

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 February 2004 11:03
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Western Waters - queries over crabs and scallops data submitted

[REDACTED]

Also relevant is the fact that we are still in discussions with the Scallops Association over the exact effects of Amnesic shellfish poisoning on the levels of scallops effort that occurred in 2002 in Area V/VI. In our submission we have already stated that due to the impact of ASP effort in 2000 and 2001 on scallops effort on the west of Scotland, we considered 2002 to be the most representative year with regards to normal levels of fishing effort. However, there were instances of ASP during 2002 as well - for example, at one stage of 2002 there were 7,200 square miles of west coast waters closed as a result of ASP, and over the year(s), probably about 25-30% of scallop fishing grounds were closed at some time due to ASP. We are working on assessing what impact this may have had on the levels of fishing effort we have submitted for 2002, but at the current time we do not have any revisions to the data ready to provide to you today for inclusion in your submission. However, I thought it worth flagging up with you that we may have a revision to this effort data within the near future.

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 February 2004 10:45
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Western Waters - queries over crabs and scallops data submitted

[REDACTED]. others for info

Given you are aiming to put up the written submission within the Commission on the effort levels today, I thought you might find it useful if I put something in writing re our conversation this morning. You asked if we were happy with the crabs and scallops effort data that had been submitted under the new regime, given that the levels of effort shown were considerably over the allocations of effort under the old regime. I answered yes for the following reasons:

There is the fact that the new data covers 15-18 vessels - this accounts for a significant proportion of the difference. In terms of the contribution for the individual crabs and scallops effort levels, the data we have submitted breaks down as follows::

- Crabs - Area V/VI - Total effort submitted of 702,292 Kw days, of which 23% was by vessels 15-18m

- Crabs - Area VII - Total effort submitted of 543,366 Kw days, of which 48% was by vessels 15-18m
- Scallops - Area V/VI - Total effort submitted of 1,974,425 Kw days, of which 51% was by vessels 15-18m
- Scallops - Area VII - Total effort submitted of 3,315,619 Kw days, of which 20% was by vessels 15-18m

I mentioned as well that we had gone out to industry as a check on the quality of our data. Where this resulted in extra information becoming available, we have incorporated it into the effort data that we submitted under the new regime, but this would not have been included in the levels of effort set under the old regime.

In addition, and on a similar line, there is the fact that the levels for effort set out under the old regime were set with incomplete information. I mentioned in our submission of effort data for 1998-2002 under the new regime that due to the provision of the detailed logbook species data not being compulsory for crabs and scallops, we regarded the data for effort for 1998 and 1999 to be incomplete. The same must be true of the data used for earlier years to set the limits for crabs and scallops effort under the old Western Waters regime. As such it is not a surprise that the levels of effort we have submitted for the new regime, which are based on years where more complete information is available, has allowed us to more accurately state the level of effort expended by UK vessels.

[REDACTED]

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