

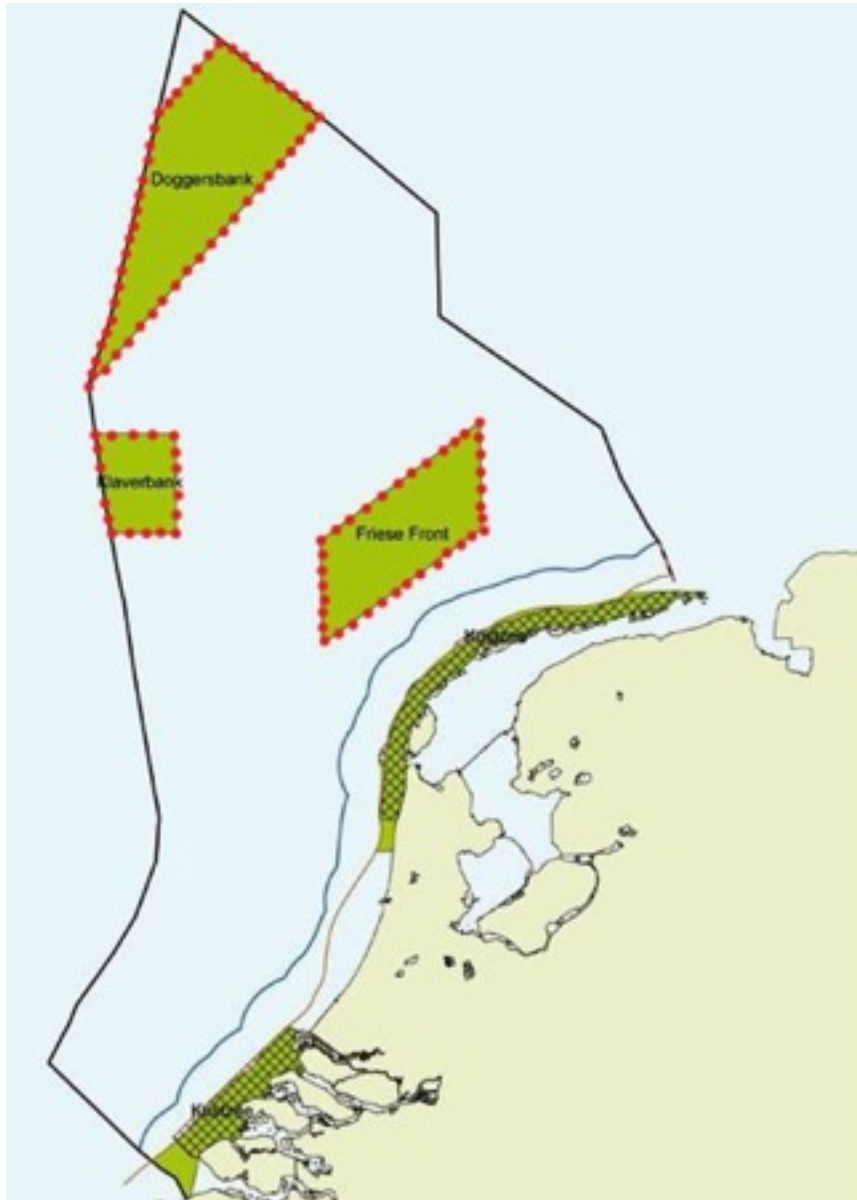


Ministerie van Economische Zaken

Progress on measures for the protection of the Dogger Bank, Cleaver Bank and the Frisian Front

Ton IJlstra
Ministry of Economic Affairs,
the Netherlands;
Chair of the Dogger Bank
Steering Group

April 9, 2017





Outline of the presentation 1

- Brief history of the Dogger Bank proceedings
- Actual state of affairs
- Fisheries measures
- Procedures



Brief history of the Dogger Bank proceedings

- 2009 – 2011 informal consultations between UK, DK, GER and NETH
- 2011 – 2013 establishment Dogger Bank Steering Group and adoption on civil servants level of protective measures
- 2013 – Political consent from UK, DK and GER
- 2013 – 2015 Resistance in the Dutch House of Commons (Tweede Kamer) against proposals DBSG
 - Consultations between (Dutch) industry and GER, Dutch ministry and UK
- 2015 July Consent of the House of Commons with discussion on fly shooters



