



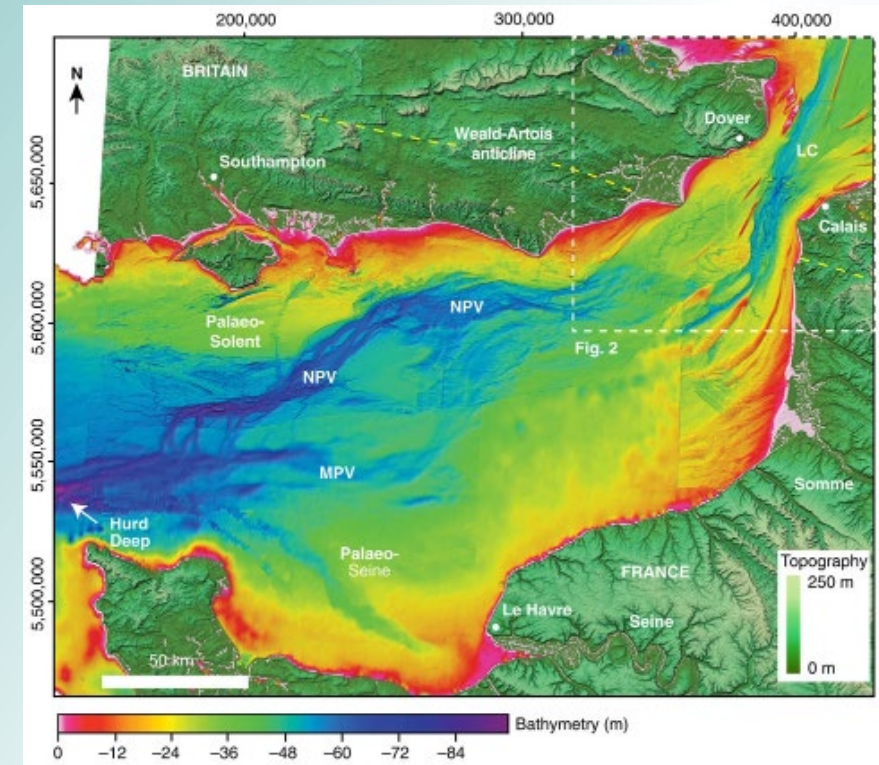
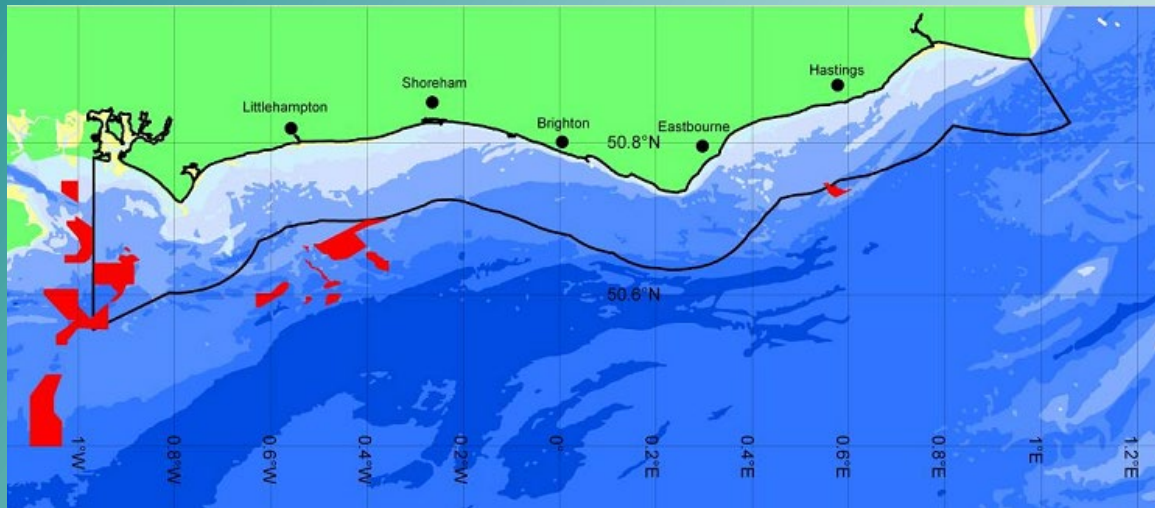
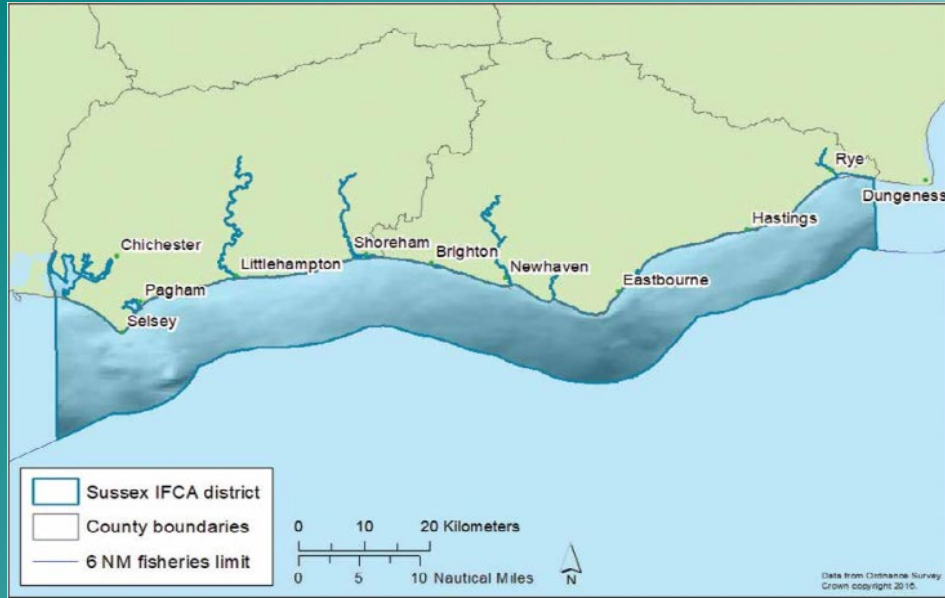
Managing Inshore Shellfish Fisheries Sussex IFCA

