

NE ATLANTIC MARINE BIOLOGICAL AQC SCHEME
Meeting Minutes – 06/02/2018. 10.00-15.00. Location: NRW Cardiff

Attending: David Johns (DJ, SAHFOS, Chair), Tim Mackie (TM, Department of Agriculture Environment & Rural Affairs DAERA– Marine & Fisheries Division), Myles O’Reilly (MoR, SEPA, Benthic Invertebrate Contract Manager, by phone), Claire Mason (CM, CEFAS, PSA Contract Manager), Clare Ostle (Clare Ostle, SAHFOS, Technical Secretary, Graham Phillips (GP, EA, Finance Manager), Lydia McIntyre-Brown (LMIB, Apem Ltd), David Hall (DH, Apem Ltd), Grant Rowe (contractor’s representative), Hayley Hinchin (HH, JNCC), Annika Clements (AC, AFBI-NI), Matt Green (MG, NRW), Phil Aldous (PA, Thompson Unicomarine), Frazer Burlinson (FB, EA).

Apologies: Keith Cooper (KC, CEFAS), Jim Ellis (JE, CEFAS, Fish Contract Manager), Adele Boyd (AB, AFBI-NI), Ruth Barnich (RB, Thomson Ecology Ltd), Karina Jacobsen (KJ, Thomson Ecology Ltd), Rafael Salas (RS, MI), Claire Young (CY, DAERA, Macroalgal Contract Manager).

Scheme updates and reports appended at the end of the document.

1. Last Meetings Actions (summarised below on the agenda)		ALL
2. Minutes of the last meeting		CO
Approval of 25/09/2017 meeting minutes		ALL
3. Epibiota update		HH
4. Phytoplankton update		RS and JS
5. Priorities from HBDSEG		DJ
6. Contractor’s update APEM		DH
7. PSA Update		LMIB/CM
8. Benthic Invertebrates update		DH/MoR
9. Macroalgae		CY
10. Contractor’s update Thomson Ecology		RB/KJ
11. Fish update		RB/KJ/JE
12. Zooplankton update		DJ
13. AOB		ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared databases and use of WoRMS taxonomic dictionary • Taxonomic Discrimination Protocol • New privacy protection laws <p>15:30 – 17:00 Following general meeting PSA data workshop ideas will be discussed</p>		
14. Finance update		GP

1. Meetings Actions

ACTIONS still to complete from May 2017 meeting:

ALL

- let David J know if there is anything you want bringing up at the next HBDSEG meeting. **Next meeting early November. Done.**
- if any of the committee have something they would like to see in the new Benthic Inverts, PSA or Fish contracts, please let Graham know. **Graham has received feedback, waiting for final comments/feedback asap. Done**

Myles, Keith, Annika and Tim

- To discuss QA requirements in tenders, there should be guidelines for CMAs how to write the 5% external auditing and how the process on how to contract this out. Also to discuss how to deal with continued failing of remedial action. **Outstanding – only informal chats. Would be useful to get together and discuss this. TM: There is a need to understand how procurement people apply what is included, e.g. Weighting needed? .etc. All four should get in touch with procurement people so that understanding of process is improved (get documentation/guide notes), and then discuss with each other. ONGOING**
- Annika to send Myles details on a recent case of perpetual remedial action loop. **Has been resolved. Could feedback into above issue.**

Graham

- ask Roger for UNICORN support. **In progress - Case will hopefully go to next HBDSEG group. Still open, Microsoft halting support of Dbase – Phil Aldous, looking at options. TM: potential to develop in-house solution.**

Hayley

- to liaise with Henk, Tim and Annika to take epibiota component further – **Absent from meeting, will provide update to committee when possible - done**

David J

- investigate what data archives there are and how the data gets in these. **In progress, disconnect between CSEG and HBDSEG, need consistency**

ACTIONS from September 2017 Meeting:

ALL

- Component leads to read relevant sections of the annual report 2016/2017 and comment by 10th of October 2017- **done**

