



Shellfish

Association of Great Britain

Kent & Essex IFCA
Paragon House,
Albert St,
Ramsgate CT11 9HD

Via email to info@kentandessex-ifca.gov.uk

Monday 7th November 2022

Dear Sirs

Response to the IFCA decision following the Cockle Fishery Review.

I am writing on behalf of the Shellfish Association of Great Britain (SAGB). We are the UK industry membership trade association based at Fishmongers' Hall London.

The SAGB would like to make the additional following comments further to our response to the Cockle Fishery review for the Thames Estuary and the subsequent decision to follow the New Jamaica proposal, as we have some concerns.

As we have stated previously, The SAGB believes that The Thames Estuary Cockle Fishery Order of 1994, granted for 30 years, has been one of the most successful examples of any of the Cockle Fishery's in the UK and Europe.

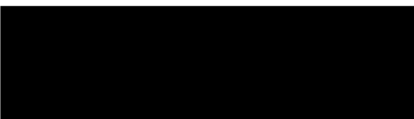
The fact that it has achieved MSC certification is testament to this and a major first for a hydraulic dredge cockle fishery.

We would ask you to consider that issuing new licenses to additional operators will have both a conservation issue, with likely additional negative impact on the marine environment and potentially have severe deleterious socio-economic impact on the current license holders, and the ongoing supply chain.

We believe changing a system that has worked so well for so long would be considered folly – in essence, *if it isn't broke, don't fix it!*

We would be very happy to discuss our views with you if required.

Yours Faithfully



David L Jarrad
CEO

The Shellfish Association of Great Britain

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