



**Matthew Mander**  
**Clerk & Chief Fishery Officer**

# The ESFJC District

Donna Nook (Lincolnshire) to Dovercourt (Essex) & out to 6nm



# Joint Committee composition

Elected Members (10)	Defra Appointees (10)
Lincolnshire County Councillors (3)	Commercial fishing representatives (6)
Norfolk County Councillors (4)	Recreational sea angling representatives (2)
Suffolk County Councillors (3)	Environment Agency representative (1)
2009/2010 levy £1,248,450	Environmental specialist (1)



Post	Number
Clerk & Chief Fishery Officer	1
Deputy Clerk & Fishery Officer	1
Skipper/Fishery Officer	2
Mate/Fishery Officer	2
Engineer/Fishery Officer	2
Senior Research Officer/Fishery Officer	1
Research Officer/Fishery Officer	2
Area Fishery Officer	4
Crewman/Fishery Officer	1
Finance Officer	1
Administrative Officer	1
Clerical Officer	1
Marine Environment Officer *	1
European Marine Site Manager *	1
Total personnel	21*



# Enforcement

Enforcement of EU, UK & local (byelaws) legislation

Assets:

Vehicles = 8

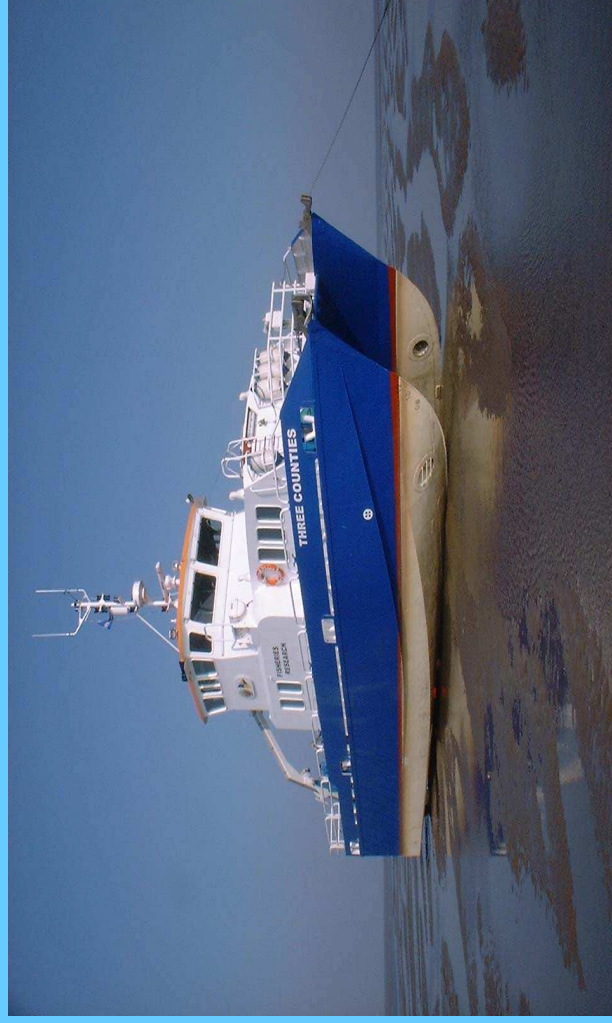
Fisheries Protection Vessels = 3\*

- *ESF Protector III*
- *Sea Spray*
- *Pisces III*



# Research & Environment

Research Vessels: *Three Counties, Runner*  
Dedicated research & environment personnel  
Increase in environmental legislation  
Requirement for detailed baseline information



# Evolution of ESFJC's aim

1894	2009
<p><i>“to protect inshore fish stocks along the East Anglian coast for the benefit of local fishing communities that relied on those fish stocks for their livelihood”</i></p>	<p><i>“to regulate, protect and develop the fisheries within the Joint Committee’s district in a manner that ensures sustainable viability for the foreseeable future and compliance with the Joint Committee’s environmental responsibilities”</i></p>
<p>Common misperception is that SFCs still represent commercial fishing interests – they do not represent any sector or interest, their Statutory duty is to manage fishery resources</p>	



