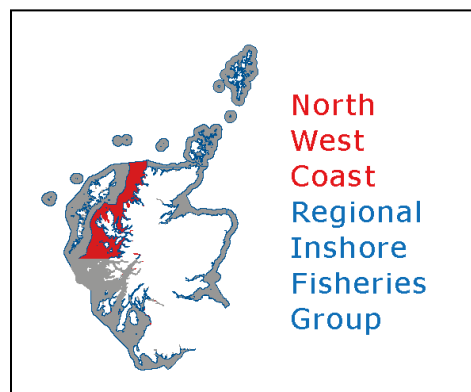


NOTE OF MEETING
to be held in the Ullapool
Village Hall on 17th
February 2025



Present in person:	Josh Talbot, Louis Neate, Alistair Philp, A Hamilton (Chair)
Present online	Robyn Dutton, Iain McLeod, Jamie McDonald, Scott Coleman, Kirsten Leahy (SFF),
Apologies:	None

1.	Welcome and Introduction. AH welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting
2.	Marine Directorate Update: The meeting discussed the Marine Directorate’s planned activity that may impact the inshore industry for the coming year. This included information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Plans to extend Marine Planning Zones to 12 miles:</u> The meeting discussed this proposal and noted that the IFG had responded with all Chairs meeting directly with MD staff leading the proposal to express concerns prior to responding formally. The meeting discussed that Councils did not have the resources or expertise to carry out this function. • <u>Plans to introduce inshore vessel tracking systems in 2025:</u> The meeting discussed recent consultation and noted that an update was due in March 2025. Frustration at lack of progress on this issue was expressed as the original target date for having the system working was in 2019. • <u>National Marine Plan 2</u> The meeting noted the continuing development of the National Marine Plan 2.

<p>3.</p>	<p>Crab and Lobster Fishing: Comments about the Interim Measures:</p> <p>The meeting discussed the request from Marine Directorate staff for Feedback on the interim measures.</p> <p>It was felt that the area was largely compliant in not landing berried females. This had been at a financial cost, but most skippers accepted that, despite this, it was the correct thing to do. As the area had little local experience of super crabber activity, that the measures were broadly welcomed.</p> <p>While the meeting felt that it was too early in the process to fully understand any impact that these measures are having on stocks there was concern that there were more pressing concerns which could be addressed via licence conditions. In particular the meeting would welcome early intervention to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the imbalance in the Minimum Landing Size between regions and • moves to address the excessive amount of static gear deployed.
<p>3.1</p>	<p>Regional Management- Call for Evidence</p> <p>The meeting discussed the above call for evidence and AH encouraged all attending to submit their views directly. He reported that a response would be sent from the Group</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Impact of Kelp Farming on the Industry:</p> <p>The meeting discussed the increasing volume of applications to lease seabed to the develop of aquaculture is all of its forms over existing fishing grounds. The meeting welcomed the IFG intervention and sought stronger action to protect fishing space against encroachment.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Any other business:</p> <p>The meeting was addressed by the Scottish Entanglement Alliance who gave a presentation on their work to promote an affordable transition to weighted lines on static gear in an effort to minimize cetacean entanglements .</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Close of meeting:</p> <p>The meeting will closed at 19 15.</p>