CM

- Send ideas around for PSA workshop – linking with benthic ecologists, to link analysis with use of data –**done, short meeting at end of 06/02/18 meeting to take place.**
- Get in touch with Ingrid Bakker (RWS CIV< Netherlands) about potential ideas/input for workshop - **done**

CO

- Send reminder to component leads to read through relevant section of annual report - **done**
- Send annual report to MoR once comments received - **done**
- Create guidelines for grade of paper to be used for SOPs – **combine with MoR draft template for SOPs**

MoR and DH

- Draft template for SOPs that is useable on range of machines, and then send to component managers for comment. DH has sent MOR a template for editing (25/09/17). **ONGOING**

DJ

- Produce index of ring test specimens for zooplankton – similar to benthic
- NMBAQC should be in consistent data management system as needs quality flags, DJ to bring it up with HBDSEG and DASSH / Medin- **discussed during HBDSEG, there will be a follow-up data meeting in March 2018 ONGOING – this is an issue with all groups, appears that everyone is working towards MEDIN-MERMAN data-flow**

MG

- To send details to the committee about database being developed for use within NRW **will keep committee updates with any changes, currently use Marine Recorder.**

HH

- To write an update on the epibiota component and send to committee- **done**

2. Previous meeting minutes approved by all present.

06/02/2018 Meeting notes:

Issue with database co-ordination, lots of common issues. Data archives: There is a need to be able to combine different data types (chemical, biological etc) and formats, with quality flags. MG: Marine Recorder is freely available, and so far is fairly useful. Potential for combining? Qualifiers need to be there – nomenclature, quality flags etc. WoRMS is improving for this. [Link to action for this.](#)

Stills and Video: Need to make sure update groups to keep people in the loop about potential workshops – Gardline is developing software. Communication is key. Lots of new techniques developing (machine learning etc), aim to keep discussion and knowledge progressing. Long-term monitoring: how to maintain repeatability – need specific objectives, and regular discussions/meetings. Potential for Defra funding – R and D proposal? [Link to action for this.](#)

Interest is in training workshops – need to find ways to advertise. Social media advertisement, facebook, twitter. Facebook – can feed into individual groups. University advertisement? PhD students etc. Researchgate. PORCUPINE – conference? Take leaflets/posters. Important to advertise importance of external quality control. [Link to action for this.](#)

Actions from current meeting - February 06/02/2018

ALL:

- Please can each component lead send Clare Ostle the latest contact email for their component for future correspondence. **Done**
- Next HBDSEG meeting will be 27th March – please let TM or DJ know if you want anything raised. **Done**
- Advertise NMBAQC where possible. **ONGOING**
- Please check with your institution protocol for new privacy policy laws starting in May, as this may effect email lists etc.

ALL: GP, TM, PA, AC, HH, MG, DJ, CM:

- Co-ordinate to work on solution to update/new UNICORN, and changes in Dbase support – Microsoft is no longer supporting this. Potential to work together/help move towards co-ordinated database development.

HH:

- Send taxonomic discrimination protocol with blurb to Clare Ostle for upload to website, and publicise via any avenues available. **Done**
- Send discussions around workshop to committee, and look into potential for facilitators for workshop. Aim to get workshop agenda/concrete dates etc. done by May 2018.
- Follow up with Mark Lewis and Ian Mitchel in Aberdeen for thoughts on best practice for seabirds

RS:

- Send Phytoplankton update to committee (in future please send update prior to meeting)

CY:

- Send Macroalgae update to committee (in future please send update prior to meeting)

LMB and CM:

- provide metadata with benchmark data for their reports
- Write up document for website on workshop
- Update guidelines on what to do about asbestos

DJ:

- On behalf of NMBAQC send thank you to MESL - done

PA:

- Please send committee example statement about new privacy protection laws

MoR and DH:

- Discuss TDP with David Hall and circulate ideas with committee, initiate plan to progress with this.