CHASM Event Selsey
14th June

Content

- The geographic area
- Local commercially important shellfish species
- Key statistics on Sussex shellfish fisheries
- Management of inshore shellfish fisheries
 - Shellfish Permit Byelaw 2015
 - Nearshore Trawling Byelaw 2019

Inshore Sussex IFCA District



Source: Gupta S *et al* (2017) Two-stage opening of the Dover Strait and the origin of island Britain; [Nature Communications](#) volume 8, art. no. 15101

Local commercially important shellfish species caught in static gear (pots, traps nets) fisheries

Primary Species

- edible crab (*Cancer pagurus*)
- lobster (*Homarus gammarus*)
- whelk (*Buccinum undatum*)
- cuttlefish (*Sepia officinalis*)

Lesser Species

- prawn (*Palaemon* spp.)
- spider crab (*Maia squinado*)
- velvet swimming crab (*Necora puber*)



Quantities of top 7 (by weight and value) species including shellfish from inshore under 10 metre vessels

Total landed weight (t) by month for u10, 30E9 + 30F0 in 2019 for the top 7 value species.
Shading highlights landing >10% total annual landings for that species in 2019.

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
sole	7	11	17	12	14	10	12	11	12	14	11	4
plaice	19	33	65	69	36	29	37	36	32	29	20	4
bass	3		0	5	7	4	9	12	9	10	11	5
cuttlefish	0	0	1	30	61	14	13	5	1	1	0	0
crabs	4	2	3	7	18	12	22	14	11	14	15	9
lobsters	1	1	2	2	2	4	4	3	2	1	1	1
whelks	277	197	166	164	235	301	373	164	78	37	74	65

- Main whelk landings occurred between January and June.
- Main edible crab landings occurred between July and December.
- Main lobster landings occurred between June and August.
- Main cuttlefish landings occurred between April and June.

