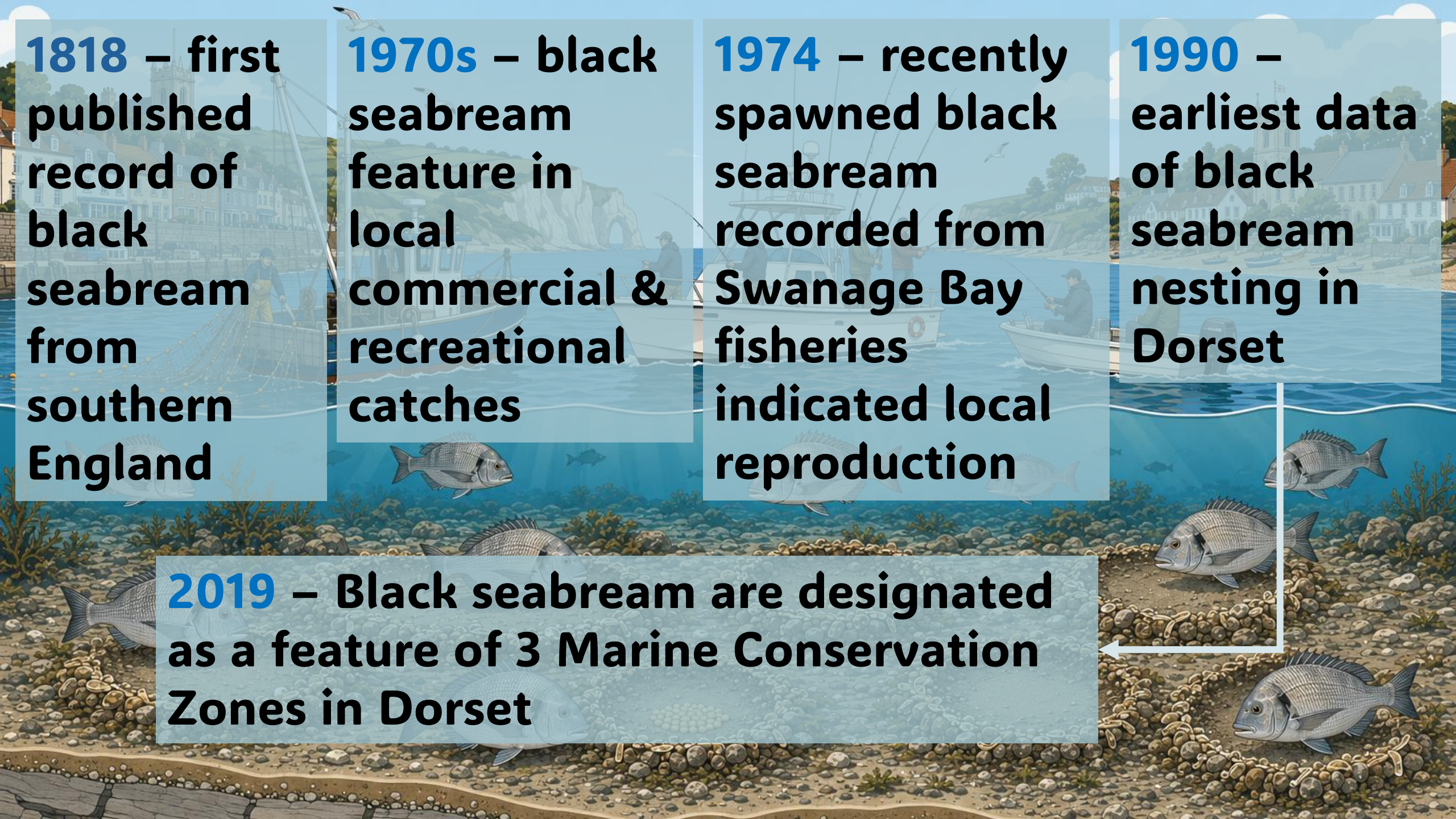
Southern IFCA
Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority



Navigating Shared Seas: Collaborative Black Seabream Management



Ms Pia Bateman, CEO, Southern IFCA
Dr Sarah Birchenough, DCO, Southern IFCA


1818 – first published record of black seabream from southern England
1970s – black seabream feature in local commercial & recreational catches
1974 – recently spawned black seabream recorded from Swanage Bay fisheries indicated local reproduction
1990 – earliest data of black seabream nesting in Dorset
2019 – Black seabream are designated as a feature of 3 Marine Conservation Zones in Dorset



