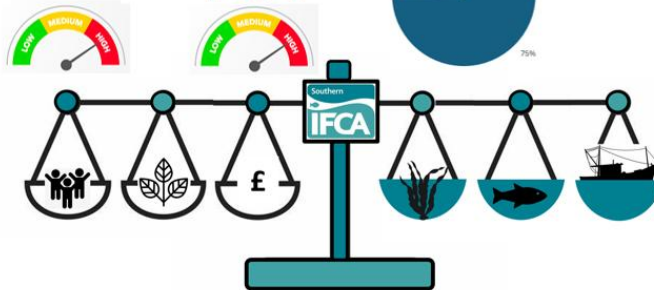
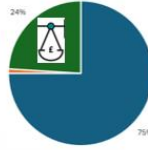


MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS



Commercial Fleet

Economics: c. £314k
(IHA specific impact across all gear types)



MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS



Marine Environment/Conservation

The MCZ Designation is in place to conserve diversity, recognising BSB is a unique species and nesting habitats of importance at population/sub-population level. The designation is not in place to manage declining stocks.

Evidence suggest that the BSB stock is thriving – therefore conclusions could be drawn that current levels of inshore fishing effort are not impacting stock.

Limited targeting of BSB commercially inshore. Main commercial fisheries are offshore (FMP under development to consider stock protection)

The designation of BSB under the MCZ designation process was deemed as a 'moderate' need.

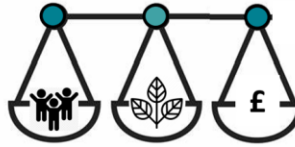


MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Impact

MCZ Designation in place to conserve nesting habitats of an ecologically unique species.

Abundance of BSB inshore suggests that current levels of inshore fishing, (commercial targeted, commercial non-targeted, charter sector and RSA) are not impacting the nest sites at a population or sub-population level.



Anticipated annual loss to inshore fisheries if a no take zone introduced across all IHAS for the period April – July :

c. £1,306,890.000

Is a no-take zone proportionate to the risk being addressed

MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Formal Advice:
NE

MaCAA 126: Duties of Public Authorities in relation to certain decisions

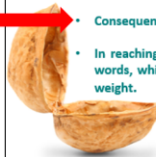
(10) In carrying out its duties under this section a public authority must **have regard to any advice or guidance** given by the appropriate statutory conservation body under Section 127

MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

(In a nutshell)

Dr E Bean (Devon & Severn IFCA), R Clark (AIFCA), J Lowther (Associate Professor in Law School of Society & Culture, University of Plymouth and Prof. M Williams (Devon & Severn IFCA)

- Basic principle of Administrative Law that, during the course of decision making, the decision maker must take into account all material considerations.
- Some material considerations may be expressly stated in legislation however, such listings are rarely intended to be exhaustive and other material considerations not expressed must be taken into account.
- It is important to remember when considering specialist advice that an IFCA is a regulatory environmental decision-maker and must reach its own decision, rather than simply follow unquestioningly the advice of other regulators or advisors.
- Consequently, an IFCA must reach its own determinations, taking into account all material considerations.
- In reaching its decisions an IFCA will need to attach differing weight to differing material considerations. In other words, while all material considerations must be taken into account, not all material considerations carry the same weight.



MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Other

Application:
achieving
compliance

Maintaining
Stakeholder
Relations

Reputational
Risk/Tribunal

Unintended
Consequences

Shared Space

Existing/Pending
Management

Confidence in
Designation
process

Consistency as a
regulator

Annex 2 – Material Considerations Matrix

		BTFG Byelaw 2023	Achieving MCs	BTFG Byelaw 2023	Achieving MCs	BTFG Byelaw 2023	Achieving MCs
		Material Considerations (MCs)		+		+	
Spatial Exclusions at Lulworth Ranges c.32% time closed over c.33% Purbeck Coast MCZ				Spatial Exclusions at Lulworth Ranges c.32% time closed over c.33% Purbeck Coast MCZ		Spatial Exclusions at Lulworth Ranges c.32% time closed over c.33% Purbeck Coast MCZ	
+				+		+	
No Take Zone across 13 IHAs: 1 Apr - 31 July	Met			Co-Developed Principles	Met	No additional Management	Met
	Partially Met				Partially Met		Partially Met
		Not Met		Not Met		Not Met	
		N/A		N/A		N/A	
Overarching IFCA values and purpose		Overarching IFCA values and purpose					
National Vision	'IFCAs 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'						
Southern IFCA Vision	'Championing prosperous inshore fisheries founded upon thriving marine environments'						

