

Appendix 2 – Interview Questions for Fishers

Interviewer Name: _____

Interviewee Name: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Home Port: _____

Plate number: _____

OHCLP Participant: YES NO

USTAN Tracker: YES NO

Voice Recording File Name: _____

Voice Recording File Name: _____

*** Anything in grey is a prompt for the interviewer to give***

1. Welcome (introduce self, job role, purpose (feedback on the creel limitation pilot)). Thank the interviewee for participating.
2. **Show and explain the participant information sheet**
We know that the industry has been badly impacted by Brexit, COVID-19 and now the increases in fuel prices so we are aware that it might be hard to determine which changes were due to what. If when answering these questions, you could focus specifically on how the Creel Limitation has made a difference as best as you can, that would be much appreciated.
3. **Show and explain consent form – is interviewee happy being recorded? – start voice recorder!**

Start of interview:

Section 1: About interviewee (remember to fill boxes above!)

- 1) How long have you been fishing in the area?
- 2) What species do you target and with what gear?
- 3) Are you currently taking part in the Outer Hebrides Creel Limitation Pilot that began in November 2020?

Section 2: Changes to fishing activities

- 4) Have your fishing activities changed as a result of the creel limitation pilot?

Checklist for Interviewer	Covered?
Fishing locations? Why?	
Distance change? By how much?	
Creel numbers? By how much?	
Soak times? By how much?	

Days/ week? By how much?	
Time/ trip? By how much?	
Other? Why?	

- 5) Do you believe others have changed their fishing activities as a result of the creel limitation pilot? (Prompt: How about the Vivier crab vessels?)
- 6) Do you think that the creel limits are too conservative, not conservative enough or just right?
- 7) If there was evidence to suggest that lower creel limits were needed to make fishing more sustainable, would you accept it? Why/Why not?

Section 3: Social Implications

- 8) Have you noticed any change in the levels of gear conflict as a result of the Creel Limitation Pilot?

Checklist for Interviewer	Covered?
Inside vs outside the pilot area?	
Creels being placed on the grounds?	
Is it deliberate?	
Other fishers moving your gear?	
Other fishers taking your catch from your creels?	
Other	

- 9) Can you tell me if relationships between fishers (static and mobile) have gotten better or worse because of the Creel Limitation Pilot? What has contributed to any changes in these relationships?

Section 4: Economic implications

- 10) Do you think the Creel Limitation Pilot has had an impact on you economically? If so, how? (Income and expenditure, e.g., running costs or catch and landings?)
- 11) Have you noticed any changes in shellfish stocks since the Creel Limitation Pilot was initiated? (For example: quality, size of stock, abundance). Do you think this is a consequence of the Creel limitation Pilot?

Section 5: Well-being

- 12) Have there been any changes to your well-being because of the Creel Limitation Pilot?

Checklist for Interviewer	Covered?
Sustainability of your business	
Quality of life	
Mental Health	
Physical health	

- 13) Are there any health and safety implications from the Creel Limitation Pilot? (E.g. time at sea, exposure, number of creels on deck etc.)
- 14) Are you more or less satisfied with your health and safety now compared to before the creel limitation pilot?

15) Do you believe there would be a benefit to your health and safety by reducing creel numbers? Has it helped or exasperated any pre-existing medical conditions?

Section 5: Your thoughts and opinions

- 16) Do you personally believe, from what you've experienced with the Creel Limitation Pilot that it is working to reduce gear conflict? Why?
- 17) Do you personally believe, from what you've experienced with the Creel Limitation Pilot that it is working to improve your landings? Why?
- 18) Has your relationship with other fishers, Marine Scotland or the wider community changed as a result of the Creel Limitation Pilot? How? Why do you think that is?
- 19) Is there anything that you would change about the pilot? Are there any aspects that didn't work very well or could be better?
- 20) What are your biggest concerns as a creel / mobile fisher at the moment and do you think Creel Limitation schemes might help alleviate some of those concerns?

Section 6: Implementation of the creel limitation pilot

- 21) Is the Creel Limitation Pilot something that you were personally interested in? Why/ Why not?
- 22) Did you attend a consultation when the pilot was proposed? What opinions and concerns did you have?
- 23) What could have been done differently in the consultation, preparation and implementation of the Creel Limitation Pilot?
- 24) Is there anything else that I haven't asked you about the Creel Limitation Pilot that you wish to add or any questions that you would like to ask?

End of interview.

Thank the interviewee for participation.

Contact email address (fjs8@st-andrews.ac.uk)

Would you like to enter our prize draw for one of two £50 amazon vouchers?

Name: _____

Email address: _____