Please note: The top 3 priorities have now changed to reflect the urgent requirement to complete Brexit ‘day 1 readiness’ work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Priority 1 - Export Certificates</strong> Following EU withdrawal all UK exports to Europe will require Export Certificates. Create an online system for generating export certificates to ensure continued ability to export fisheries products to the EU. Continued trade with Europe is critical for future sustainability of Welsh industry. <strong>Lead: James Watkins</strong> <a href="mailto:James.Watkins@gov.wales">James.Watkins@gov.wales</a></td>
<td>Critical: Assuming UK becomes 3rd country when it leaves Europe. System must be in place on day one to ensure exports to Europe can continue. WG currently working with devolved administrations to develop an electronic export certificate system for day 1 readiness.</td>
<td>WG currently working with devolved administrations to develop an electronic export certificate system for day 1 readiness. User testing currently taking place with Welsh exporters. Contingency option being worked up as back up should system not be ready (highly unlikely).</td>
<td>Please see section 12 of Operations report</td>
<td>End of March 2019</td>
<td>AMBER</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Project on track but given the importance of this work to facilitate trade and the finite timescales involved it will be challenging.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Priority 2 - Under 10m catch reporting</strong> – Improve the data collection from the u10m fleet in Wales to improve fisheries management capability and fishing opportunities. Export certificates will be reliant on electronic submission of catch data. Accurate up to date catch reporting stats will assist with maximising the benefit of fishing opportunities in Wales. IVMs also with U10 catch reporting will assist in the delivery of good</td>
<td>Urgency to commence spending of EMFF control and enforcement funding.</td>
<td>Joint Project with MMO to deliver catch recording. User testing being carried out in Wales with industry. Five stakeholder engagement workshops completed.</td>
<td>Joint UK consultation expected in February.</td>
<td>Project expected to be fully delivered by end of 2019.</td>
<td>GREEN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Environmental status of fisheries stocks in Wales under MSFD.**

*Lead: Tim Croucher*

*Tim.croucher@gov.wales*

**Priority 3 – Inshore VMS**

- Urgency to commence spending of EMFF control and enforcement funding.
- Procurement tender live.
- 5 stakeholder engagement workshops completed.
- Consultation expected early Feb.

- Project expected to be fully delivery to fleet by end of 2019.

- Project on track

---

- Urgency to commence spending of EMFF control and enforcement funding.
- Procurement tender live.
- 5 stakeholder engagement workshops completed.
- Consultation expected early Feb.

- Project expected to be fully delivery to fleet by end of 2019.

- Project on track
## Active Policy Development

**Priority 4 - Whelks** - To develop and implement new measures to manage more effectively and sustainably Wales’ whelk fisheries

**Lead:** Leanne Llewellyn  
**Leanne.Llewellyn@gov.wales**

- Officials are continuing to work with lawyers to draft the statutory instrument (SI) adopting a phased approach which focuses on core measures; those requiring flexible permitting will be included in a second phase.
- This work is being progressed as quickly as possible to protect the stock.
- Justice Impact assessment completed and awaiting legal sign off.
- Finalised management policies established.
- Minister announced new measures in December outlining protective measures.
- Industry informed of decision.
- Lawyers are now preparing the draft Statutory Instrument (SI).
- Spring 2019

**Scallops** - Develop and implement new measures to manage the Cardigan Bay scallop fishery more sustainably.

**Lead:** Colin Charman  
**On secondment from NRW**

- Result of 1<sup>st</sup> consultation on scallop dredging in an additional area of Cardigan Bay Special Area of Conservation announced by the CSEPPRA in October 2016.
- Scallop task & finish group set up to develop flexible permitting to ensure careful control of fishery. Group last met on 12/09/2017.
- We are working to establish the most appropriate legislative vehicle to deliver the flexible permitting measures identified by the group to manage the fishery.
- WG officials are working with Defra officials to include an amendment to MaCAA 2009 through the UK Fisheries Act 2019 that could provide the necessary flexible management powers.
- Once the flexible management powers have been secured we will implement the flexible management measures needed at the earliest opportunity post EU exit.
- Subject to the above we will develop a delivery plan and arrange a further meeting of T&F group to progress this work stream.
- We will provide an end date when the delivery plan is agreed.