Landings value (£) by gear type for 10m and under from 30E9 + 30F0 (2019)

Species Name	Beam trawl	Dredge	Drift and fixed nets	Gears using hooks	Other passive gears	Otter trawl	Pots and traps	Total £	Species % of total
Whelks			79,820			2,795	3,052,623	3,135,238	42.5%
Sole	19,378	916	842,573	1,428		306,193	930	1,171,417	15.9%
Bass	237		152,731	551,937		8,690	357	713,952	9.7%
Plaice	8,211	208	297,234	161		329,177	121	635,113	8.6%
Cuttlefish	1,432	10	76,148	47		43,498	217,688	338,824	4.6%
Lobsters	484	1	8,374	108		1,085	307,287	317,338	4.3%
Crabs	48	11	35,447			1,662	245,631	282,800	3.8%

Value of landings (entire fleet) into Sussex - species type

MMO Data: Comparison of value of landings (£'000s) to Sussex ports & harbours, 2019 and 2009

Note: the major uplift in value of landings to Shoreham are accounted for by particularly high levels of landings from large scallopers

	Location	Demersal	Pelagic	Shellfish	2019	2009	
1	Itchenor/East Wittering	28	0	0	29		
2	Chichester Harbour						
3	Selsey	115	0	682	797	746	
4	Bognor Regis	0	0	8	8	43	
5	Littlehampton	50	0	149	200	123	
6	Worthing	5	1	0	6	29	
7	Shoreham-by-Sea	897	4	15,921	16,822	2,215	
8	Brighton	416	1	42	459	453	
9	Newhaven	949	6	1,029	1,984	1,135	
10	Eastbourne	533	10	2,487	3,030	1,454	
11	Hastings	470	6	109	585	645	
12	Rye	851	1	270	1,122	1,171	
	Grand Total	4,318	29	20,696	25,043	8,014	

