RELEVANT INFO

- Rees-Mogg's hard Brexit won't do anything for fishing communities
  https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/mar/21/jacob-rees-mogg-fishing-communities-hard-brexit

- **Too Big to Ignore – Small scale – Smaller footprints?**
  When it comes to fishing gears impacts, experts suggest that habitat damage is a priority concern for fisheries management (Fuller et al. 2008). One reason behind this concern is that the recovery of seafloor habitats, on which fish and other marine life depend for survival, would take hundreds of years. By mid 90s alone, estimates showed that about 14.8 million km2 of seafloor have been trawled (Watling and Norse 1998). But habitat damage is not the only concern: bycatch - an incidental catch of marine life such as fish, mammals, and corals - is another issue associated with many fishing gears. Recent efforts to assess relative impacts of fishing gears include work by Chuenpagdee et al. 2003 (US fisheries); Fuller et al. 2008 (Canada); Alfaro-Shigueto et al. 2010 (Peru); Crilly & Esteban 2013 (United Kingdom); Guyader et al. 2013 (European countries). These assessment, however, do not distinguish fishing gears used in the small-scale fishery and large-scale fishery, which is why the The Too Big To Ignore (TBTI) research team has been working to fill this knowledge gap. For instance, in a workshop held in St. John's, in July 2016, TBTI conducted an expert workshop to rate the ecological impacts of fishing gears in six countries, namely Brazil, India, Mexico, Thailand, Turks and Caicos, and United States.
  http://toobigtoignore.net/small-scale-smaller-footprints/

- The world has 2 years to meet the Marine Protection Goal. Can It Be Done?
  https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2018/02/marine-protected-areas-assessment-environment-conservation-spd/

- **MSC** – new certification The Poole Harbour Clam & Cockle Fishery
  https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/the-poole-harbour-clam-cockle-fishery/@@assessments

- **Coastal Communities Fund: round 5** Funding supporting the economic development of coastal communities - expression of interest form and guidance.
  https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coastal-communities-fund-round-5

- **Statutory guidance - Bass fishing guidance 2018**
  https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bass-industry-guidance-2018/bass-fishing-guidance-2018

- Proposed National Salmon and Sea Trout Protection Byelaws
  https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/fisheries/proposed-national-salmon-byelaws/?dm_i=3O4M,D1Z8,3PES3O,1D9T4,1

- Find out more about **NEFs work with the fishing community in Eastbourne over the past two years, helping them attain a £1 million EMFF grant offer.** Film here

- **Improving Monitoring for Greater Impact**
  For those making key decisions based on evidence generated by monitoring systems
  https://www.nefconsulting.com/training-capacity-building/improving-monitoring-greater-impact/?dm_i=2HRL,17FHS,2EZME8,3SY12,1

- Institute of Fisheries Management (IFM) training courses: http://www.cmscoms.com/?p=12844 and specialist conference May 23rd 24th 2018 http://www.cmscoms.com/?p=12780

- Upcoming **NEF Consulting courses: find out more here**

  - Communicating Impact: Data Visualisation - 2 May
  - Communicating Impact: Storytelling - 1 May

- **Who gets to fish for sea bass? Using social, economic, and environmental criteria to determine access to the English sea bass fishery**
  Transparent, performance-based approaches to allocating fishing opportunities are required for signatories to the Aarhus Convention and the European Union's (EU) Member States via the Common Fisheries Policy. The lack of an operational framework to support this requirement means such a system is seldom explicitly used. Using the English commercial sea bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) fishery as a case study, operationalisation of this policy requirement is evaluated using a Multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA) framework. MCDA is a decision-making tool allowing users to explicitly evaluate complex, potentially conflicting, criteria, enabling wider costs and benefits to be considered. The sea bass fishery was selected as the dramatic stock decline since 2010 has meant difficult policy choices regarding the allocation of scarce fishing opportunities between different user groups. To inform the MCDA, the three main English sea bass fishing methods (nets, hooks, and trawls) are evaluated across thirteen social, economic, and environmental criteria to generate a performance score. Importance weightings for each criterion, developed from 50 surveys of fishers, industry representatives, managers, non-governmental organisations, and the wider public, are used to combine these performance scores generating an overall score for the MCDA. Results show that regardless of stakeholder group questioned, hooks achieve the highest MCDA performance, followed by nets, and then trawls. This suggests that taking a performance-based approach to the allocation of fishing opportunities in the English fishing fleet have a prioritisation by fishing type. MCDA could be used to promote transparency, objectivity and social, environmental and economic sustainability into European and UK fisheries.
  https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X17307650

- **Individual transferable quotas, does one size fit all? Sustainability analysis of an alternative model for quota allocation in a small-scale coastal fishery**
  The introduction of vessel-based Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs) in Danish demersal fisheries in 2007 caused significant structural changes in the fleet, towards fewer and larger vessels deploying otter trawls. Mainly smaller coastal vessels deploying Danish seines and gillnets reduced in numbers. The ecosystem effects of this structural change were investigated by comparing the sustainability of a local, small-scale, coastal fishery (Thorupstrand) using Danish

seines and gillnets with that of demersal trawling by larger vessels using the same fishing grounds. The fisheries were compared using six ecological and socio-economic indicators: 1), discards (food web), 2), by-catch incidences (food web/biodiversity), 3), seabed impacts, 4), fuel use efficiency, 5), quality of fish landed (food provision), and 6), social and cultural gains and drawbacks (social and cultural features). Except for by-catch of vulnerable species, the fisheries using Danish seines and gillnets scored better in all indicators when compared to otter trawls. Additional commercial and cultural benefits of establishing a local fishery guild with share-owned quotas and land-based facilities were investigated. The results and lessons learned are discussed in the context of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management and the current reform of the common fisheries policy of the European Union.
https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X1730146X#.WgVbclueueU.twitter

