

## Response #293712



## Anonymous User

Started on 2016-11-10 22:32:22

Last change on 2016-11-10 22:50:28

Duration: 19:06 min

Collector: Velvet Crab Survey



## 1. I am making this submission:

On my own behalf

## 2. I am a:

Fisherman

## 3. My contact information is:

First and last name

Column 1

Alex Crowley

Address



Phone number (optional)



Email address (optional)



## 4. If you are a fisherman:

Vessel Name

Column 1

Emma Lou

Vessel Registration



Home Port



## 5. Do you catch Velvet Crab?

Yes

## 6. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?

By-catch

## 7. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

One Grade roughly over 60mm with no berried females

## 8. Is grading difficult?

Yes

If Yes, please explain why

Velvets are numerous even as a bycatch can there can up to 20 individual crab per pot. They are also highly aggressive and even at their small size can give a painful nip to anyone handling them even when wearing gloves. Excessive handling increases stress levels in the crabs and will lead to increased mortality which is an issue as are sold "live". The grading process is more of a process of making a quick guesstimate than one of exact measurement as is done for other shellfish such as lobster crab crayfish scallop where each individual animal is checked with a gauge

## 9. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

No real knowledge of this as I only land one grade as it's really a bycatch

10. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvet in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

No

Please provide further details:

—

11. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Stable

12. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

Please give your reasons why:

Currently the only conservation measures is a "gentlemen's agreement" which need to be backed up with legislation to create a level playing field. However consideration needs to be given to the difficulties in accurately measuring velvet crab, a small percentage tolerance of undersized in landings would achieve this. Something similar to the 1% tolerance allowed for crab claws in relation to landings of whole brown crab

13. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes

Please give your reasons why:

Brown crab, similar to velvet many operators work a larger MLS for market driver reasons

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire

1. I am making this submission:

- ☒ On my own behalf ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

2. I am a:

- ☒ Fisherman ☐ Shellfish buyer / processor  
☐ Representative of state body ☐ Scientist / technical expert  
☐ General public ☐ Representative of fishermen association  
☐ Political representative ☐ Representative of trade association  
☐ Other ☐ Representative of an environmental NGO

3. My contact information is:

Name	ANTHONY DWYER	
Address	[REDACTED]	
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]	
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]	

If you are a fisherman:

Vessel Name	MARY ROSE	
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]	
Home port	[REDACTED]	

4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?

Yes ☒ No ☐

5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?

Target ☒ By-catch ☒ Different times of year targets them and sometimes only by catch

6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒ No ☐



If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

2 grades medium and large we don't land small as the market doesn't want them.

Inshore crab good grade sometimes 2 to 1 large to small.

In summer even when we get smaller grade velvet in deeper water the market doesn't want them.

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

The markets don't want them and they generally aren't being landed as our grading is sufficient.

give clear reasons why you think it should not be released. The Department will, where possible, consult with you about any information which you have identified as sensitive information before making a decision in response to a request for release under the Freedom of Information Acts.

**Email:** [fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie) with the subject line 'Velvet Crab'.

**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: 

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**



✓

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Gavin Power [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 09 December 2016 20:15  
**To:** Fisheries Consultation  
**Subject:** Velvet Crab  
**Attachments:** Beara Lobster Fishermans Group Submission on Velvet Crab Management December 2016.pdf; Velvet Crab Submission Form.pdf

Please find attached submission in relation to the consultation on velvet crab management.

Kind Regards,

Gavin Power  
Chairman, Beara Lobster Fishermans Group





## **Industry submission on the consultation for Velvet Crab management in Irish waters.**

**Submitted by Gavin Power, Chairman Beara Lobster Fishermans Group**

**on behalf of local stakeholders involved in the Velvet Crab fishery.**

**9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

The velvet crab fishery is an important component to the Irish inshore capture fishing sectors as well as to the shellfish processing and exporting sectors. An important 'Vivier' market also exists for live exports of velvet crab. As is clear from the background information supporting this consultation process, the velvet crab fishery has no current binding management measures in place. Any management being practiced by industry to date (Seasons/Minimum Size/Berried Females/Quality considerations) has been purely voluntary and can be reversed due to changing market forces that may encourage unsavoury practices or by unsustainable increases in effort and commercial operator numbers. Evidence of overfishing and/or reduced recruitment at a local level is anecdotally evident in some coastal areas. Furthermore, the market price for live and processed product has increased in recent years which has resulted in effort increases in the fishery in Bantry Bay, Co. Cork and other areas.

Velvet crab is taken as a by-catch in the lobster fishery and therefore any binding management measures will affect those vessels targeting lobster and retaining velvets in some inshore areas. As there is no current legal minimum landing size for velvet crab, some processors have already developed markets for smaller sized velvet crab resulting in acceptance of smaller sized individuals in landings. New legally binding national management in terms of minimum landing size may affect such processors and associated markets, at least in the short term.

