Pim Visser, advisor to Dutch Fisheries Organisations

# Fishing on a Postage Stamp

-Dealing with MPA's and Wind @ Sea in Dutch Waters -

# Variety in vessel types and sizes



















#### It's about fishermen and their families











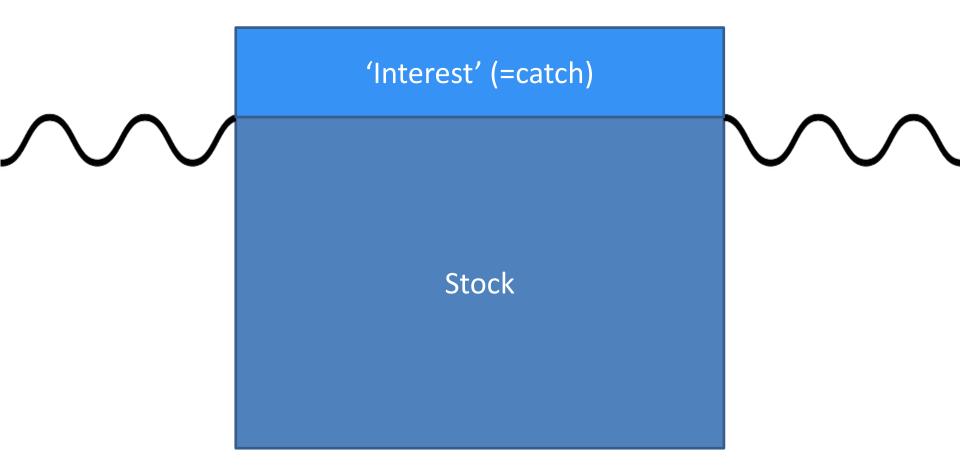


## Supplying proteins for a growing population

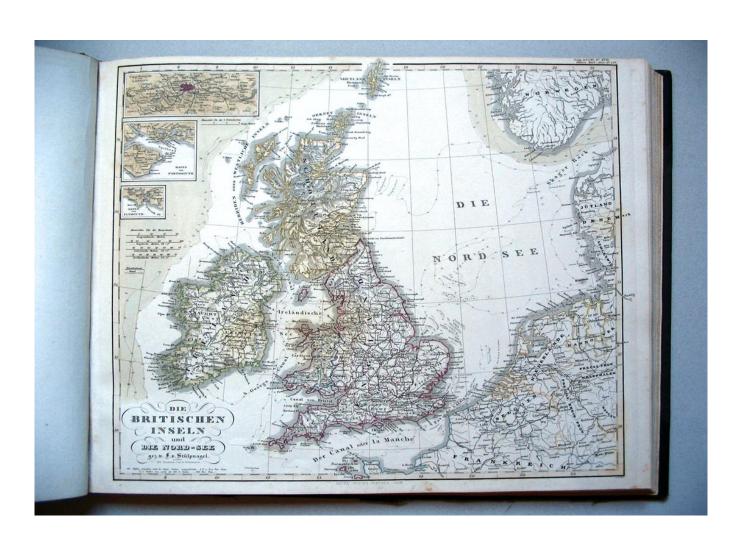




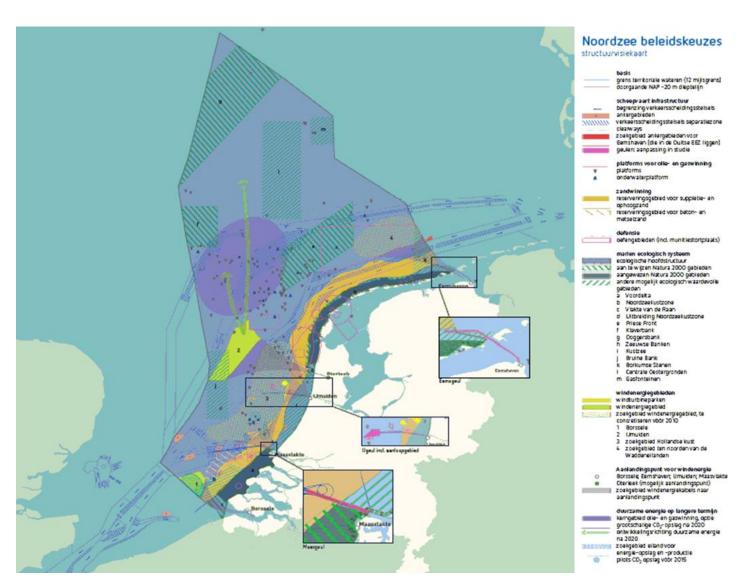
#### Maximum Sustainable Yield embedded in CFP



## Traditional Fishing Grounds North Sea



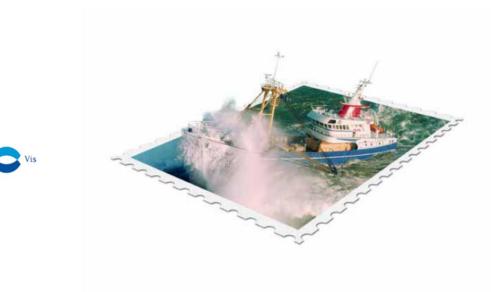
## Fishing now within multiple Sea Basin Use



FMIG Bite Size Meeting 5 April 2022



#### FISHING ON A SQUARE INCH





## Spatial Planning Land vs Sea

- The North Sea N2000 Example
  - One European Union
  - Six member states
  - Devolution means three more
  - Subsidiarity vs Regionalisation
- Ex Post Planning at Sea
- Fishing never subject to planning
  - Fishing is not Farming at Sea but Hunting
  - Hunting requires a large hunting area
  - Fish is highly mobile

### How to continue? On the square inch?

- Policymakers must make clear choices
  - The WWH question (what where how)
    - Bridge the knowledge gap
    - Displacement is real!
  - Fisherman is stakeholder whose livelihood is at stake
    - Huge impact for individual fishermen
- Fishermen are natural underdogs
  - Must be even footed at the table, not on the menu
- Requires attitude change with ALL parties

#### How to continue? Around the table

- 2018 Initiative NGO's and Energy and Fishery
- Joint approach with Ministry's Failed
  - Silo's and Time Horizon
- Supported stakeholder/government process
  - NGO's, Wind, Oil & Gas, Ports & Shipping, Fisheries,
    Ministry's
- North Sea Agreement
  - Long term ToR for Spatial Planning Process
  - Save fishing grounds, move north earlier
  - MPA's capped at 15% until 2030

#### How to continue? Around the table

- Basic internal difference of opinion in fisheries
  - At the Table or On the Menu
  - Brexit has learned that in the end fishers, their families and communities are bargaining chips
- Fisheries not at the table for 15 crucial months
  - VisNed dissolved, team dismissed
  - Green Deal, Fit for 55 and other processes
  - Renewables development increased

#### How to continue? Around the table

- And now
  - Fisheries returned at the table
    - Decisions were taken
    - Relations distorted internally
    - Reputation damaged
- Fisheries has a strong case
  - Healthy food sustainably fished
    - Families, Companies, Communities
  - Fishery is appreciated if it puts itself in perspective