

Consultation Response Form Whelk Fisheries Management Plan

Personal details and confidentiality

1 Would you like your response to be confidential?

Please select only one item:

- Yes
- No

If you answered Yes to this question, please give 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>> . An annex to the consultation summary will list all organisations that responded but will not include personal names, addresses or other contact details.

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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

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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.

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 address them to 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 whelk FMP

(Required)

- Aquaculture
- Individual
- Interest Group
- Processing
- Producer/Catching Sector
- Recreational Sea Fishing
- Science/Retailer
- Marine Industry Sector
- Other

If 'other', please specify.

Questions on the proposed Whelk FMP

The following questions relate to the Whelk Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) 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 Whelk FMP?

Details can be found in the FMP **Foreword** and **Annex 3: Stakeholder engagement**.

- Yes
- No

If yes, please your comments here.

2 What are your views on the evidence presented on the current state of whelk (and other related 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 fishery** section of the FMP and/or **Annex 1: Evidence Statement**.

Further comments or evidence.

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

Details can be found in in the **Improving the evidence base** section of the FMP and **Annex 2: Evidence and Research Plan**.

Additional comments.

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

Details can be found in the **Current status of the fishery** and **Assessing and tracking stock status** sections of the FMP and **Table 1: Management objectives for whelk fisheries in English waters**. Further details can be found in **Annex 2: Evidence and Research Plan**.

- Yes
- No

If no, please explain why.

5 What are the benefits and drawbacks (environmental, economic, social) of putting in place a permit/entitlement system for whelk fishing in English waters?

Details can be found in the **Proposed policy: Manage fishery effort via a whelk permit scheme or entitlement** and **Table 2** sections of the FMP.

Comments on permit/entitlement scheme.

6 What other points would need to be considered when developing a permit/entitlement scheme?

Details can be found in the **Proposed policy: Manage fishery effort via a whelk permit scheme or entitlement** and **Table 2** sections of the FMP.

Additional points on permit/entitlement scheme.

7 What are the benefits and drawbacks (environmental, economic, social) of restricting the number of vessels fishing for whelks in English offshore waters?

Details can be found in the **Current status of the fishery**, **Management strategy** and **Table 2** sections of the FMP.

Comments on restricting the number of vessels fishing for whelks.

8 What do you think are the benefits and drawbacks (environmental, economic, social) of putting in place closures to protect whelk spawning stocks?

Details can be found in the **Proposed policy: Closed season to protect spawning stocks** and **Table 2** sections of the FMP.

Comments on closures to protect stocks.

9 Do you agree that the measures that have been prioritised for early action are the right ones and in line with the precautionary approach?

Details can be found in the **Initial management interventions, Longer-term interventions** and **Table 2: Summary of possible management measures** sections of the FMP.

- Yes
- No

If you selected no, what measures should be prioritised and why.

Additional views or evidence that we should consider.

10 How would you like to be involved in the delivery of the plan and the future management of the English whelk fishery?

Details can be found in **Annex 3: Stakeholder Engagement Report** and the **Implementation** section of the consultation document.

Comments on stakeholder involvement and your role in future management.

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

Comments on links to other fisheries.

Questions on the Whelk FMP environmental report

The following questions relate to the Whelk 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 Whelk FMP that we could consider?

Section 5 assesses the environmental effects of the policies and actions of the draft Whelk 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.

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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

1 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 on the tool, including suggestions on how we could improve it.