



Shellfish
Association of Great Britain



Marine Environmental Legislation Newsletter

Delivered on behalf of Seafish by SAGB

Update September 2017

Consultations

England – Ban on Microbeads

Following on from the consultation earlier in the year Defra has now introduced draft legislation to ban the use of microbeads harmful to the environment from cosmetics. They plan to ban their use in manufacturing from 1st January 2018 and their use from sale in products 30th June 2018. The draft legislation is available to view and comment until 15th October, and can be found here;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/banning-the-use-of-microbeads-in-cosmetics-and-personal-care-products>.

The Devolved Administrations of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will introduce separate legislation according to their own legislative processes and timetables to ensure that the ban will apply across the whole of the UK.

News

EU – Study on Ocean Governance from the Fisheries Point of View

This study was produced for the European parliament's PECHE committee and aims to give them a clear description of the role of fisheries in regional ocean governance in the regional seas. It describes the competences of regional organisations and assesses the

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mechanisms of cooperation and coordination among these organisations together with their main outcomes. These outcomes are considered in the context provided by key EU policies. The study can be found here;

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/601994/IPOL_STU\(2017\)601994_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/601994/IPOL_STU(2017)601994_EN.pdf)

England and Wales – Annual Classification Review

The annual review of classifications for shellfish harvesting areas in England and Wales for the period of 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2018 has been produced. If you would like a copy of this please email me at s_horsfall@seafish.co.uk

EU – Report on Effect of Recreational Fisheries in Europe and Inclusion in Multi-Annual Plan

A new study has been published which assesses the value and impact on fish stocks of marine recreational and semi-subsistence fisheries in Europe. It says the total economic impact of this amounts to 10.5 billion euro and supports almost 100,000 jobs. The study can be found here;

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/601996/IPOL_STU\(2017\)601996_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/601996/IPOL_STU(2017)601996_EN.pdf)

Following on from this on the 14th September the EU parliament has adopted amendments to the Commissions proposal to take account of recreational fisheries in the North Sea Multi-Annual Plan. The amended text will now be discussed in meetings with the Commission and the Council. The amendments suggest that recreational fisheries shall be monitored and catch estimates included in stock assessments. That if recreational fishing is found to have a significant negative impact on resources then specific management measures shall be taken in line with the principle of proportionality and fisheries are defined as including both commercial and recreational fisheries.

EU – Aquaculture Advisory Council and Markets Advisory Council

These groups were both set up by the most recent iteration of the CFP and are now operational and settling into their roles. Both had meetings this month of the general assemblies and working groups, some of the topics discussed were;

AAC

Work programmes, budget, appointing new treasurer, reaching out to MEPs, website design, marine spatial planning relative to aquaculture, responsible aquaculture, governance and re-tape in aquaculture.

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MAC

Budget, endorsement of new members and work programme.

International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships Ballast Water and Sediments

This convention which was originally adopted in 2004 finally gathered enough support to come into force on 8th September 2017. Since the development of steel hulled ships it has been possible to use sea water as ballast rather than the traditional solid structures. This has had serious consequences for invasive non-native species throughout the world as they have been transported vast distances from their home ranges and been released, via ballast water, into areas previously uninhabited by the species. The new requirements initially involve ships maintaining log books to demonstrate what they are doing in this regard, but will eventually lead to a requirement for all ships to have a ballast water treatment facility on board.

More information can be found here;

<http://www.imo.org/en/About/Conventions/ListOfConventions/Pages/International-Convention-for-the-Control-and-Management-of-Ships%27-Ballast-Water-and-Sediments-%28BWM%29.aspx>

Welsh National Marine Plan

The draft which is currently being finalised, formatted and translated is the culmination of many months work which has involved the stakeholders and taken account of their comments. Recently the appropriate assessments for the proposed tidal lagoons have been completed. It is expected that the draft will be signed off by the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs shortly to allow a 12 week consultation to begin in October this year.

England – EA Charges for Advice

The Environment Agency has announced its intention to charge for advice related to marine licensing. It will charge £100 / hour although seeking advice from EA is voluntary.