VisNed

VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Fishing on a Square Inch?

## *North Sea Regional Cooperation on Energy and Maritime Spatial Planning*

## ***A Dutch Fisheries Point of View***

DG Mare Workshop Edinburgh

29January 2015

Pim Visser, chief executive VisNed

VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# About VisNed

National Association of Producer Organisations in Dutch Demersal Fisheries.

# VisNed's mission

- Stable Conditions
- Sustainable Operations
- Predictable Returns

VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# VisNed's focus:

- Fishery Policy
- *Spatial Planning*
  - *N2000*
  - *MSFD*
  - *Renewables*
  - *Sand extraction and coastal defense*
- Market  Developments
- Social and Technical Issues and Innovation

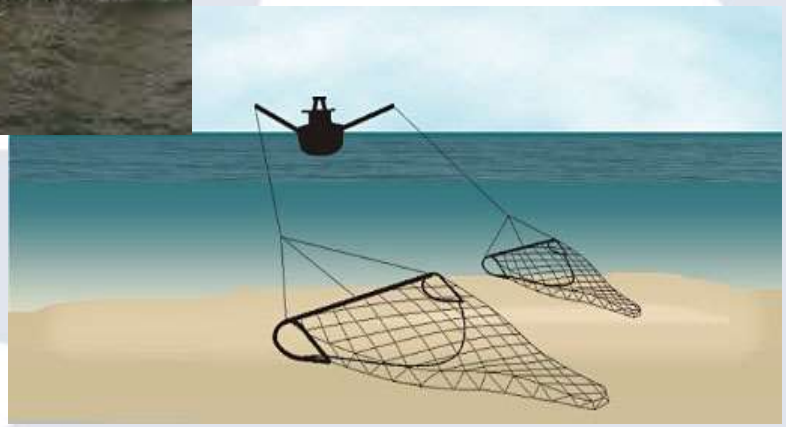
VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Small scale brown shrimp fisheries

assessment in progress

VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Traditional beamtrawl with tickler chains phasing out



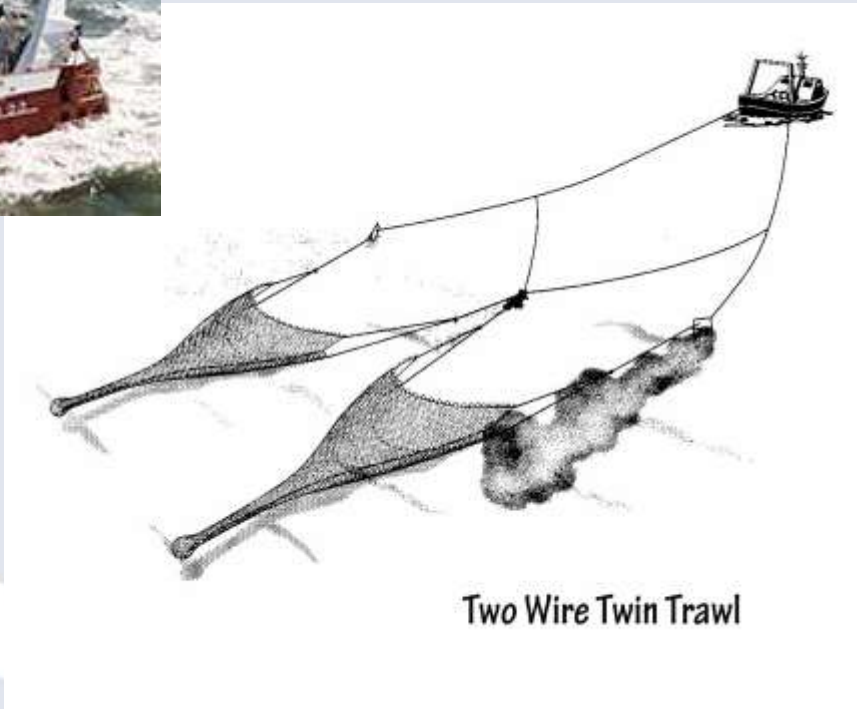
VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Less impact beam trawl with pulse gear phasing in

assessment in progress

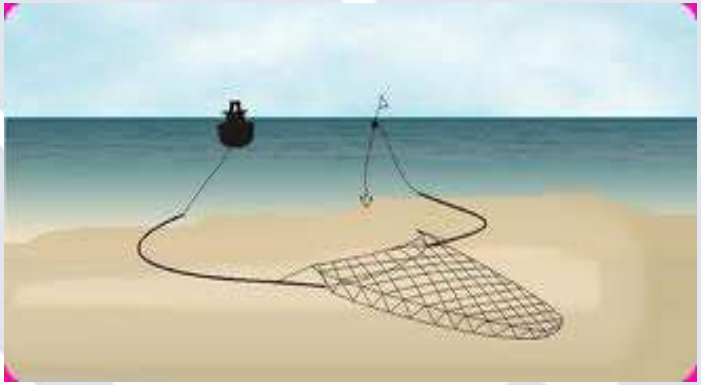
VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