Legal Duties & Policy Drivers		Legal Duties & Policy Drivers					
MaCAA 2009	(53) IFCA must act in accordance with the Marine Policy Statement		Green		Green	Yellow	
	(152) IFCA must manage the exploitation of sea fisheries resources in the district		Green		Green	Yellow	
	(153) In performing its duty (to manage exploitation of sea fisheries resources) the authority must:	(a) seek to ensure that the exploitation of sea fisheries resources is carried out in a sustainable way.		Yellow		Green	Yellow
		(b) seek to balance the social and economic benefits of exploiting the sea fisheries resources...with the need to protect the marine environment from, or promote its recovery from, the effects of such exploitation		Red		Green	Yellow
		(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.	See rows 27-36				
		(d) seek to balance the different needs of persons engaged in the exploitation of sea fisheries resources in the district.		Red		Green	Yellow
	(175) IFCA must collect data relating to exploitation of sea fisheries resources, as considered necessary to satisfy 153		Red		Green	Red	
SoS Guidance MaCAA	Defra Byelaw Making Guidance 2011	(2.1) Ref. Hampton Review re: regulators should only intervene when there is a clear case for protection and legislation should be the last resort when considering options for regulation.		Red		Green	Yellow
		(4.1) range of solutions available, byelaws should only be considered where other non-regulatory measures have been exhausted.		Red		Green	Yellow
		(8.3) Byelaw as a solution only when it can be demonstrated that existing activities are having an impact or that the risk may be so both now and in the future.		Red		Green	Red
		(8.4) where activity has potential to cause damage but evidence lacking, then via voluntary means, adopt a precautionary approach and introduce controls		Red		Green	Red
		(8.6) take proportionate action to address risk whilst gathering further evidence to understand the issue better. Use principle of adaptive		Red		Green	Red

<p>Joint Fisheries Statement (JFS) to achieve or contribute to the achievement of eight fisheries objectives.</p>	<p>National Benefit</p> <p>(8) fishing activities bring social or economic benefits to the UK or any part of the UK</p>				
	<p>Climate Change</p> <p>(9) fish activities adapt to climate change. (2.1.26): climate change will continue to alter the marine environment, changing species compositions - fisheries authorities to support industry adaptation to change.</p>				
	<p>(2.1.2): sustainable fishing means environmental, economic and social considerations are appropriately balanced when managing fisheries to benefit present and future generations. Decisions must recognise the cultural importance of fishing through maintenance and strengthening of coastal communities and livelihoods alongside maintaining stocks at sustainable levels. Emphasis on protection of marine environmental but delivered in a manner that is sensitive to the needs of fishing interests and coastal communities</p>				
	<p>(2.1.4) emphasis placed on rebuilding stocks and protecting environment, to be delivered in a manner that is sensitive to the needs of the fishing interests, including coastal communities and takes into account wider environmental impacts.</p>				
	<p>(3.3) Working in Partnership</p>				
	<p>(3.4) Participatory Decision Making (co-management) - industry to play a greater role in fisheries management, to include developing management and contributing to fisheries science, decisions and co-designing policy.</p>				
	<p>(2.2.7) Management is proportionate to the risk being addressed.</p>				
	<p>(4.1.8) vital role of seafood sector in supply of food and employment and cultural value - decision makers to take this into account in accordance with sustainability, equal access and national benefit objectives in order to ensure continuity of this role and protect interests of sector and wellbeing of communities it supports.</p>				