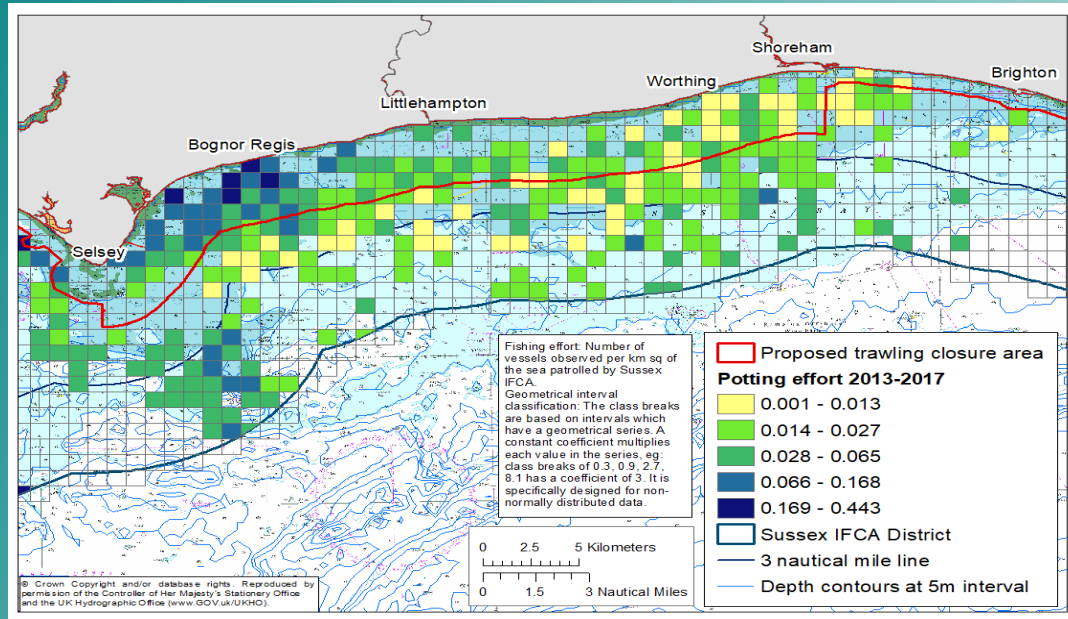
Composition of the Sussex fishing fleet

2022 MMO vessel licence list – vessel numbers by home port, identifying vessels with scallop & shellfish licences

	10m & under			over-10m				
Row Labels	Cat A	Cat A + shellfish	Total U10	Cat A	Cat A + scallop	Cat A + shellfish	Cat C + shellfish	Grand total
Itchenor/East Wittering	2		2					2
Selsey	5	6	11				3	14
Bognor Regis		1	1					1
Littlehampton	5	3	8					8
Worthing	4		4					4
Shoreham-By-Sea	21	18	39		6		1	46
Brighton	14	6	20					20
Newhaven	12	12	24	1	5			30
Eastbourne	22	15	37			2	3	42
Hastings	15	17	32					32
Rye	19	8	27		1			28
Grand Total	119	86	205	1	12	2	7	227

