

SMALL SCALE FISHERY TRIAL PROPOSAL

21. What do you think? Do you support the small-scale fisheries trial proposal?

Response Category	Yes	No	Comments
TECFO	18	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As dedicated cockle fishermen we will always support other fishers to supplement their income by investing in to the small scale zone fisheries that could be created within the Thames for Local fishing boats. (x 9: 050608, 050602, 050607, 050702, 050703, 050706, 050707, 050708, 050908) • I am a full time and time served cockle fisherman, I would hope that I can help any local fisherman that is willing to invest in a small scale fishery to supplement their income within the Thames Estuary. • Yes I do and have already been in dialogues with Whitstable fishermen to discuss different methods of catching cockles to suit their individual vessels • As cockle fishermen we will always support other fishers to supplement their income by investing in to the small scale zone fisheries that could be created within the Thames for Local fishing boats. (3 responses 050803, 050804, 050806) • As a cockle fisherman I would like to use my own boat to do something outside the cockle season • We think it's a great way of developing the small scale fishery. • We believe this is not a good use of resources in terms of time and money. We are not against other fishers supplementing their income, however do you get a trial off the ground? (x 2: 050603, 050604)
CFFPB	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes I do if I can have access to the trial • As dedicated cockle fishermen we will always support other fishers to supplement their income by investing in to the small scale zone fisheries that could be created within the Thames for Local fishing boats. • Im always open to doing Trial work if open to all fishers such as the under 14 metre fleet • Yes only if to all fishers that have 14 metre vessels and under ,there should not be different size limits for different areas . • No shouldn't be under tens, it should be on the catch limits. (x 2: 050605, 050606) • I strongly oppose the small-scale fishery as set out above. I feel very strongly that there should be a small scaled handwork fishery in areas 1,2,3. <p>I think that the trial proposed will put businesses in jeopardy who are currently financially committed to the cockle fishery within the thames estuary, and that these trials are discriminatory to the under 14m fleet who have worked these areas for many years. I'm also not sure why any other method should be used apart from suction dredging within the Thames estuary, as this is shown to be best practice in this area and has been successful over a long period of time. Also with how the tides work within the estuary it is not practical for any other method to be used apart from suction dredging, with the exception for areas 1,2,3 where a handwork fishery would be viable and practical</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I personally don't agree with this as I believe it is an unfair way as you are sacrificing the 14m vessels why is this limited to under 10s when the under 14m vessel have fished these areas for years.
Other - Catching Sector	8	0	Think it's a good opportunity for boat owners to see if they are capable of harvesting cockles
Other Sector	0	1	To support this proposal, I would need to know more detail
22. Have you any comments concerning the overall process of running the small-scale fisheries trial?			
Response Category	Yes	No	Comments
TECFO			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time and money, grants, and assistance from NE If someone is truly intent on fishing for cockles, they will already have a business plan in place with a method of fishing, and the help of the current cockle fleet (x 10: 050602, 050607, 050608, 050701, 050702, 050703, 050706, 050707, 050708, 050908 Too much investment required by vessels for something that may not come to fruition in the future. If they are truly committed to fishing for cockles, they would need to invest heavily (x 2: 050603, 050604) I think the trial fishing activities should be heavily monitored rather than pre approved. This would allow the more inventive of us some breathing space to perform I presume that anyone who wishes to try an alternative dredge type, other than suction dredge, will have already applied for a category 2 permit to work in area 7 as they could have done in previous years. It would need to be run alongside the fishery in the Thames management zone in order for the fishermen to have access to processors. Due to the lower planned quantities that they will be fishing for, it will be easier if processors can incorporate their landings into an existing day of processing As part of the current cockle fleet I would be happy to help the small scale fisheries in any trial
CFFPB			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The trial won't work, it won't benefit anyone (x 2: 050605, 050606) If someone is truly intent on fishing for cockles, they will already have a business plan in place with a method of fishing, and the help of the current cockle fleet If the outside area is not opened will CFPPB Permit holders be reimbursed there Permit Fees? I don't think its correct to include only under 10 Metre vessels when the vast Majority of historic Cockle fishing has been done via uner 14 Metre vessels If a 1 ton a trip quota is used this will again be unfair to the majority of fishers who have commited financially over the last 30 years. 1 ton a trip is unviable to take part for my business model that is based on 14 Mertre Vessels 1 ton a trip limit is not worth the time or money to invest and only damage the carbon footprint by doing so. I can't agree with any of this process or trial I don't agree with it
Other - Catching Sector			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would be interested in trialling this year dredge to copy plans already in place