The WEST RIFF (Regional Inshore Fisheries Forum), in association with the Galway Bay Fishermen's Organisation and supported by the Marine Institute, tabled an initial management proposal for the velvet crab fishery regarding minimum size only. This call was adopted by the National Inshore Fisheries Forum and ultimately justified this formal Departmental consultation process. Following the consultation

announcement, the views of a number of southwest based fishermen, processors and 'Vivier' transport companies were sought, on the current situation regarding the fishery and the need for legally binding management measures as opposed to existing voluntary measures in existence. From industry operators consulted, the current southwest velvet crab fishery can be summarised as follows;

- Most catches of velvet crab are from vessels targeting the species, i.e. directed fishery vessels.
- Most vessels targeting velvet crab do so in the months of September to December and January to April each year.
- Processors receiving landings of velvet crab from a small number of vessels targeting the fishery from March to August each year, encounter problems with catch quality (softness) which leads at times to a rejection of a percentage of the catch. This can be as high as 30% in some instances.
- Processors can also encounter problems with velvet crab size in landings from the directed fishery. This situation arises because some fishermen do not pursue rigid grading on board and rely on the factory to grade out or 'cut' the smaller sized individuals according to their individual processing and market requirements.
- Most southwest based processors require a minimum size (carapace width) of between 60mm to 70mm.
- Some processors and Vivier transporters will not accept berried female velvet crab presented for sale. However other operators do accept berried females presented for sale.
- Some 'vivier' transporters will accept poor quality velvet crab during the summer months provided that size requirements are met. This may result in high mortality of 'moulting' velvet crab during transit.
- Velvet crab represents a small but important by-catch in the lobster fishery throughout the lobster season between March to November.

From the views of several industry stakeholders in the Beara region, the following position and proposal has been agreed.

- There is a requirement for legally binding management measures for the velvet crab fishery.
- A minimum landing size of 70mm carapace width should be introduced. It was felt that the proposed minimum landing size of 65mm carapace width will have little tangible effect on current fishery practices.
- There should be a ban and preclusion on the landing or retaining on board of berried females.
- A closed season should be introduced for the months of April, May, June and July each year. During this period any vessel targeting lobster will be

permitted to land a maximum quantity of 10kg of velvet crab per day or a maximum of 70kg in any seven day period if storing catches live at sea.

- A tolerance of 5% should be formally enshrined and accepted by the SFPA to avoid the situation whereby a fisherman or processor is unduly penalised for 'human error' in carapace width measurement within catches.

**Commercial stakeholders consulted and in support of this submission**

Mr. Gavin Power, Chairman Beara Lobster Fishermans Group, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Mr. Jorge Andrade, CEO, Eiranova Fisheries Limited, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Mr. Liam Murphy, MFV Sheila/MFV Julia May, [REDACTED]

Mr. Sean Daly, MFV Daly Fisher, [REDACTED]

Mr. Turlough Daly, MFV Granzo, [REDACTED]

Mr. John O' Shea, MFV MFV Grace Ellen, [REDACTED]

Mr. Seamus Sullivan, MFV Ryan Martin II, [REDACTED]

Mr. Paul Power, MFV Fishing Sixteen, [REDACTED]

Mr. Pat O' Shea, MFV Beal Na Tra, [REDACTED]

Note: During discussions held, a small number of stakeholders in the Beara region were not in support of any management measures or had polarised views to those proposed here, and have elected to submit their respective views independently.

Signed Gavin Power

Gavin Power

Date 9th December 2016



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016

### Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	
Address	
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	
Vessel Registration	
Home port	

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

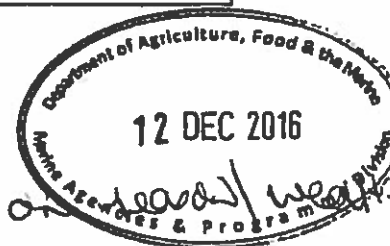
Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐

By-catch ☐

*(Both, depending on season/weight)*



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?).

We don't pick/Land Small or Sparrow  
Velvets. one grade.

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please explain why:

Very Time Consuming

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

We're not aware of any losses,  
as no rejections from my landings

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved



Stable



Declined



Cyclical



Has no pattern



Collapsed



11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

This system is working for me since I started potting and I've had no complaints from buyers/markets. Also velvet pot fishing has improved during the last 3 years in this area. So, I don't see any credible reason to change the greding

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

But I don't see any changes in regarding to potting, is required except maybe a realistic limit of pots per boat



## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION & DATA PROTECTION**

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**Email:** [fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie) with the subject line 'Velvet Crab'.

**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: 

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

☒ On my own behalf

☒ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

☒ Fisherman

☐ Representative of state body

☐ General public

☐ Political representative

☒ Other

☐ Shellfish buyer / processor

☒ Scientist / technical expert

☒ Representative of fishermen association

☐ Representative of trade association

☐ Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	GAVIN POWER
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	FISHING SIXTEEN
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒

By-catch ☐

6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

VIVIER TRUCK = 3 GRADES SMALL @ € 2.50  
MEDIUM @ € 3.50 LARGE @ € 4.50  
PROCESSOR #1 = 2 GRADES MED @ € 2.30 LARGE @ € 3.30  
PROCESSOR #2 = NO GRADE BUT ALL ABOVE 70mm NLS  
MEDIUM @ € 3.50 LARGE @ € 4.50 XL @ € 5.50

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☒

No ☐

Please provide further details:

DEAD HEAVILY ENCLOSED SHELL MATHES .IN POTS .