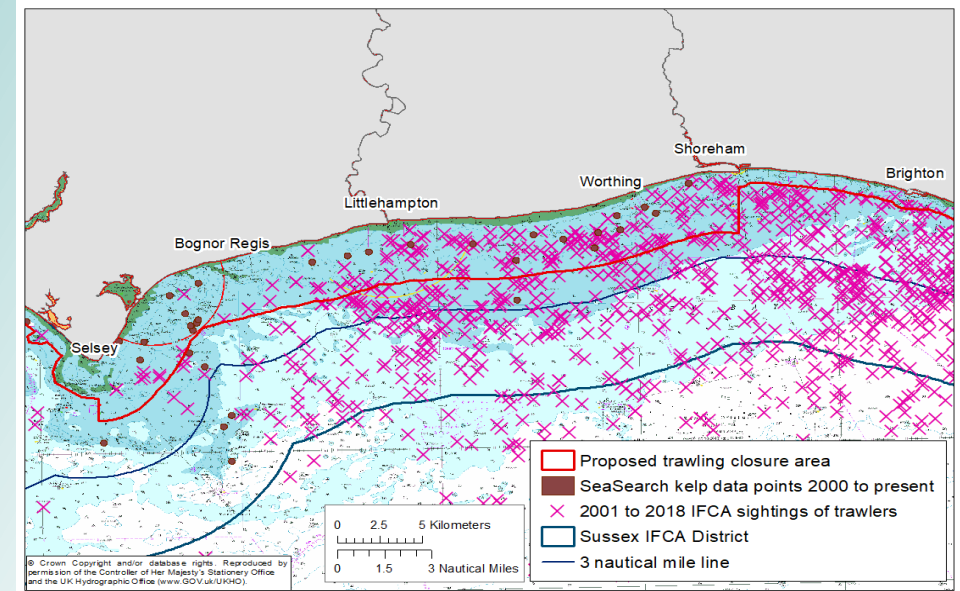
Potting Activity

Relative effort from IFCA sightings



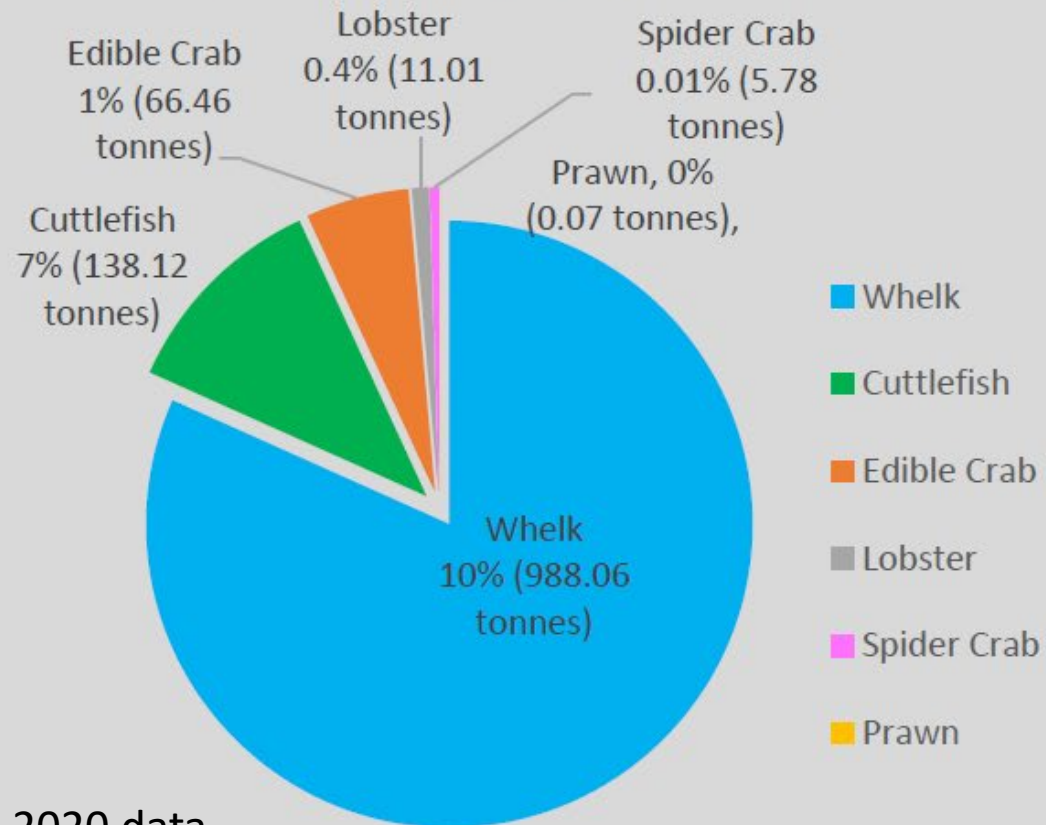
Trawling Activity

