

Agenda Item C3

Report on the patrol vessel 'Ken Green'

Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority **Quarterly report for the period ending March 2015**

Priorities of vessel for quarter

- Check closed Cockle areas.
- Monitoring Cockle harvesting areas.
- Patrol District for any large vessel infringement of byelaws.
- Inspect gill and trammel netting vessels for compliance with EU gear legislation.
- Inspect trawling vessels for EU gear legislation and catch composition.
- Record data of all vessel sightings.
- Record data of all fishing fixed nets and pots.
- Input key enforcement information into national fisheries enforcement database (MCSS).
- Inspecting Lobster pots for compliance of byelaw, and checking potting vessels
- Shore enforcement.
- Inspect oyster dredging vessels for byelaw compliance
- Check closed Herring areas.
- Checking for compliance of Whelk byelaw.

Risk based fisheries enforcement

Once again strong winds have dominated much of this quarter, limiting fishing effect and disrupting patrol patterns. This with the running down and potential sale of the vessel has led to less sea time than usual being completed. During the quarter crew have worked on board the Tamesis, from Ramsgate, conducting both enforcement and survey work for a number of days.

Using the risk based enforcement data base, officers' knowledge and information gathered through various means, both routine and directed patrols have taken place, at sea and ashore. The six mile limit has been patrolled for incursions by large/foreign vessels into our district. Closed areas have been monitored.

Fishing activity has been monitored throughout the district with the Ken Green carrying out patrols in the Thames Estuary, up to the Essex coast and the South Kent coast.

Conservation/Survey work

The crew have all continued to contribute to the work relating to both MPAs, MPZs and both land and sea based Cackle surveys.

Statistics

The Ken Green has patrolled 278 miles, boarded 2 vessels and identified 36 fishing vessels, most of which have been sighted on several occasions and 3 of which were charter angling vessels. In the course of our patrols 14 closed areas were monitored, 29 log records for sightings of collections of static gear, 4 of which were put forward for further inspection with Tamesis. Over the quarter approximately 70 seals have been sighted, mainly on drying sands.

Maintenance

All manufacturers recommended servicing has been carried out on the Caterpillar main engines and generator. Monthly safety checks have been carried out on all the vessels equipment. The vessel received a lift out where the antifoul was refreshed, anodes checked and replaced where required and the props, shafts and rudders were looked at for wear.

Other information

The patrol vessel has gone up for sale this quarter with Century Marine Services and has been advertised on their website, "Maritime Journal" and "Sea Plant Magazine". There had been one viewing prior to the adverts being posted but nothing heard since. IFCO Michael Hayes has left the IFCA towards the end of this quarter opening up a position on the vessel which has been advertised.

An Invitation to the Authority Members

Authority members are welcome to contact the office regarding 'A day on patrol' out on the Ken Green.

Ben Hermitage
First Mate FPV Ken Green