



Chairman: Mr J Lamb
Clerk: Mr P Sass

Delyth Dyne
DEFRA
Millbank, c/o Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

2 January 2015

Dear Delyth,

RE: Coordinating Sea bass management measures

The issue of sustainable Sea bass management is of significant concern to our Authority and the issue has been discussed at our last two quarterly meetings. Our Authority has been watching with interest as policies have been put forward and discussed at the EU level and we would agree with the minister in being disappointed that international management measures were not agreed at the EU Fisheries and Agriculture Council meeting in December.

"I was disappointed no decision was reached this year to improve bass stocks but will be following up on the Commission's commitment to work with Member States in the New Year." **16 December 2014. DEFRA press release.**

At our last Authority meeting in November the issue of Sea bass management and KEIFCAs role in ensuring the sustainable exploitation of this stock was discussed at length and the Authority agreed to review the provision of Bass nursery areas in our district. In the light of the EU developments we would like to invite you or a representative from DEFRA to our next Authority meeting (10.00 am, 22 January 2015 – Council Chamber, Gravesham Council Offices, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1AU) to discuss DEFRA's approach to bass management and how our organisations can work effectively together to coordinate management of this important stock.

Yours Sincerely,

Will Wright
Chief IFCO KEIFCA