

NIFCA Environmental Work Matrix		DRAFT		
Issue	Officer Assigned	Timetable	Comments	Task
Annual research plan	SSM	Annually	The Authority's district contains both EU and UK Marine Protected Areas, including Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), and Ramsar sites, National Nature Reserves as well as a Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ). N IFCA will need to develop management measures for these sites.	The Annual Research Plans will set out the research projects and work priorities for N IFCA between each year. The research will be based on the priorities outlined in previous N IFCA Annual Plans.
EMS Habitat Regs assessments	SSM/VR	On-going	In 2012, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) announced a revised approach to the management of commercial fisheries in European Marine Sites (EMS). The objective of this revised approach is to ensure that all existing and potential commercial fishing activities are managed in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive. This approach is being implemented using an evidence based, risk-prioritised, and phased basis. Risk prioritisation is informed by using a matrix of the generic sensitivity of the sub-features of EMS to a suite of fishing activities as a decision making tool. These sub-feature-activity combinations have been categorised according to specific definitions, as red, amber, green or blue. 2 red risk interaction where identified within the NIFCA district these being "mobile gear with reefs and Seagrass" and "hand gathering with Seagrass" appropriate byelaws are now in place to protect the features.	Activity/feature interactions identified within the matrix as amber risk require a site-level assessment to determine whether management of an activity is required to conserve site features. Activity/feature interactions identified within the matrix as green also require a site level assessment if there are "in combination effects" with other plans or projects. Amber and green interaction are being considered with advise from Natural England with whom NIFCA have regular meetings.
Legacy Byelaw Impact Assessments	JG	Annually	In 2011 the Sea Fisheries Committees (SFC) were replaced by the Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) which also undertakes new duties under the Marine and Coastal Access Act (MaCAA). As a part of the, high level objectives, IFCA's are required to review their legacy byelaws by 2015. The Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) would also wish IFCA's to review their legacy byelaws and consolidate them so that they correlate as much as possible with adjoining IFCA's to give a level of consistency across the country. The legacy byelaws are also being reviewed due to the fact that the byelaws refer to the SFC which no longer exists as well the limits of the district having changed. Therefore it is imperative for the IFCA's to undergo this process in order to bring everything up to date and to review byelaws to ensure operation of the IFCA's is occurring in the most up to date manner. The Northumberland Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NIFCA) currently operate under 15 legacy byelaws. These will be amended and consolidated into 6 byelaws in order to meet the 2015 deadline.	Prepare IA for each of the proposed new byelaws based upon the legacy byelaw or group of byelaws. IA's have also been written for 2 new byelaws. Review assessments on an annual basis. The proposed new byelaws can be viewed for consultation on the NIFCA website Report now published; 'E' Monitoring implementation of the plan' of the SEA process will be carried out by NIFCA as part of their monitoring programme. SEA Update Actions from final environmental report; Ref 2Develop a clear and concise set of post cards with key requirements of byelaws- This could be done on website. Ref 3 iVMS CIFCO A Brown to continue to work on this Ref 5 Work with RSPB Ref 15 Nets in the SAC Ref 21 Gill net bycatch – this relates mainly to a bycatch issue when possible NIFCA officers have begun a survey of static net to assess levels of bycatch. It is anticipated that bycatch will be low principally due to low level of this method and the main fishery occurs during the winter months. Look into levels of gill netting within the SAC. Ref 6 Bait digging Ref 16 Hand gathering, Ref 19 Mussels – NIFCA Officers have begun to conduct surveys of bait diggers principally at known hot spots, project has also been implemented by University student. These will feed into Amber/Green Assessments. There is some debate from other IFCA's if the responsibility for assessing these fishery rest with the IFCA's or other authorities/landowners. Potential for university project to look into hand gathering for periwinkles. NIFCA officers have begun to monitor Blyth site to assess levels of mussel collection, and have so far carried out a number of stock assessment. There may be need for some form of management at the site NIFCA are currently consulting on a proposed voluntary code of conduct, which will be reviewed subject to compliance and results of surveys. Ref 8Age dynamics study – a student is currently working on a report. Ref 14 Gillnet for lobsters – NIFCA officers' conduct a short interview the one individual that take part in this fishery to establish how often and where it
Strategic Environmental Assessment	JG/SSM/VR	On-going	Mott MacDonald was commissioned by the Northumberland Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NIFCA) to undertake a Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) of its fisheries management regime. In the NIFCA context, although there is no single or discrete plan to manage shellfish and whitefish fisheries, the management regime as a whole can be assessed. This regime will constitute the 'plan or programme' for the purposes of this SEA. NIFCA currently have a set of byelaws that govern fishing activities in the District (these byelaws are currently undergoing review). Under the European Directive 2001/42/EC, on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (also known as the 'Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive'), and the resulting Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, a SEA is required to ensure that the environmental effects of the fisheries management regime are considered.	