CO:

- Go through to update website, email Cefas to find out if umbraco update possible – ongoing, reliant on feedback from group
- Update poster, make into leaflet/powerpoint. Send around.
- Collate previous meeting actions that are still incomplete. - done

3. Epibiota update: HH:

Since the last meeting we have begun running contracts to create procedural guidance for the use of ROVs and AUVs for benthic marine monitoring (ROV nearly complete). In these guidelines we will link to the existing NMBAQC operational and interpretation guidance for imagery data and the guidance will support practitioners in using these more novel techniques, particularly in relation to epifaunal data collection.

We also have an epibenthic taxonomic discrimination protocol (TDP) in development, which is nearly ready for circulation through NMBAQC to the wider community for expert input. I just need to check with the primary author that they are happy when they are available at the end of January.

I am also having a discussion with JNCC and Cefas colleagues on 30th January about taking forward plans for a workshop on video and stills data, what issues are arising, what resources would help improve consistency further and what objectives a future ring test would have.

4. Phyto update: Apologies sent

5: Priorities for HBDSEG: DJ

Next meeting will be 27th March – please let TM or DJ know if you want anything raised

6: Contractor's update APEM: DH (see appended reports)

7: PSA update: (see appended report)

LMB and CM: Everything running smoothly, exercises completed, reports being finalised, and will be sent to CO for upload to the website. Workshop just before Christmas, 2 different Laser manufacturers did demonstrations, which was very informative and worked well. Good feedback. Asbestos risk from samples was mentioned, and lots of queries from this - participants would like more information on this issue and procedures required. Differences in laser used should be stated in methods statement. [See detailed update at end of document.](#)

GR: Query can NMBAQC provide all metadata with benchmark data for their reports? LMB and CM = yes

8: Benthic Inverts update (see appended report)

DH: Ringtests results coming in, and will be marked in context of key from when they did the test. Vasily's key will be finalised hopefully soon, this was a lot of work. Audit – potentially 30 samples to come in, deadlines have been extended due to special circumstances. No issues. MoR still finalizing NMBAQC Standard Taxonomic Literature List will soon be available for circulation. NMBAQC - Send thank you to MESL. Workshop will go ahead now have 11. [See detailed update at end of document.](#)

9: Macroalgae update : Apologies sent.

10: Contractors update Thomson Ecology (see appended report)

11: Fish update (see appended report)

PA: F_2415 YN need to get swapped around. Results are currently being analysed and interim reports are being prepared. 30th March Annual Report deadline all working towards. [See detailed update at end of document.](#)

GR: Query: 1 photo: PA: This follows protocol confirmed with Jim – felt that 1 photograph was sufficient. DH: Series of images of each fish required as specified in protocol? How ring-test used to work – included images of specific specimen regions. PA: Fair comment CM: Will flag with Jim.

MoR: Reverse ringtest: Mentions “North West Europe” yet we are described as northeast Atlantic, may be better to keep this consistent in reports. Reference to WFD monitoring may be more appropriate than to CSEMP. PA: Noted

12: Zooplankton update

DJ: All running as planned. SAHFOS plan to run zooplankton test in 2018.

13: AOB

DJ: New GDPR data protection rules from EU – takes effect from end of May 2018. Email lists, business cards – data breach. How do NMBAQC approach this? We need a sign up package, send an email to all contacts stating if happy to use contacts. PA: Has an example he can send.

MG: TDP - what are we doing with this? MoR: We do plan to move forward with this, however still working on funding. Will chat with David H. and circulate to committee on how to move forward.

Shared database covered previously. Steer from HBDSEG is to use WoRMS, attributes are available within database for species traits information.

GP: Behind on getting out contracts to be re-tendered, coming out asap. Likely June time.

7.