Outline of the presentation 2

- Brief history of the Dogger Bank proceedings
- **Actual state of affairs**
- Fisheries measures
- Procedures



Actual state of affairs

- In July 2015 the Dutch House of Commons accepts the DBSG proposals
- DBSG will now start working on the consultative procedure as mentioned in art. 11 Reg. 1380/2013
- The DBSG has met several times but could not take action awaiting the result of the Dutch situation
- A draft Joint Recommendation has been agreed
- Final agreement on timetable and steps to be taken is in progress
- This summer start with the procedure:
 - Scheveningen Group
 - European Commission



Outline of the presentation 3

- Brief history of the Dogger Bank proceedings
- Actual state of affairs
- Fisheries measures
- Procedures



Fisheries measures

- Essentials of the proposals of the Dogger Bank Steering Group:
 - Zoning system
 - Focus on habitat type 1110 of the Hab. Directive
 - Addresses bottom contacting fishing gear
 - Special attention for enforcement and monitoring



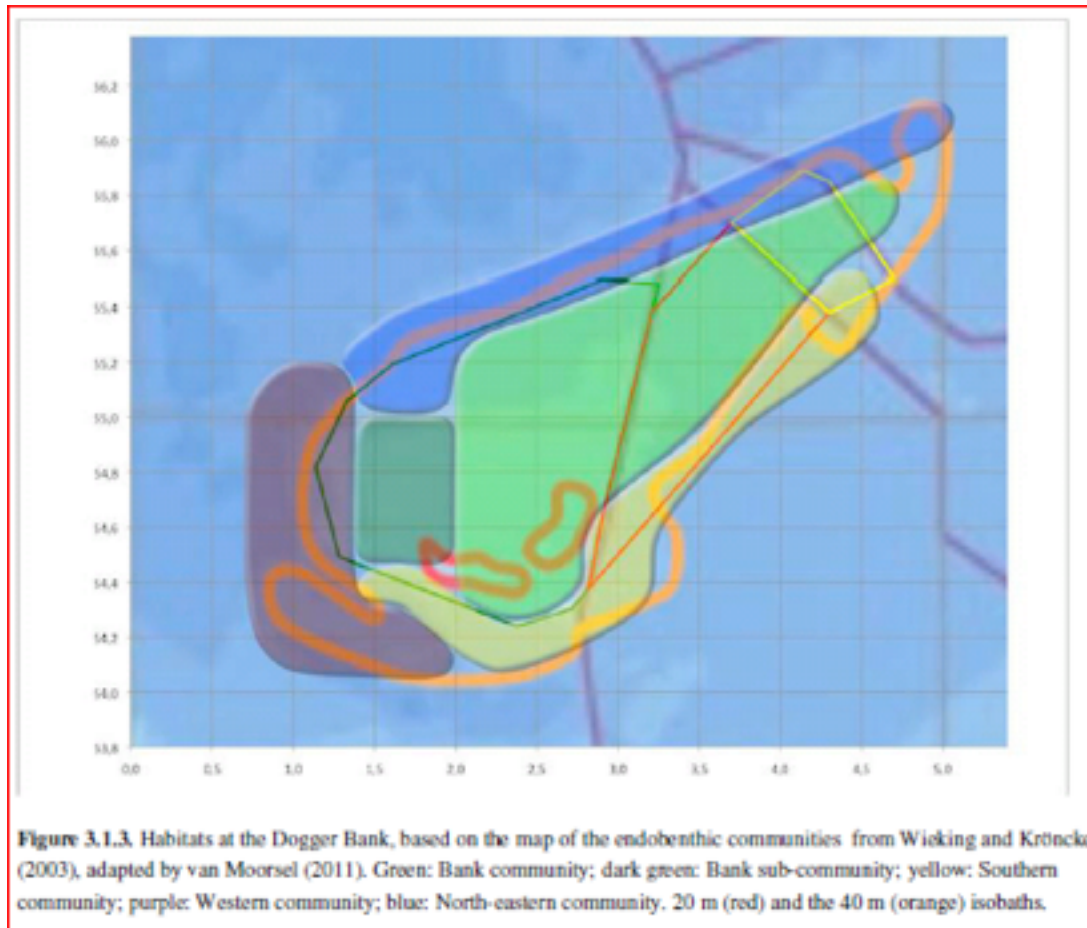
The Dogger Bank



Figure 3.1.1. Location of the Dogger Bank (a) satellite image (NASA), (b) EEZ borders