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☐

Stable

☐

Declined ☒

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☐ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

MEASURES AS OUTLINED IN ATTACHED DOCUMENT.

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Please give your reasons why:



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

☒ Fisherman

☐ Shellfish buyer / processor

☐ Representative of state body

☐ Scientist / technical expert

☐ General public

☐ Representative of fishermen association

☐ Political representative

☐ Representative of trade association

☐ Other

☐ Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Dean Murphy
Address	[Redacted]
Phone number (optional)	[Redacted]
Email address (optional)	[Redacted]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	Dean Richard
Vessel Registration	[Redacted]
Home port	[Redacted]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒

By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4-6 / kg  
6-8 / kg  
8-12 / kg

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☐

Declined

☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed

☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

Closing date for submissions: **Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
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|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	DOUGAL O'CONNOR
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	CAROL ANNE
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐ By-catch ☒



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐ No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable

☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

THERE ARE ENOUGH MARKET DRIVEN  
RESTRICTIONS AS IT IS.

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Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

**Enquiries concerning this consultation to:** [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire

1. I am making this submission:

- ☒ On my own behalf ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

2. I am a:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman         | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General public               | <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Political representative     | <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO  |

3. My contact information is:

Name	DEWIS GRIFFIN
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]

If you are a fisherman:

Vessel Name	ELEDA
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?

Yes ☒ No ☐

5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fish?

Target ☒ By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

1 Just grade them into 2 grades  
Medium and large

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

2 grades medium and large  
about 2.50 to 3.00  
euro per kilo

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☒ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☐ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☒

No ☐

Please give your reasons why:

I would like to see Brown Crab SIZE made larger because what is been landed is too small

I would also like to see  
a limit on pots because I'm  
fishing about 200 pots for Velvet  
and there are 6600 beside me using  
up to a 1000 and the same boats are  
fishing another 1660 shrimp pots at  
the same time. I would like  
to see boats been able to do  
one job at the time and everybody  
treated equal. These boats fish  
where punts are, and when they have  
that done they can move off shore  
in the Dunes Cant do that. Deus Githi



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**



On my own behalf



On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**



Fisherman



Shellfish buyer / processor



Representative of state body



Scientist / technical expert



General public



Representative of fishermen association



Political representative



Representative of trade association



Other



Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	DAVID HURLEY
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	CELTIC DAWN I
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐

By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

MEDIUM

LARGE

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4 - 6

6 - 8

8 - 12

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☐

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION & DATA PROTECTION**

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**Email:** [fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie) with the subject line 'Velvet Crab'.

**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions:** Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016

### Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Kieran O'Sullivan
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	CELTIC DAWN I
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐ By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

MED 10 M

LARGE.

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4 - 6

6 - 8

8 - 12

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☐

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

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## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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**1. I am making this submission:**



On my own behalf



On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**



Fisherman



Shellfish buyer / processor



Representative of state body



Scientist / technical expert



General public



Representative of fishermen association



Political representative



Representative of trade association



Other



Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Richard Murphy
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	DEAN RICHARD
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

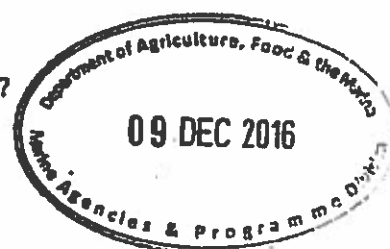
Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒

By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

MEDIUM

LARGE

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4 - 6

6 - 8

8 - 12.

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

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Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

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## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	DAMIEN COGAN
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	INIS EADA
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

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Has no pattern

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Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

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## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016

### Submission Form

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**1. I am making this submission:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On my own behalf	<input type="checkbox"/> On behalf of an organisation/group
--	---

**2. I am a:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman	<input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor
<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert
<input type="checkbox"/> General public	<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association
<input type="checkbox"/> Political representative	<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Corrie BOWEN
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	CROCH NA OISIN
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

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Stable

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Declined ☐

Cyclical

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Has no pattern

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11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

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☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

**Enquiries concerning this consultation to:** [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions:** Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	David Murphy
Address	[Redacted]
Phone number (optional)	—
Email address (optional)	—

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	Fair Maiden
Vessel Registration	[Redacted]
Home port	[Redacted]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐ By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

LARGE, MED. SMALL

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4 - 6 per kg  
6 - 8 per kg  
8 - 12 per kg

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☒

Stable ☐

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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**2. I am a:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|---|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Dai Cogan
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	Daveywhale
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



6. Do you ~~grade~~ the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you ~~supply~~ different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐

Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒

Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Clonakilty  
Co Cork

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## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016

### Submission Form

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**1. I am making this submission:**

☐

On my own behalf

☐

On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

☒

Fisherman

☐

Shellfish buyer / processor

☐

Representative of state body

☐

Scientist / technical expert

☐

General public

☐

Representative of fishermen association

☐

Political representative

☐

Representative of trade association

☐

Other

☐

Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	COLIN CASHMAN	
Address	[REDACTED]	
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]	
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	DUALLA	
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]	
Home port	[REDACTED]	

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐

By-catch ☒



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐ No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

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Yes ☒

No ☐

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Improved ☐

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

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☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016

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☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

☒ Fisherman

☐ Representative of state body

☐ General public

☐ Political representative

☐ Other

☐ Shellfish buyer / processor

☐ Scientist / technical expert

☐ Representative of fishermen association

☐ Representative of trade association

☐ Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	BRIAN O'SULLIVAN
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	LOC BEAG
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒

By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

LARGE  
X LARGE.

