

Recommendation paper

Title: Loligo fishery – SED implementation following Seal Mortalities

Date: 30th July 2020

Report of: Sheena Ross

1. Background:

- 1.1 The previous CM on 28th July also refers.
- 1.2 Due to late arrival in the islands of the MMO's and their subsequent quarantine due to COVID-19, vessels in the Loligo fleet were authorised to start fishing on 30th July (using their SED's) until the observers could be deployed.
- 1.3 MMO's were collected on the 6th August and fishing re-commenced on the 7th August at 0001 but as MMO's were on-board, the SED's weren't compulsory at this stage.

2. Presentation and consultations:

- 2.1 During the morning of the 7th August, FIFD received reports of 6 seal mortalities between the whole fleet fishing to the south of 52°00's. 2 mortalities occurred on one individual vessel.
- 2.2 The licence conditions for the Loligo fishery specify that once there are 2 mortalities within the whole fleet, this event triggers the use of SED's on all vessels which is confirmed by an email from our department.

3. Recommendation:

- 3.1 At 0900 on 7th August, vessels were instructed to deploy their SED's prior to the next trawl if they were fishing south of 52° 00's in order to avoid any further seal mortalities.
- 3.2 At 1412 on the 7th August, following a seal mortality which occurred in the north of the Loligo box, **all vessels in the whole Loligo box** were instructed to deploy their SED's with effect from 0001 on the 8th August, at the latest.



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