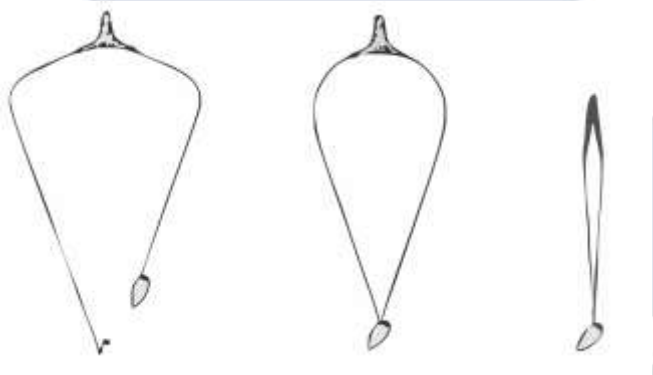
# Twin rigged otter trawl




VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Scottish seine net or fly shoot





VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

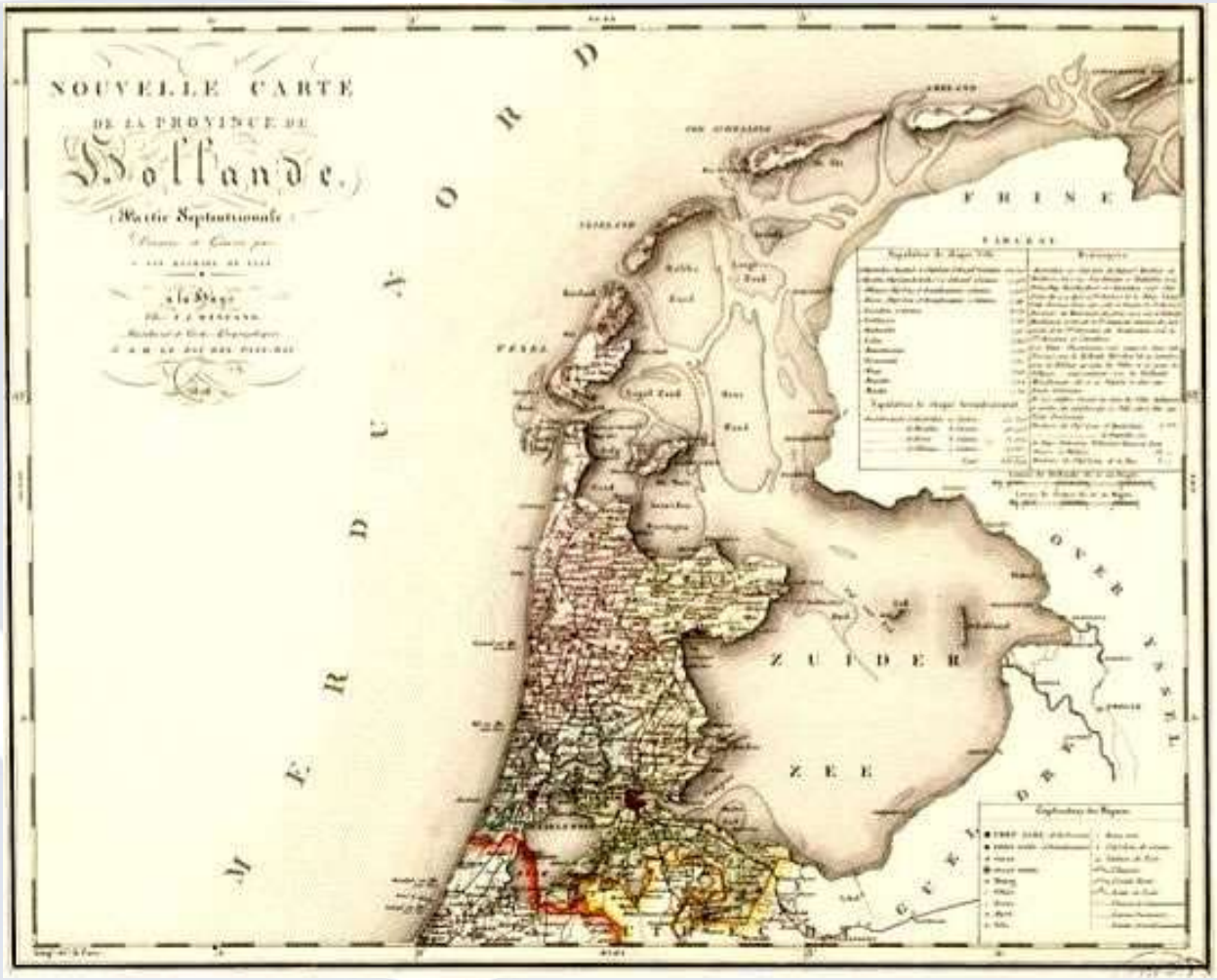
