



## **Dorset Local Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Group Meeting**

Sunset Room, Weymouth Pavilion  
27 January 2010 – 9.30 am – 1.00 pm

### **Present**

Peter	Dadds	Mudford and District Fishermen's Association
Andy	Alcock	Dorset Hand line Fisherman's Association
Dave	Sales	Bridport Commercial Boat owners and Fishermen's Association
Alan	Lander	Swanage Fishermens' Association SSFA
Neil	Richardson	SSFDC
Sandie	Wilson	Portland Harbour Authority Ltd
Eamon	Riordan	Angling Trust Wessex Group
Peter	Tinsley	Dorset Wildlife Trust
Rachel	Waldock	Natural England
David	Cornick	West Bay Sea Angling Club
Colin	Smith	Fish farms
Randolf	Velterop	Royal Haskoning
Dave	Gibson	Weymouth and Portland Licenced Skippers Association
Ness	Smith	CSCOPE Project Officer - Dorset Coast Forum
Simon	Pengelly	ssfdc
John	Weinberg	Finding Sanctuary
Bridget	Betts	Dorset Coast Forum

### **1. Welcome and apologies**

Bridget welcomed the group to the 2<sup>nd</sup> local MCZ group meeting.

Apologies from: Chris Caines. She informed the group there would be only one presentation; Peter Tinsley would present on the recent Seabed map findings and that the remainder of the meeting would be spent carrying out 2 mapping exercises.

She said the aim of these mapping exercises was to:

- To produce a series of suggested MCZ sites using acetates and base maps as a starting point for further analysis by the Finding Sanctuary Steering Group, together with brief criteria/rationale for each site
- To provide Finding Sanctuary with clear information from the Dorset Local Group that can be digitised and used in the MCZ process

### **2. Review of DCF/FS Actions from Dec meeting**

Bridget went through actions for her and John from the previous meeting, providing the answers and comments received from the FS team. She distributed a handout of the exact comments received.

### 3. Review of Groups Actions from December meeting

John stated that to date no one had contacted him for help with the regional profiles or the ecological guidance

### 4. Seabed Map of Dorset

Peter Tinsley gave a short 10 minute presentation of the seabed maps from the DORIS project that he had received 2 days previously. He gave some background information as well as showed the group some of the individual features on the map. He brought along 2 types of large seabed map. Bridget and John thanked Peter for bringing these maps to the meeting and sharing them with the group. Discussion and questions followed:

**Q:** Why was only this area surveyed?

**A:** Peter stated that there was only enough funding for this area but hoped future funding and projects would mean more work could be carried out.

**Q:** Are you planning to look for more funding?

**A:** No DWT are not currently going to do this but we would encourage other groups to do so.

**Q:** There is great concern that this data will skew MCZs in Dorset as Dorset will have better data, showing where things are unlike Devon, Cornwall and Somerset.

**A:** This is common with data sets but as long as the FSSG are aware of variations between areas this should not be a problem and should be seen as an opportunity to actually prove where things are or are not.

**Q:** There is also a concern that Natural England will be using this data for the pSAC and we do not have this information available to us. Are we able to have the data (before the pSAC consultation ends) as it will be helpful for us when responding to the pSACs?

**A:** Yes I will make this data available through the DCF.

**ACTION:** Peter to send maps to Bridget who will send out to the Local MCZ Group

**Q:** Will this data be included in the FS regional profile?

**A:** Yes I would hope so and we will make the data available.

**ACTION:** FS team to approach Peter Tinsley for the data

### 5. Mapping exercise – group interactive exercises

The group was split into smaller sub groups and John explained what the sub groups would be doing during the 2 mapping exercises. For each Mapping exercise 45 - 60 minutes was allowed.

**Mapping session 1** - involved looking at whether there are any inshore areas that your sector think should be an MCZ and what activities should be allowed or restricted?

**Mapping session 2** - involved looking at whether there are any inshore areas that you feel should not be an MCZ and give your explanation for this?

The brief for the exercises was to draw lines on maps with consideration for other sector uses although no consensus had to be met on this occasion. It also was not necessary at this stage to base it on the ecological guidance.

People were able to use the Seabed map from the Doris data as well as the regional profile and ecological guidance if they wished.

Each sub group presented to the whole MCZ group their suggestions (suggested areas) after each mapping exercise.

#### **Actions from the mapping exercise**

- **BB and JW to take maps with their suggested management to the FSSG meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> February**
- **JW to seek to get the maps digitised by the FS GIS team**

#### **6. Next steps**

**Q.** The proposed date of the next meeting (6<sup>th</sup> May) is likely to be the Election Day and should be changed for this reason

**Action: BB to look at new date and send out to local group ASAP**

#### **7. AOB**

**Comment:** The issue of Fisherman's Safety was raised as an important issue if boats had to travel further offshore i.e. if they were displaced from their original fishing grounds due to an MCZ and forced further from their local waters.

**Action: BB and JW to pass to the FSSG as a serious concern**

**Comment:** It was stressed that life for fishermen would be easier if there was a Memorandum of Agreement in place regarding the management of MCZ areas as there are still big concerns that if management measures changed in future this could have a detrimental affect on livelihoods and there is currently nothing in place that says consultation would take place at a future date. This makes it difficult to draw lines on maps.

**Action: BB and JW to pass this on to the FSSG**

**Comment:** Would like to know how the outputs from the Dorset Local Group will be considered by the FSSG

**Action: BB and JW to pass to FS to seek clarification on this for next meeting**