IFCA sightings

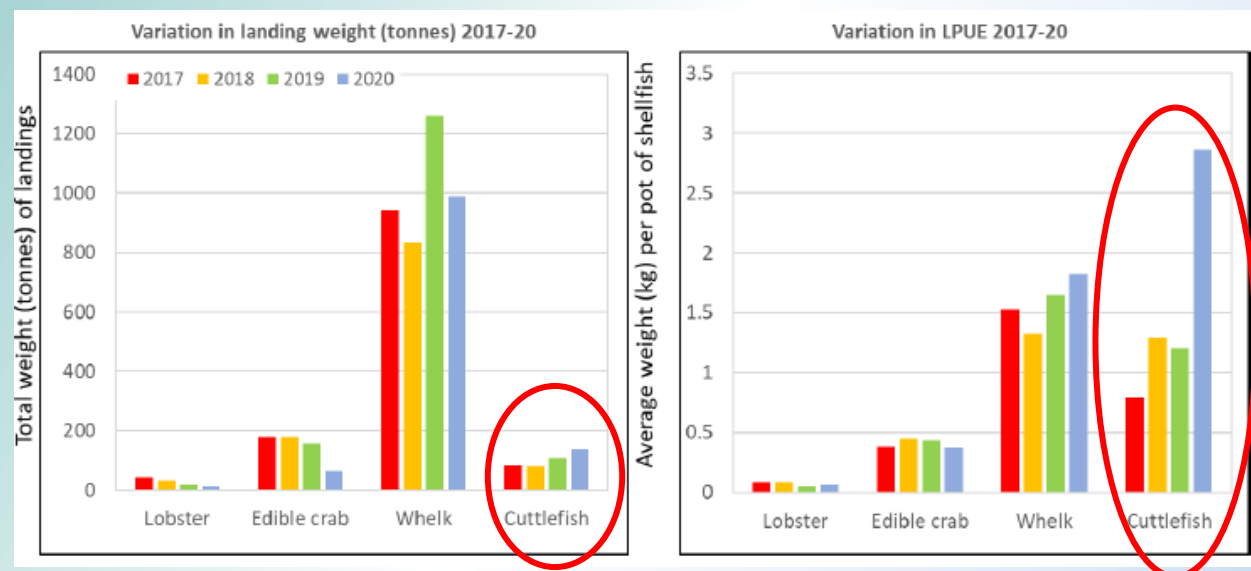
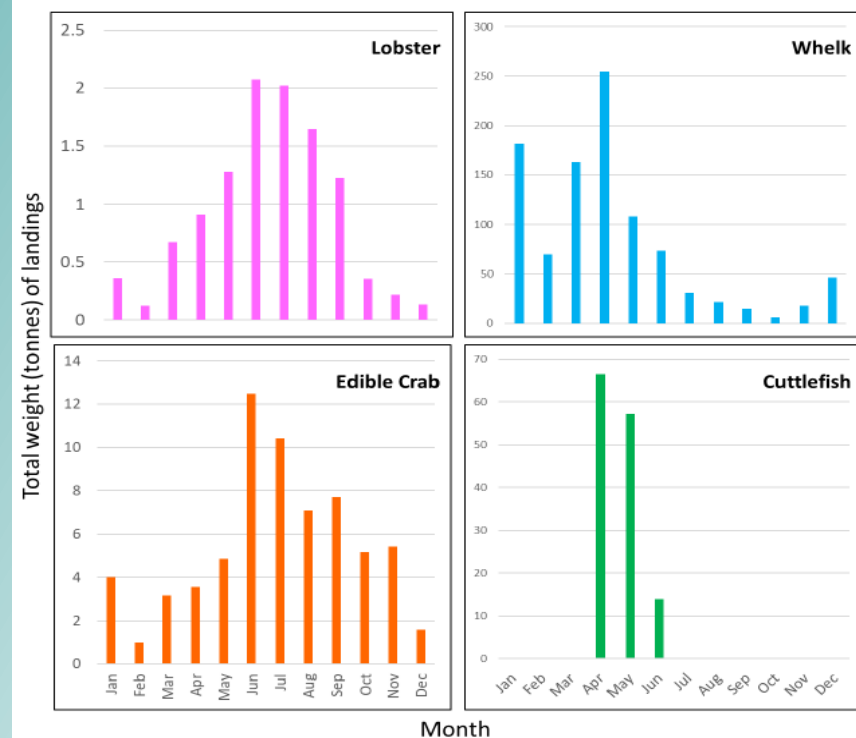
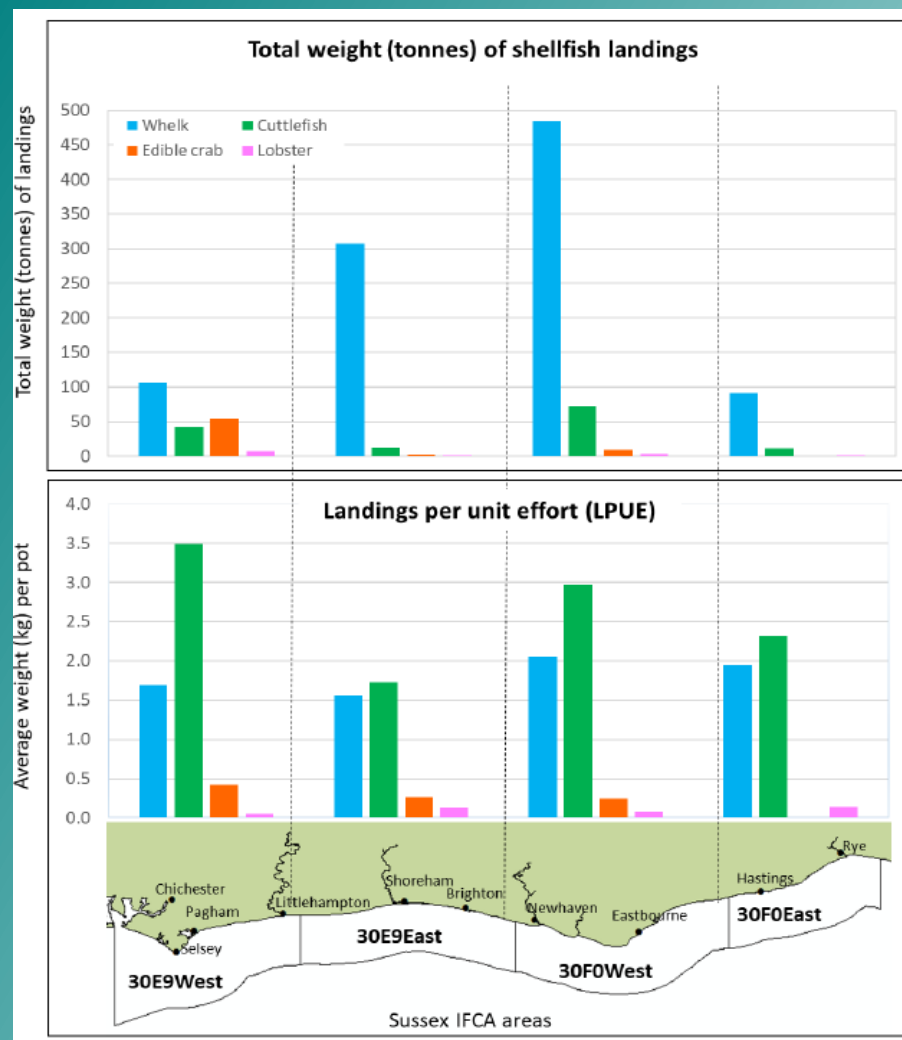


