

June 2022

**Fisheries Management and Innovation Group news alert**

<https://www.seafish.org/responsible-sourcing/seafood-issues-groups/the-fisheries-management-and-innovation-group/>

**Funding**

**Funding schemes for the UK seafood industry**

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.

**BIM launches €25 million Brexit Blue Economy Scheme to benefit Ireland's Blue economy (3 June 2022)**

Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM), Ireland's Seafood Development Agency, has opened its Brexit Blue Economy Enterprise Development Scheme for applications for grant funding to enable coastal communities to restructure, reconfigure, retrain, and diversify post-Brexit. The Scheme will be delivered through the existing Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs).

**Second round of applications is open for Marine Scotland Fund (13 May 2022)**

A new round of funding to support marine businesses in Scotland has been opened for applications. The Marine Fund Scotland has an overall budget of up to £14m to support fishing, aquaculture and wider marine organisations in coastal communities.

**UK SF: Skills and Training Scheme (bids open in summer 2022)**

The Skills and Training Scheme will provide a one-off fund of up to £10 million to improve training in the seafood industry, including the catching, processing and aquaculture sectors.

**Fisheries management reports**

**ICES releases advice on fishing opportunities 2023 for Northeast Atlantic areas (30 June 2022)**

The ICES has released its advice on fishing opportunities for 2023 for Northeast Atlantic areas including the West of Scotland, the North Sea, Irish Sea and Celtic Sea.

**NAPA criticises hypocrisy of major coastal states at UN Ocean Conference (30 June 2022)**

In the wake of the UN Ocean Conference, the North Atlantic Pelagic Advocacy Group (NAPA) expresses alarm at the recent decisions of the Norwegian and Faroese governments to ignore calls for cooperation and set unilateral quotas for Northeast Atlantic mackerel.

**MMO announces prohibition on Scallop Dredging for UK waters Area 7d (30 June 2022)**

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) has announced a prohibition to all vessels using scallop dredges over 10 metres in length from 1 August to 30 September 2022 in UK waters of ICES area 7d (Eastern English Channel).

**Crowded seas a serious threat to fishing industry, warns major new report (30 June 2022)**

The report, Spatial Squeeze in Fisheries, produced by ABPmer for the Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF) and National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO), is the first attempt to quantify the cumulative impact on commercial fishing of the hugely increased competition for space in the marine environment.

**[UN publishes State of the World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022 report \(29 June 2022\)](#)**

Globally the percentage of the world's fish stocks which are subject to overfishing has increased from around 10% of wild stocks in the 1970s to 34.2% in 2017, and 35.4% in 2019. However, the report shows that 82.5% of volume of fish landed is now sustainably fished – an increase of 3.8% between 2017 and 2019. According to the report, this positive trend reflects improvements in the sustainability of larger, higher volume fisheries.

**[I-VMS reaches milestone with more than a quarter of under-12m fleet installing devices \(29 June 2022\)](#)**

More than a quarter of the English inshore fleet has already installed their onboard devices, and almost £250,000 in grant payments has been paid to fishers as the Inshore Vessel Monitoring System (I-VMS) project rollout approaches the six-month stage.

**[Assessing greenhouse gas emissions from Scotland's fishing fleet \(June 2022\)](#)**

ClimateXChange, Scotland's centre of expertise on climate change has published a study which assesses greenhouse gas emissions by vessel type. The emissions of interest are constrained to those associated with energy use on the vessel. Emissions associated with onshore activities, from transport and refrigeration, are considered out of the scope.

**[Brexit: Voices of the UK Fishing Industry \(13 June 2022\)](#)**

The All Party Parliamentary Group on Fisheries has published a new report highlighting the lived experiences of Brexit from members of the UK's fishing industry. As well as drawing attention to the impacts of Brexit on livelihoods, respondents also suggest ways that government can act to support the sector.

**[2022 report: overfishing is on the decline, but fish populations aren't yet 100% sustainably managed \(June 2022\)](#)**

Every year, upon the European Commission's request, the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) draws up a report on the health status of fish populations in Europe. The 2022 report confirms the trends observed in the Atlantic over the past 20 years: decreasing overfishing and increasing abundance. However, the situation differs from region to region.

