

The **Workshop on *Nephrops* burrow counting (WKNEPS)**, co-chaired by Adrian Weetman, UK and Jennifer Doyle, Ireland, will meet at Marine Science Scotland, Aberdeen, Scotland, UK during **2 – 5 October 2018** to:

- a) To build capacity in burrowing counting skills and support counting procedures for new and developing surveys across Europe. (Science Plan Topic addressed, 31)
- b) To analyse challenges and differences among *Nephrops* grounds. (Science Plan Topic addressed, 31)
- c) To update the UWTV SISP based on WKNEPS conclusions. Redefine counting protocols if necessary. (Science Plan Topic addressed, 31)
- d) To define periodicity of this type of training workshops (Science Plan Topics addressed, 27,31)

WKNEPS will report by 28 January 2019 for the attention of EOSG and SCICOM.

Supporting information

Priority	This work is considered high priority as it is crucial to keep building capacity in burrow counting skills across all institutes that are responsible to assess and provide advice on <i>Nephrops</i> stocks using UWTV surveys are an integral part of the stock assessment. It is important to standardise this process and ensure quality control of this method and to redefine counting protocols if needed. This workshop will be particularly important in supporting training for new and developing surveys.
Scientific justification	<i>Nephrops</i> are a valuable species whose stocks are potentially susceptible to local depletion. UWTV surveys have become the main basis of management advice for <i>Nephrops</i> stocks in ICES. There is a need to build capacity in burrowing counting skills and support counting procedures for new and developing surveys.
Resource requirements	This workshop will be held in meeting venue and date will be decided by WGNEPS 2017. Four days will be allocated to the <i>Nephrops</i> burrow counting training workshop and the facilities and equipment will be provided by the relevant institute; additional equipment might be provided by other Institutes if required.
Participants	Expected around 20 members.
Secretariat facilities	None.
Financial	No financial implications.
Linkages to advisory committees	There are no direct linkages with the advisory committees.
Linkages to other committees or groups	There is a very close working relationship with WGNEPS. It is also very relevant to stock assessment experts groups that use the survey results i.e. WGCSE, WGNSSK, and WGBIE.
Linkages to other organizations	None