NMBAQC

NE Atlantic Marine Biological Analytical Quality Control Scheme

NMBAQC Committee Meeting

6th February 2018, NRW Ty Cambria, Cardiff, 10:00 – 15:00

PARTICLE SIZE ANALYSIS COMPONENT PROGRESS REPORT

2017-18, Year 24

1. Subscriptions

LabCode	PS64/65	PS66/67	PS-OS10/11/12
PSA_2401	1	1	1
PSA_2402	1	1	1
PSA_2403	1	1	1
PSA_2404	1	1	1
PSA_2405	1	1	1
PSA_2406	1	1	1
PSA_2407	1	1	1
PSA_2408	1	1	-
PSA_2409	1	1	-
PSA_2410	1	1	-
PSA_2411	1	1	-
PSA_2412	1	1	-
PSA_2413	1	1	-
PSA_2414	1	1	-
PSA_2415	1	1	-
PSA_2416	1	1	-
PSA_2417	-	-	1
PSA_2418	-	-	1
PSA_2419	-	-	1
PSA_2420	-	-	1
PSA_2421	-	-	1
PSA_2422	-	-	1
°	16	16	13

2. 2017-2018, Year 24 Operations

All PS exercises were distributed in line with the 2017-2018 timetable (available below).

Returns and results are summarised in the table below.

Exercise	Status	Returns / Comments
PS64	Samples distributed 10/07/17 Sample deadline passed (08/09/17) Interim report complete and issued (04/10/17) Exercise complete	Mud/Sand Test 16 out of 16 returns received
PS65	Samples distributed 10/07/17 Sample deadline passed (08/09/17) Interim report complete and issued (04/10/17) Exercise complete	Sand/ Gravel Test 16 out of 16 returns received
PS66	Samples distributed 13/10/17 Sample deadline (15/12/17) Interim report complete and issued (18/01/17) Exercise complete	Diamicton Test 15 out of 16 returns received
PS67	Samples distributed 13/10/17 Sample deadline (15/12/17) Interim report complete and issued (18/01/17) Exercise complete	Gravel Test 15 out of 16 returns received
PS-OS07-09	Samples requested 10/07/17 Data submission deadline passed (31/07/17) Sample submission deadline passed (31/08/17) Deadlines extended to end Dec 17 Reports due (02/03/18) Exercise in progress	12 out of 13 lists of samples received 36 out of 39 samples selected 36 out of 39 workbooks received 36 out of 39 samples received

a. Issues arising

The deadline for PS-OS submission has been extended to increase returns. There is one data set outstanding; the participant has been sent reminders. All other selected samples have been received.

The deadline for PS66 & 67 interim reporting was extended to 19/01/2018 due to late returns of participant results. Three participants (PSA_2401, PSA2402 and PSA_2414) asked for and were offered extensions to the deadline and two participants (PSA_2409 and PSA_2413) were late to provide data and did not request extensions.

One participant (PSA_2415) chose not to participate in PS67 and (PSA_2409) chose not to participate in PS66; both sent emails notifying non-participation.

b. Workshop

The PSA workshop originally planned for October took place on 7th December. Chris Mann (NLS) kindly hosted the workshop at Olympia House in Leeds. The aim of the workshop was to refine the PSA methodology, primarily problems that have arisen from laser analysis. Twenty-three people attended the workshop. The programme comprised laser demonstrations by Malvern and Meritics, and presentations by Claire Mason, Ken Pye and Simon Blott.



NMBQQC

NE Atlantic Marine Biological Analytical Quality Control Scheme

Particle Size Component 2017-2018 Timetable (Scheme Year 24)

Module / Exercise	Event	Date
PS64 & PS65	Samples distributed	10/07/17
	Results deadline	08/09/17
	Interim reports	22/09/17
	Final report	10/11/17
PS66 & PS67	Samples distributed	13/10/17
	Results deadline	15/12/17

	Interim reports	12/01/18
	Final report	09/03/18
PS-OS10–12	Request for sample data distributed	10/07/17
	Data submission deadline for sample selection	31/07/17
	Selected samples submission deadline	31/08/17
	Interim reports	02/03/18
	Final report	30/03/18
2017 Workshop	EA / NLS Leeds	6-7/12/17

Summary of Feedback Questionnaires.