Project Inshore	JG	2015 But will be reviewed	Small, coastal fishing boats, or the 'Inshore Fleet', make up nearly three quarters of England's fishing fleet. The rich array of seafood they serve up also presents unique scientific challenges for fishery managers. Relatively small landings per vessel, with varying market demand from one day to the next, make it hard to attract investment for scientific research. Project Inshore will - for the first time - map all of these fisheries together and provide sustainability plans for each of them, helping to secure seafood supplies from these traditional boats for this and future generations. Led by Seafish, Project Inshore will use assessments based on the Marine Stewardship Council Standard for sustainable fishing to produce tailored sustainability reports for every fishery around the English coast. These will provide a roadmap that highlights best practice and provides an independent evidence base to attract targeted investment in further scientific research	During Project Inshore stage 4 the focus will be providing support for those fisheries wishing to move into a full MSC assessment. While NIFCA will continue to contribute to Project Inshore at this time moving towards MSC accreditation is not anticipated
EMS	JG/SSM	Quarterly	The Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast European marine Site is known for its spectacular marine life. The site is one of the most important areas in Europe for marine conservation, providing dramatic intertidal and sub tidal rocky reefs, extensive sand and mud flats, mysterious sea caves and sweeping inlets and bays. The area supports an incredibly rich assemblage of marine life, including natural rock pool aquariums, swaying kelp forests, delicate sea grass, dense mussel beds, the charismatic grey seal, and a vast number of sea birds. The protected area stretches along 115 kilometres of coastline from Alnmouth in Northumberland up to Fast Castle Head in Berwickshire. It extends out to four nautical miles to encompass 645 square kilometres of shore and sea, including Holy Island and the Farne Islands.	One officer to attend all steering/management group meetings. Ensure that NIFCA manages activities in line with the management scheme document.
MCZ Aln Estuary	JG	On-going	Aln Estuary MCZ is an inshore site on the Northumberland Coast, which extends from the estuary mouth to the upper tidal limit. It is the smallest MCZ being designated covering an area of 0.39 km2. The site partly overlaps with the Alnmouth Saltmarsh & Dunes Site of Special Scientific Interest which already protects some of the coastal saltmarsh within the estuary.	Consult with Natural England on possible management requirements. Discuss options with other site managers and other stakeholders. In addition to assisting in the management of the site, NIFCA intend to carryout 2 Transitional fish surveys each year these will set a baseline of population dynamics of fish species frequenting this site. During future surveying several other parameters will be recorded including dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature and salinity levels.
Future MCZ	JG	On going	On 24th February 2014, DEFRA published an update on the first set of MCZs and announced a list of 37 recommended MCZs being considered for the next set of MCZs. These sites are being considered based on their potential contribution towards an ecologically coherent network of MPAs along with associated social and economic costs and will address big gaps in the network.	Among the tranche 2 MCZs under consideration is the Coquet to St. Mary's site, NG 13 . The depth range of the site is between 10m above mean low water mark and 30m deep. The seabed represents a mosaic of intertidal and subtidal rock and sediment features, including intertidal underboulder communities and estuarine rocky habitats of conservation importance. St Mary's Island is an existing voluntary marine reserve to protect the presence of rocky reef, large numbers of edible and shore crabs and some lobsters. Coquet Island has international importance for breeding seabirds during late March until mid-September, as well as being a foraging location for other birds throughout the year. Observations and sightings of marine mammals within the site include harbour porpoise, white beaked dolphin, grey seals, minke, orca and humpback whales.