# Traditional Fishing Areas

VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Mare Liberum and/or Multiple use of  North Sea?

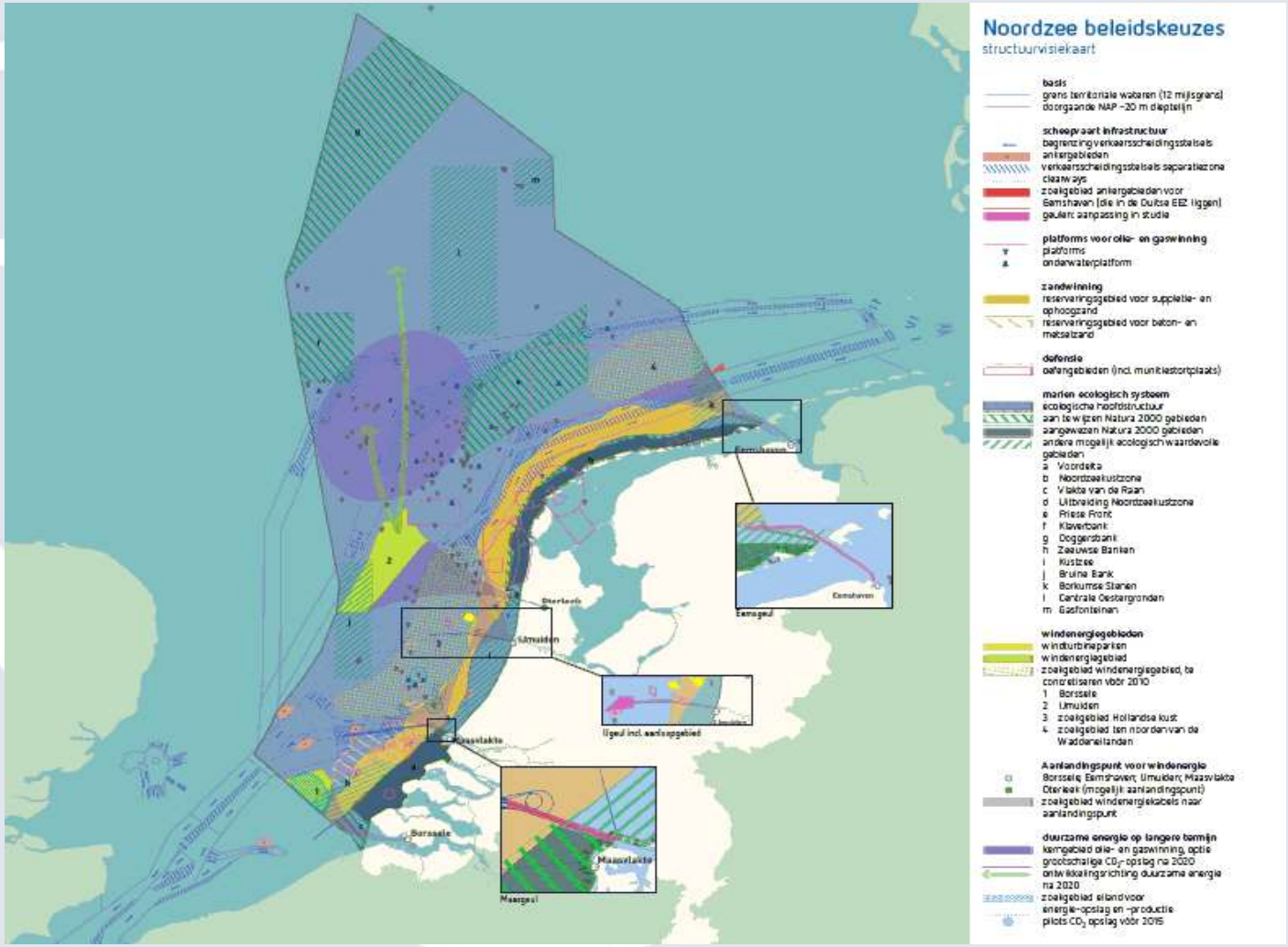
VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Closing of Zuiderzee MSP avant la processe
# Renewable energy part of our heritage