Shellfish Permit Byelaw return data

Percentage and weight (tonnes) of shellfish species landed from pots, nets and trawls



Shellfish Catch Returns



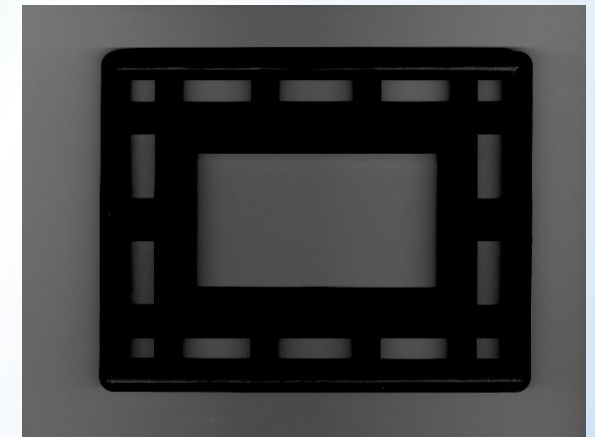
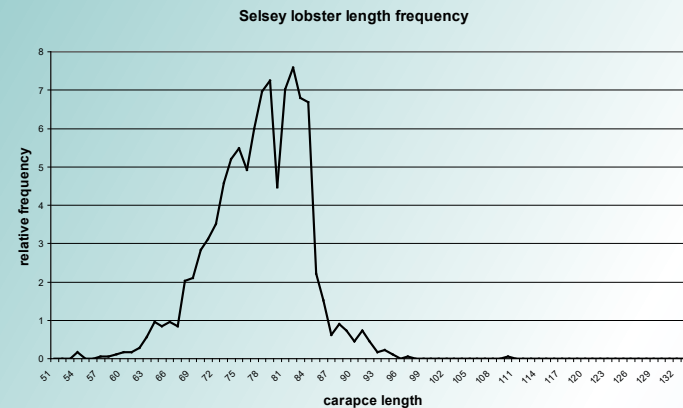
Management Measures

EU/UK

- Technical measures - Minimum sizes
- Ban on commercial removal of berried crab/lobster
- Shellfish Licence restrictions

Local Inshore – Sussex IFCA Shellfish Permit Byelaw 2015

- Regulated commercial and recreational permits
- Gear effort controls
- Technical measures – selectivity, tagging and marking of gear
- Recovery of illegal/lost/abandoned gear
- Ban on all berried or v notched lobsters
- Data returns required



SUSSEX IFCA SHELLFISH PERMIT BYELAW



Commercial fisher effort control:

- Cuttlefish traps 300 traps per permit
- Crab and Lobster pots 300 pots inside 3 nautical miles
300 pots between 3 and 6 nautical miles
- Whelk pots 300 pots inside 3 nautical miles
300 pots between 3 and 6 nautical miles

