

# **Recreational Angling Sector Group Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015 – Minutes**

**Location: Southern IFCA Office, 64 Ashley Road, Poole, BH14 9BN**

Time: 1700

## **Attendees:**

Chris Holloway (Chair)

Dick Stubbs

Wayne Comben

Phil Higgins

Charlie Annear

Alan Deeming

Patrick Cooper (Southern IFCA)

Ian Jones (Southern IFCA)

## **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Robert Clark

## **Admin**

The minutes were agreed by the group and actions completed.

When discussing group membership it was agreed that the group did cover a wide geographic area and that this was positive. Mr Holloway mentioned that he had contacted the Wyvern Angling Trust Group and that he had yet to receive a request to join, however he would monitor any responses.

The use of tackle shops for membership was discussed, however which to choose and whether they would be completely representative was raised. Mr Higgins made the group aware that he would be able to include information in an angling newsletter that would be available at a range of angling clubs and that it could be a platform to disseminate information discussed at the meeting. The group agreed that it would be good to shout about the positives and successes that the group would have.

## **Ian Jones – Compliance in Southern IFCA district – Presentation**

Ian Jones gave a presentation discussing how Southern IFCA undertakes its enforcement work and the issues faced. The presentation covered Southern IFCA's overarching compliance strategy, risk based approach, how officers gather and collate intelligence and the offences Southern IFCA has taken action on over the past year.

On discussion afterwards members of the group stated that it would be good to advertise not only each offence, but also the number per year. Members asked whether specific newspapers or media outlets could be included. Mr Jones stated that the IFCA tries to make as many sources aware as is feasible, but in some cases the local news outlets focus on the local area.

Members enquired as to whether the IFCA could be contacted 24 hour, Mr Jones stated that the office phone number was manned during office hours and a voicemail could be left after outside of this which would be picked up the next day. Mr Jones also reminded the group that live information is best in terms of details and for the ability for the IFCA to respond.

### **Natural England's Conservation Advice – Poole Rocks + Chesil and Stennis Ledges**

Following a request from members the new MCZ conservation advice packages were discussed. Mr Cooper explained that these two MCZs were the only ones within the IFCA district to be designated under tranche 1. The recently released draft conservation packages highlight the features and proposed advice on operations. These did not highlight any expected impacts to the features of the site from angling.

On discussing other areas, it was raised that the only tranche 2 MCZ being considered in the IFCA district was the Needles and that news on tranche 3 was expected in coming months.

### **Any Other Business**

A number of members from the group raised the question regarding near shore netting legislation. Mr Jones and Mr Cooper stated that this would be considered as part of the review on management and that it was one of the identified priorities. Mr Cooper stated he would enquire regarding any progress or timelines for the next meeting and invite a colleague to present at the next meeting or the following meeting.

Mr Cooper discussed Southern IFCA's surveys over the summer, which a number of anglers were involved in. With the survey season almost at an end, there would be an opportunity to write up the data and reports would be worked up over the winter months and made available.

Members did ask whether recreational anglers could land undulate rays. Previously the species were on a total prohibition but had moved to a TAC set at 0 (now includes up to 20kg allowed to be retained as bycatch in ICES area VIIe). UPDATE – After checking with MMO and other officers it was determined that there was no restriction for anglers to land.

### **Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be the 27<sup>th</sup> of January at 5pm.