		Importance of sustaining vulnerable coastal communities, ports and harbours						
	Fisheries Management Plans (FMP)	Black seabream FMP under development in MMO - UNDERWAY 2023-2026. Outcomes anticipated 2026. Southern IFCA are the lead IFCA feeding into the development of this work. Covers English waters (4b&c, 7a,d,e,f,h,g,j)						
Environment Act 2021		EIP 2023 - 70% of designated features to be in a favourable condition by 2042. Interim target of 48% by 2028, to be achieved via management measures by 2024.						
		Recognises that industry forms the foundation for, and contributes to the continued prosperity of coastal communities.						
		Recognises mNCEA which brings together ecological, societal and economic information						
Marine Strategy Regulations 2010		Requires fisheries bodies to take action to achieve or maintain Good Environmental Status (GES) in UK waters: use of the marine environment is at a level that is sustainable, thus safeguarding the potential for use and activities by current and future generations. Discusses social value.						
		Impact of intervention	Impact of intervention					
Ecological		CONTEXT: BSB designated under MaCAA 117(5) to conserve diversity. Specifically, due to ecological significance (area considered to be of critical importance to life cycle , where if not protected the BSB would be affected at population or sub-population level), & persistence (where they occur at high densities in contrast to surrounding areas) (NB: not designated under MaCAA 117(4) as rare or threatened due to limited numbers or limited locations where present)						
	Short Term	Best available evidence: No suggestion that the current level of fishing is having an adverse impact on BSB population or marine environment						
	Long Term	Unknown, requires monitoring and greater understanding.						
Social	Heritage	Maintaining vessels in ports which have multi-generational fishing families and where businesses have been developed through generations with the intention of passing on within families. Also, vessels in areas where the only remaining fishing heritage is dependent on access to local areas along the Purbeck coast.						

	Culture & Coastal Communities	Maintaining the culture of having a small-scale, local fishing fleet which is closely integrated into coastal communities and has supported the development of key tourist towns such as Poole. Cultural heritage of fishing has previously been the focus of exhibits at Poole Museum and has helped foster Dorset's close connection with the marine environment through multi-generational families inputting to other industries and sharing knowledge. Identity as a fisher and lack of transferable skills for other work could cause detrimental impact if ability to continue as a fisher is lost.				
	Wellbeing	Both recreational sea angling and commercial fishing provide wellbeing benefit in the form of reducing stress, getting out into the natural environment, sharing experiences & engaging with like-minded individuals, physical exercise and, for recreational sea angling a hobby from work and the development of skills which can involve all ages and abilities.				
Economic	Charter Fishing	Established industry across three key ports (of which Weymouth & Poole are largest charter fishing fleets in the UK and internationally recognised) in addition to Christchurch in Dorset and at least four main ports in Hampshire/The Solent where vessels may choose to transit to Dorset. Across the three Dorset ports, potential for 17 vessels to be impacted. Businesses rely on BSB April-July (and have done for c.7+years). IHA specific impact from engagement data = £66,750, non-area specific impact from engagement data = £78,760 (total from engagement = £145,510), additional data gathered from online sources identified potential impact as £834,600.				
	Commercial Fishing Lines	8-10 vessels operating from Weymouth targeting BSS and BSB. Likely to be more but unable to be quantified at present due to limited data - 77 commercial fishers registered as using rod & line and living in Dorset in Southern IFCA permit to fish database, potential to access Dorset sites and/or bream as a target species. All vessels <12m, small vessels single crewed - 24 of the 77 registered as <6m, likely single crewed, 53 registered as 6m or over, potential for double crewed or triple crewed - on the basis of single or double crewed, potential at least 130 individuals.				

