



February 2021

Common Language Group e-alert

(news alerts issued to CLG circulation list by email in February 2021)

<https://www.seafish.org/responsible-sourcing/seafood-issues-groups/the-common-language-group/>

Consultations

[Marine Management Organisation launches consultation on four of England's Marine Protected Areas including banning bottom-trawling in protected zones.](#) 1 February 2021. Consultation closes 28 March 2021.

Areas include: Dogger Bank Special Area of Conservation; Inner Dowsing, Race Bank and North Ridge Special Area of Conservation; South Dorset Marine Conservation Zone; and the Canyons Marine Conservation Zone.

[Northern Ireland consultation on fisheries management in Marine Protected Areas \(MPAs\).](#)

Closing date 31 March 2021.

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland (DAERA) consultation covers the development of fisheries management measures for MPAs and the establishment of scallop enhancement sites in the Northern Ireland inshore region.

Events

[Bait to Plate. Free webinar.](#) Wednesday 24 March from 12.00 to 13.30 GMT.

This whole seafood supply chain event, organised by WWF and the Environmental Justice Foundation will explore the ongoing discussions around seafood traceability at EU level, as well as present current best practices within the seafood sector.

[All Party Parliamentary Group \(APPG\) on Fisheries event.](#) Data, tech and innovation in UK fishing. 10 to 11.30am on Wednesday 24 March 2021.

This event will explore the advantages that data and technology bring to the fisheries sector, and the uptake of further innovations in the future.

[APPG on Fisheries event. The Fisheries Act and Brexit: Q&A Summary.](#) 25 February 2021.

APPG have now published a summary of the answers given by the Rt Hon George Eustice MP, Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and Anne Freeman, Deputy Director of Domestic Fisheries and Reform at Defra, along with the recording of the event.

Traceability

[Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\) consultation. Advancing end-to-end Seafood traceability.](#) 9 March 2021. Closing date is 12 April 2021.

The FAO wants to collect comments and views on a draft guidance document on seafood traceability. It focuses on Critical Tracking Events (CTEs) and Key Data Elements (KDEs) along the wild capture and aquaculture value chains.

[New Fishery Improvement Project \(FIP\) Communications Guide](#)

The Communications Guide provides guidance on how to communicate about your FIPs and report on their progress. An additional toolkit is designed to help those who work on FIPs to identify the storylines and details about their FIPs that are the most compelling and develop them into a story.

[Seafood Alliance for Legality and Traceability \(SALT\) launches six traceability principles.](#) 25 February 2021.

Accompanying the six overarching principles will be a Pathway to the Principles, providing step by step guidance and resources for designing, managing, and improving electronic traceability programmes.

[Over 150 companies endorse statement calling for increased seafood traceability.](#) 16 February 2021.

Five of the most influential industry and multi-stakeholder platforms in the seafood sector have released a joint statement calling for action to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. In their 'Statement on Traceability and Port State Measures,' the groups call for a combination of private sector and government actions to help transform the transparency and accountability of seafood supply chains and block landings of IUU catch.

[Six ways to help the global seafood industry become more sustainable.](#) February 2021.

The United Nations Global Compact report 'Accelerating sustainable seafood' focusses on the role of regulation, finance and measurement, and identifies six key enablers which could be advanced to accelerate the sustainable development of the seafood industry.

Fisheries management

[New Good Fish Guide Ratings out.](#) 10 March 2021.

The Marine Conservation Society has launched the latest update to its Good Fish Guide sustainable seafood ratings. The update sees a number of new ratings being added to the list, and there are also changes to some ratings to incorporate the latest scientific advice.

[Fishing into the Future \(FITF\) boosted by partnership with The Fishmongers' Company.](#) 25 February 2021.

FITF, an independent UK charity led by people working in the fishing industry, has formed a partnership with the Fishmongers' Company. The partnership includes a substantial grant to implement a three-year work programme that builds on their innovative learning and leadership initiative.

[University of Washington and the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership \(SFP\) release comprehensive new Fishery Improvement Projects \(FIPs\) database.](#) 24 February 2021.

The Hilborn Lab at the University of Washington and SFP have released an updated version of their Fishery Improvement Projects Database. The new database of 249 FIPs will provide a one-stop shop designed for quick and easy analysis that will allow researchers to pinpoint which fisheries have made the most significant advances and what major factors have contributed to those advances

[From fishery science to fake news: how misinformation about the ocean evolves.](#) 22 February 2021.

This article by Max Mossler, at Sustainable Fisheries, traces the history of how a myth can develop such as 'there would be no fish by 2048' and 'global bycatch rates are as high as 40%.

Tuna sourcing

[Tesco introduces new tuna-sourcing approach.](#) 1 March 2021.

Tesco will work with own brand suppliers to introduce new due diligence processes, helping it to Seascope approach to marine sustainability to ensure whole marine ecosystems are maintained in a healthy, productive way. Tesco will first adopt Seascope for its tuna sourcing and has set out a roadmap to transition to sourcing only from fisheries with an ecosystem-based management approach by 2030.

[ISSF: 16 tuna stocks don't meet MSC criteria.](#) 25 February 2021.

A new report commissioned by the ISSF found that 16 tuna stocks are unable to pass the MSC's sustainability criteria

[Thai Union pledges 100% transparency in tuna supply chain by 2025.](#) February 2021.

Thai Union will work with NGO The Nature Conservancy's fisheries experts to implement 100% 'on-the-water' monitoring using GPS, onboard cameras and sensors.

[Asda commits to more sustainable tuna sourcing policy.](#) 15 February 2021.

Retail chain Asda has committed to changing its tuna sourcing policy in a bid to cut bycatch of endangered, threatened, and protected (ETP) marine species such as sharks, turtles, seabirds, and dolphins in tuna fisheries.

Seafish

[EU-UK Trade support updates](#)

We're regularly updating our guidance to help businesses understand the new rules for trading with the EU.

[Free 'Marketing Masterclasses' For Seafood Businesses in March.](#)

Seafish are hosting free webinars in March with industry experts to support independent restaurants, fishmongers and retailers and fish and chip shops.

[Spring 2021 Love Seafood campaign.](#) March 2021

We've teamed up with Defra to deliver additional Love Seafood marketing activity featuring species from UK waters. Our media-driven campaign runs throughout March. It includes national activity highlighting hero species in recipes and health features, and regional activity showcasing local seafood champions.

View our '[Supported by Seafish campaign](#)' which let's the businesses we help tell their own story.

[Consultation with seafood industry on future role of Seafish to get underway in June.](#) 3 March 2021.

We are carrying out a strategic review in 2021 to help inform our future direction and funding. The industry consultation will launch on 1st June.

This is an amalgamation of the news alerts issued in February 2021.