Management and provision of services

Q1. How satisfied are you with the overall management (NMBAQC Committee) of the Scheme's **PS Component**?

Average score – 4.67 Comments: -

Q2. How satisfied are you with the overall services provided by the Scheme's contractor (APEM Ltd.) for the **PS Component** (i.e. quality of service, communication, etc.)?

Average score – 4.67 Comments: -

Q3. How satisfied are you with communication received from the Scheme's contractor (APEM Ltd.)?

Average score – 4.33 Comments:

Q4. If you contacted the Scheme's contractor (APEM Ltd.) were you satisfied that your query was dealt with quickly and efficiently?

Average score – 5.00 Comments – Lydia F. is very good about getting back to us when we do have any questions.

Technical Modules

Q5. How satisfied are you with the service provided for the PS module to date?

Average score – 4.67 Comments – No problems and are happy to participate in this scheme.

Q6. Can you provide any specific comments regarding the samples circulated for the **PS exercises**, the data submission mechanism and reporting format?

- No complaints or suggestions as the exercise is and always has been quite straightforward. The pots come well wrapped and clearly labelled. The data submission mechanism and reporting format is routine.
- I find the current system for data submission and reporting satisfactory as well as the quality and type of testing material sent out for analysis.
- The lower cut-off for reporting at 0.086 um is inadequate. It results in artificial truncation of the distribution produced by some instruments.

The amount of metadata information requested is now insufficient, but it is unclear how it is being used in the lab performance assessment process.

Some of the results spreadsheet templates provided have contained errors – subsequently corrected.

Need for additional checks before sending out.

The whole procedure of wet separation at 1 mm, and comparison of results obtained when wet separation is undertaken at 63 um or some other size limited, needs to be revisited. The results spreadsheets should contain the actual dry weights of material set separated (>1mm, < 1mm), and the weights retained on each sieve during dry sieving to establish if:

- (a) The whole sample has been sieved rather than a split and (b) whether the sample was large enough to be considered representative.

The variation in results obtained from 3 x 3 laser analyses undertaken on each sample is not assessed or quantified in the spreadsheets or the results generally given in the summary reports; the spreadsheet simply calculates an average for the nine and uses the average for merging with the sieving results. It would be useful to quantify the variability in the 9 laser results for each lab.

Q7. How satisfied are you with the service provided for the **PS-OS module** to date?

- It was a bit confusing this year as the dates listed online didn't match with what happened but all in all it is fine as it became clear once we contacted APEM
- It needs to be clarified if the samples submitted for the PS OS module should have been analysed by the strict NMBAQC protocol - i.e. wet separation and screening at 1 mm, weight determination of the > 1mm and < 1m fractions. At present some labs are submitting only < 1mm material, often dried / freeze dried, with no sub-sample pot of unadulterated sample from the parent sample; this makes comparison with QC reanalysis results difficult.

Q8. Can you provide any specific comments regarding the **PS-OS exercises**, e.g. sample/data requirements, data submission mechanism and reporting format?

- We find it a little bit challenging finding a large enough collection of samples to send off as our work usually does not involve the 1mm split with retention of the <1mm fraction. Most of our work as of late has involved a split at 63µm more often than the 1mm (as was the norm 4-5 years ago). Other than that it is fine

Q9. Please add any further comments for the attention of the NMBAQC Committee below. For example, workshop ideas, suggestions for improvement, new modules, etc.

- None that we can think of.
- More regular PSA workshops similar to the one in 2009 would be advantageous. Staff members change over time so it would be good for new members of staff to go on a workshop like this to support the training they received in-house. These would also be good to act as a refresher for existing members of staff
- Some aspects of the Guidance need to be reconsidered and clarified. The October workshop should review the existing Guidance step by step and decide which elements should be retained, modified, or replaced.

Where: 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied.

8.