- Suitable protections for designated MPA species
- Multiple sectors – commercial & recreational
- Species of community, cultural and socio-economic importance

Marine Protected Areas

- Protecting important habitats & species
- Supporting diversity, abundance and species richness
- Restoring habitats, stocks & ecosystems
- CO_2 Building resilience, climate change adaptation
- Benefit society, recreation, well-being, future generations
- Fisheries spill over

Inshore Fisheries

Climate Change

Aging Fleet

Increasing Costs

Spatial Squeeze

Changing Stocks

Lacking a voice



Respect & Recognition

Sustainable stocks

Voices being heard

Thriving Markets

Ability to diversify

Fishing opportunities into the future

Designated to:

1) Conserve diversity due to ecological significance

2) Persistence due to occurrence at high density compared to surrounding areas





Potential Fishing Pressures

Pelagic fishing





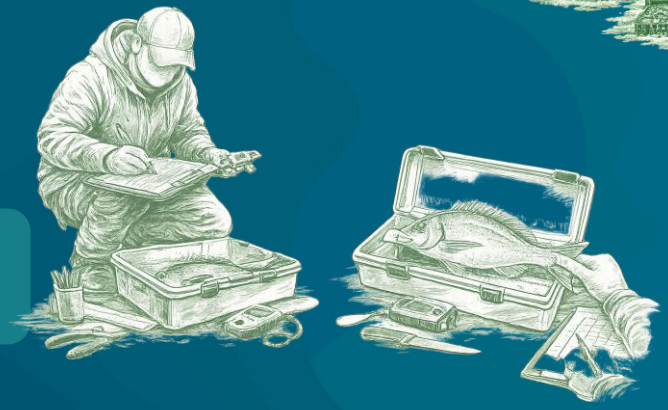


Rod & line

Bottom towed fishing gears



Data poor



Proximity of urban areas to designated sites



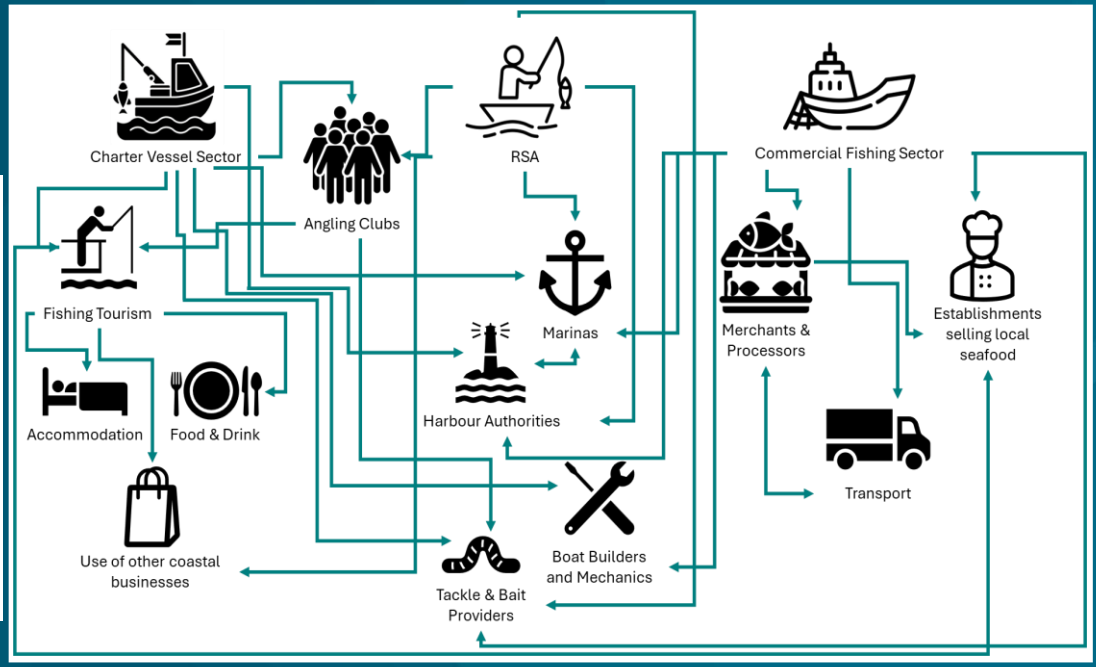
Lack of Data

Changing Seas

Data Source	Sector	Value
Engagement Data – Area Specific	Charter vessel	66,750.00
	RSA	12,800.00
	Commercial	306,980.01
Engagement Data – Not Area Specific	Charter vessel	78,760.00
	Commercial	7,000.00
Online data for charter vessels		834,600.00
Total		**£1,306,890.01**

