Ministerial Office Ministerial Decision Report



Genera	Infor	mation

General Information	
Ministerial Decision Type	Miscellaneous
Report Title	Approval to extend "valid until date" on licences for EU fishing vessels under the Sea Fisheries (Licensing of Fishing Boats)(Jersey) Regulations 2003
Minister	Environment
Signatory	Minister
Lead Department	Infrastructure, Housing and Environment (IHE)
Lead Directorate	Natural Environment (IHE)
Ministerial Decision Summary: Public or Absolutely/Qualified Exempt	Public
Date decision made if different to date 'Ministerial Decision Summary' signed.	
Report and Supplemental Report Details	
Report Author	Head of Marine Resources and Management
Date of Report	07/09/2022
Supplementary Report Title (If applicable)	
Supplementary Report Author (If applicable)	
Date of Supplementary Report (If applicable)	
Ministerial Decision Report: Public or Absolutely/Qualified Exempt	Public
Relevant Case/Application/URN (Only complete if making a decision related to an appeal/case/application)	
Relevant Proposition Number (Only complete if presenting Comments or if lodging an Amendment)	
Relevant Scrutiny Report (Only complete if presenting a ministerial response)	
Associated Law(s) and/or Subordinate Legislation	Sea Fisheries (Licensing of Fishing Boats) (Jersey) Regulation 2003
Action required if recommendation agreed	Department to take necessary action.



Resource Implications

There are no new financial and/or manpower implications.

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Introduction

Under the Trade and Co-operation Agreement qualifying EU (French) vessels are issued a licence to fish by the Minister for the Environment. The current licences issued to EU vessels expire on the 30 September 2022. Discussions are still ongoing between the UK and EU in respect of the "Extent and Nature" aspect of the licences but will not be concluded by this time. To allow for the process to be completed, a short licence extension is proposed.

Recommendation

Minister to approve licence extension until 31 January 2023.

Detail

The Trade and Co-operation Agreement states that each Party shall grant vessels of the other Party access to fish in its waters reflecting the actual extent and nature of fishing activity that it can be demonstrated was carried out during the period beginning 1 February 2017 and ending on 31 January 2020 by qualifying vessels of the other Party in the waters and under any treaty arrangements that existed on 31 January 2020.

The first phase of the process was to establish the qualifying vessels. This was done through analysis of extensive and disparate data sets. To date 138 (136 permanent and 2 temporary) French vessels have been issued licences.

Discussions related to Extent and Nature (E&N), the second phase, are ongoing and both the EU and the UK support the Jersey (and other CDs) view that swift resolution of E&N is imperative.

EU vessel permanent licences expire on 30 September 2022. Despite the support for resolution, it is considered that the E&N phase will not be completed by the expiry date of these licences and therefore, to ensure continuity and certainty for those involved, an extension is granted until 31 January 2023. This timeframe will allow for the E&N discussions to conclude and Marine Resources Officers to implement the outcome of those discussions.

The Minister is asked to authorise the extension of these EU fishing vessel licences.