



March 2022

Common Language Group e-alert

(news alerts issued to CLG circulation list by email in March 2022)

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

Funding schemes for the UK seafood industry (January 2022)

This new page on the Seafish website has information on key national grant and funding opportunities that are available to UK seafood and marine businesses.

Fisheries management

IOTC: Indian Ocean yellowfin catch must be cut by 30% to save the stock (9 March 2022)

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) Scientific Committee has published a new report that provides results on the yellowfin tuna stock assessment in the Indian Ocean. The report shows the stock is overfished and will require a catch reduction of at least 30%. Projections show a reasonable likelihood of stock recovery by 2030 if the 30% catch reduction is implemented.

Oceana expands campaigns in the UK (9 March 2022)

Oceana, the world's largest ocean conservation organisation, is expanding its campaigns to protect and restore waters in the United Kingdom (UK). Oceana's expanded campaigns will work to achieve effective marine protection through Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

Finfish Industry Advisory Group (FIAG) to provide forum for fisheries management issues (9 March 2022)

The fishing industry is invited to engage with new group to support ongoing sustainable management of regionally important fisheries for non-quota species. The FIAG will focus on contributing to national-level strategic management of the UK finfish non-quota species including lemon sole, turbot, bass, brill, pilchards, red mullet, gurnards, john dory and others.

North Atlantic Pelagic Advocacy Group (NAPA) issues position paper (28 February 2022)

NAPA has released a position paper setting out concrete actions that Coastal States can take to resolve the problem of pervasive unilateral quota-setting and overfishing in Northeast Atlantic pelagic fisheries.

Bottom trawling triples in key marine protected area despite Brexit promise (28 February 2022)

Analysis by the Marine Conservation Society shows dredging at England's Dogger Bank site has increased despite government pledge to ban the practice.

UK and Faroe Islands reach agreement on fishing opportunities for 2022 (10 February 2022)

The agreement will allow UK and Faroe vessels to fish in an area of each country's waters. This year, the UK fishing industry will benefit from 1,000 tonnes of cod and haddock, worth approximately £2.2 million, and 1,250 tonnes of Atlantic pollock, worth approximately £1.3 million, as well as around £2 million worth of Ling, Blue Ling, Redfish, Flatfish, and other species.

Legal first: Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) must decide if ministers broke law with unsustainable fishing limits (8 February 2022)

The CJEU has been called on to decide if EU ministers have illegally set unsustainable fishing limits. This follows a challenge by Friends of the Irish Environment (FIE), supported by ClientEarth, to end overfishing after the EU missed its binding 2020 deadline.

[‘Fishy Falsehoods de-bunked’: Fish stocks are declining \(February 2022\)](#)

The Shetland Fishermen's Association has launched the second in a series of papers aiming to debunk false claims made about the fishing sector. The second concerns the claim that the fish stocks in the waters around the UK are declining.

[New report into wild capture shellfisheries and the development of English Fisheries Management Plans \(January 2022\)](#)

A new report by the New Economics Foundations considers the development of Fisheries Management Plans and the opportunities to support inshore fisheries. The report, commissioned by the Association of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (AIFCA), makes specific recommendations as to how future management should be designed and resourced.

[Consultations](#)

[UK Government and Devolved Governments seek views on the Joint Fisheries Statement \(JFS\) \(18 January 2022. Closing date to respond is 12 April 2022\)](#)

UK Government is seeking the views of all interested parties on the JFS and the related Fisheries Management Plans. The JFS sets out the legally binding policies the UK Government and Devolved Governments will follow, at a UK level and individually, as they work together to deliver world-class sustainable fisheries and aquaculture management.

[Legislation](#)

[Changes to health certificates for seafood exports to the EU \(25 February 2022\)](#)

The European Commission has now provided clarity on the certification requirements for exports of wild caught species listed in EU legislation. This clarification applies to the new fish and crustacean Export Health Certificates (EHC) (export health certificate 8361). View the Seafish webpage for the latest news.

[Proposal for an EU Directive on corporate sustainability due diligence \(23 February 2022\)](#)

The European Commission has unveiled a proposal to make large companies operating in the European Union check that their suppliers from around the world do not use slave or child labour, and respect environmental standards covering greenhouse gas emissions, pollution, or biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation.

[EU and US agree to resume trade in mussels, clams and oysters \(4 February 2022\)](#)

The European Union and the United States have agreed to resume trade in mussels, clams and oysters from the end of February after they were halted more than a decade ago, marking another step in improved transatlantic relations.

[Commitments and recommendations](#)

[PNLF and WFO announce partnership on climate change and sustainable food \(7 March 2022\)](#)

The World Farmers’ Organisation (WFO) and the International Pole and Line Foundation (IPNLF) have joined their forces in a strategic partnership to bring a strong united voice in the global agenda on climate change.

[Seafood companies commit to new Science Based Targets Initiative \(SBTi\) \(28 February 2022\)](#)

As concerns about climate change grow internationally, seafood companies are now committing to the SBTi initiative, designed to encourage companies to meet specific targets for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Two Norwegian seafood companies joined in February 2022, and Nomad Foods joined in September 2021.

[End-of-life fishing and aquaculture gear policy options \(March 2022\)](#)

Defra has released six technical reports on end-of-life fishing and aquaculture gear policy options. These research findings build on the current understanding of the market for fishing and aquaculture gear, defines and analyses policy options, and presents an economic assessment of these options.

[Key welfare recommendations for marine capture fisheries \(March 2022\)](#)

These recommendations, by the Aquatic Life Institute, are backed by numerous welfare organisations. It suggests key principles for minimising stress and considering welfare, and introduces the concept of an animal welfare-based approach (WBA) to capture fisheries and urges its adoption.

[Seafood industry focuses on crustacean welfare \(24 February 2022\)](#)

The seafood industry is focusing on shellfish welfare and developing best practice guidance on the handling of live crustacea. This work is being driven by the Shellfish Association of Great Britain and the industry-led Crab and Lobster Management Group.

[Seafood group sets out priorities for 'one of the largest processing clusters in the Northern Hemisphere' \(23 February 2022\)](#)

Set up in late 2020 the Seafood Grimsby and Humber Alliance represents the region's seafood and trading processing cluster, which is composed of around 70 companies with more than 5,500 employees, that together support a further 10,000 jobs along the value chain. Members are building on pandemic gains in the growing interest in seafood.

[News](#)

[Premium farmed salmon may be no healthier than value brands when it comes to Omega 3, a study has shown \(26 February 2022\)](#)

Fish-eaters benefit from two Omega 3 fatty acids – EPA and DHA – which can boost heart health and thinking skills. Researchers analysed packs of farmed Scottish and Norwegian salmon from 10 UK supermarkets. The best provided 67% of the recommended weekly Omega 3 but the worst only offered 26%. Fillets from two stores did not contain significantly more Omega 3 than non-premium products.

[Russian invasion of Ukraine: Implications for the UK Seafood Supply Chain \(11 March 2022\)](#)

Seafish is keeping a watching brief on how this might impact on the UK seafood supply chain. This article gives an overview of global whitefish supply and Russia's contribution to that supply; the UK's reliance on Russian raw material; and implications from possible trade sanctions and inevitable trade disruption.

This is an amalgamation of the news alerts issued in March 2022.