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better over longer time frame, and Sept-October is tricky time of year due to weather. Better to run over a longer time period in June, July, August. • There is a big risk in investing in gear and time as this is the unknown, hence it would be a good idea if we could all work as a group • Too much paperwork will discourage new entrants • I think the time of year would be better in the summer when weather conditions are usually more settled and people have more time
Other Sector		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handworking started off as a small scale fishery in the Wash and then took over to the disaster it is now. • Fishing method should be down to the skippers and KEIFCA as long as it meets all the current cockle fishing criteria adhered to. This will give the • fisherman the ability to supplement their incomes away from their historic fisheries.

23. Outline the fishing operation that you imagine when you think about 'small scale' cockle fishing.

Response Category	Yes	No	Comments
TECFO			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off the top of my head, Retain all the catch, just using a 5 MM screen to return sand and Spat. Only fishing straight lines. large volume low pressure pumps • It would be a dredged fishery (any gear type) as long as it adheres to current KEIFCA criteria (x 2: 050603, 050604) • The method of fishing should be down to the skippers and KEIFCA as long as it meets all the current cockle fishing criteria adhered to. This will give the fisherman the ability to supplement their incomes away from their historic fisheries. (x 14: 050602, 050607, 050608, 050701, 050702, 050703, 050706, 050707, 050708, 050801, 050803, 050804, 050806, 050908) • Not necessarily cockles as the main target species. The cockles must be fished in a manner that meets the current guidelines regarding damages and minimum sizes etc. A small-scale fishery is one that supplements a fishermans main income from fishing, as opposed to it being the only source of income from fishing. • I imagine that it will be open to local fisherman with small boats, utilizing a relatively inexpensive and inefficient gear type to supplement their income from other fishing activities. • An opportunity for vessels that would like to supplement their main fishing activity. Very limited tonnage (perhaps 2 tonnes) would be sufficient. • I believe a tow dredge would be the most effective form of small scale cockle fishing. The break rate would be a concern depending on the type of ground fished. • Drag dredge or hand raking
CFFPB			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible half quota of 6 bags • Me, it should mean a set TAC that is run on permits, so KEIFCA can adjust catch limits and days, no boat size just 4-6 tons if you can carry them less if you cant ?? we don't want to create an unsafe fishery. (x 2: 050605, 050606)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't think there is another method which will be as economically and environmentally viable as suction dredging, apart from a handwork fishery in areas 1,2,3. • Small scale is handworking • Small scale is hand fishing
Catching Sector			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To trial a towed dredge or pump scoop • Local small boat, dredge or hand rake • Under 10m • <2 tonnes per day gathered by hand raking or caught by some kind of passive dredge. • There are a number of ways to try you could use a normal box dredge hand rake or what I think is a venturi dredge which im not sure have been tried before but would be a lot more suitable for small boats to set up for • Suction dredge but in certain areas I would also like to experiment with a drag dredge with a jet • Dredge or handraking • Hand raking, fan blowing and handraking (Kings Lynn style), small fixed blade cage dredge
Other Sector			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blowing out like the Wash fishery or dry dredge fishing. This has the potential to put the MSC in jeopardy

24. Have you any comments concerning the application process and the potential application questions?

Response Category	Yes	No	Comments
TECFO			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who want it to succeed not fail. • I think applications should be limited to those working and landing in the home ports of the KEIFCA who will be supporting the local coastal communities and economies (x 15: 050602, 050607, 050608, 050701, 050702, 050703, 050705, 050706, 050707, 050708, 050801, 050803, 050804, 050806, 050908) • It is a very long winded process and seems to repeat questions on multiple occasions. It should be designed for current cockle fishing fleet and other local vessels. (x 2: 050603, 050604) • I think applications should be limited to those working and landing in the home ports of the KEIFCA who will be supporting the local coastal communities and economies • Applicants should be seen to support the local coastal communities within the KEIFCA. • The applications should be for local fishermen only. An interesting question would be, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Do you have a buyer for your cockles and have you discussed the logistics of landing the cockle to a processor? B) Do you have knowledge of a potential cockle bed to work. • Yes the applications should only be for the local fishing communities, who reside and fish in the KEIFCA area. • Local vessels to the area should get priority
CFFPB			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would need to know asap as need to make new fishing gear as I no longer have access to my old gear • It should concentrate on where you live, ie local, your history with the KEIFCA outside area CMZ. Regarding TMZ (TEFCO) if extra licences were to be issued, then it should be for people who currently fish it who cant get a licence, and consider their time served on the boats in the industry, and local people who have a boat, but no applications should be accepted for