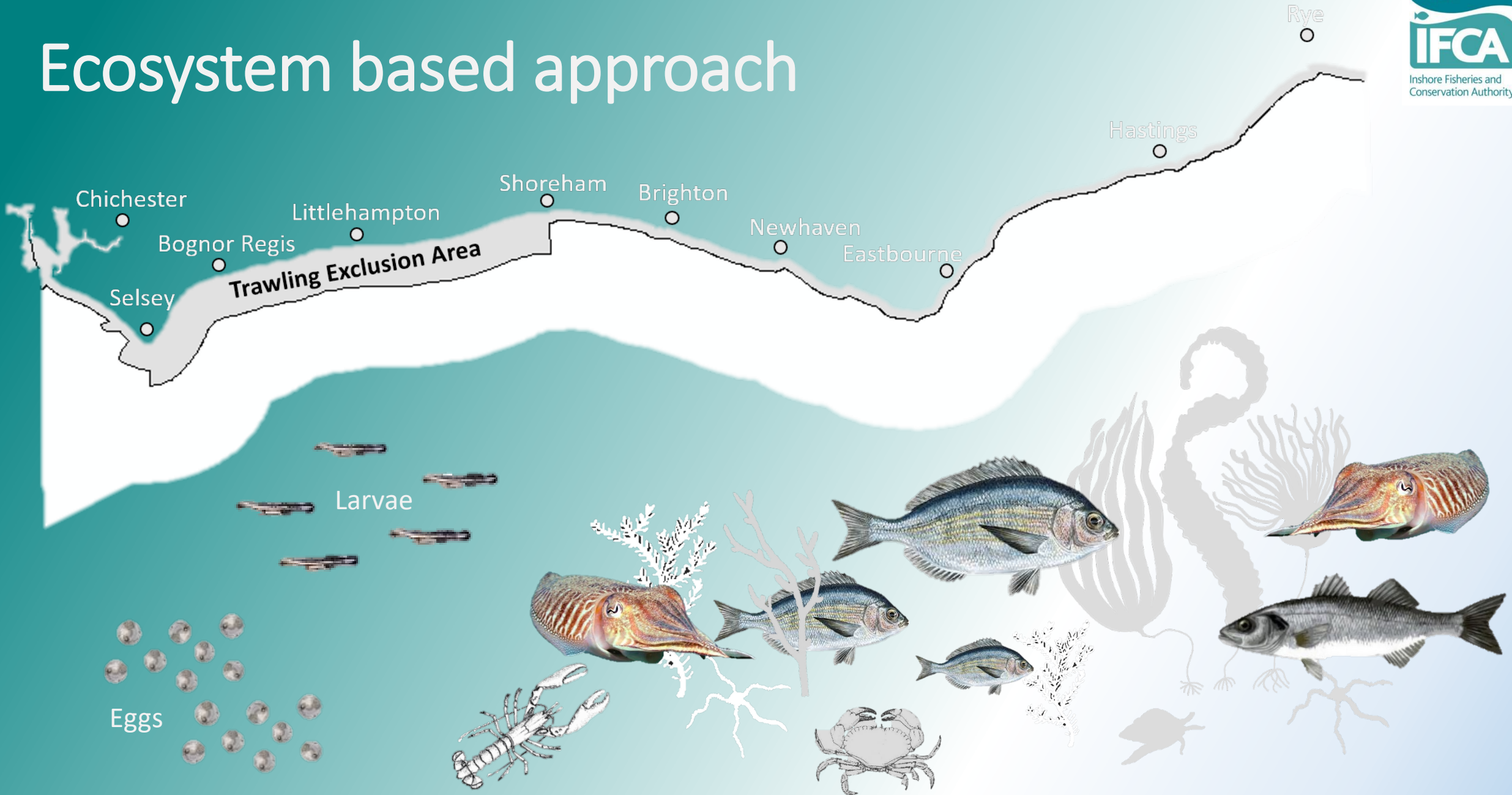
Recreational fisher effort control:

- Cuttlefish traps 2 traps
- Crab and lobster pots 5 pots
- Whelk pots 5 pots
- Prawn pots 5 pots

All crab and lobster pots must be equipped with an escape gap that allows a 80x45mm box to pass more than 100mm into pot.

All whelk pots must be equipped with a minimum 4 escape holes of at least 25mm diameter.

Ecosystem based approach





Thank you,
www.sussex-ifca.gov.uk