NMBAQC

NE Atlantic Marine Biological Analytical Quality Control Scheme

NMBAQC Committee Meeting

6th February 2018, NRW Ty Cambria, Cardiff, 10:00 – 15:00

BENTHIC INVERTEBRATE COMPONENT PROGRESS REPORT

2017-18, Year 24

1. Subscriptions

LabCode	RT53/54	LR22	OS65/66/67
BI_2401	1	1	1
BI_2402	1	1	1
BI_2403	1	1	1
BI_2404	1	1	1
BI_2405	1	1	1
BI_2406	1	-	1
BI_2407	1	-	1
BI_2408	1	-	-
BI_2409	1	-	1
BI_2410	1	-	-
BI_2411	1	-	-
BI_2412	1	-	-
BI_2413	1 (RT53)	-	-
BI_2414	1	-	-
BI_2415	1	-	-
BI_2416	1	1	-
BI_2417	1	-	1
BI_2418	1	-	1
BI_2419	1	-	1
BI_2420	1	-	-
BI_2421	1	-	-
BI_2422	1	1	1
BI_2423	1	-	1
BI_2424	1	-	-
BI_2425	-	-	1

BI_2432	-	-	1
BI_2433	-	-	1
BI_2434	-	-	1
BI_2435	-	-	1
BI_2436	-	-	1
BI_2437	-	-	1
BI_2438	-	-	1
BI_2439	-	-	1
BI_2440	-	-	1
BI_2441	-	-	1
BI_2442	-	-	1
BI_2443	-	-	1
BI_2444	-	-	1
BI_2445	-	-	1
BI_2446	-	-	1
BI_2447	-	-	1
BI_2448	-	-	1
	24/23	7	31

2. 2017-2018, Year 24 Operations

Exercise	Status	Returns / Comments
RT53	Specimens distributed 10/07/17; Submission deadline passed 08/09/17; Interim reports issued 27/09/17; Ring Test Bulletin issued 20/11/17; Exercise complete	General Ring Test; 23 out of 24 returns received; 1 lab did not participate.
RT54	Specimens distributed 13/10/17; Submission deadline passed 10/01/18 (extended due to literature updates); Interim reports to be issued 09/02/18; Ring test Bulletin to be issued 09/03/18; Exercise in progress	Targeted Ring Test (Spionidae); 21 out of 23 returns received; 2 labs did not participate.
LR22	Request for specimens distributed 10/07/17; Submission deadline passed 31/08/17; LR Module Summary Report to be issued 02/03/18; Exercise in progress	General; 4 out of 7 returns received; 1 lab granted a submission extension to end Dec – specimens in transit; 4 reported to date.

OS65-67	<p>Samples requested 10/07/17; Data submission deadline passed 31/07/17; Sample submission deadline passed 31/08/17; Extension deadline (CMA labs) Feb/March 2018; Interim report final deadline 02/03/18 (excl. CMA extension samples); OS Module Summary Report deadline 30/03/18 (excl. CMA extension samples); Exercises in progress</p>	<p>21 out of 31 data/lists of samples received; 10 datasets outstanding, including 9 CMA agreed deadline extensions; 21 out of 31 datasets received & samples requested; 63 out of 63 requested samples received, including 6 samples for external audit; 9 sets of samples (27 samples) reported, to date.</p>
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3. Issues arising

The next version of the NMBAQC Standard Taxonomic Literature List will soon be available for circulation to all 2017/18 (Yr24) Benthic Invertebrate participants.

MESL are leaving the Scheme due to closure of the company at the end of February.

4. Taxonomic Workshop for Beginners

The next taxonomic workshop for beginners will be held at APEM's Letchworth laboratory from 5th to 9th March 2018. Fifteen participants have expressed interest in attending. The course will include a demonstration of initial sample processing methods (biota extraction), as these represent the cause of the majority of failed samples in the Own Sample Module.