Socio-Economic Impacts



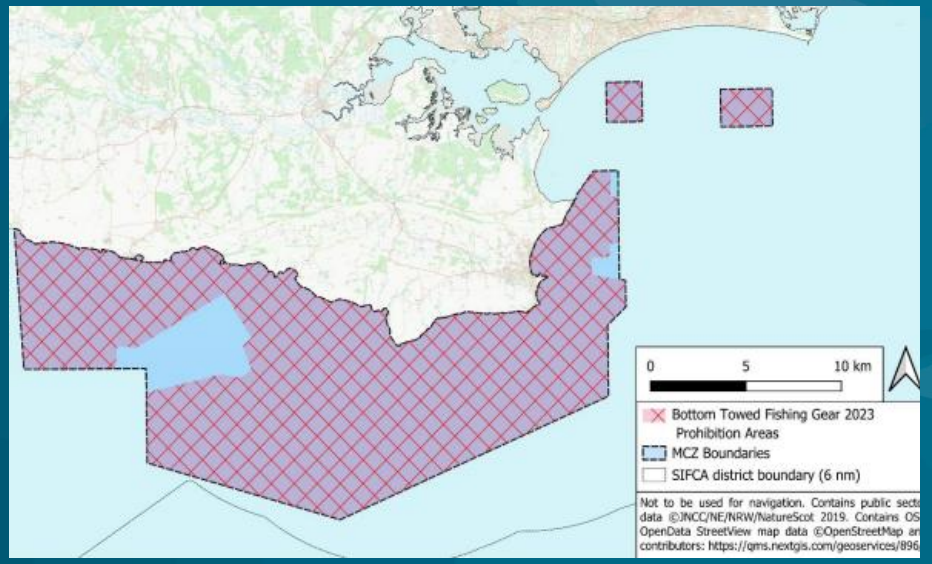


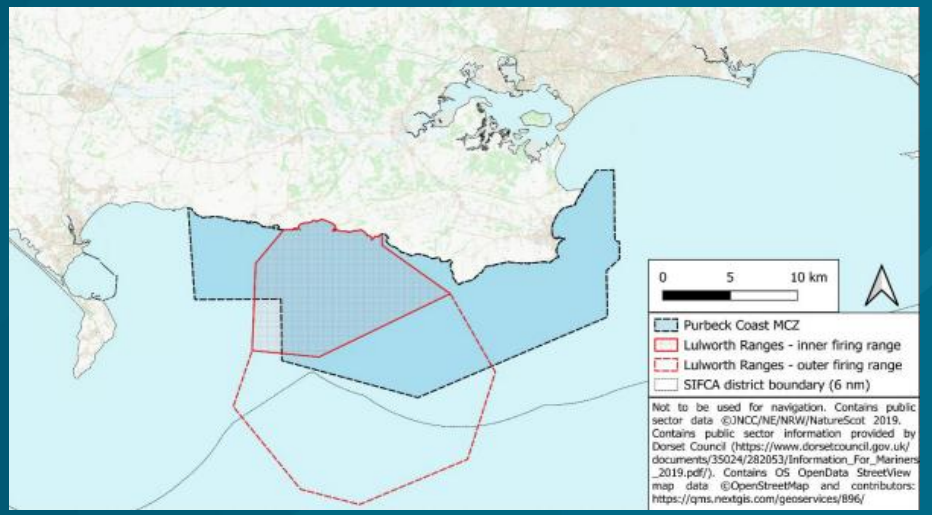
PRIMARY POLICY OBJECTIVE

Managing black seabream as a designated feature of MCZs

- Specific to legal duties for MCZs under the Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009
- Considered the management of **high-risk** fishing activity to manage black seabream as a designated feature







SECONDARY POLICY OBJECTIVE

Improve understandings of black seabream across the Dorset MCZs

---

- Additional management options for **lower risk** fishing activities



WHAT IS THE AIM?