	Recreational Fishing	Pot & Traps	88 vessels registered for pot fishing living in Dorset under Southern IFCA permit to fish database, potential for access to Dorset sites for pot fishing activity. All vessels <12m, 53 under 7m, 31 at 7-10m, 4 at 10-12m, under 7m likely single crewed, 7-10m potential for x1 crew, over 10m potential for 2+ crew - on this basis potential for 127 individuals. All vessels dependent on weather and tide conditions due to size, anything <10m reliant on sheltered areas in certain conditions.				
		Nets (non-targeted)	(5.5mesh): POL, SOL, SKA, BSS, & Ray. Pot fishers net for bait. From engagement exercise, no. of non-target commercial net fishers approximately 12, small vessels <10m, between 1-2 participants, all dependent on weather and tide conditions due to size, reliant on sheltered areas in certain conditions.				
		Nets: (targeted) fishery	Exact no. of netters targeted BSB not known - based on any net fishers in the area having potential to target BSB, above nos. would apply.				
		Rod & Line	Predominantly operate April-July (Easter throughout summer). c. 50 vessels at any time across the MCZs during this time. Target BSS, PLE, POL, MAY, RAY, BSB is the staple. Well established and internationally recognised location for angling and angling competitions. of national and international importance. Limited areas where visiting RSA can launch boats from, cost associated with launch and travel to coastal locations, for locals costs of marinas/mooring fees and club memberships limited fishing opportunities costs would outweigh benefit - example angling club impact could be up to £9,000.				
	Supply Chain	Charter fleet: supports wide downstream sector - significant importance to local and UK economies - fishing tourism, accommodation, coastal businesses, food and drink, marinas, tackle & bait providers, boat builders and mechanics, harbour authorities, angling clubs RSA (local): angling clubs, marinas, harbour authorities, tackle and bait providers, coastal businesses, boat builders and mechanics Commercial sector: harbour authorities, marinas, boat builders and mechanics, merchants & processors, transport, establishments selling local seafood					

	Tourism	Charter fleet and local industry - maintaining links between active fishing industry and local businesses including restaurants championing locally caught seafood, accommodation and retail businesses benefiting from tourism inputs from anglers (at a national and international scale) who come to fish in Dorset waters as a documented prime tourist location for fishing due to proximity to areas of natural beauty and combination of potential tourism activities. Poole known as one of the best angling competition venues in England - perception of sustainable fishing opportunities important to maintaining this status.				
Formal Advice			Formal Advice			
MaCAA 126 (10): IFCA must have regard to any advice or guidance from NE			<i>FA was not sought on this option as it was not taken forward by the Authority</i>		<i>Based on indication of the outcome of a request for FA provided by NE 25.11.26</i>	<i>Based on indication of the outcome of a request for FA regarding CoD Principles provided by NE 25.11.26</i>
Other Considerations			Other Considerations			
Achieving Compliance	Are the regulations enforceable to achieve objectives of intervention (assets, resources, use of public money, proportionate to risk)					
Offshore fisheries/outside MCZ	No wider regulation in BSB fishery. FMP considering offshore fishery is in development (proportionate), treating inshore and offshore sector equally					
	Displacement - stock pressures outside relevant areas					

Unintended consequences	Displacement - safety of single handed 8-foot vessels		Red		Green		Green
	Displacement - cost of fuel		Red		Green		Green
Marine Spatial Planning -Shared space	No restriction on anchoring in relevant area/over known nest sites.		Red		Green		Green
	Active firing range restricts access to parts of Purbeck MCZ on a regular basis.		Red		Green		Green
	Swanage Bay disposal site adjacent to Purbeck Coast MCZ - consideration of use as a disposal site was subject to WFD assessments must include reference to protections for Natura 2000 sites (SACs and SPAs) but do not include a requirement to consider protected features of MCZs. In addition, reference in this particular application that risks to fish from a licenced activity only need be screened in if the fish occur within an estuary or the fish are entering an estuary.		Red		Green		Green
	There is the potential for marine licences to be granted for works in the areas under consideration.		Yellow		Green		Green
Inshore South Marine Plan - identifies overlap in one or more MCZs with the following activities: defence activity, hydrocarbon licence blocks with wells and surface infrastructure, passenger ferry and high density navigation routes, pipelines, recreational scuba diving, personal watercraft, motor boating and sailing, underwater noise exposure Potential for aggregate dredging in areas adjacent to MCZs (based on identification of potential ground for future extraction)		Red		Green		Green	
New Entrants	Supporting new entrants into fisheries		Red		Green	Green	