**[Defra report into crabs and lobsters mortalities on the north-east coast \(2 June 2022\)](#)**

Defra has published the results of a joint agency investigation into Teesside and Yorkshire Coast crab and lobster mortalities. Between October and December 2021, dead and dying crabs and lobsters were washed ashore in unusually high numbers along parts of the north-east coast of England.

**[European Commission fisheries management review: less overfishing, but further efforts to protect marine resources needed \(1 June 2022\)](#)**

The Commission has published its annual review of EU's fisheries management and has outlined its priorities for 2023.

**[Scottish Government estimates 7,000 tonnes of undersized haddock discarded in 2021 \(21 May 2022\)](#)**

UK fishing trawlers and seine-netters returned more than 7,000 tonnes of undersized haddock to the sea in 2021 according to Scottish government estimates.

**[Overfishing is declining in Europe, but climate change threatens fish stocks \(26 May 2022\)](#)**

According to a report <https://wwz.ifremer.fr/en/Public-policy-support/Sea-Fisheries/How-are-fish-doing-in-Europe/2022-report> by the French Research Institute for the Exploitation of the Sea (Ifremer) Nearly 20% of the biomass of marine animals could disappear by 2100 due to global

warming, according to estimates. “Nothing is guaranteed for the future,” Clara Ulrich, Deputy Scientific Director at Ifremer said. “Climate change affects the chemistry of the oceans and therefore the distribution of fish populations, their diet and their growth. Consequently, nearly 20% of the biomass of marine animals could disappear by the end of the century on average, according to estimates based on IPCC climate models.”

#### **Consultations and events**

##### **[Consultation on the Principles of Marine Net Gain](#) (10 June 2022. Closes 30 August 2022)**

Defra has opened a consultation on “marine net gain”, an approach to marine development that aims to help the UK reach net zero while protecting key marine species and habitats.

##### **[Government seeks views on sustainable approach to offshore developments](#) (7 June 2022. Closes 30 August 2022)**

The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has launched a consultation to gather views on a sustainable approach to marine development that will help meet the UK’s ambitious target to reach net zero. The consultation seeks views on the principles of marine net gain. This will inform policy and approaches to marine net gain implementation.

##### **[New call for evidence on fishing activity in 13 MPAs](#) (14 May 2022. Closes 10 July 2022)**

The MMO has launched a new Call for Evidence on the impacts of fishing with bottom towed gear in 13 Marine Protected Areas, to progress conservation and management measures. The MPAs on the list include Goodwin Sands and Cape Bank. This is in addition to the four byelaws that ban bottom-towed fishing gear from four offshore MPAs including Dogger Bank which will come into action on 13 June.

#### **Marine management initiatives**

##### **[Proposed UK legislation will leave two thirds of critical Marine Protected Areas unprotected](#) (24 May 2022)**

ed areas in English waters, a new report by the Marine Conservation Society reveals that more needs to be done to fully protect the UK’s diverse MPAs.

##### **[Government continues its plans for nature recovery in our seas](#) (13 June 2022)**

Four Marine Management Organisation (MMO) byelaws have come into force today to protect four offshore marine protected areas, including Dogger Bank.

##### **[ICES plans international workshop on North Sea cod](#) (6 June 2022)**

ICES has agreed to hold an international workshop later this year with industry representatives, to look in-depth at the stock situation and stock assessments of North Sea cod. The workshop will address the current situation of the North Sea cod, and work towards a realistic TAC for the stock next year.

##### **[Government funding backs scallop fishing industry breakthrough](#) (18 May 2022)**

A world-first method for catching scallops has been developed using funding from the Government’s Seafood Innovation Fund. This new low-impact method, pioneered by scientists at Devon-based company Fishtek Marine, uses illuminated pots dubbed ‘scallop discos’ to attract and catch scallops.

##### **[MSC’s new fisheries standard unanimously approved by trustees](#) (24 June 2022)**

After four years of input from over 1,000 stakeholders, the Marine Stewardship Council’s fisheries standard review process has finally concluded.

**[Science-policy partnership will investigate offshore wind affects marine life](#) (15 May 2022)**

The new Ecological Consequences of Offshore Wind research programme (ECOWind) sets out to understand how the large-scale deployment of offshore wind can meet climate goals whilst ensuring the UK maintains a healthy marine environment.

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