

Marine Spatial Plan Review submission

Bob Titterington – 23 July 2024

I am a professional scallop diver. My father was a full-time diver. I work with 2 other professional divers, one my nephew on my boat. I have dived since age 13 . I am now 62. I started commercial diving at 22. So it's pretty safe to say nobody has spent more time underwater seeing scallop dredger damage in Jersey waters. I have been following the development of blue ocean and fisheries work. I would like to point out that in 2024 the seabed in places around Jersey is more damaged than ever before. This is due to a constant expansion in dredging effort. This has happened because of so few restrictions. I am sure Scrutiny will be able to find some faults with this plan, however, to do nothing has been the preferred option for way too long. The fisheries will not ban dredger as they are classed as fishermen the few bans introduced so far are minimal and often where scallop dredging does not happen. i.e. over the main islands of the Miniquiers and Ecréhous. Also, scallops do not exist in any commercial numbers above 15 feet from chart datum. Hopeful you will contact me.