5. Outstanding issues

Remedial actions are continuing to be tracked from 2013/14 (Year 20) and are summarised at the end of this report. Forty-five failed Own Samples remain without completed remedial actions; four samples from Year 20 (2013/14) have successfully completed remedial actions since the last committee meeting. However a number of the historical samples are very unlikely to be progressed any further.

Remedial Action

Year 20 (2013/2014)

Lab code	OS reported	OS53		OS54		OS55	
		Score	RA	Score	RA	Score	RA
BI_2016	18 March 2015	88.213	RA completed 8/4/15	85.482	RA outstanding	-	-
BI_2017	27 March 2015	-	-	-	-	70.588	RA outstanding
BI_2019	25 March 2015	-	-	78.431	RA outstanding	78.161	RA outstanding
BI_2033	27 March 2015	43.478	RA outstanding	63.768	RA outstanding	69.333	RA outstanding
BI_2056	30 March 2015	63.758	RA outstanding	71.795	RA outstanding	88.446	RA outstanding
BI_2058	25 March 2015	-	-	66.667	RA outstanding	-	-
BI_2059	30 March 2015	84.058	RA outstanding	-	-	85.714	RA outstanding
BI_2071	19 May 2015	15.942	RA outstanding	40.945	RA outstanding	49.505	RA outstanding

*NB – Outstanding remedial action includes 2 CMA labs that sub-contract analysis

Year 2014/2015 (Year 21)

Lab code	OS reported	OS56		OS57		OS58	
		Score	RA	Score	RA	Score	RA
BI_2106	14 May 2015	72.607	RA undertaken; unable to evaluate as residue discarded	52.174	RA undertaken; unable to evaluate as residue discarded	-	-

BI_2118	26 May 2015	-	-	55.039	RA outstanding	-	-
BI_2121	26 May 2015	-	-	78.987	RA outstanding	89.431	RA outstanding
BI_2126	24 April 2015	89.320	RA outstanding	82.784	RA outstanding	78.008	RA outstanding
BI_2127	15 May 2015	68.803	RA completed 24/08/15 (without APEM agreement) - TO BE EVALUATED	63.106	RA completed 24/08/15 (without APEM agreement) - TO BE EVALUATED	55.738	RA completed 24/08/15 (without APEM agreement) - TO BE EVALUATED
BI_2128	19 May 2015	85.584 (from 76.43)	Specimens reviewed May 2016; RA outstanding	87.879	RA outstanding	76.471	Specimens reviewed May 2016; RA outstanding
BI_2131	24 September 2015	-	-	-	-	75.000	RA outstanding
BI_2132	26 May 2015	-	-	-	-	FAIL	RA outstanding
BI_2133	29 September 2015	83.426	RA outstanding	-	-	-	-

***NB – Outstanding remedial action includes 5 CMA labs that sub-contract analysis (or CMA samples submitted under a contractor’s subscription)**

Year 2015/2016 (Year 22)

Lab code	OS reported	OS59		OS60		OS61	
		Score	RA	Score	RA	Score	RA

BI_2203	18 December 2015	6.48	RA outstanding	0.300	RA outstanding	0	RA outstanding
BI_2205	23 March 2016	86.588	RA undertaken; unable to evaluate as residue discarded	-	-	-	-
BI_2213	05 January 2016	-	-	85.623	RA outstanding	85.106	RA outstanding
BI_2239	06 January 2016	72.165	RA outstanding	85.625	RA outstanding	89.971	RA outstanding

*NB – Outstanding remedial action includes 2 CMA labs that sub-contract analysis (or CMA samples submitted under a contractor’s subscription)

Year 2016/2017 (Year 23)

		OS62		OS63		OS64	
Lab code	OS reported	Score	RA	Score	RA	Score	RA
BI_2331	18 August 2016	-	-	82.819	RA outstanding	83.186	RA outstanding
BI_2346	18 August 2016	78.095	RA outstanding	-	-	-	-

Year 2017/2018 (Year 24)

		OS65		OS66		OS67	
Lab code	OS reported	Score	RA	Score	RA	Score	RA
<p>Exercises in progress. 2 failed samples from 2 different participants to date; both have now passed following successful remedial actions.</p>							



