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MH/pr

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## **INFORMATION SHEET NO. 2**

### **EUROPEAN MARINE SITES - DEFRA-LED REVISED NATIONAL APPROACH TO FISHERIES MANAGEMENT**

Further to Information Sheet No. 1 dated 31 May, we set out below the position in respect of all six European Marine Sites in the IFCA district and further work required after the end of 2013, in addition to what we mentioned in Information Sheet No. 1.

The six European Marine Sites are:-

- *Berwickshire and North Northumberland Special Area of Conservation (SAC)* which stretches from Alnmouth in Northumberland, up to Fast Castle Head in Scotland, extending seaward just over 3nm to cover Holy Island and the Farne Islands.
- *Lindisfarne Special Protection Area (SPA)* covering Holy Island and the intertidal surrounding areas

Both the Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC, and the Lindisfarne SPA are managed collectively under a single Management Plan and are known as the Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast European Marine Site.

- *Tweed Estuary Special Area of Conservation (SAC)*
- *Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area (SPA)* which covers most of the coastline between the Tweed and Tees estuaries
- *Farne Islands Special Protection Area (SPA)*
- *Coquet Island Special Protection Area (SPA)*

In Northumberland, the reefs and eelgrass which are designated as part of the Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC have been classified as red and will require management measures to be implemented for certain gear types by the end of 2013. Fishing activities that interact with all the remaining features of this SAC, plus the features of the remaining sites mentioned above, have been classified as either amber, green or blue. No further work is required for blue areas, but further environmental assessment will be required to determine the impacts for amber and green activities. Any management measures required as a result of these assessments will need to be in place by 2016.

In conclusion, beyond the end of 2013 IFCA must begin to assess amber and green activities and we will continue to keep you informed of developments.