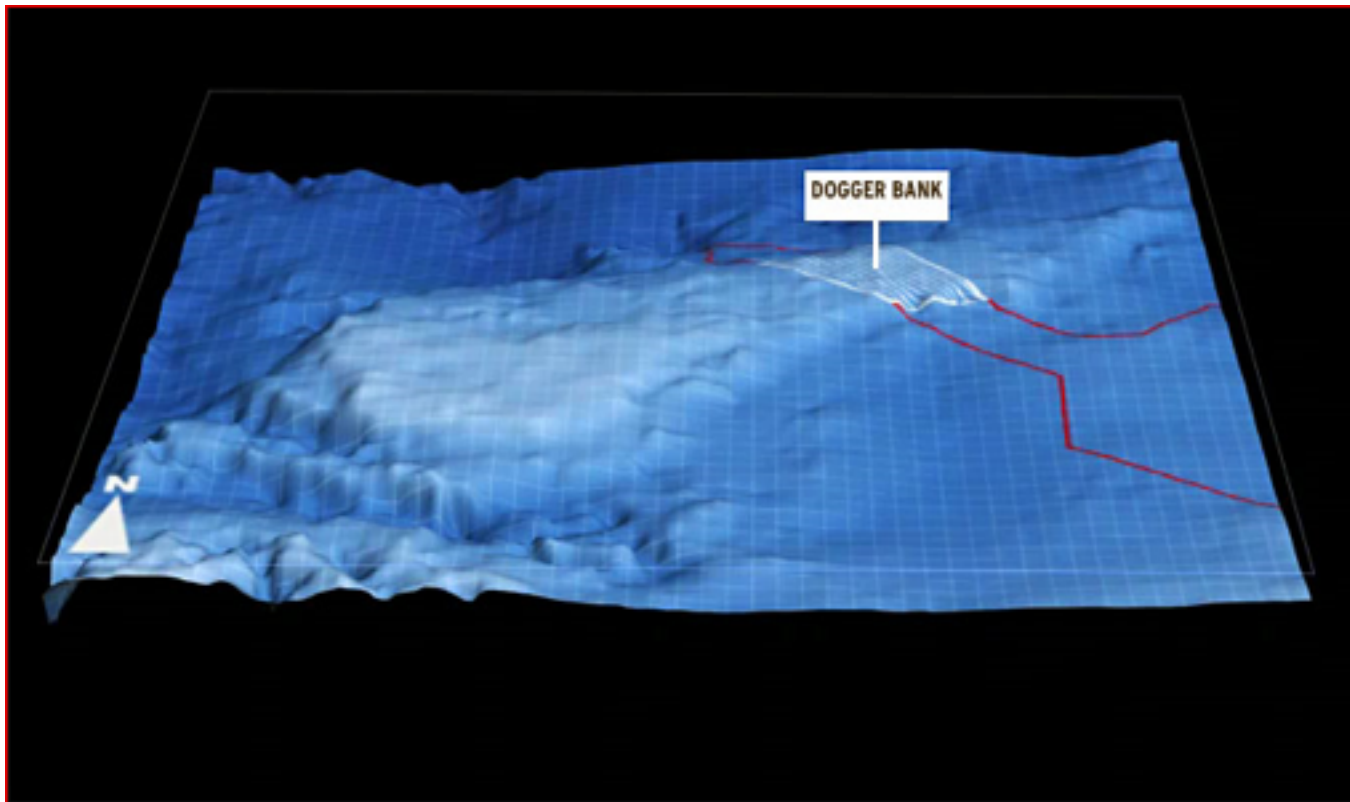


Focus on Habitat 1110 at the Dogger Bank





3 D view Dogger Bank



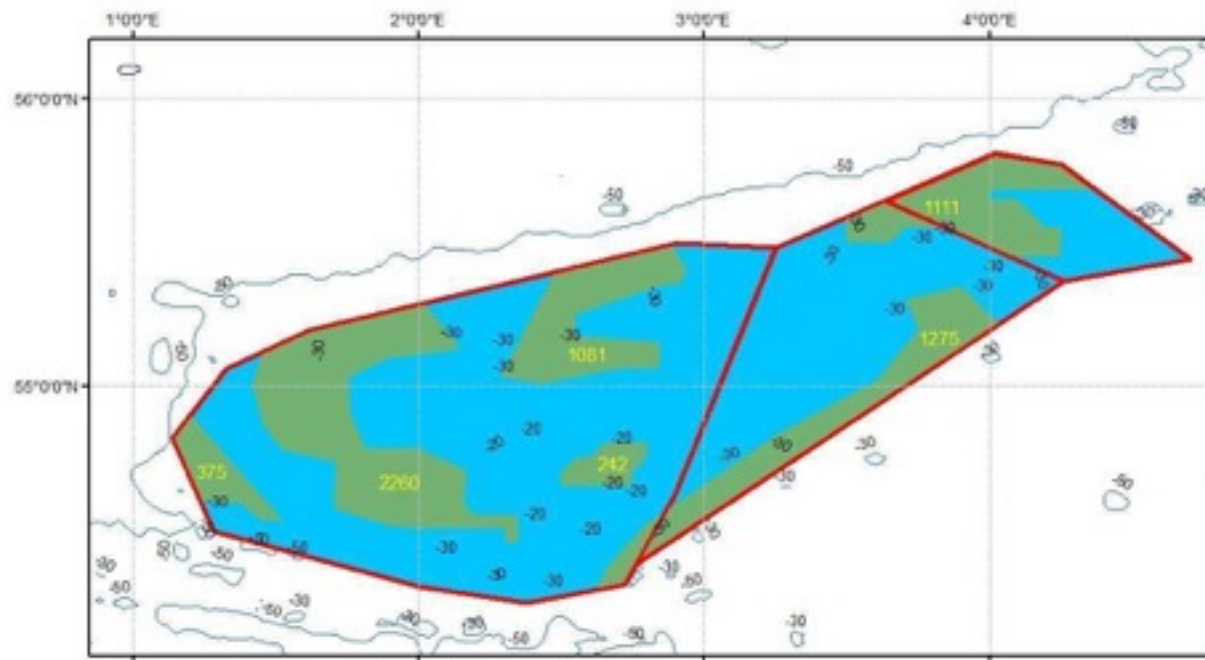


Zoning system 1

- Contains management zones and open zones (resp. 1/3 vs. 2/3)
- Steps taken to arrive at the proposed management zones:
 - 1 Partitioning into 1058 'C-squares' (surfaces if appr, 18 km²) used for spatial differentiation and calculations
 - 2 The first industry proposal map has been taken as the basis for agreed closure areas
 - 3 National and fishing sector concerns
 - 4 Add further areas from NGO proposal until 1/3 is reached
 - 5 "Clean up" by removing isolated Csquares
 - 6 Smoothing boundaries (taking into account the additional industry proposals)
- Total coverage by management zones : 33.8%



Zoning system 2





Closure of the management zones

The management zones will be closed to the following mobile bottom contacting gear types

- Beam Trawl.
- Bottom Trawl/Otter trawl.
- Dredges.
- Semi-pelagic trawls.

- Procedure for new and modified mobile bottom contacting gears will be established
- Derogation can only be authorized after documentation supported by scientific and expert advice has been provided

- Proposed review of the regime after 6 years



Outline of the presentation 4

- Brief history of the Dogger Bank proceedings
- Actual state of affairs
- Fisheries measures
- Procedures



Procedures 1

- DB States will apply under article 11 of Reg. 1380/2013:
- 1...
- 2 Where a Member State ("the initiating Member State") considers that measures need to be adopted for the purpose of complying with the obligations referred to in paragraph 1 and other Member States have a **direct management interest** in the fishery to be affected by such measures, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt such measures, upon request, by means of delegated acts in accordance with Article 46.
- Consultation of relevant Advisory Councils (art. 18)



Procedures 2

- Scheveningen Group
 - Establishment of an AD HOC group for Dogger Bank
 - Representatives from MS with direct management interest
 - DB States will invite stakeholders
- European Commission
 - Delegated Act
 - Three months
 - Notification period of two months for council and EP
 - Possible extension with two months
- - Cleaver Bank ->



What do we expect from the NSAC?