---

**Anticipated End Date**  
**RAG Status**

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| **Priority 4 - Whelks**   |               | • Officials are continuing to work with lawyers to draft the statutory instrument (SI) adopting a phased approach which focuses on core measures; those requiring flexible permitting will be included in a second phase.  
|                           |               | • This work is being progressed as quickly as possible to protect the stock.  
|                           |               | • Justice Impact assessment completed and awaiting legal sign off.  
|                           |               | • Finalised management policies established.  
|                           |               | • Minister announced new measures in December outlining protective measures.  
|                           |               | • Industry informed of decision.  
|                           |               | • Lawyers are now preparing the draft Statutory Instrument (SI).  
|                           |               | Draft SI to be prepared and laid with Welsh Assembly Government.  
|                           |               | New measures to be introduced by Spring 2019.  
|                           |               | Spring 2019  
|                           |               | **AMBER**  
|                           |               | Significant progress made since last meeting. Pressure of EU exit related work may delay the drafting of the new SI as Brexit related work continues to take priority.  
|                           |               | Flexible permitting measures will be delivered after EU exit.  
| **Scallops**              |               | Result of 1<sup>st</sup> consultation on scallop dredging in an additional area of Cardigan Bay Special Area of Conservation announced by the CSEPPRA in October 2016.  
|                           |               | Scallop task & finish group set up to develop flexible permitting to ensure careful control of fishery. Group last met on 12/09/2017.  
|                           |               | We are working to establish the most appropriate legislative vehicle to deliver the flexible permitting measures identified by the group to manage the fishery.  
|                           |               | WG officials are working with Defra officials to include an amendment to MaCAA 2009 through the UK Fisheries Act 2019 that could provide the necessary flexible management powers.  
|                           |               | Once the flexible management powers have been secured we will implement the flexible management measures needed at the earliest opportunity post EU exit.  
|                           |               | Subject to the above we will develop a delivery plan and arrange a further meeting of T&F group to progress this work stream.  
|                           |               | We will provide an end date when the delivery plan is agreed.  
|                           |               | **RED**  
|                           |               | Pressure of EU exit related work on policy and internal support services has substantially delayed this work stream.  

---

**Notes:**

- Significant progress made since last meeting. Pressure of EU exit related work may delay the drafting of the new SI as Brexit related work continues to take priority.
- Flexible permitting measures will be delivered after EU exit.
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<td><strong>Cockle Management Plan</strong> - Improve cockle management in Wales.</td>
<td>• Considering advice relating to the prioritised proposals forming part of phase 1 delivery (new application process, eligibility, previous convictions sifts, training, fit and proper persons checks). • A final consultation is required on the above prior to delivery.</td>
<td>• WG officials are working with Defra officials to include an amendment to MaCAA 2009 through the UK Fisheries Act 2019 that could provide the necessary flexible management powers. • Project Manager is currently acting as Team Leader for Operations Team (south) until May 2019 while post holder is offline working on EU exit. This has prevented further progress.</td>
<td>• Once the flexible management powers have been secured we will implement the flexible management measures needed at the earliest opportunity post-EU exit. • Subject to the above we will develop a delivery plan and commence the final consultation at the earliest opportunity post-EU exit.</td>
<td>We will provide an end date when the delivery plan is agreed.</td>
<td>RED</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lead: Mark Tilling</strong>&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:Mark.Tilling@gov.wales">Mark.Tilling@gov.wales</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>European Maritime &amp; Fisheries Fund</strong> - To fully open EMFF and to offer policy input into delivering projects to ensure that EMFF is fully allocated in Wales to support a vibrant and sustainable fishing industry in readiness for EU Exit.</td>
<td>• The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) fully opened in January 2017. • Core budget excluding the statutory budget allocated to Data Collection and Control and Enforcement is £9.9m • As at 01/09/18, 48 full applications have been received with a total grant request of approx. £15,120,860. 20 (of which 8 are FLAG applications). Applications have been approved with a grant value of £5,027,008 Based on consultation with industry, which shaped the</td>
<td>• There had been delays in the appraisal process resulting in a backlog, this has now been addressed additional resource being assigned who will be concentrate their efforts on undertaking and completing the appraisals. • Work is underway to scope the viability of a simplified costs scheme for UP1. If it is found to be a viable option the intention is for it to be made available to applicants in January 2019.</td>
<td>• Clarification to be provided on the eligibility of adaptations to pots rather than pot replacements where this is the preference of the applicant. COMPLETED. • Ongoing promotion of the schemes to business and stakeholders as resources allow, in an attempt to increase uptake of grant. ONGOING. • Conversion rate from project outline stage to full application is low at this stage despite availability of FBDA support. Need to establish what the barriers are to full application and</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>RED</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Lead – Bethan Jones</strong>&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:Bethan.jones6@gov.wales">Bethan.jones6@gov.wales</a></td>
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Pressure of EU exit related work on policy and internal support services has substantially delayed this work stream.

As at 01/09/18, 48 full applications have been received with a total grant request of approx. £15,120,860. 20 (of which 8 are FLAG applications) applications have been approved with a grant value of £5,027,008
EMFF programme coupled with the low uptake of the equivalent 2000-2007 European Fisheries Fund Measure, the EMFF engine replacement Measure hasn’t been activated in Wales.

- Actively encourage industry to respond quickly to any queries raised during appraisal stage by SMU to speed up delivery.
- Identify what additional support (if any) is needed.

