



November/December 2021

**Fisheries Management and Innovation Group news alert**

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

**Consultations**

**Fishing perspective on Brexit (Closing date for responses is 17 December 2021)**

The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Fisheries is supporting the compilation of a report that will cover the experiences of members of the UK's fishing industry in light of Brexit. They are looking for responses from the whole seafood supply chain and have provided a number of prompt questions to help those responding. Please send your responses or any queries to the APPG Secretariat at [secretariat@fisheriesappg.org](mailto:secretariat@fisheriesappg.org)

**EU action plan to conserve fisheries resources and protect marine ecosystems (Closing date for responses is 20 December 2021)**

The European Commission has launched a targeted consultation on the Action Plan to exploit synergies between fisheries and environmental policies and help improve the implementation of the Action Plan.

**Seeking Cornish net fishers to participate in bycatch mitigation trial (December 2021. Deadline for responses is 22 December 2021)**

Clean Catch UK (CCUK) are looking to undertake commercial trials of Passive Acoustic Reflectors (PARs), to help reduce the bycatch of dolphins and porpoises in static net fisheries. CCUK are looking for 10 vessels in the South-west using static nets (gill, trammel, tangle) to trial how effective, robust, and practical PARs are in the commercial fisheries.

**Funding**

**Support for fishing businesses and coastal communities (7 December 2021)**

In the latest round of funding awards from Marine Fund Scotland (MFS), fishing businesses and marine organisations in coastal communities have received more than £3 million.

**Funding schemes for the UK seafood industry (November 2021)**

This new page on the Seafish website has information on some grants and funds that are available to UK seafood and marine businesses.

**Call for ideas for funded research projects (1 November 2021)**

Three fishing charities have joined forces to support the development of industry-driven scientific research, with funding available to take successful ideas forward. Fishing into the Future, Fishing Animateurs and The Fishmongers' Company' want to help connect industry members with scientists so they can access from the Fisheries Industry Science Partnership (FISP) scheme.

**£1.9m Maritime and Fisheries Fund for Northern Ireland (Deadline for applications is 31 March 2022)**

Financial support is now available for fishing and aquaculture stakeholders in Northern Ireland, replacing the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund. Minister Poots has encouraged stakeholders to apply promptly as the funding closes in March next year.

**[The Seafood Innovation Fund \(SIF\) call three open](#) (Closing date for applications is 7 January 2022)**

The UK government's Seafood Innovation Fund (SIF) is a research and development (R&D) fund that launched in July 2019. It is now part of the UK Seafood Fund under the Science and Innovation pillar. Call 3 is now open and the programme is looking to fund feasibility studies that can test new ideas or approaches to benefit the UK seafood sector.

**UK Seafood Innovation Fund (SIF) are looking for assessors.**

Cefas are continuing to add to the team of assessors reviewing innovative project ideas from across the UK seafood sector. Assessors remain anonymous and are paid for each application completed. If you are interested in this role, please email [SIF-Assessors@cefas.co.uk](mailto:SIF-Assessors@cefas.co.uk) to apply.

**Latest news**

**[Marine Environment News in Brief](#) (December 2021)**

The latest news on regulation in the marine environment, featuring the Environment Act 2021, Animal Welfare (Sentience) Bill and consultations.

**[The UK moving forward as an independent coastal state](#) (8 December 2021)**

During this Fishing Daily Podcast Oliver McBride speaks to Barrie Deas, Chief Executive of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO) about the UK fishing industry and its future relationships as an independent coastal state.

**[Retraction of flawed MPA study implicates larger problems in MPA science](#) (8 December 2021)**

There has been criticism of a recent publication on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) which has led to the retraction of a flawed paper in the prestigious Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS). There is also criticism of a closely related paper which appeared in Nature using the same analysis as the PNAS paper. This claimed bottom trawling releases large quantities of sequestered carbon (Sala et al 2021). This article explains why the science in the Nature paper is flawed in the same way as the retracted paper.

**[Seafish Kingfisher launches fishing restrictions mapping website](#) (22 November 2021)**

A new online service has been launched by Kingfisher to help fishers navigate commercial fishing gear restrictions in UK waters. This free service allows fishers to view all UK fishing gear restrictions in one place, with complete coverage of all regulatory authorities.

**[Major new initiative advances the sustainable management of UK's marine resources](#) (22 November 2021)**

A consortium of universities, industry, government and NGOs have joined forces to create the Centre for Doctoral Training in Sustainable Management of UK Marine Resources (SuMMeR CDT). The aim is to deliver the next generation of researchers, solution providers and practitioners who will sustainably manage our marine resources.

**[Positive early results from low-impact scallop gear trials](#) (9 November 2021)**

The collaborative project, funded by the UK Seafood Innovation Fund, aims to investigate the practicality of dredge modifications that are intended to reduce seabed impact and fuel consumption and increase profitability.

**Reports and reviews**

**[Marine Institute launches 2021 Stock Book with the latest impartial scientific advice](#) (7 December 2021)**

This annual publication provides the latest impartial scientific advice on the status of 74 key fish stocks of interest to Ireland.

**[OurFish report examines the wide-reaching reasons to remove EU fuel subsidies](#) (23 November 2021)**

This report examines the wide-reaching reasons – which are overwhelmingly supported by science – to remove EU fuel subsidies. It is estimated that more than €1 billion of government revenue is foregone due to fuel tax concessions

**[2021 Annual Economic Report on the EU Fishing Fleet](#) (18 November 2021)**

The 2021 Annual Economic Report on the EU Fishing Fleet confirms that in 2019, the fleet maintained overall profitability. The report projects similar profitability levels for 2020, despite the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the fleet and fish markets.

**[Scots Nephrops report nets government support](#) (17 November 2021)**

Scottish government has published a 17-page response to the recommendations made in the Scottish Nephrops Working Group report.

**[Scottish Pelagic Sustainability Group produces Fact Sheet on NE Atlantic mackerel](#) (8 November 2021)**

This outlines the current UK position on the north-east Atlantic mackerel fishery and total allowable catches (TACs) and quota shares.

**[Review on Data Collection Methods Used in NE Atlantic Small-Scale Fisheries](#) (November 2021)**

The Conserving Atlantic Biodiversity by Supporting Innovative Small-scale Fisheries Co-management (CABFishMan) programme has released a comprehensive review of existing methods for data collection in Northeast Atlantic small-scale fisheries (SSF).

**[Evaluation of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities Report Published](#) (November 2021)**

A key message from the report states the importance of continued engagement with coastal communities through local involvement in fisheries management decisions.

**[Next-generation ensemble projections reveal higher climate risks for marine ecosystems](#) (21 October 2021)**

This article, published in Nature estimates between 7% and 19% of marine species biomass will be lost in the coming years, depending on how successful we are at cutting emissions. These predictions come from using complex models that link the expected changes in the oceans' biophysics with their consequences on predators and prey in all levels of the food chain.

**[Exploring the relationship between static fishing gear, fishing effort, and benthic biodiversity: a systematic review protocol](#) (19 October 2021)**

This systematic review could provide clarification on the short and long-term impacts of commercial static gear fishing on benthic community diversity.

**[Restoring marine and coastal habitats in Wales](#) (November 2021)**

Natural Resources Wales commissioned a project to look at the potential to restore marine habitats around Wales. This focussed on six valuable habitats: intertidal mudflats, coastal saltmarshes, seagrass beds, horse mussel beds, honeycomb worm reefs and native oyster habitat.

***This is an amalgamation of the news alerts issued in November/December 2021.***