- We will send all relevant and available information to NSAC
- We will indicate in which time period we would need the NSAC advice
- We remain available for the NSAC for additional information
- The NSAC advice will have to fit in in the EC's procedure
- The EC will consult the NSAC



Cleaver Bank location



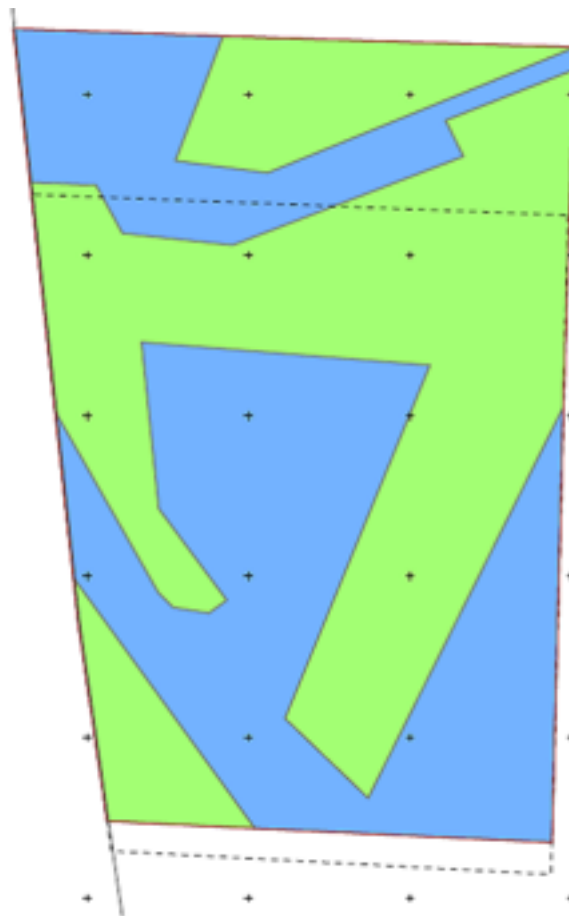


Cleaver Bank Conservation objective

- Habitattype to be protected is H 1170: underwater reefs
- The **conservation objectives** for H1170 are:
 - maintain distribution,
 - maintain surface area and
 - improve quality.
 - An improvement in quality is needed because the quality of the habitat is currently assessed to be unfavourable–inadequate (Jak *et al.*, 2009).
- The structure and function of the habitat have fundamentally deteriorated due to repeated disturbance of the bottom compared to an undisturbed situation.



Zoning Dutch Cleaver Bank





Closure of Cleaver Bank management zones for specific gear

Gear groups that are banned in the closed zones	Gear Code Annex XI in EU Regulation 404/2011	International Standard Classification of Fishing Gears (ISSCFG)
Beam trawl	TBB	TBB
Bottom Otter Board Trawl	OTB, OTT, PTB, TBN, TBS, TB	OTB, OTT, OTP, PTB, TB
Dredges	DRB, HMD	DRB, DRH, DRM, DRX
Semi-pelagic trawls	Classified as 'Bottom otter board trawls'	TSP
Seines	SDN, SSC, SPR, SV	SV, SB, SX



Frisian Front location





Frisian Front conservation objective

- The overall aim of the proposal is to ensure the adequate protection of the bird species common guillemot (*Uria aalge*, A199). The purpose of fisheries management measures is to reduce the pressure (bycatch) on the common guillemot from gillnet fishing gear





Frisian Front measure: gillnets

- To prohibit gillnet fishing in the Frisian Front area from 1 June - 30 November of each year.
- This gear pertains to gear codes GN, GNS and GTR under the Annex XI in EU regulation 404/2011.
- Still possibility to join this part with the MSFD proposals