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| Fixed Administrative Penalties (FAPs) | To develop and update the current system. | • Objectives:  
- offer non-court alternative for minor offences  
- enable penalties to be applied more rapidly  
- reduce cost and uncertainty for fishermen  
- provide a consistent approach.  
• Wales already has powers to issue FAPs as an alternative to court for CFP offences. We intend to extend this to domestic offences and increase the maximum fine allowed for multiple offences to £10k. | • Minister approved new FAP Order and consultation.  
• 8 week public consultation closed 28 January 2019. | • Produce summary of consultation responses.  
• Publish new Sea Fishing (Penalty Notices) (Wales) Order 2019 with associated guidance document. | • 22 March 2019. | GREEN  
Work on track to deliver before 29 March 2019 |

Leads – Michelle Billing  
Michelle.billing@gov.wales  
and Colin Charman  
On secondment from NRW
## Assessing Welsh Fisheries

**Lead – Michelle Billing**  
Michelle.billing@gov.wales

- NRW working on 56 marine mammal assessments; aim to complete summer 2019 and share with WG and x-border agencies for comment before publication.
- Final QA of assessments before publishing all 56 assessments on WG and NRW websites autumn 2019.

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| Assessing Welsh Fisheries |               | NRW recruitment completed and work is continuing on the 56 marine mammal assessments.  
- A management proposal exploring options to inform a Ministerial Advice for additional management measures for the purple assessed activities is being drafted – final version spring 2019. |  
- 56 mammal assessments will be published on both WG and NRW websites in autumn rather than December 2018.  
- All other assessments will be progressed over the next 2 years as part of the ongoing project.  
- The next batch of assessments will be potting.  
- Final version of management proposal drafted – spring 2019. |  
- Autumn 2019 for publication of 56 mammal assessments. | AMBER  
Project Manager is developing a management proposal of identified management needs for the purple assessed activities. |
The Group will maintain a watching brief on the following:

<table>
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<th>Emerging Fisheries</th>
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<td><strong>WRASSE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lead – Phil Marshall</td>
<td>No live wrasse were purchased from Wales to supply the salmon farming industry in Scotland with ‘cleaner fish’ in 2017 or 2018.</td>
<td>Marine Harvest have developed wrasse breeding system which is likely to eliminate or dramatically reduce the salmon farming industry’s reliance on wild caught fish in future.</td>
<td>Speak to salmon farming industry representatives again to establish if there are likely to be any changes in demand; if no changes likely remove from watching brief section.</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Phil.Marshall@gov.wales">Phil.Marshall@gov.wales</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Razor Clam Fishery</strong></td>
<td>Currently no restrictions apart from closure in North Wales (Llanfairfechan and Penmaenmawr beaches).</td>
<td>Identified genetics work to inform the status of razor clam species and stocks in Wales. Tender in preparation.</td>
<td>Complete pilot intertidal survey report.</td>
<td>Winter 2018 Early Summer 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Greta.Hughes@gov.wales">Greta.Hughes@gov.wales</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Potential Future Policy Development Areas**

The items listed below have been raised as issues by group members and added to by policy officials for future policy development. Once the current policy priorities have been completed members views will be sought about which of these items will be progressed. Please note since the last meeting catch certificates, u10m reporting, iVMS (priorities 1-3 above) and berried lobsters (CFP) are all active work streams.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue/ Species</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>How would this work meet our sustainable management objectives?</th>
<th>Timescales and priority (How important is the work?)</th>
<th>WG comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Recreational Fishing / Angling</td>
<td>Species caught and landed are reported and counted consistent with SMNR and proposed Amendments to Buyers &amp; Sellers’ regulations: With the exception of permitting for potting there is no control or effective means to accurately monitor the species caught and landed or method of capture. The Buyers &amp; Sellers legislation is derived from the CFP and is consequently restricted to fishing vessels by extending the powers of Welsh Ministers to include all fisheries in Wales Under the Buyers &amp; Sellers Legislation. Fisheries managers would have the data necessary to inform the SMNR.</td>
<td>Not clear</td>
<td>Further information required before developing policy</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 2. Dee Estuary Fisheries management   | • Review current Dee estuary byelaws.  
• Identify main fisheries taking place within estuary including methods. Understand geographical spread, quantity and scale of fishing operations within the estuary.  
• Consider interactions between different fishing operations and interaction between Welsh/English boundary. | Current byelaws are dated. Review is necessary to ensure fishing operations that are currently taking place are at a sustainable level. This will ensure the long term sustainability of fisheries in the area in line with the requirements of the WBFGA. Byelaws on English side of the estuary are also being considered for review. This will need to be factored in to ensure compatibility and so that Welsh industry is not disadvantaged. | Initial review of current state of fishery will identify what level of priority this piece of work is given.                                                                                     | WG officials are in discussion over future management of this area with other organisations with remit in area. (MMO NWIFCA, EA, NRW). |