- To improve understandings of species & fisheries
- To take a proportionate & adaptive approach
- To support long-term sustainability
- To work in partnership with the Dorset Community

- Quayside visits
- Stakeholder led meetings
- Multi-sector information sharing workshops
- Targeted engagement with key individuals





PROFESSIONAL BOATMANS ASSOCIATION PBA

ANGLING TRUST

ANGLING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Poole Dolphins Sea Angling Club

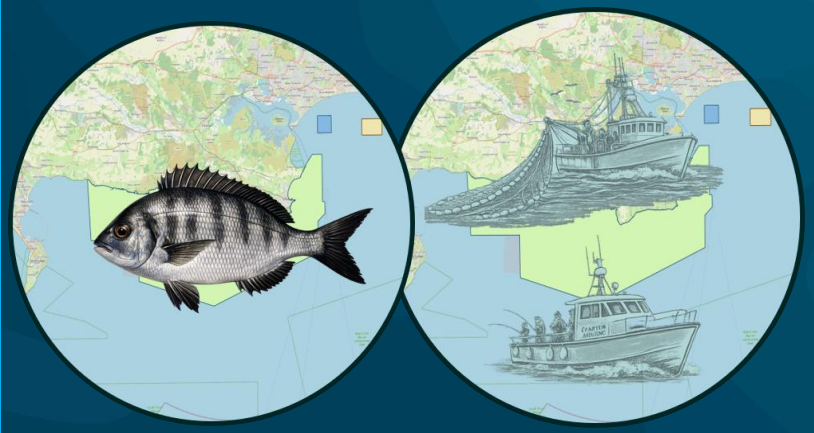
Poole & District Fisherman's Association

POOLE BAY SMALL BOAT AC

Sussex IFCA Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

Marine Management Organisation

Seabream Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) development



Southern IFCA
Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

No Take Zones (Apr-Jul)

Circle/Barbless Hooks

Rec bag limit (5/6)

MCRS increase & MaxCRS

Data

Less impactful hooks

Rec bag limit (6)

Commercial Cap (6.2T)

MCRS increase

Recreational & Charter Data

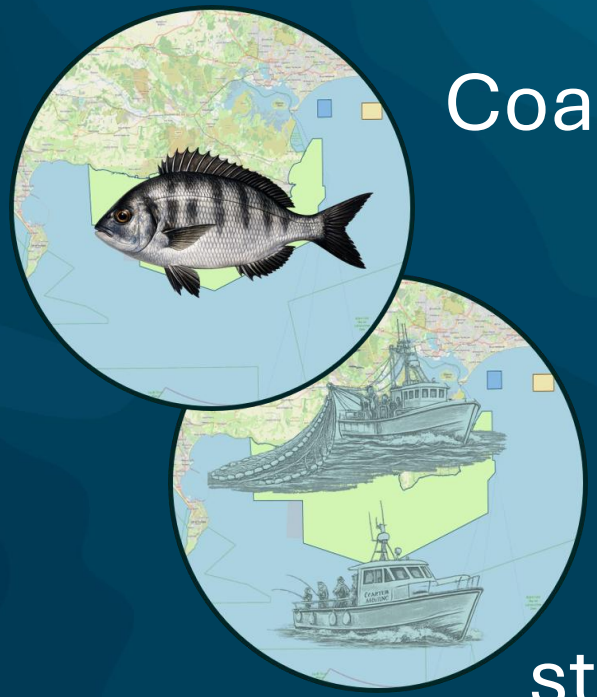
Co-Developed Principles

Minimum Conservation Reference Size	28cm
Maximum Conservation Reference Size	38cm
Recreational Bag Limit	6 fish per person per day
Guidance	good practice fishing & handling
Data Collection	year-round, all sectors

- **When:** 1st Apr to 31st Jul (data year-round)
- **Where:** three Dorset MCZs
- **Who:** all fishers for black seabream
    - Commercial fishers
    - Recreational fishers
    - Charter fishing vessels







