

# UPDATE ON MSEP

- **BLUE NEW DEAL Action Plan** – ‘Turning back to the sea’ <http://neweconomics.org/turning-back-to-the-sea/> and summary document: [http://neweconomics.org/wpcontent/uploads/2016/11/BND\\_BULLETIN\\_E.pdf](http://neweconomics.org/wpcontent/uploads/2016/11/BND_BULLETIN_E.pdf)
- **MSEP legacy: A marine economics handbook for NGOs**
- All the freely available creative commons resources from the last 3 years of the MSEP project are available for download here: [http://b.3cdn.net/neweconomics.org/wpcontent/uploads/2016/11/BND\\_BULLETIN\\_E.pdf](http://b.3cdn.net/neweconomics.org/wpcontent/uploads/2016/11/BND_BULLETIN_E.pdf)
- **The Infographic Impact Assessment for MCZs** <http://www.mseproject.net/infographic-ia>
- **MCZ summary & Methodology**
- **Poole Rocks MCZ-** [www.poolerocksmcz.uk](http://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 Fisheries Summary paper ‘A fair fishing deal’**  
[http://neweconomics.org/2017/09/fish/?\\_sft\\_latest=research](http://neweconomics.org/2017/09/fish/?_sft_latest=research)

## RELEVANT INFO

- 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](#)
- **Wales Center for Public Policy commissioned a NEF report to look at Welsh fisheries Brexit impacts and opportunities:** <https://www.wcpp.org.uk/single-post/2018/02/13/Implications-of-Brexit-for-Fishing-Opportunities-in-Wales>

Full report available here:

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/f06571\\_384894627f6f4014b1d18dbcddf105d9.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/f06571_384894627f6f4014b1d18dbcddf105d9.pdf)

...and featured on BBC ‘Shell fishing fleet in Wales wants help with Brexit’

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-43031401>

- **Seafish BIG PICTURE 2018**

UK seafood infographics and headline statistics

[http://www.seafish.org/media/publications/The\\_Big\\_Picture\\_2018\\_Digital.pdf](http://www.seafish.org/media/publications/The_Big_Picture_2018_Digital.pdf)

- **FARNET good practise guides EU FLAGS:** With the second generation of FLAGS now up and running, there is a growing number of project examples from the past and the present which can inspire other actions aimed at developing fisheries and aquaculture areas around Europe, be it through economic, environmental or social support and investment. The project descriptions and short stories below give an insight into some of the local projects funded by the FLAGS, while the methods provide helpful examples of effective programme management, ranging from community

outreach to FLAG self-assessment. [https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/cms/farnet2/on-the-ground/good-practice\\_en](https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/cms/farnet2/on-the-ground/good-practice_en)

# EVENTS

- **Improving Monitoring for Greater Impact**  
For those making key decisions based on evidence generated by monitoring systems  
A masterclass for leaders and senior decision makers 22 March 2018, London  
[https://www.nefconsulting.com/training-capacity-building/improving-monitoring-greater-impact/?dm\\_i=2HRL,17FHS,2EZME8,3SY12,1](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 23<sup>rd</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 2018 <http://www.cmscoms.com/?p=12780>
- Upcoming **NEF Consulting courses**: [find out more here](#)
  - SROI Training - 27-28 February (London) & 20-21 March (Manchester)
  - Measuring & Improving Wellbeing - 6 March
  - Measuring Social Impact - 13-14 March
  - Communicating Impact: Data Visualisation - 15 March & 2 May
  - Communicating Impact: Storytelling - 1 May
- Fishing into the Future – sustainable fisheries course  
[http://www.fishingintothefuture.co.uk/course/introduction-sustainable-fisheries-sw-southern-inshore/?utm\\_content=bufferd7132&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer#ISF18](http://www.fishingintothefuture.co.uk/course/introduction-sustainable-fisheries-sw-southern-inshore/?utm_content=bufferd7132&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer#ISF18)