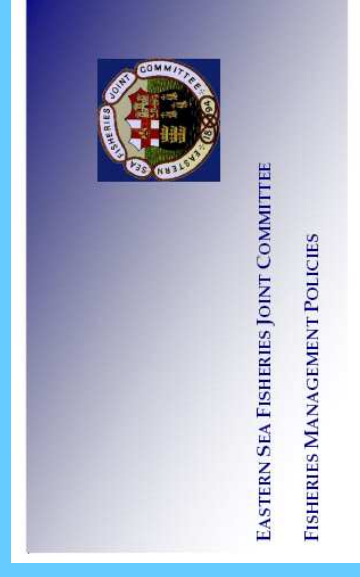
# Management of fisheries

- **Regulate** fishing activity via EU, UK and ESFJC legislation
- **Protect** fisheries (stocks & environment) via appropriate local management including Regulating Orders
- **Develop** fisheries in a sustainable manner e.g. Fisheries Management Policies
- Key stakeholder groups:
  1. commercial
  2. environmental
  3. recreational



# Management of fisheries

- Shellfish dominated, main area of knowledge & expertise
- Direct management responsibilities for The Wash cockle & mussel fisheries
- Co-management approach to fisheries
- Evidence based approach
- *Sabellaria spinulosa* protection from towed gear



# ESFJC Core Values

- **Adaptive** Flexibility in management approach
- **Excellence** Creating & adopting best practice
- **Innovative** Developing new approaches to fisheries & environmental management
- **Openness** Public meetings, consultations, co-management approach to fisheries, acceptance to change
- **Understanding** Improving our knowledge of the marine environment to inform our management approach and to meet the requirements of different marine user groups



# Immediate work streams for ESFJC

- Involvement in the development of the region's MPAs (SACs, SPAs & MCZs)
- Mapping projects: commercial/recreational fishing effort & habitat types
- Development of enforcement & environment strategies
- Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) project
- Procurement of a new patrol/research vessel
- Study of the Wash Embayment Ecosystem & Productivity (SWEEP)
- Development of a byelaw to protect *Sabellaria spinulosa* reef



# Reform of SFCs

- The Marine & Coastal Access Bill
- Inshore Fisheries and Conservation (IFC) Authorities
- 10 IFC Authorities for England
- EIFCA to expand to include all of LCC
- Ensure that the exploitation of sea fisheries resources is carried out in a sustainable way
- Balance the social & economic benefits of exploiting sea fisheries resources of the district with the need to protect the marine environment from, or promote its recovery from, the effects of such exploitation
- Seek to balance the different needs of persons engaged in the exploitation of sea fisheries resources in the district



# Transition of ESFJC to EIFCA

- Significant opportunity to develop coastal fisheries & environmental management
- New burdens e.g. duty to manage all sea fisheries resources
- Additional £5m nationally to meet increased demands
- Ensuring that Conservation Objectives of any MCZs are furthered
- Assistance provided by Defra IFCA Implementation Team
  
- Timescales
  - IFCA Vision working group 15<sup>th</sup> September 2009\*
  - IFCA Association working group 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009
  - IFCA conference 11<sup>th</sup> November 2009\*
  - Shadow IFCAs 2010-2011
  - EIFCA vesting day 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011



# Transition of ESFJC to EIFCA

- Re-organisation of Committee structure, application of LGA 2000 & Nolan rules
- Gaining collective understanding of new role
- Staff development & training
- Reviewing current business planning process
- Developing environmental & enforcement strategies
- Consideration of socio-economic data in management of resources
- Identifying fisheries management and conservation opportunities



# Summary

- Members of the Joint Committee will be key to the successful transition from ESFJC to EIFCA
- Committee's current structure & approach to management will provide a strong basis from which to meet the challenges ahead.
- Considerable work is required to make the transition from ESFJC to EIFCA
- Requirement to demonstrate delivery of functions to a wider group of users
- Greater direct management of sea fisheries resources
- Management of new activities
- Balancing the protection of the environment with the development of fisheries

