

Recommendation paper

Title: Loligo fishery – Exploratory Fishing – additional squares

Date: 20th February 2023

Report of: Sheena Ross

1. Background:

- 1.1 Every year in the advance of each Loligo season, a pre-recruit survey occurs to estimate the biomass immediately prior to the start of the season. The estimate is required to calibrate the stock assessment of Loligo during the season and maintain prudent catch levels.
- 1.2 As well as Loligo the survey records catch quantities of finfish and their distribution in the 'Loligo Box'.
- 1.3 Biological data of Loligo and other commercially important species is also gathered and samples taken.

2. Presentation and consultations:

- 2.1 On 27th October LPG and DoNR met to review the recently completed season and during this meeting, they requested that the pre-recruit survey programmed for February 2023, be amended to undertake an additional days exploratory fishing in grid squares immediately to the north of the Loligo box.

3. Recommendation:

- 3.1 That the pre-recruit survey scheduled for February 2023 undertake a supplementary day of experimental trawling to enable fishing in the additional grid squares, namely XKAN and XKAM, immediately north of the Loligo box.

Approved



Sheena Ross
Fisheries Manager