

REF:- CFP REFORM

6 - 10 - 11

Dear Sir, Madam,

I am at present chairman of the Welsh Inshore Scallop Association and joint owner of a vessel with my son which engages in scallop and whitefish and have been actively involved in the Welsh fishing industry for nearly 30 years. Using the CFP reform it is vital Wales opts to have its own quota pool and producers organisation as do the other devolved governments.

We as Welsh fishing businesses should not have to join English producers organisations to secure fishing rights.

Should Scotland eventually seek independence their fishing rights are secure, however if Wales were to follow one day we would have no such security.

For future generations of Welsh fishermen their families and communities

It is paramount that the Welsh Government uses this opportunity. We must protect our access to the excellent food resource.

Wales need to support a regional management scheme for TAC's, with monthly and annual species catch limits decided by the individual governance. Our mixed fishery and small white fish fleet needs government support to survive let alone prosper considering the latest EU TAC cuts.

Based on Welsh Government's strategy to achieve a sustainable fishing industry and my members believe adopting a policy of vessel size restriction and the total abolishment of grandfather - historical rights would go a long way to protect fisheries inside the Welsh 12 mile limit. The Belgian fly-shooters and large scallop vessels working between the 12 mile limit and median line in the Irish Sea, destroy the stock levels every year and we see no place for these large powerful fishing vessels in a sustainable environment.

I would welcome the opportunity to speak with your committee on any CFP reform issues.

Yours sincerely
Mr J. Wellington