

# Meeting of the FIP Strategy Steering Group 29<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024



# Current Status of FIPs

FIP	Status	Grade	Comments
Nephrops	Fishery Progress - Basic FIP	B	Good Progress
Haddock	Fishery Progress - Basic FIP	C	Some recent progress
Coley	Fishery Progress - Basic FIP	C	Some recent progress
Crab	Fishery Progress - Basic FIP	D	Revised workplan submitted. Actions to improve score underway.
Whiting	In Fishery Progress registration process		Pre-assessment & workplan recently completed. Decision on area to be made at SSG.
Hake	Fish Source score/Informal FIP		Good Fish Source score.
Tuna	Informal FIP		Healthy stock, good management plan, FIP has addressed bycatch data gap.



## FIP Progress Q4 '23 - Q1 '24

- Preliminary social risk assessment accepted by Fishery Progress.
- Social Policy statement finalised and circulated.
- Fishers' awareness of rights docs submitted for Whitefish FIPs
- Brief on sustainability credential options for Brown Crab, Prawn and Whiting
- Industry meetings



## FIP Progress Q4 '23-Q1 '24

### Whiting FIP

- Workplan completed and agreed at recent Whitefish meeting (Jan '24)

### Haddock/ Coley FIPs

- Annual update submitted to fishery Progress including vessel list (Jan '24)
- Report completed on improvement options for Celtic Sea whitefish, included consultation with skippers (Jan '24)





## FIP Progress Q4 '23-Q1 '24



### **Prawn FIP**

- Annual update submitted to Fishery Progress including vessel list (Dec '23)

### **Brown Crab FIP**

- BIM funding secured for next phase of alternative bait project, Teagasc Marine Research Programme engagement (Jan '24)
- Initial proposal for this project came from Brown Crab FIP
- Ongoing engagement with MI on observer data report (Feb '24)



# FIP Priorities Q1/Q2 - Whitefish



FIP	Action	Outcome	Lead	Deadline
Haddock/Coley	Assess availability of data on ETP species bycatch esp. in gillnets PI 2.3.2 & 2.3.3	Stage 3 result with potential for Stage 4	MI + FIP	July 24
Haddock/Coley	Assess availability of data on elasmobranch bycatch by species PI 2.2.3	Stage 3 result with potential for Stage 4	MI + FIP	July 24
Haddock/Coley	Collaboration with BIM Conservation Team: Monitor results of upcoming T90 trials. P2 PIs.	Stage 3 result	BIM + FIP	July 24
Haddock/Coley	Assess whether data available on fisheries impacts on habitats sufficient to improve Habitat Management PI score	Potential PI improvement under habitat info/management	BIM + MI + FIP	July 24
Haddock	Fishery Specific Objectives	Improve PI 3.2.1 score – achieve B rating for FIP	FIP + Poseidon	May 24
Hake	Update FishSource profile (last updated 2021)	Improve score related to discards	FIP	April 24
Hake	Contacted SFP re scoring of Hake FIP	Improved sustainability credentials for Hake	FIP	May 24

# FIP Priorities Q1/Q2 Prawn



Action	Outcome	Lead	Deadline
Follow up with MI on results of 2023 scientific fishery in the Porcupine (FU 16)	Data being evaluated by MI	MI + industry reps + FIP	May '24
Follow up on FU scientific fishery arrangements 2024	Stage 3 result – maintains FIP B rating	MI + industry reps + FIP	May '24
Set date for next FIP meeting	Continued FIP progress and industry participation	FIP	March '24
Assess whether data available on fisheries impacts on habitats sufficient to improve Habitat Management PI score	Potential PI improvement under habitat info/management	BIM + MI + FIP	June 24
Collaborate with BIM Conservation Team on potential gear trials relevant to selectivity, ETP and habitat indicators.	Stage 3 result	BIM + FIP	May 24
Work with UK Nephrops FIP on common issues in Irish Sea fishery	Stage 3 result	FIP + Project UK	May 24



# FIP Priorities Q1/Q2 Crab

Action	Outcome	Lead	Deadline
Annual report for Fishery Progress including vessel list	FIP activity verification	FIP	March '24
Report on catch composition and ETP by-catch in Crab fishery based on observer data	Improve PI scores – achieve B rating for FIP	MI + FIP	March '24
Report for alternative bait project phase 1 under final review and due for publication shortly.	Stage 3 result	ATU	March 24
Participate in new bait project	Stage 3 result	FIP	Ongoing





# All FIP Priorities Q1/Q2



Action	Outcome	Lead	Deadline
Work with industry to understand extent to which ghost gear is an issue per FIP	Stage 3 result with potential for Stage 4	FIP + BIM	Q4 '24
Develop strategy on ghost gear management and monitoring	Potential PI improvement under habitat info/management	FIP	Q4 '24

# Celtic Sea Whitefish Improvement Report

- To get fishers views of Celtic Sea Whitefish stocks, issues, and potential improvement options
- Options included TCMs such as mesh size, selectivity devices, closed areas, real time closures, minimum sizes
- Indications of improved Whiting in 2023
- Cod ongoing problem - climate change



# Celtic Sea Whitefish Improvement Report

- Closed areas – initial support – no evidence of benefit
- Effort displacement
- Fish not in expected numbers in closed areas
- Economic impact of Cod avoidance measures
- Support for further work on T90 mesh
- T90 more selective than SMP
- BIM upcoming trials on T90
- Increases in Bluefin, Boarfish, Hake, Red Mullet, Gurnard, Cuttlefish, Bream



# Social Sustainability

# Social Reporting Timeline- Fishery Progress

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Social Requirements	Progress Update	Deadline
Social Risk Assessment	June 2024	Dec 2024
Social Workplan	June 2024	Dec 2024

- Risk assessment and social workplan granted 2<sup>nd</sup> extension request with Fishery Progress for Prawn and Whitefish
- Independent assessor for full SRA
  - Scope of work narrowed by preliminary assessment completed in 2023

# Social Responsibility Update - Policy Statement

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### Human Rights and Social Responsibility Policy Requirement 1.1 Policy Statement

- Policy Statement submitted to Fishery Progress for Prawn (Dec '23) and Whitefish (Jan '24)
- Due for submission for Crab in March '24
- Presented at SSG meeting Dec '23
- Policy statement finalised, to be accepted by SSG and endorsed by FIP

AOB