			<p>companies/directors/individuals who and their immediate family have previously had a TEFCO licence.(x2: 050605, 050606)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application opened only to under 10 Metre Vessels. This must be open to all including the 14 Metre vessels • When the majority of vessels that have fished the thames have been under 14 metres in length don't believe you should put only smaller size limit into equation, no problem with under 10 metre but be fair to all • I think the whole process is a concern • Why are 14m vessels allowed in other areas but not these trials I feel like this would be hard to introduce.
Other - Catching Sector			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would add value to the selection of cockles • Not confident in writing a formal application. Would need some help writing the plan. • I am happy to put a plan forward but feel this would come across better coming from a group • Would you only be able to trial one gear type over the 10 days or could you potentially try several different gears • Local vessels to get priority
Other Sector			

25. The application process responds to the feedback from the Listening Phase and attempts to provide new opportunities for the local inshore fleet. The proposed application process would require fishers taking part in the trial to work from an under 10 metre boat. Do you have any views on this requirement? Do you support this requirement, or do you think different criteria should be used?

Response Category	Yes	No	Comments
TEFCO			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some under 10 meters are larger than over 10-meter boats I have no comment other than, I think You are trying to get a live market cockle from a dredge fishery such as the Poole fishery, it is possible as long as the quality of cockle is good enough to make it economically viable • We think any boat that is within the KEIFCA size limit should be permitted to fish. It is then up to the discretion of the vessel owner if they wish to participate under the conditions of the quota that is set out • I do not agree with just the under 10m fleet this should be open to anyone with a fish ing vessel within the KEIFCA as long as it is within the KEIFCA vessel size limit (x 10: 050602, 050607, 050608, 050701, 050702, 050703, 050706, 050707, 050708, 050801) • We don't support this type of trial, however we do support a vessel of up to 14m with a limit of tonnage. (x2: 050603, 050604) • Some of the inshore fleet have vessels exceeding 10 meters. this would exclude them from the trials. The KEIFCA already has a maximum vessel size of 14m. 10m is overlaying an existing restriction. • Perhaps it would be better to prohibit the use of suction dredges and limit catches to 1-2 tonnes. Also ensure they are local vessels engaged in other fisheries. • I do not believe the application process should restrict vessels applying to under 10 metres. It should be opened to all size of vessels operating within the KEIFCA area

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boats over 10m fleet should allowed within the KEIFCA as long as it is within the KEIFCA vessel size limit (x3:050803, 050804, 050806) do not agree with just the under 10m fleet this should be open to anyone with a fishing vessel within the KEIFCA as long as it is within the KEIFCA vessel size limit I think if you apply for a permit should be under 10 metres
CFFPB			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes under 10 with dredge gear No under ten don't support it. As other answers. (x2: 050605, 050606) All vessel sizes up to 14 metres should have the right to apply for a trial. All vessels under 14 metres should be allowed to apply I don't agree that any trial should take place in any areas other than areas 1,2,3 where a handwork fishery should take place. It is not right to discriminate against the under 14m fleet in any areas, small scale fishery doesn't have to mean a small boat. I think even in the handwork fishery in areas 1,2,3 there should be the option to work a vessel up to 14m. A 14m boat can be just as economically viable and environmentally friendly as an under 10m vessel In a small scale fishery. For example a small scale fishery to me means taking smaller quantities, once again using the The wash as an example, the current hand work method of only taking 2 tonnes a day is viable for a vessel up to 14m. If you created a hand work fishery where you could land 1-2 tonnes a day but with a limited number of vessels in the areas 1,2,3, this would create a viable small scale fishery. feel like this discriminates and is unfair to the 14m fleet who also show financial dedication and work effort to the area.
Other - Catching Sector			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to support under 10m boats as we are unable to carry heavy equipment as opposed to the larger vessels Under 10m is good I support this for under 10s Yes I support this and a limitation on engine power. I think this is very suitable No its perfectly fine we want more opportunities for local fisherman who are all mainly under ten meters so its not a problem Only under 10m boats should be able to apply I support this
Other Sector			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why does it have to be an under 10m boat