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

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No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Brian Cullen
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

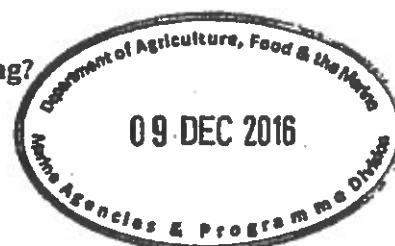
Vessel Name	Arda Less
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION & DATA PROTECTION**

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**Email:** [fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie) with the subject line 'Velvet Crab'.

**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

**Enquiries concerning this consultation to:** [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions:** Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	JERRY COUGHLAN
Address	[REDACTED] Co Cork
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	NAIBH
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

LARGE AND MEDIUM

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☒

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

LARGE AND MEDIUM

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☐

Declined ☐

Weather Dependent

Cyclical ☒

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

WATER Temperature

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☒ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☐ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

Buyers Market No market for  
SMALL crabs.  
No market for Berried Females

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016

### Submission Form

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|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	CARRETT O' MAHONY
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	ATLANTIC DRIFT
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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**1. I am making this submission:**

☒ On my own behalf

☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

☒ Fisherman

☐ Representative of state body

☐ General public

☐ Political representative

☐ Other

☐ Shellfish buyer / processor

☐ Scientist / technical expert

☐ Representative of fishermen association

☐ Representative of trade association

☐ Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	<i>Firbarr Harrington</i>
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	<i>FAIR Haiden</i>
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐

By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

Large and Small

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4-6 to the kg  
6-8 to the kg  
8-12 to the kg

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☐

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions:** Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

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☒ Fisherman

☐ Representative of state body

☐ General public

☐ Political representative

☐ Other

☐ Shellfish buyer / processor

☐ Scientist / technical expert

☐ Representative of fishermen association

☐ Representative of trade association

☐ Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	JOE HARRINGTON
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	FAIR MAIDEN
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐

By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

LARGE

MEDIUM

SMALL

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4-6 to the KG

6-8 to the KG

8-12 to the KG

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☐

Declined

☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed

☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

**Enquiries concerning this consultation to:** [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**



[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Martina Sweeney [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 09 December 2016 10:49  
**To:** Fisheries Consultation  
**Subject:** Velvet Crab Submission

Re: Submission Galway Bay Inshore Fisherman's Association

Our velvet crab fishery in Inner Galway Bay has declined from a healthy fishery to a by-catch in the last 6 to 8 years. All our members agree that the introduction of a minimum size of 65mm or 70mm could only have a beneficial effect on the fishery. More importantly we feel the return of all berried crab should be introduced. We have already agreed to these measures voluntarily in the last year. We know this may not be necessary in other fisheries around the country and we feel this is why regional management is the best way forward in this and all our other fisheries.

Sincerely,  
Gerry Sweeney  
Secretary G.B.I.F.A.  
9/12/2016



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016

### Submission Form

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**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
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|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Noel Codrigan		
Address	[REDACTED]		
Phone number (optional)			
Email address (optional)			

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	See Merc		
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]		
Home port	[REDACTED]		

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☐



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☒

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

**Enquiries concerning this consultation to:** [REDACTED]

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## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On my own behalf	<input type="checkbox"/> On behalf of an organisation/group
--	---

**2. I am a:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman	<input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor
<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert
<input type="checkbox"/> General public	<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association
<input type="checkbox"/> Political representative	<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	PAT O REGAN
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	OIR SHORE
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☐



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?



9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☒

No ☐

Please give your reasons why:

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Co Cork

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☐ Scientist / technical expert

☐ General public

☐ Representative of fishermen association

☐ Political representative

☐ Representative of trade association

☐ Other

☐ Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Richard Murphy
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	The Three Brothers
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒

By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

4-6 to kg -  
6-8 to kg  
8-12 to kg -

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

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Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

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Stable

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Cyclical

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Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed

☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Clonakilty  
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|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Bon Murphy
Address	[Redacted]
Phone number (optional)	[Redacted]
Email address (optional)	[Redacted]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	Richard Anna
Vessel Registration	[Redacted]
Home port	[Redacted]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

x-8	/kg	£11.00
x-6	/kg	£5.00
8-12	/kg	£2.50



9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Email:** [fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie) with the subject line 'Velvet Crab'.