TAG	SSM	Bi-annually	The IFCA Technical Advisory Group (TAG) was established to promote the collaboration of statutory authorities whom have an interest in fisheries management, members of the group include, IFCA's, Welsh Government, Crown dependencies in the British Isles (Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man), Defra, MMO, NE, EA and Cefas.	Give feedback from TAG meetings
Lobster Management Plan	SSM	On-going	This report will set out an environmental management plan for the Northumberland lobster fishery which will hopefully allow for co-management with the fishermen of the district. The role of the fishermen would be pivotal as it would make the data collected more robust and precise. The approach of partnerships where scientists and the fishing industry work together is being advocated nationally to promote the active involvement of stakeholders in the management of fish stocks. It is hoped that future funding streams can be found to continue some aspects of this work in Northumberland, to build upon the existing data and to develop new areas of research	The main purpose of this work and the initial driver behind the development of the project was to provide the baseline data on the stocks of crustacean shellfish-mainly lobster, within the Northumberland inshore waters. The capture fisheries for lobster form an increasingly valuable fisheries resource both within the Northumberland district and across the UK. Previous studies have looked at the lobster fishery and its sustainability with regards to fishing effort in the district (Turner et al. 2009). This fishery is still generally poorly understood. Locally, detailed data collection has not been a priority due to the lack of resources but the importance of gathering this information, to guide management, has long been recognised.
Lobster Surveys	SSM/ all officers	On-going for a minimum of two years	Surveys to be conducted during RIB and Shore patrols. EM going to sea with selected local vessels approximately 4 times a month and surveying entire lobster catch on one of 4 fishing vessels	Ensure that 75% of permit holders are surveyed each year ashore and 50% at sea
Coastal Duties	JG/EM/SSM + all officers	Jointly 2-3 days a month	Undertaking shore patrols give a good opportunity to liaise with local stakeholders, principally commercial fishermen. During this process surveys of the whole catch of lobsters landed will be conducted for individual vessels with the intention of surveying 75% of the fleet annually	Under take regular shellfish surveys particularly on Lobsters
CEFAS	SSM/JG	On-going	Cefas is trying to develop projects based on Lobster research for the North Sea. One of the main ones being a project on Lobster Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) by December 2015.	Continue to work with Cefas on developing sustainable shellfish projects
Mussel Survey	JG	Annually (March)	In 2005 Natural England were in the process of permitting a hand gatherer to harvest mussels Mytilus edulis at Fenham Flats within the Lindisfarne National Nature reserve and they requested that the then Northumberland Sea Fisheries Committee (now Northumberland Inshore Fisheries and Conservation authority)to under take a stock assessment survey on the site. This was successfully completed and the fishery was allowed to take place. In subsequent years NE requested that the survey are conducted on an annual basis, these now take place over a low water spring tide every March.	This research plan has been produced to outline the research activities needed to be undertaken to collect data to inform these work priorities and to provide a sound evidence base to aid the Authority in its decision making process both in terms of achieving successful and sustainable management and a protected marine environment.
University joint working	SSM/VR/JG/MS	Newcastle University undertake a variety of marine projects in the NIFCA district. Assessments will take place mostly throughout the summer.	Current projects include an assessment of hand gathering of periwinkles and bait collection activity including crabs; a V-notching survey concentrating on the views of fishermen and a review of the impacts of potting on reef features.	Assist the University with shellfish projects including conducting surveys

Ground trutning	MS/SSM	On-going	Establish habitat types within the EMS with the intention of reviewing managerial measures. This work has come about as a result of the revised approach to EMS's and the need to adopt a precautionary approach to "red" risk activities on red risk features, in this case reefs and the potential impacts of mobile fishing gear.	Site level assessments are being carried out in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive. The aim of this assessment is to determine whether management measures are required in order to ensure that fishing activity or activities will have no adverse effect on the integrity of the site. If measures are required, the revised approach requires these to be implemented by 2016.