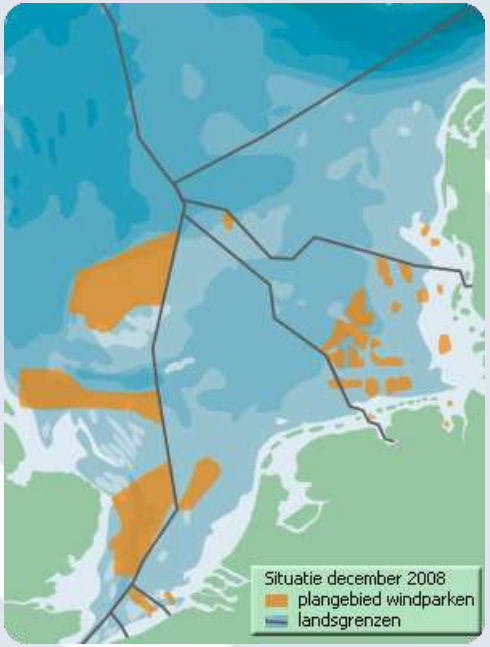

VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Multiple use of Dutch CS but where was/is fishing?




VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Windfarms internationally planned in prime fishing areas



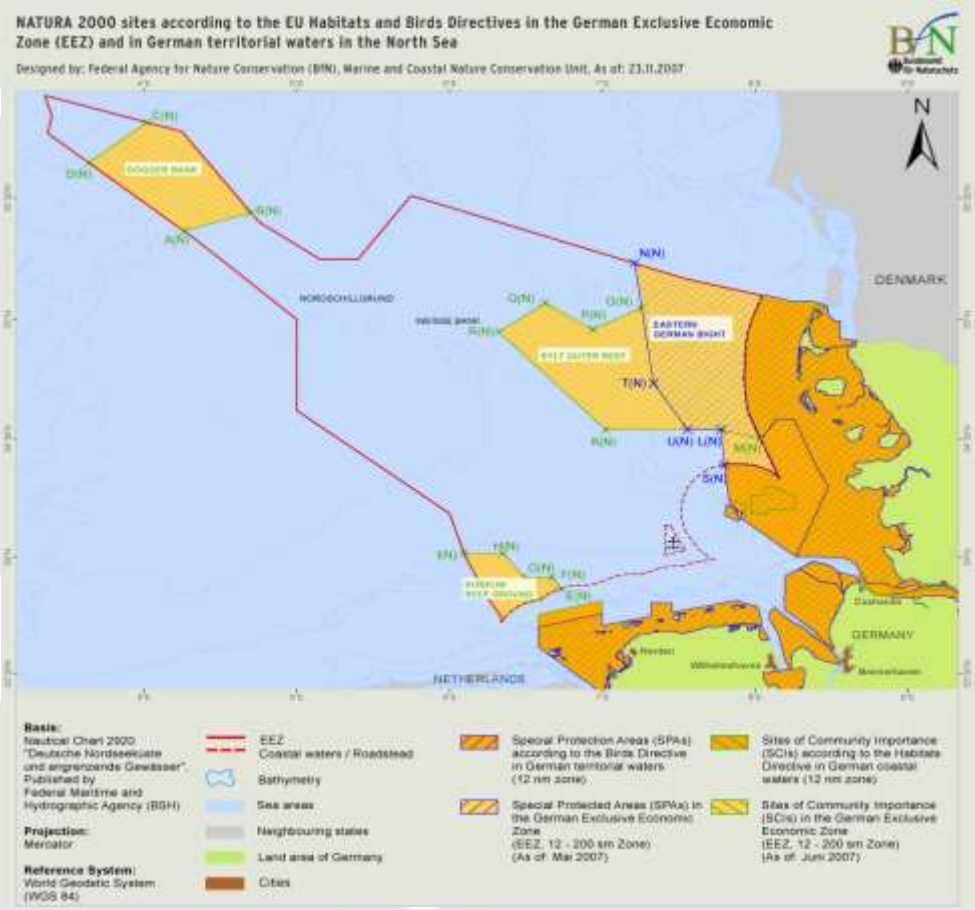
VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Natura 2000 independent process in memberstates