**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On my own behalf	<input type="checkbox"/> On behalf of an organisation/group
--	---

**2. I am a:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman	<input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor
<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert
<input type="checkbox"/> General public	<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association
<input type="checkbox"/> Political representative	<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Patrick Murphy
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	MARIA
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

**Enquiries concerning this consultation to** [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**



On my own behalf



On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**



Fisherman



Shellfish buyer / processor



Representative of state body



Scientist / technical expert



General public



Representative of fishermen association



Political representative



Representative of trade association



Other



Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Richard Murphy
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	RYAN DEAN.
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

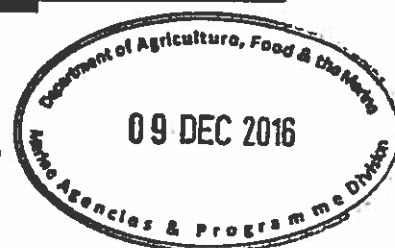
Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒

By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4-8 per Kgs → €4.00  
4-6 per Kgs → €5.00  
8-12 per Kgs → €2.50



9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved



Stable



Declined ☐

Cyclical



Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?



Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR



Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

**Enquiries concerning this consultation to:** [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Pierce O'Driscoll
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	Destiny
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

I pick the crab out of the pots, one by one and then I go through them at my storage crab mooring. I have two grades, medium and large.

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

Medium and Large are my two grades. As with all fish prices may vary with market demand and time of year. Presently I get £4.50 kg for large and £2.50 kg for medium.

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

I store my crabs in fish boxes, covered with net and in shrimp pots on a surface line mooring. They hang about 1 mtr. from surface. I never have any problems with them.

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☒ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☐ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

I have always kept my crabs a size of 65mm or more. A legal minimum of 65mm would ensure that every other fisherman did like wise. This could only be good for the future of the fishery. Absolutely, no berried / spawning crabs should be landed at any time. I would also like for a 50mm. escape panel in the pots.

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

I mainly target velvet crab, lobster and shrimp and there is already controlled measures in place.

I have fished since 1984 and have fished inshore since 1980. My main target species have been velvet crab and shrimp, with the last two seasons being on par with my best seasons. I think it's a good sign that stocks are in a healthy state in Roaring Water Bay. However, I feel strongly that a pot limit should be put in place — 200 crab pots per boat and 300 shrimp pots per boat. That a cap be put in place on the amount of boats entering the fishery.

More control measures need to be put in place:

1. Season for velvet crab should be from mid May to early December.
2. Absolutely no berried / spawning fish should be landed of any species.
3. I believe it should be a system of gear in - gear out, not as it is presently, with some boats working 1500 shrimp pots and perhaps 700 or more crab pots, at the one time. This is not a sustainable practice.
4. If a closed season for velvet crab was to be put in place, that boats targeting lobsters should not be allowed take a by-catch of velvet crab. Closed season should be for all.

In the future, any amendments to laws, or new measures put in place should be advertised in the fishing papers, Marine Times / Irish Skipper. As on this occasion, I only found out by chance of this velvet crab management consultation from a brief conversation with [REDACTED] and only for that, the fishermen of Roaring Water Bay would have had no input.

Pierce O'Driscoll Destiny [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

☒ On my own behalf

☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

☒ Fisherman

☐ Representative of state body

☐ General public

☐ Political representative

☐ Other

☐ Shellfish buyer / processor

☐ Scientist / technical expert

☐ Representative of fishermen association

☐ Representative of trade association

☐ Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Pat Murphy
Address	[Redacted]
Phone number (optional)	[Redacted]
Email address (optional)	[Redacted]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	SWAN
Vessel Registration	[Redacted]
Home port	[Redacted]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒

By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4/6 /kg  
6/8 /kg  
8/12 /kg



9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☐

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Email:** [fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie) with the subject line 'Velvet Crab'.

**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**



On my own behalf



On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**



Fisherman



Shellfish buyer / processor



Representative of state body



Scientist / technical expert



General public



Representative of fishermen association



Political representative



Representative of trade association



Other



Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	LOIC TRAHN - BREIZW TEO
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]

**BREIZON LTD.**  
 INVERIN, CO GALWAY, EIRE.  
 IE 360018EC, FBN 097  
 Phone: 00353-91-572157  
 Fax: 00353-91-572157  
 Email: info@breizon.com

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	/
Vessel Registration	/
Home port	/

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

WE CATCH APPROX 150 TONS  
OF VELVET / YEAR.

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐

By-catch ☐

6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please explain why:

IF THE GRADING IS NOT DONE BY ADJUSTING SIZE  
OF POTS, IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT ONCE THE CRABS  
ARE LANDED → VERY LETHAL/VIOLENT CRABS.  
(I HAVE BEEN HANDLING THEM FOR FORTY YEARS.)  
+ ALSO THEY START FIGHTING BETWEEN THEMSELVES CAUSING DAMAGE.

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

(L) OF CLAW  
LEG

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

2 GRADES	MEDIUM	AVERAGE PRICE	2 € / 2.50
	LARGE	AVERAGE PRICE	3 € / 3.50

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

→ BAN ON BERRIED VELVET SEEMS OBVIOUS.  
→ THERE IS NO DEMAND FOR SMALL VELVET CRABS  
SO THE MARKET REGULATES ITSELF.

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☒

No ☐

Please give your reasons why:

NOT AT PRESENT.  
WE BELIEVE A BAN ON BERRIED CRABS SHOULD BE  
SUFFICIENT FOR NOW.  
AS WE DONT SEE ANY MAJOR CHANGE IN  
LANDING FIGURES.