Annex 3 - Summary Outputs of Material Considerations Matrix

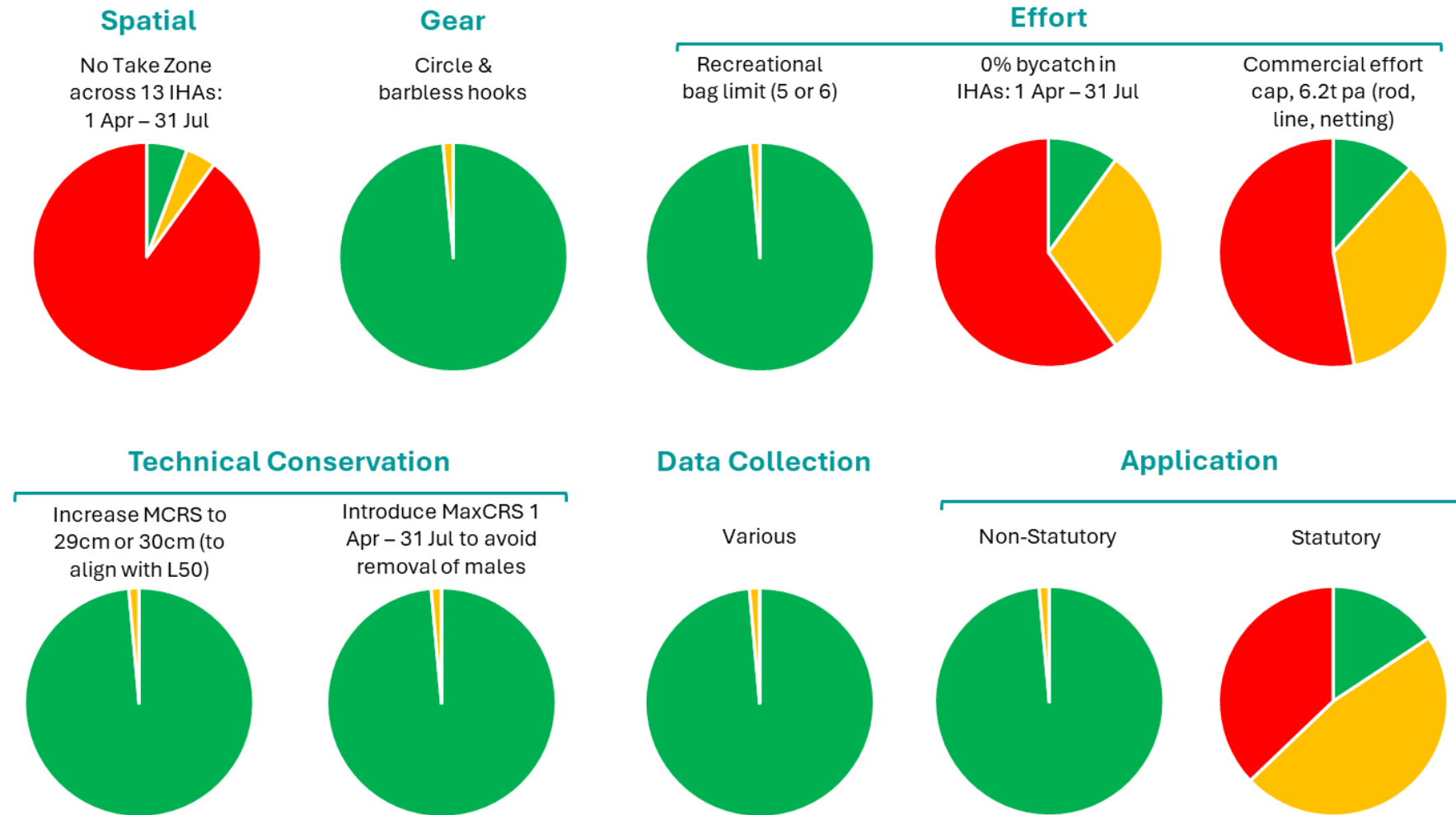


Figure 3: Outputs of the feasibility exercise showing the proportion of Material Considerations which were met, partially met or not met by each management option and the options for the application of any measures.