## the Netherlands

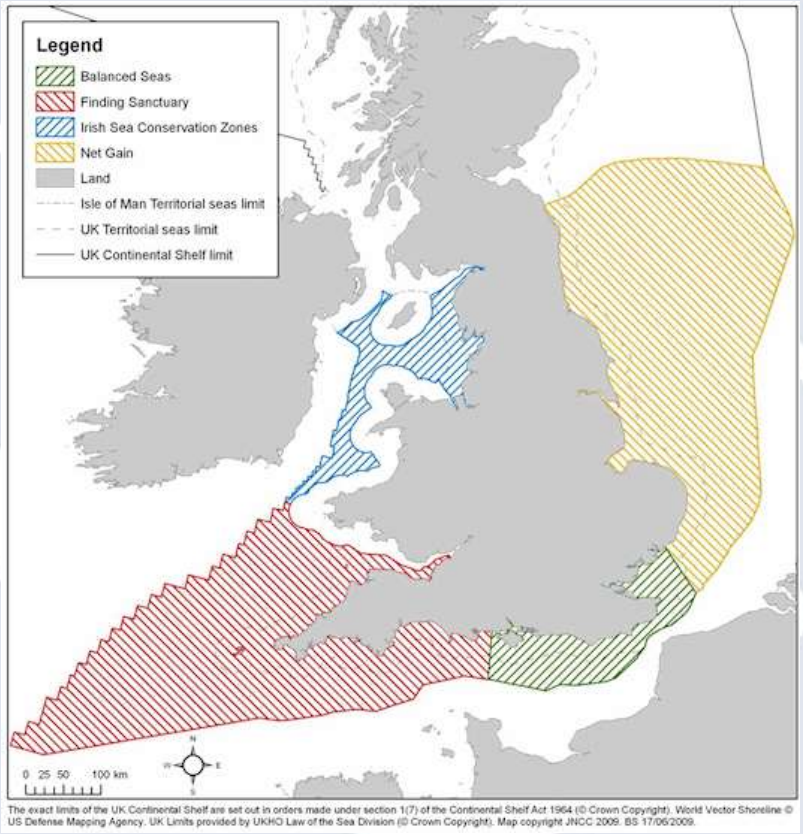
VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Natura 2000 Germany




VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# MCZ and Natura 2000 United Kingdom:  MPAC response



VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# Fishing on a square inch

Productschap Vis

## Spatial Planning Land vs Sea

- 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

## Observations Doggerbank N2000 Process

- Nature conservation is not the same as spatial planning
- Industry and NGO's think European
  - *Result of regionalised CFP in 2002!!*
- European Commision very procedural driven
- Memberstates searching:
  - Answers, Certainty, Security and Subsidiarity

- We  thought we were in the laboratory for diagnosis
- But  it is the operating theatre without anaesthetics

## How to continue? On the square inch?

- Policymakers must make clear choices
- Pestering is no solution, closures come at a cost
- Displacement is real!
- Fishermen feel threatened
  - Fisherman is stakeholders whose livelihood is at stake
- Fishermen are natural underdogs
  - Must be even footed at the table, not on the menu
  - Huge impact for individual fishermen
  - Requires attitude change with ALL parties

VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# International Colleagues

joint Doggerbank approach

DANISH FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations

VisNed
VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

## How to continue? Holistic in the North Sea!

- A complex challenge!
- UK MCZ process principle as example
  - Principle OK but practice is different
- Management Decisions and impact??
  - Effective scienctific support and sufficient monitoring
  - Fisheries sector has own responsibility

VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# How to continue?  Holistic in the North Sea!

- *Steer away from top down approach*
  - *Stakeholder involvement  facilitated by civil servants*
- *NS AC is an effective platform but how to involve other sectors*
  - *NS Commission Interreg initiative should be tried again*
- *Leave the box at home!*

VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

# One stop Shopping North Sea Fishing Industry

europêche

European Association of Fish Producers Organisations
EAPO

COMITE NATIONAL DES PECHES CNPMEM

SCOTTISH FISHERMEN'S FEDERATION

VisNed
VISSERS MET TOEKOMST

PFA
Pelagic Freezer-trawler Association

nffo
The National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations

DANISH FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

DFV

# Fishing on a Square Inch?

## *North Sea Regional Cooperation on Energy and Maritime Spatial Planning*

## ***A Dutch Fisheries Point of View***

DG Mare Workshop Edinburgh

29January 2015

Pim Visser, chief executive VisNed

VISSERS MET TOEKOMST