
Overview

This standard is about developing fisheries management plans. It covers analysing management information to determine management and development objectives for a fishery. The management plans will include habitat maintenance, habitat improvement, monitoring and data collection, fish stock management and control of exploitation. It also includes gaining feedback and agreement on the plan from stakeholders.

This standard requires the ability to assess size and structure of fish stocks, distribution of fish stocks, ability of habitat to support fish stocks and interactions with other wildlife.

This standard requires the ability to analyse management information including habitat surveys, fishing records, resource usage and published data and research. It also requires the ability to establish a clear picture of the following factors:

1. habitat deterioration
2. predator/prey interactions
3. nutritional shortfalls
4. disease
5. land usage
6. human influences

This standard requires the ability to propose and agree fisheries management plans covering:

1. habitat maintenance
2. habitat improvement
3. monitoring and data collection
4. sustainable fish stock management
5. control of sustainable exploitation
6. control of stock security

The legislation controlling the application of this standard will vary depending on the location of the fishery within England, Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 analyse management information to assess fisheries characteristics and derive management recommendations
- P2 establish an understanding of all known factors which may affect the long-term potential of a fishery
- P3 propose fisheries management plans to sustain potential of fishery and to comply with legal requirements
- P4 gain feedback on proposed management plans from stakeholders
- P5 agree final fisheries management plan with stakeholders

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 legal requirements pertaining to the management of fisheries
- K2 the life history of fish present in the fishery
- K3 the integration between fish stocks and their habitat
- K4 the environmental requirements of the fish present in the fishery
- K5 the actions that can be taken to maintain and improve fisheries habitat
- K6 how to collect and assess management information to determine the characteristics of a fishery
- K7 the methods used to monitor fish populations
- K8 common fish diseases and possible causes of infection
- K9 how to sustain the potential of fisheries
- K10 the methods used in determining population structure
- K11 how to limit the impact of factors which can affect a fishery
- K12 fishing methods and their application in the removal of fish from fisheries
- K13 the legal designations influencing fisheries management activities
- K14 who stakeholders are and their involvement with the fishery
- K15 the role of fisheries in the water framework directive
- K16 stock security and how non-native species can have a detrimental effect on the ecology of the native fishery
- K17 what is a sustainable fish stock and exploitation

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