26. Will you apply for a derogation to carry out small scale trials during 2022?

Response Category	Yes	No	Comments
TECFO	1	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you go ahead with this and do not get enough people to try it please contact me and if we have a vessel and crew spare we will take part, but I do not want to take this opportunity away from someone who NEEDS it No. however if trials are to be used I think it would be a good idea to have a full time cockle vessel involved in the trial to serve as comparison.
CFFPB	2	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't agree with the under ten. They are as big as the over tens, and if they are not will be unsafe and unstable to carry cockles and the respective gear. (x2: 050605, 050606) Yes If open to under 14 Metre vessels and the cockle caught is of sufficient quota to take part in any trial without making a loss.

			<p>My four Vessels travel from the Wash to the Thames with port fees travel costs and other expenses its vital that either enough catch is allowed while taking part in the trial or the trial is subsidised so Fishers don't make a loss</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only if open to under 14 metre vessels and a bigger quota than 1 ton quota. • I would be strongly against these trials. I think it would be perfect for areas 1,2,3 to be a handwork fishery for the inshore fleet and the rest for suction dredging. Although I am strongly against the trials, if any were to commence in the current permit byelaw areas, I would apply as I am fully committed to all cockle fishing within the thames. • Don't have access to under 10m vessel so if this is not changed I will be unable to be involved.
Other - Catching Sector	6	1	
Other Sector	0	0	

26.If the Authority decided to run the trial rather than open the permit fishery how would this impact your business?

Response Category	Yes	No	Comments
TECFO			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cockles are our business it looks very unlikely we will have a fishery in the wash this year, But we need to do what is best for the future and sustainability, so go for it. • For the benefit of those wanting to come into the zoned areas of the cockle fishery I would support it fully if they were from the local communities (x11: 050602, 050607, 050608, 050701, 050701, 050703, 050706, 050707, 050708, 050801, 050908) • We support local fishermen coming into the CMZ, which would help local communities, however, if the trial goes ahead instead of opening the fishery we lose days at sea which does impact our business financially. (x2: 05603, 050604) • The current permit fishery has failed and has no benefit to my business. The trials are a step in the right direction if it is encouraging involvement from the local fleet • I would support it fully if they were from the local communities. • This is not possible to tell • Yes (x3: 050803, 050804, 050805) • I support the local fishermen • There have been years we have made a profit from the permit fishery, and some we haven't. We would be happy to step back from the permit fishery if it meant there was the prospect of a new sustainable small scale fishery.
CFFPB			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have not earned any money out of the permit so far. So it all depends on the agreed permits and the areas. (x2: 050605, 050606) • This I feel would be discriminative to my business model as I have 4 vessels under 14 Metre in length that have fished some of them for 30 years in the Thames cockle fisheries. If only under 10 Metre vessels are used in trials then I have been pushed out of the fishery that I have committed to financially and relied on for 30 years

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the last 30 years our family have fished the Thames on a regular basis and now my father is in the stages of retiring I am overtaking the helm so to speak by bringing our vessel the ***** to carry on with the tradition that she has done for the last 30 years and that is cockle fishing in the Thames before and since the regulating order came into place. so I hope a trial fishery would not affect our business. • This would impact me and my crew massively as we are fully committed to the permit fishery and have been over a long period of time. Not only have we been committed financially, we have put many many hours into this fishery. From rigging boats up with the equipment, to travelling to and from the Thames. Also prioritising the Thames fishery over The Wash fishery, missing out on quota and days fishing to make sure we are able to take part in the Thames fishery. To have this fishery taken away from us would be a massive blow, this fishery some years has been the only thing that has kept us going. Without it we wouldn't have been able to survive • During my time fishing me and my family have made every opportunity to get to the Thames if there is a fishery and when it has been safe to do so if this is only for 10m vessels this will result in my family who have fished the Thames for over 30 years suddenly being told no through no fault of our own which I think is an unfair decision for the IFCA to make if this is allowed to take place.
Other - Catching Sector		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would not affect my business at present but being on a new trial would create an opportunity to expand my knowledge of fishing and the industry • No effect on my business – would be better to just run the trial and not open permit fishery as then only trial boats would be able to sell cockles. • This would not affect my business • Indirectly it could help my small business in that if I was trialling gear types the demand for cockles may be higher therefore a better return price • The chance of the permit fishery opening is slim so it shouldn't be a problem
Other Sector		