

# Consultation Response form on the proposed Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species Fisheries Management Plan (FMP)

## Personal details and confidentiality

### Would you like your response to be confidential?

- Yes
- No

*If you answered Yes to this question, please give us your reason.*

## Confidentiality and data protection information

A summary of responses to this consultation will be published on the Government website at: [www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra) <<http://www.gov.uk/defra>> . An annex to the consultation summary will list all organisations that responded but will not include personal names, addresses or other contact details.

Defra may publish the content of your response to this consultation to make it available to the public without your personal name and private contact details (e.g. home address, email address, etc).

If you click on 'Yes' in response to the question asking if you would like anything in your response to be kept confidential, you are asked to state clearly what information you would like to be kept as confidential and explain your reasons for confidentiality. The reason for this is that information in responses to this consultation may be subject to release to the public or other parties in accordance with the access to information law (these are primarily the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)). We have obligations, mainly under the EIRs, FOIA and DPA, to disclose information to particular recipients or to the public in certain circumstances. In view of this, your explanation of your reasons for requesting confidentiality for all or part of your response would help us balance these obligations for disclosure against any obligation of confidentiality. If we receive a request for the information that you have provided in your response to this consultation, we will take full account of your reasons for requesting confidentiality of your response, but we cannot guarantee that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances.

## Consultation response form on the proposed Channel NQS FMP

If you click on 'No' in response to the question asking if you would like anything in your response to be kept confidential, we will be able to release the content of your response to the public, but we won't make your personal name and private contact details publicly available.

There may be occasions when Defra will share the information you provide in response to the consultation, including any personal data with external analysts.

This is for the purposes of consultation response analysis and provision of a report of the summary of responses only.

This consultation is being conducted in line with the Cabinet Office "Consultation Principles" and be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance>  
<*https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principlesguidance*> .

Please find our latest privacy notice uploaded as a related document alongside our consultation document.

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please send them to [consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk).

## What is your name?

*Name*

## What is your email address?

*Email*

## What is your organisation?

Organisation

## Which of the following best describes your interest in the Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species FMP

*(Required)*

*Select only one item:*

- *Aquaculture*
- *Interest Group*
- *Processing*
- *Producer/Catching Sector*
- *Recreational Sea Fishing*
- *Science/Research*
- *Supplier/Retailer*
- *Marine Industry Sector*
- *Wider Public*
- *Other*

*If other, please specify;*

## Questions on the Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species FMP

The following questions relate to the Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species Fisheries Management Plan which can be found in the 'related documents' section on the home page.

### 1 Do you have any comments on the process for developing the Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species FMP?

Details can be found in the **Executive Summary** of the FMP and **Annex 3: Channel Demersal NQS FMP Record of Stakeholder Engagement**

- Yes
- No

*If yes, please leave your comments here*

### 2 What are your views about the evidence presented on the current state of the Channel Demersal Non-Quota stocks in English waters and can you provide any other evidence which supports or differs from ours?

Details can be found in the **Current Status of the Fisheries** section of the FMP and **Annex 1: The Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species Evidence Statement**

*Please provide further comments or evidence below*

### 3 What are your views on the evidence gaps identified within the FMP?

*Please provide further comments on evidence gaps below*

## 4 Do you agree with the actions to address the evidence gaps?

Details can be found in **Scope and status of the Channel Demersal NQS fisheries** section of the FMP and **Annex 1: The Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species Evidence Statement** and **Annex 2: The Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species Research Plan**

- Yes
- No

*If no, please explain why*

## 5 What are the benefits and drawbacks (environmental, economic, social) of introducing the proposed MCRS for Lemon sole, turbot, brill, and cuttlefish in the English Channel within 2 years of publication? Are there any other species that could benefit from the introduction of MCRS?

Details can be found in the **Management Strategy** section of the FMP, **Annex 1: The Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species Evidence Statement** and **Annex 6: FMP goals, management strategy and monitoring**

*Please provide further comments on introduction of proposed MCRS below*

## 6 What are the benefits and drawbacks (environmental, economic, social) of introducing the proposed seasonal closures for trawlers to protect cuttlefish pre-spawn aggregations in the English Channel?

Details can be found in the **Management Strategy** section of the FMP, **Annex 1: The Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species Evidence Statement** and **Annex 6: FMP goals, management strategy and monitoring**

*Please provide further comments on proposed seasonal closures below*

## **7 Would the proposed voluntary measures for recreational fishers support sustainable practices across the recreation fishing sector? How can recreational fishers input further evidence and data to improve understanding of NQS catches?**

Details can be found in the **Management Strategy** section of the FMP, **Annex 1: The Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species Evidence Statement** and **Annex 6: FMP goals, management strategy and monitoring**

*Please provide further comments on proposed voluntary measures for recreational fishers below*

## **8 Are there other measures or variations of the proposed management measures we could consider to help manage demersal NQS stocks and the ecosystem/environment in the English Channel? Do you have any evidence to support some of these areas for future consideration?**

Details can be found in the **Management Strategy** section of the FMP, **Annex 1: The Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species Evidence Statement** and **Annex 6: FMP goals, management strategy and monitoring**

*Please provide further comments on other measures or variations of proposed management measures below*

## **9 How would you like to be involved in the delivery of the plan and the future management of Channel demersal NQS?**

Details can be found in the **Management Strategy** section of the FMP, **Annex 3: Channel Demersal NQS FMP Record of Stakeholder Engagement** and **Annex 6: FMP goals, management strategy and monitoring**

Consultation response form on the proposed Channel NQS FMP

*Please provide further comments on your involvement in the delivery of the published plan below*

**10 Are there any important connections with or links to other fisheries that we should consider when finalising this FMP or during its implementation process?**

*Please provide further comments on important connections with, or links to, other fisheries, below*

## **Questions on the Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species FMP environmental report**

The following questions relate to the Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species FMP environmental report which can be found in the 'related documents' section on the home page.

### **Is there any additional evidence we could consider, to inform our environmental baseline?**

Section 3 provides a summary of the current state of the UK marine environment for each of the environmental issues screened into this SEA, and where applicable their associated UK MS descriptors (Table 4).

Our assessment has been conducted against the environmental baseline set out in these sources of existing information.

*Please include any additional evidence below*

### **Are there any other positive or negative environmental effects associated with the policies and actions of the draft Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species FMP that we could consider?**

Section 5 assesses the environmental effects of the policies and actions of the draft Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species FMP, in relation to the environmental issues screened into this SEA, and where applicable, their associated UK MS descriptors (Table 4)

*Please include any other positive or negative environmental effects associated with the policies and actions of the draft FMP below*

### **Do you have any comments on the proposed actions set out in the Environmental Report to monitor and/or**



## **mitigate any likely significant (negative) effects on the environment of the FMPs?**

Section 6 details the proposed measures for reducing significant negative environmental effects arising from the whelk Fisheries Management Plan, for issues scoped into the assessment.

*Please include any comments on the proposed actions to monitor and/or mitigate any likely significant (negative) effects on the environment of the FMPs*

## **Do you have any additional comments in relation to the Environmental Report which you have not been able to provide in response to the previous questions?**

*Please include any additional comments in relation to the Environmental Report below*

## Consultee feedback on the online survey

### Overall, how satisfied are you with our online consultation tool?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know

*Please give us any comments you have in the tool, including suggestions on how we could improve it.*