- **Recreational sea fishing in Europe in a global context—Participation rates, fishing effort, expenditure, and implications for monitoring and assessment**
  Marine recreational fishing (MRF) is a high-participation activity with large economic value and social benefits globally, and it impacts on some fish stocks. Although reporting MRF catches is a European Union legislative requirement, estimates are only available for some countries. Here, data on numbers of fishers, participation rates, days fished, expenditures, and catches of two widely targeted species were synthesized to provide European estimates of MRF and placed in the global context. Uncertainty assessment was not possible due to incomplete knowledge of error distributions; instead, a semi-quantitative bias assessment was made. There were an estimated 8.7 million European recreational sea fishers corresponding to a participation rate of 1.6%. An estimated 77.6 million days were fished, and expenditure was €5.9 billion annually. There were higher participation, numbers of fishers, days fished and expenditure in the Atlantic than the Mediterranean, but the Mediterranean estimates were generally less robust. Comparisons with other regions showed that European MRF participation rates and expenditure were in the mid-range, with higher participation in Oceania and the United States, higher expenditure in the United States, and lower participation and expenditure in South America and Africa. For both northern European sea bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*, Moronidae) and western Baltic cod (*Gadus morhua*, Gadidae) stocks, MRF represented 27% of the total removals. This study highlights the importance of MRF and the need for bespoke, regular and statistically sound data collection to underpin European fisheries management. Solutions are proposed for future MRF data collection in Europe and other regions to support sustainable fisheries management.
  http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/faf.12251/full

- **Evaluating the fishery and ecological consequences of the proposed North Sea multi-annual plan**
  The possible impacts of the European Commission's proposed North Sea Multi-Annual Plan are evaluated in terms of its likely outcomes to achieve management objectives for fishing pressure, species' biomass, fishery yield, the landed value of key species and ecosystem objectives. The method applies management strategy evaluation procedures that employ an ecosystem model of the North Sea and its fisheries as the operating model. Taking five key dimensions of the proposed plan, it identifies those areas that are key to its successful performance. Overwhelmingly, choices in the options for the implementation of regulatory measures on discarding practices outweigh the effects of options related to fishing within ranges associated with 'pretty good yield', the way that biomass conservation safeguard mechanisms are applied and the timeframe for achieving fishing mortality targets. The impact of safeguard options and ranges in fishing mortality become important only when stock biomass is close to its reference points. The fifth dimension–taking into account wider conservation and ecosystem objectives—reveals that discard policy has a big impact on conservation species, but also that the type of harvest control rule can play an important role in limiting risks to stocks by 'applying the brakes' early. The consequences to fisheries however is heightened risk to their viability, thus exposing

the sustainability trade-offs faced with balancing societal pressures for blue growth and enhanced conservation. It also reveals the wider ecosystem impacts that emphasise the connectivity between the demersal and pelagic realms, and thus, the importance of not treating the demersal NSMAP in isolation from other management plans. When stocks are below their biomass reference points, low F strategies lead to better long term economic performance, but for stocks consistently above biomass reference points, high F strategies lead to higher long term value. *Nephrops* and whiting often show contradictory responses to the strategies because changes in their predators abundance affects their abundance and success of their fisheries.
http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0190015

- **Seeking resilience in marine ecosystems**
  Resilience is a popular narrative for conservation and provides an opportunity to communicate optimism that ecosystems can recover and rebound from disturbances. A resilience lens also reinforces the need for continued conservation investments, even in degraded ecosystems. It is probably for these reasons that resilience has become a conceptual cornerstone in the management of tropical coral reefs, which are one of the ecosystems most vulnerable to climate change.
  http://science.sciencemag.org/content/359/6379/986?utm_campaign=toc_sci-mag_2018-03-01&et_rid=17045989&et_cid=1881759

- **BLUE NEW DEAL Action Plan** – 'Turning back to the sea' http://neweconomics.org/turning-back-to-the-sea/

- **MSEP legacy: A marine economics handbook for NGOs**
  http://b.3cdn.net/nefoundation/fd13ca36cea4cb53b7_xhm6b9tzq.pdf

- **The Infographic Impact Assessment for MCZs** http://www.mseproject.net/infographic-ia

- **Poole Rocks MCZ-** www.poolerocksmcz.uk https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68dly3ofgMU

- **NEF Economics in policy making briefings** http://neweconomics.org/2013/05/economics-policy-making/

- **NEF 'A fair fishing deal'** http://neweconomics.org/2017/09/fish/?_sft_latest=research

- **Follow the MSEP on twitter @MarineEconomics**

- Who's driving the future of conservation? Ordinary people http://bit.ly/2GNEp7M

- If you have any research, articles or information that relates to socio-economic studies in the marine environment please share them with the network

Thanks, Chris @ **NEF**