Eunis	SSM/MS	On going	The EUNIS Habitat types classification is a comprehensive pan-European system to facilitate the harmonised description and collection of data across Europe through the use of criteria for habitat identification; it covers all types of habitats from natural to artificial, from terrestrial to freshwater and marine. Habitat type is defined for the purposes of the EUNIS habitat type classification as follows: 'Plant and animal communities as the characterising elements of the biotic environment, together with abiotic factors operating together at a particular scale.' All factors included in the definition are addressed in the descriptive framework of the habitat classification	Identify habitats type particularly within the Bncc SAC, with the intention of reviewing the management scheme currently in place
GIS	SSM/VR		Production of up to date, clear maps to illustrate spatial distribution of fishing activity and intensity, seabed habitats and feature extents within MPAs is an important on-going part of our work. Such maps are used to provide key evidence and act as an important reference point to inform fisheries management, the Article 6 process and other aspects of our work.	Map locations of Habitat and extent of fishing within the district
Angling	MD	On-going	Following the success of the CEFAS led 'Sea Angling 2012' survey which Northumberland IFCA participated in; it was decided that NIFCA would create our own in house initiative. Thus far, a survey form has been created for use on the coast and an online version is in the pipeline. Also, an accompanying strategy document was produced and delivered to key members of the angling community (tackle shops and clubs). The strategy was also published on NESAs (North East Sea Angling), which has proved to be a fruitful communicative tool.	Advertising the survey is of course important and as such a flyer may be produced and distributed to local tackle shops and angling clubs, as were the flyers for Sea Angling 2012.
Database management	MD/ Admin	Within one calendar month of receipt of permit return forms	NIFCA requires all owners of commercial potting vessels to complete a monthly return detailing total catches landed	The details contained on the permit return form are entered an a purpose designed database each month
V-notching	AB/SSM	Annually	Since 2000, Northumberland Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority and its predecessor The Northumberland Sea Fisheries Committee have V-notched approximately 1000 lobsters per year and released them throughout their district. We hope to continue this scheme with the help of local wholesalers and fishermen. V-notching is a conservation method measure, which involves placing a V-notch on the uropods adjacent to the telson on the lobster tail. V-notched lobsters are then returned to the fishery (Deangelis, <i>et al</i> , 2010). The aim of this scheme is to keep breeding females in the fishery, thus increasing the potential fecundity of the population. It is difficult to assess precise numbers of offspring that will be produced, as survival rates are dominated by a large variety of environmental factors.	Continue to release 1000 egg bearing female lobsters annually, seek additional funding for the scheme.
Meetings & Conferences	All	On-going	Represent NIFCA at a wide range of meetings and conferences	Represent NIFCA at meetings as required and prepare and present reports of the meetings to CEO/NIFCA
Amble 2020 and Harbour Village	MH/JG	2020	Amble 2020 is Amble's new regeneration strategy which aims to deliver the town's potential and to grow small firms and develop new sectors of growth to create new jobs and employment in the years ahead, working together with key external partners and agencies. In particular Amble 2020 aims to: Adapt Amble to the new requirements of 21 st century community and a green economy. Develop the Amble Brand as a growth hub in Northumberland. Develop new aquaculture and food industries in Amble. Make Amble a pleasant and desirable place to live, work, invest and retire.	NIFCA supports these project and attends all available meetings of these two groups, and is to assist in the recruitment of a Seafood Broker
Lindisfarne Nature Reserve (LNR)	JG	Bi annually	The Reserve protects a long stretch of coast, including the dunes of Holy Island. Natural England works to ensure that the birds and plants of the area continue to survive in harmony with each other and the people who live and visit here. Main habitats: Lindisfarne covers a mosaic of internationally important coastal habitats, including intertidal mudflats, rocky shore, sand dunes and saltmarsh	Represent NIFCA at meetings as required and provide information on IFCA management measures within the site and outcomes of surveys (mussel)
River Basin Management Plan catchment management coastal group	JG/AB	2015/21/27	River basin management is the approach the Environment Agency is using to ensure their combined efforts achieve the improvement needed in the Northumbria River Basin District. River basin management is a continuous process of planning and delivery. The Water Framework Directive introduces a formal series of 6 year cycles. The first cycle will end in 2015 when, following further planning and consultation, this plan will be updated and reissued.	Contribute to the work of the group with particular emphasis on coastal issues
Renewables	JG/MH	On-going	Blyth offshore wind project The project at Blyth will comprise a maximum of 15 pre-commercial prototype turbines to be constructed across three arrays, with a maximum number of 5 turbines in each array with turbines positioned in water depths from 35m to 58m and distances from the coast between 5.7km and 13.8km. The facility at Blyth will provide a unique opportunity to develop facilities for the demonstration and testing of prototype and pre-commercial turbines. It will enable manufacturers and wind farm developers to learn new approaches across the supply chain and study alternative foundation types and construction methods for the development, deployment and operation and maintenance of new turbine technologies. This will help the offshore wind industry to meet the technical, logistical and commercial challenges of development in the open sea. In March 2012, Narec submitted an application for the construction and operation of the Blyth Offshore Demonstration Project to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and in October 2013 Narec was awarded planning consent for the construction of the site.	Attend Fisheries Focus Group meetings and report back to NIFCA
