

**Minutes of the Recreational Angling Sector Group Meeting held on the 26th of September 2018,
17:00, 64 Ashley Road, Poole, BH14 9BN**

Present:

Chris Holloway (CH) – Chair
Alan Deeming (AD)
Phil Higgins (PH)
Tim Ferrero (TF)
Pia Bateman (Southern IFCA)
Simon Pengelly (Southern IFCA)

Apologies

Patrick Cooper (PC)
Robert Clark
Brian Bleese
Rayner Piper
Paul Tomlinson
Charlie Annear
Steve Porter

1. **Minutes of the previous meetings** – agreed with group and signed by Chairman
 - a. **Matters Arising** (from May meeting)
- **Membership of group - Hampshire Representatives**

PB discussed the matter of membership representation to the East of the district. AD has been exploring methods of attracting new anglers to little avail. PH suggested that rather than require attendance at the meetings, members from further away in the district could provide input via email, following sight of future agenda items. It was also suggested that Rob Clark could network via the Solent Forum to advertise.

- **Sea Fishing (enforcement) Regulations 2018**

PB updated the group on the above-named regulations, which have now been confirmed, providing IFCOs with the powers to enforce certain EU measures, without the requirement of cross warranting.

- **Ongoing reports**

PB discussed an action from a previous meeting, regarding PC and his intention to work with the group on two reports – (1) a best practice for fish Handling report and (2) draw together published literature for Flounder. PB passed the message to the group that PC was still intending to fulfil the delivery of these, but due to time constraints over the summer this has not been possible to date. As such this will be ongoing. The group agreed the importance of these two reports and were keen to support PC moving forward.

2. Netting Pre-Consultation information

SP presented the group with details on the forthcoming Netting Review pre-consultation. SP discussed the importance of the RSAG in inputting, not only into the pre-consultation, once it is live, but also to comment on how Southern IFCA can improve the document and engagement with the RSA community.

Suggestions from the group included:

- To extend the proposed 6-week consultation period to 8 weeks

- For the pre-consultation period to cover a full cycle, as RSAG meetings tend to run every 4-6 weeks
- To distribute the pre-consultation to charter angler groups/associations
- To define/detail what 50% sexual maturity means for the lay person
- Re: Mullet species, the vast number of RSA participants won't be able to identify the three species
- To align managed areas with existing BNAs
- Consideration for the marking of pots
- Casting from shore should ensure a 200m casting zone (not 100m as proposed)
- Ring nets: Specify that no more than 50% of the channel to be netted;
- The Wareham Channel should be 'no take zone'

3. Any other business

Wrasse Discussions:

Concern from the Chairman that wrasse fishing is not being managed in the Southern IFCA district. SP explained that other IFCAs were approaching the management of the live wrasse fishery in different ways. Southern IFCA has introduced a 'fishery guidance' approach to the management of the fishery in their district. Simon discussed how Southern IFCA have the most comprehensive and restrictive measures in Europe to encompass both rod and line and pot fishing.

The Chairman raised concerns over screening and biosecurity of the tank waters. SP provided the Chairman with relevant contact details for CEFAs in order for the Chair to pursue this matter re: biosecurity measures and transportation plans. TF asked about the mortality associated with rod and line vs. pot fishing. SP discussed his experience of the pre and post mortality measures and relevant research by the RSPCA.

Date of the next meeting: 16th January 2018