EXECUTIVE NOTE

THE FISHING BOATS (EU ELECTRONIC REPORTING) (SCOTLAND) SCHEME 2010 SSI 2010/374

1. The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 15(1) and (2) of the Fisheries Act 1981. It is subject to affirmative resolution procedure. This requirement comes into force on 29 October 2010.

Policy Objectives

2. The instrument makes provisions for Scottish Ministers to award grant to Scottish registered and administered vessels towards the costs of installing electronic logbook software.

Background

3. Vessels must introduce electronic logbooks in order to comply with the rules set out in Council Regulation (EC) No. 1966/2006 and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1077/2008 in relation to the obligation to transmit logbook data electronically. This obligation comes into effect on the following timescale: 1 January 2010 for fishing vessels exceeding 24 metres in length, 1 July 2011 for fishing vessels exceeding 15 metres and 1 January 2012 for fishing vessels exceeding 12 metres length.

Consultation

4. Along with the rest of the UK Fisheries Administrations, the Scottish Government undertook a written consultation with all Scottish vessels and fishing representative groups between 11 February 2008 and 5 May 2008 on the detailed rules and the UK's proposals for implementation of electronic logbooks. The response to the consultation was extremely low.

Financial Effects

5. There are financial implications for Masters and owners in purchasing a electronic logbook system. To assist with this new obligation the UK applied to the EU for assistance from the EU's New Technologies Fund. The grant scheme will run from mid November 2010 until 31 March 2011. The implementation of electronic logbooks has been accelerated to give fishermen the opportunity to access this funding stream.

6. A Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared to accompany this SSI as a full Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment was prepared to accompany SSI 2010/334 - The Sea Fishing (EU Recording and Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2010, which implements the enforcement provisions associated with the EU reporting and recording obligations.

Marine Scotland
Scottish Government