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Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to [REDACTED]

Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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**1. I am making this submission:**



On my own behalf



On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**



Fisherman



Shellfish buyer / processor



Representative of state body



Scientist / technical expert



General public



Representative of fishermen association



Political representative



Representative of trade association



Other



Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	<i>Donal HEALY</i>
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	
Vessel Registration	
Home port	

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐

By-catch ☐



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☐

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4-8 =  
8-12 =  
4-6 =



9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
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Clonakilty  
Co Cork

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- ☒ On my own behalf ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|---|---|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	EIRANOVA FISHERIES LTD	
Address		
Phone number (optional)		
Email address (optional)		

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	
Vessel Registration	
Home port	

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☐

6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

V. CRAB IS GRADED IN TWO:  
MEDIUM (MINIMUM SIZE 70mm)  
LARGE

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

WE GRADE IT FOR THE MARKET IN 3 DIFFERENT GRADES: MEDIUM, LARGE & EXT LARGE.

YES, WE DO GET DIFFERENT PRICES.

AVERAGE PRICE:

- MEDIUM = 11.50 €/kg

- LARGE = 14.50 €/kg

- EXT = 17.00 €/kg

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

MORTALITY ONLY INCREASES IN THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE, JULY, & AUGUST.

THIS IS BECAUSE OF:

- SPANNING TIME FOR VELVET CRAB
- CHANGE OF SHELL
- MEAT CONTENT IN VELVET CRAB IS VERY LOW.

SO, IN THIS 4 MONTHS, VELVET CRAB SHOULDN'T BE TARGETED

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☐

Declined ☒

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☒ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of ~~65mm~~ OR 70mm

☐ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

WE RECOMMEND A MINIMUM SIZE OF 70mm BECAUSE:

- THE SPANISH, FRENCH AND PORTUGUESE MARKET DOESN'T PAY A GOOD PRICE FOR ANYTHING UNDER 70mm.
- ANYTHING UNDER 70mm IS TOO SMALL.
- PROTECT OUR FISHERIES

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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**1. I am making this submission:**



On my own behalf



On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**



Fisherman



Shellfish buyer / processor



Representative of state body



Scientist / technical expert



General public



Representative of fishermen association



Political representative



Representative of trade association



Other



Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Michael Daly
Address	[Redacted] Co Cork
Phone number (optional)	[Redacted]
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	Laura Jane
Vessel Registration	[Redacted]
Home port	[Redacted]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒

By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?



9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION & DATA PROTECTION**

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**Email:** [fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie) with the subject line 'Velvet Crab'.

**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

Closing date for submissions: **Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

## Response #334719



## Anonymous User

Started on 2016-12-07 19:48:42

Last change on 2016-12-07 19:55:04

Duration: 06:22 min

Collector: Velvet Crab Survey

## Meta Data

1. I am making this submission:

On my own behalf

2. I am a:

Fisherman

3. My contact information is:

First and last name

Column 1

Michael O Malley

Address

Phone number (optional)

Email address (optional)

4. If you are a fisherman:

Column 1

Vessel Name

phoenix

Vessel Registration

Home Port

5. Do you catch Velvet Crab?

No

6. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?

7. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

8. Is grading difficult?

If Yes, please explain why

9. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

—

10. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

—

Please provide further details:

—

11. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

—

12. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm CR

Please give your reasons why:

in the interests of conservation

13. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

—

Please give your reasons why:

—

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**



On my own behalf



On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**



Fisherman



Shellfish buyer / processor



Representative of state body



Scientist / technical expert



General public



Representative of fishermen association



Political representative



Representative of trade association



Other



Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	KIERAN O SULLIVAN	
Address	[REDACTED]	
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	SERENITY
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐

By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

MEDIUM  
LARGE

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4-6 TO KG  
6-8 TO KG  
8-12 TO KG

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to:



Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	MARTIN NEEDHAM
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	OSPREY
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

**9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

**10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?**

Improved

☒

Stable

☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

**11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?**

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

**12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

Closing date for submissions: **Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

☒ On my own behalf

☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

☒ Fisherman

☐ Shellfish buyer / processor

☐ Representative of state body

☐ Scientist / technical expert

☐ General public

☐ Representative of fishermen association

☐ Political representative

☐ Representative of trade association

☐ Other

☐ Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	JOHN O'CONNOR
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	CAROL ANNE
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

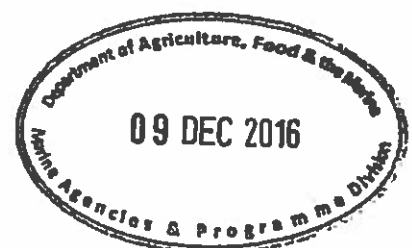
Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐

By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

2 grades  
Large  
Small

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4-6 to Kg.  
6-8 to Kg  
8-12 to Kg

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Email:** [fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie) with the subject line 'Velvet Crab'.