HVDC	JG	On-going	Two High Voltage Direct Current projects have been proposed in the vicinity of the Northumberland IFCA district, the first is a link between Scotland and Yorkshire which will skirt the edge of the district. The second is a link from Norway directly into Blyth.	Attend meetings and respond to consultations on these two schemes
MSFD	JG/SSM	On-going	The aim of the European Union's ambitious Marine Strategy Framework Directive (adopted in June 2008) is to protect more effectively the marine environment across Europe. It aims to achieve good environmental status of the EU's marine waters by 2020 and to protect the resource base upon which marine-related economic and social activities depend. The Marine Strategy Framework Directive constitutes the vital environmental component of the Union's future maritime policy, designed to achieve the full economic potential of oceans and seas in harmony with the marine environment.	The marine environment is a precious heritage that must be protected, preserved and, where practicable, restored with the ultimate aim of maintaining biodiversity and providing diverse and dynamic oceans and seas which are clean, healthy and productive. In that respect, this Directive should, inter alia, promote the integration of environmental considerations into all relevant policy areas and deliver the environmental pillar of the future maritime policy for the European Union.
Consultations	JG	Within one month of receipt of consultation	NIFCA is a statutory consultee on all MMO marine works programs, in addition NIFCA responds to a wide variety of other consultation from both governmental organisation and private consultation firms	Reply to all relevant consultations within one month of receipt of consultation
Mussel survey Blyth	SSM/JG	To be reviewed 2016	NIFCA are currently assessing levels of hand gathering of mussels in the SSSI in Blyth Estuary after concerns raised by local stakeholders. In addition to the issue surrounding the mussels levels of bait digging for Ragworm and hand gathering of green crab are also being monitored.	Conduct monthly surveys of Blyth estuary mussel beds using Dutch Wand to establish levels of exploitation and if the site is being fished sustainably
Druridge Bay Surveys	JG/SSM	To be reviewed 2016	Survey are being conducted to establish the importance of the site as a nursery area for Turbot and Bass. The site is within the recommended MCZ Coquet to St. Mary's.	Surveys conducted using beach seine and NIFCA RIB, surveys supported by a wide variety of stakeholders
Beached bird survey	SSM/JG	On going	NIFCA have agreed to survey a section of Druridge bay during TraC surveys for the Northeast Beached Birds Survey	Survey 1.2km section of beach along HW mark and identify bird species that have been washed ashore.
Issue	Officer Assigned	Timetable	Comments	Task

Out comes	Success Criteria
Five main areas of focus detailed in the annual plan and these are: The development of Marine Protected Area management plans; Fishing activities and European Marine Sites: Bait Digging, Potting and Netting; Marine Conservation Zones The long term sustainability and management of shellfisheries within the district; The assessment and development of recreational sea angling (RSA) within the district. This research plan has been produced to outline the research activities needed to be undertaken to collect data to inform these work priorities and to provide a sound evidence base to aid the Authority in its decision making process both in terms of achieving successful and sustainable management and a protected marine environment.	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
Draft habitat regulation assessments for each interaction and consider appropriate management measures as required	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
Drafts IA's have been forwarded to Defra	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
Harvest fish stocks at sustainable levels and allow for the recovery of depleted stocks. Reduce mortality rates caused by discarding and by catching of non-target incidental catch, including rare, threatened and endangered species. Work with relevant authorities to protect, maintain and restore the biodiversity of aquatic ecosystems. Assess and if need be mitigate/reduce the impacts of capture fisheries on aquatic habitats and species. Conserve marine biodiversity by preventing the introduction of non-native species to the marine environment, and assess the feasibility of recovering impacted ecosystems impacted by the introduction of non-native species. Identify, manage, plan and adapt to the effects of climate change on the marine environment and fishing industry. Reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases through cleaner and more efficient energy use.	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
Project Inshore will - for the first time - map all fisheries within the NIFCA district together and provide sustainability plans for each of them, helping to secure seafood supplies from these traditional boats for this and future generations	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
The 1994 and 2010 Habitat Regulations place a duty on all competent and relevant authorities, whose functions or activities interact with the qualifying features of the EMS, to undertake their work in a manner which does not hinder the conservation objectives for the site. The conservation objectives help to ensure that each qualifying feature is maintained in favourable condition.	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
Establish a record of species and environmental parameters present to assess against future changes and possible management measures	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district Criterion. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment.