Coastal/Port Visits & Engagement



Attending stakeholder group meetings



Industry workshop

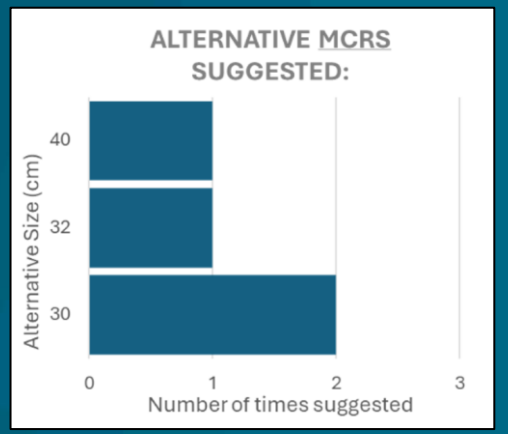


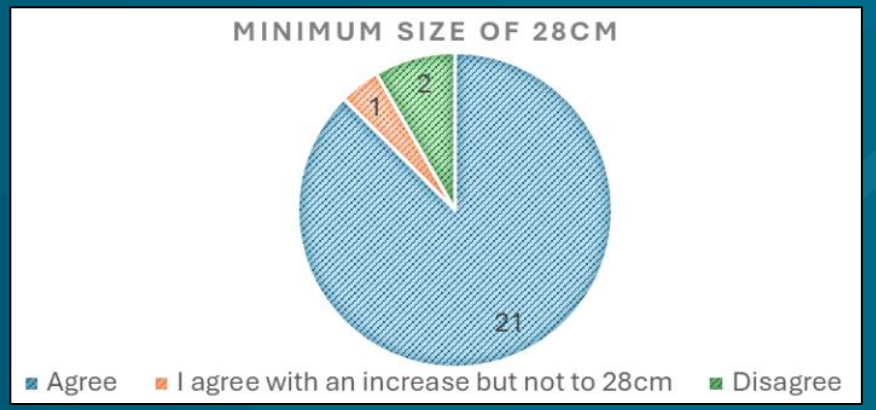
Online workshop



Online Questionnaire







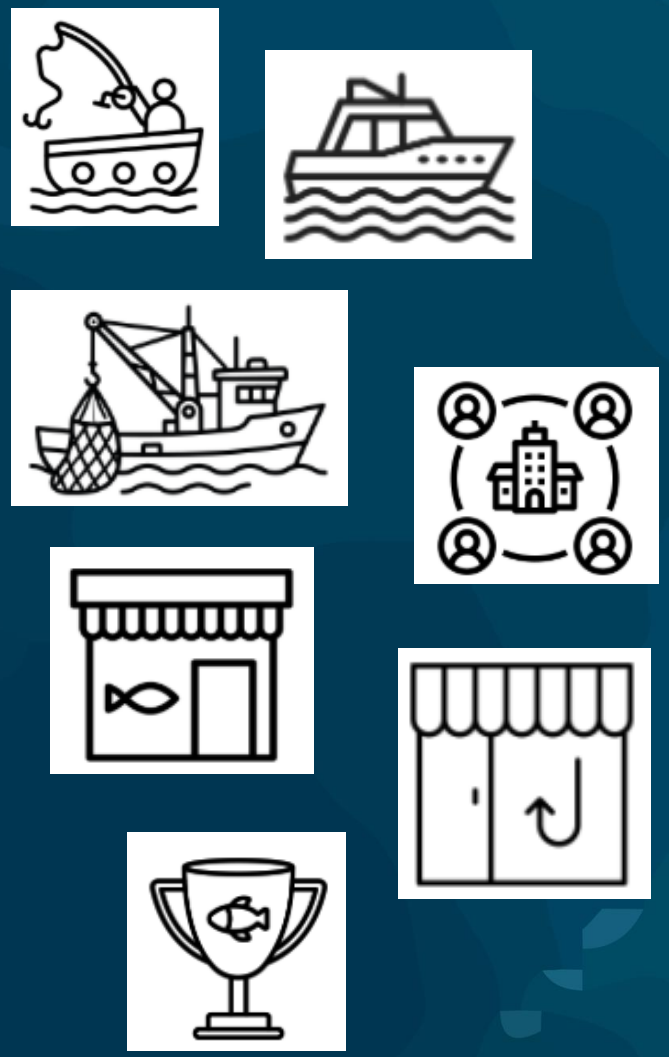
Year 1 - Implementation

- To facilitate the **continued delivery of co-development**, for Year 1 (1st April 2026), the focus was on:
  - engagement with relevant sectors
  - raising awareness of the Co-Developed Principles
  - supporting compliance with the Co-Developed Principles



Year 1 – Engagement, Awareness & Supporting Compliance





73% Fishing trips targeting Black Seabream

8% of black seabream caught was retained

1 average no. of black seabream per angler (max. 4)

20% average of black seabream caught showing male breeding colours

59% average of black seabream <28cm

Southern IFCA would like to acknowledge and thank the Dorset Community for sharing their knowledge & expertise as part of this process, across all fishing sectors and the wider community, and our partner organisations for supporting the co-development process.

Find us online:

www.southern-ifca.gov.uk

Southern IFCA

Southern IFCA

southernifca

SouthernIFCA