NMBAQC

NE Atlantic Marine Biological Analytical Quality Control Scheme

Invertebrate Component 2017-2018 Timetable (Scheme Year 24)

Module / Exercise	Event	Date
RT53 - General	Samples distributed	10/07/17
	Results deadline	08/09/17
	Interim reports	22/09/17
	Final report	10/11/17
RT54 - Targeted	Samples distributed	13/10/17
	Results deadline	15/12/17 ext. 10/01/18
	Interim reports	12/01/18 ext. 09/02/18
	Final report	09/03/18
LR22	Protocol and request for specimens distributed	10/07/17
	Specimen submission deadline	31/08/17
	Final reports	02/03/18
OS65-67	Request for sample data distributed	10/07/17
	Data submission deadline for sample selection	31/07/17
	Selected samples submission deadline	31/08/17 ext. (CMA) Feb/Mar 2018
	Interim report final deadline	02/03/18
	Final report	30/03/18
Workshop	Beginners' Taxonomic Workshop, APEM Ltd., Letchworth, UK	05-09/03/18

11.



NMBACQ

NE Atlantic Marine Biological Analytical Quality Control Scheme

Fish Component

Meeting Report # 37

Committee Meeting, 6th February 2018

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Thomson Unicomarine Ltd.

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1. Scheme Membership Details

1.1 2017 / 2018 Participation

Laboratory Code	Fish Reverse Ring Test	Fish Ring Test
	F_RRT09	F_RT11
F_2401	Y	Y
F_2402	Y	-
F_2403	Y	-
F_2404	N	-
F_2405	Y	-
F_2406	Y	Y
F_2407	N	-
F_2408	Y	-
F_2409	Y	-
F_2410	Y	-
F_2411	Y	-
F_2412	-	Y
F_2413	Y	Y
F_2414	-	Y
F_2415	Y	N
F_2416	-	Y
F_2417	-	Y
F_2418	Y	Y
F_2419	Y	Y

F_2420	Y	-
F_2421	Y	-
F_2422	-	Y
F_2423	Y	-
F_2424	N	Y
F_2425	Y	Y
F_2426	Y	-
F_2427	N	-
Total (as of 22/01/2018)	17	13
Original subscription	22	12

Notes on participation:

Initially 22 laboratories subscribed to the Fish Reverse Ringtest (F_RRT09).

Five are not participating as they did not manage to get fish. This is due to bad weather and/or lack of staff assigned to the task. Four of these laboratories are EA, one is NRW.

One (EA) changed to participating in the Fish Ringtest (F_RT11) instead.

2. Progress on circulations

2.1 Scheme Year 2017/18 Fish component

Exercise / Report	Event / Date	Notes
<p>F_RRT09</p>	<p>Protocol and request for specimens distributed 05/09/2017.</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Fish boxes for sending RRT specimens prepared and distributed to participants upon request. Completed</p> <p>Specimen submission deadline 08/12/2017. Completed</p> <p><i>Results analysed and individual interim reports distributed.</i></p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Bulletin deadline 09/03/2018.</p> <p>Pending</p>	<p><u>Fifteen fish taxa to be from NW European waters</u></p> <p>(CSEMP where appropriate).</p>
<p>F_RT11</p>	<p>Distribution of samples 05/12/2017.</p>	<p><u>General Fish Ring Test</u></p>

	<p>Completed</p> <p>Results deadline 19/01/2018.</p> <p>2 labs outstanding</p> <p><i>Results are currently analysed and individual interim reports prepared.</i></p> <p>Bulletin deadline 16/02/2018.</p> <p>Pending</p>	<p>Assorted Fish Taxa (15 taxa).</p>
Annual Report	<p>Bulletin deadline 30/03/2018.</p> <p>Pending</p>	<p><u>Annual Report</u></p> <p>Detailing exercises and results from RRT and RT exercises.</p>