Review future potential management measures based on conservation advice and contribute to an ecologically coherent network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
The aims of the group are a) to improve the quality and extent of fisheries management information through better coordination and dissemination of fisheries related scientific research and b) to define and apply best practice relating to the scientific & technical functions and responsibilities of IFCA's. The group meets bi-annually and a web-based Community of Practice has been established to support communication and information sharing amongst the group.	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment. Criterion 7 IFCA's are recognised and heard
Ensure that lobsters are exploited at or below safe biological limits	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
These surveys will provide valuable information on lobster population dynamics which will be available to assist in the management of the fishery	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
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This survey supplies changes in mussel population dynamics at the site and is used by Natural England in managing the site.	Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
These surveys will provide valuable information on fisheries within the district will assist in the management of the fisheries within the district.	Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders

Record habitat types within the BNNC EMS using STARFISH sonar and underwater cameras	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
Map habitat recorded within the EMS surveys to Eunis level requirements	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment. Criterion 7 IFCA's are recognised and heard
Production of maps detailing activities within the NIFCA district will assist in the management of inshore fisheries and will contribute to the on-going SEA	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
Relations with the angling community are at the very core of the survey and cannot succeed without a solid foundation to build on. Therefore, the survey itself will bring NIFCA into more regular contact with anglers and act as a focal point for relations.	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment. Criterion 7 IFCA's are recognised and heard
Outputs from the database allow the NIFCA to have an up to date record of lobster and crab landings data to assist in the management of these fisheries.	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
V-notching of lobsters assist in maintaining the sustainability of shellfish stocks within the NIFCA district by increasing the potential for future lobster recruitment.	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
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Establishment of successful initiatives within Amble	Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders
Contribute to a well managed site	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment. Criterion 7 IFCA's are recognised and heard
This plan has been prepared under the Water Framework Directive (WFD), which requires all countries throughout the European Union to manage the water environment to consistent standards. Each country has to: prevent deterioration in the status of aquatic ecosystems, protect them and improve the ecological condition of waters; aim to achieve at least good status for all water bodies by 2015. Where this is not possible and subject to the criteria set out in the Directive, aim to achieve good status by 2021 or 2027; meet the requirements of Water Framework Directive Protected Areas; promote sustainable use of water as a natural resource; conserve habitats and species that depend directly on water; progressively reduce or phase out the release of individual pollutants or groups of pollutants that present a significant threat to the aquatic environment; progressively reduce the pollution of groundwater and prevent or limit the entry of pollutants; contribute to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts. This plan has been prepared under the Water Framework Directive (WFD), which requires all countries throughout the European Union to manage the water environment to consistent	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment. Criterion 7 IFCA's are recognised and heard
Look into the possibility of seeking contributions to the NIFCA v-notching fund from the tenants of the site in recompense for the potential loss of fishing grounds and disturbance of stocks.	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment. Criterion 7 IFCA's are recognised and heard
HVDC	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment
Review all consultations regarding MSFD, particularly the UK programmes of measures for achieving GES which are due to be consulted on in spring 2015, and ensure that NIFCA's management of fisheries and the environment is in line with the requirements contained therein.	Criterion 2 Evidence based, appropriate and timely byelaws are used to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources within the district. Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment. Criterion 7 IFCA's are recognised and heard
	Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment. Criterion 7 IFCA's are recognised and heard
As a precaution NIFCA has introduced a voluntary code of conduct to hand gathering at the site, and will review if additional measures are required	Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment. Criterion 7 IFCA's are recognised and heard
Establish the importance of site as a nursery area for Turbot and Bass, and assess the levels of other species present	Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment. Criterion 7 IFCA's are recognised and heard
Establish levels of bird mortality and feed into additional scientific research into cause of death particularly for Auks and Fulmars	Criterion 3 A fair effective and proportionate enforcement regime is in place. Criterion 4 IFCA's work in partnership and are engaged with their stakeholders. Criterion 5 IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives. Criterion 6 IFCA's support and promote the sustainable management of the marine environment. Criterion 7 IFCA's are recognised and heard
Out comes	Success Criteria