**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**



On my own behalf



On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**



Fisherman



Shellfish buyer / processor



Representative of state body



Scientist / technical expert



General public



Representative of fishermen association



Political representative



Representative of trade association



Other



Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	JOHN BALL
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	Sula
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒

By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

I keep only two grades, Medium and Large.  
All the small velvet crab as well as  
the ones with berries are put back to  
sea alive. (small velvet crab, less than 65mm)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

Grading is not really difficult other  
than it takes more time and effort.

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid  
different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

I supply two grades to the buyer,  
Large and Medium. The price varies  
but is always a lot better for large  
Crab compared to the medium about  
~~double~~ double on average.

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☒

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☒ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☐ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

Introducing a minimum size limit as well as returning berried (crabs with eggs underneath) crabs to sea will give the fishery a better chance of staying stable and improving.

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016

### Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☐ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	JOHN NEEDHAM
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	LEGAN
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐ No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☒

Declined

☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed

☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

Closing date for submissions: **Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Terry Coughlan
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	Conor LIAM
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☐



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

LARGE medium

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

LARGE + medium

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☐

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☒

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

Temperature of water  
weather

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☒ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☐ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

No MARKET for small crabs and  
Berried Females.

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

☒ On my own behalf

☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

☒ Fisherman

☐ Shellfish buyer / processor

☐ Representative of state body

☐ Scientist / technical expert

☐ General public

☐ Representative of fishermen association

☐ Political representative

☐ Representative of trade association

☐ Other

☐ Representative of an environmental NGO

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	<i>Seamus Cadogan</i>
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	<i>Turk Head Lass</i>
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒

By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

2 GRADES FOR SOME  
BUYERS LARGE AND ~~SMALL~~  
MEDIUM. SMALL CRABS ARE  
RETURNED ALIVE TO THE SEA

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

NOT MANY DIE

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

I DON'T THINK many PEOPLE  
KEEP VELVETS under 70mm  
BECAUSE THE buyers don't want  
THOM

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Email:** [fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie) with the subject line 'Velvet Crab'.

**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	TEROLY HAYNES
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	VIANNE
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4-6 per kg      6-8 per kg  
8-12 per kg

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION & DATA PROTECTION**

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**Email:** [fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie) with the subject line 'Velvet Crab'.

**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016

### Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|---|---|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	DAMIAN CONNOLLY
Address	Export Manager Shellfish de la Mer
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	
Vessel Registration	
Home port	

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☐ No ☒

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☐ By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

we sell grades  
4/8 pce /kg  
6/8 pce /kg  
8/12 pce /kg.

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☐

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to: [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions:** Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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**1. I am making this submission:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On my own behalf	<input type="checkbox"/> On behalf of an organisation/group
--	---

**2. I am a:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body <input type="checkbox"/> General public <input type="checkbox"/> Political representative <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor <input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO
--	--

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	TIMMY MURPHY
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	DAWN HUNTER
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐ No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☐

Declined

☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed

☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

**Enquiries concerning this consultation to:** [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions:** Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016

## Response #295015



## Anonymous User

Started on 2016-11-11 18:25:20

Last change on 2016-11-11 18:33:44

Duration: 08:24 min

Collector: Velvet Crab Survey

## Meta Data



## 1. I am making this submission:

☐ On my own behalf

## 2. I am a:

☐ Representative of fishermen association

## 3. My contact information is:

First and last name

Address

Phone number (optional)

Email address (optional)

Column 1

Trudy

## 4. If you are a fisherman:

Vessel Name

Vessel Registration

Home Port

Column 1

## 5. Do you catch Velvet Crab?

☐ No

## 6. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?

☐

## 7. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

☐

## 8. Is grading difficult?

☐

If Yes, please explain why

☐

## 9. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

10. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvet in pots, store houses or holding tanks?

Please provide further details:

11. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Declined

12. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

Please give your reasons why:

The minimum landing size should be 70mm. For conservation firstly, and because of the demand from buyers for a certain size of crab.

13. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes

Please give your reasons why:

Changes should be made for conservation and sustainability. Better quality in product. Stopping the landing of small unmarketable shellfish should stop. Better to be thrown back for a few months than dumped out dead because its not wanted because lack of demand

## Response #334361

**Anonymous User**

Started on 2016-12-07 17:23:58

Last change on 2016-12-07 17:40:41

Duration: 16:43 min

Collector: Velvet Crab Survey

**Meta Data****1. I am making this submission:**

On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

Representative of fishermen association

**3. My contact information is:**

	Column 1
First and last name	Seamus Breathnach
Address	West Regional Inshore Fisheries Forum, Carna Co Galway
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	wilff@inshoreforums.ie

**4. If you are a fisherman**

	Column 1
Vessel Name	
Vessel Registration	
Home Port	

**5. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes

**6. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target

**7. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

No

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

This answer varies from different fishermen and buyers.

**8. Is grading difficult?**

Yes

If Yes, please explain why

Velvet crab by their nature are a lively crab and aggressive and when fishing is heavy there are a lot of them to be graded

**9. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

The west RIFF represent inshore fishermen and they grade in two grades mainly large and medium .its done by eye and buyers do it by no of crab to kg

10. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvet in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

No

Please provide further details:

—

11. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Declined

12. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm CR

Please give your reasons why:

The West RIFF is of the opinion to get proper management you need to have the minimum size legislation should be enacted.

13. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes

Please give your reasons why:

The West RIFF is of the opinion that there should be a minimum landing size for all species and it should be enforced properly



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On my own behalf	<input type="checkbox"/> On behalf of an organisation/group
--	---

**2. I am a:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body <input type="checkbox"/> General public <input type="checkbox"/> Political representative <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor <input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO
--	--

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	William Murphy
Address	[Redacted]
Phone number (optional)	[Redacted]
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	SLIOGAN
Vessel Registration	[Redacted]
Home port	[Redacted]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved



Stable



Declined



Cyclical



Has no pattern



Collapsed



11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

**Enquiries concerning this consultation to:** [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Tony McLoughlin
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	BABA Kevin 2
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

- Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

- Target ☒ By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**



## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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**1. I am making this submission:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On my own behalf	<input type="checkbox"/> On behalf of an organisation/group
--	---

**2. I am a:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body <input type="checkbox"/> General public <input type="checkbox"/> Political representative <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor <input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO
--	--

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	<i>Leifionn Murphy</i>
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	<i>Blue Waters</i>
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



**6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

**7. Is grading difficult?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

**8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

**9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

**10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?**

Improved

☒

Stable

☐

Declined

☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern

☐

Collapsed

☐

**11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?**

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☐ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

**12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?**

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

Enquiries concerning this consultation to:



Closing date for submissions: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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- ☒ On my own behalf
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**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Patrick Murphy		
Address			
Phone number (optional)			
Email address (optional)			

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	SWAN		
Vessel Registration			
Home port			

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

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Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved



Stable



Declined ☐

Cyclical



Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

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Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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Clonakilty  
Co Cork

**Enquiries concerning this consultation to:** [REDACTED]

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## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

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 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

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|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	Thomas Aarndel
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	
Email address (optional)	

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	Freedom
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☒



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved

☒

Stable

☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical

☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION & DATA PROTECTION**

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**Email:** [fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesconsultation@agriculture.gov.ie) with the subject line 'Velvet Crab'.

**Post to:** Velvet Crab consultation  
Marine Agencies & Programmes Division  
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork

**Enquiries concerning this consultation to:** [REDACTED]

**Closing date for submissions:** Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016

## Velvet Crab Management Consultation 2016 Submission Form

*Please read the consultation document in full before responding to this questionnaire*

**1. I am making this submission:**

- ☒ On my own behalf
 ☐ On behalf of an organisation/group

**2. I am a:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of state body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|--|--|

**3. My contact information is:**

Name	TERRY HAYNES
Address	[REDACTED]
Phone number (optional)	[REDACTED]
Email address (optional)	[REDACTED]

**If you are a fisherman:**

Vessel Name	LAUGEN 5492
Vessel Registration	[REDACTED]
Home port	[REDACTED]

**4. Do you catch Velvet Crab?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

**5. Do you target velvet crab or is it a by-catch of lobster fishing?**

Target ☒ By-catch ☐



6. Do you grade the catch prior landing?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please give further details (e.g. how many different grades are there?)

7. Is grading difficult?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If Yes, please explain why:

8. Do you supply different grades to the buyer/market?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If Yes, please provide more details, e.g. how many grades are there? Do you get paid different prices per grade? What is the average price per kg for each grade?

4-6      6-8      8-12      Rea kilo

9. Have you noticed any recent increase in mortality of velvets in pots, store boxes or holding tanks?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further details:

10. How would you describe trends in the fishery in the past 10 years?

Improved ☐

Stable ☒

Declined ☐

Cyclical ☐

Has no pattern ☐

Collapsed ☐

11. Which policy option for velvet crab do you recommend?

☐ Introduce a minimum conservation reference size of 65mm OR

☒ Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size

Please give your reasons why:

12. Would you like to see any changes to minimum legal sizes in other species?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please give your reasons why:

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- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fisherman<br><input type="checkbox"/> Velvet crab fisherman<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative of government body<br><input type="checkbox"/> General public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political representative<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish buyer / processor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientist / technical expert<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of fishermen association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of trade association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Representative of an environmental NGO |
|---|--|

3. My contact information is:

Name	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="Seamus Gallagher"/>		
Address	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="SFPA [REDACTED]"/>		
Phone number (optional)	<input style="width: 150px;" type="text"/>	Email address (optional)	<input style="width: 250px;" type="text"/>

If you are a fisherman:

Vessel Name	<input style="width: 540px;" type="text" value="/"/>
Vessel Registration	<input style="width: 540px;" type="text" value="/"/>
Home port	<input style="width: 540px;" type="text" value="/"/>

### WHICH POLICY OPTION DO YOU RECOMMEND?

- A. Introduce a minimum landing size of 65mm ☒
- B. Retain a voluntary or market driven landing size of 65mm ☐
- C. Do neither because:
- (i) Existing measures are adequate ☐

(please explain why in the comments below )

(ii) Alternative measures should be put in place



(please indicate options you prefer in the comments below )

Comment

1. An escape device/panel should be required in pots likely to capture Velvet Crab. Pots without such a device to be confiscated.
2. Landing of banded females should be prohibited
3. Consideration should be given to an appropriate closed season (my to advise accordingly)

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