# PUBLICATIONS

- **50th Anniversary of FSBI** To celebrate this significant milestone, we've put together a special collection of the top cited papers from *Journal of Fish Biology* from each decade. To accompany the collection, J. F. Craig has written an [editorial on the history of the \*Journal of Fish Biology\*, 1969 to 2017](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1095-8649.2010.02783.x/full). <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1095-8649.2010.02783.x/full>
- **Assessing cumulative human activities, pressures, and impacts on North Sea benthic habitats using a biological traits approach**  
The application of a biological traits analysis, in the present study, has allowed benthic habitat sensitivities and their risk of impact to be mapped at a spatial scale appropriate for the assessment of the North Sea ecoregion. This study considered habitat impacts associated with five important marine sectors; bottom fishing, marine aggregate dredging, sediment disposal, renewable energy devices (tidal, waves, and wind) and the oil and gas sectors, both individually and cumulatively. The significance of the “actual” footprint of impact arising from these human activities and their associated pressures (sediment abrasion, sediment removal, smothering, and placement of hard structures) is presented and discussed. Notable differences in sensitivity to activities are seen depending on habitat type. Some of the more substantial changes in benthic habitat function evaluated are potentially associated with the placement of hard structures in shallow mobile sedimentary habitats, which result in a shift in habitat dominated by small, short-living infaunal species, to a habitat dominated by larger, longer-lived, sessile epibenthic suspension feeders. In contrast, the impacts of bottom fishing, dredging and disposal activities

are all assessed to be most severe when executed in deep, sedimentary habitats. Such assessments are important in supporting policies (e.g. spatial planning) directed towards ensuring sustainable “blue-growth,” through a better understanding of the potential ecological impacts associated with human activities operating across different habitat types. The aim of this study is to provide a better understanding of the spatial extent of selected human activities and their impacts on seabed habitats using a biological trait-based sensitivity analysis.

<https://academic.oup.com/icesjms/advance-article/doi/10.1093/icesjms/fsx205/4616494>

- **A decision tree that can address connectivity in the design of Marine Protected Area Networks (MPAn)**

A marine protected area (MPA) is an area of the ocean designated for the conservation and protection of natural or cultural resources. MPAs are spatial tools used to preserve the ecological integrity and biodiversity of an area, protecting ecosystem functions, species and habitats for future generations. In 2015, the Canadian government committed to increasing protection of its coastal and marine areas up to 10% by 2020. To reach this goal, the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) is currently in the process of designing and implementing a network of MPAs in the Maritimes Region, on the Atlantic coast of Canada. The design process needs to consider population connectivity, which in turn requires an understanding of life-histories for target species (i.e. the movement of adults and the dispersal of larval life-stages). The population parameters that repeatedly emerge as necessary for deriving estimates of MPA dimensions include the spatial distribution of the conservation priority (species or habitat), movement patterns and oceanographic processes. A decision tree was developed that uses information on species larval dispersal, and juvenile, and adult movement to provide guidelines that can inform definition of size and spacing of individual MPAs in a network. Case studies of species targeted for protection on the Scotian Shelf are presented, to illustrate its use. The decision tree can be used as a tool to help design networks that ensure population connectivity where there is a paucity of biological information, or as a quality control method for assessing other spatial design tools.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X17307558>

- **Environmental interactions of tidal lagoons: A comparison of industry perspectives**

Tidal lagoons are an attractive renewable energy option that could aid the UK in meeting its ambitious renewable energy targets. One of the main barriers to tidal range development in the UK to date has been regulatory environmental concern. In order for the nascent lagoon industry to move forward into development, the views of the developers and other influential stakeholders such as government bodies, regulators, conservationists and practitioners (herein referred to as ‘influencing stakeholders’ or ‘influencers’) need to be aligned. This study is the first of its kind using online questionnaires and semi-structured interviews to present and compare the views of both developers and influencing stakeholders on the environmental interactions of tidal lagoons. We find that, whilst both influencers and developers are working towards the common goal of a good environmental outcome for tidal lagoons, there are mismatches in their views in terms of the priorities given to the key environmental impacts, benefits and potential solution options. The work provides insight into what is at the forefront of developers’ and influencers’ minds, highlighting the key themes within their views and transforming this information into policy recommendations that will help the industry’s development move forward.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0960148117311679>

- **Assessing public awareness of marine environmental threats and conservation efforts**

To successfully integrate and engage the general public into marine conservation decisions it is important that individuals are well informed. This study surveyed two sample groups, marine environmental professionals working in the UK,  $n = 61$ , and members of the public surveyed in Truro, Cornwall, UK,  $n = 71$ . Public awareness of marine environmental threats and conservation efforts was assessed through comparison with the, assumed well informed, professional sample. Findings suggest that the public are generally well informed of threats to the marine environment, but are significantly less well informed about marine conservation and management strategies. Furthermore, despite indicating concern for the marine environment, members of the public display significantly fewer pro-environmental behaviours than marine conservation professionals. Public knowledge (and action) gaps are discussed as well as how these may be minimised, including a more interdisciplinary and active approach to science communication and public engagement.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X17303615?via%3Dihub>

- **The potential for blue growth in marine fish yield, profit and abundance of fish in the ocean**

The oceans provide food, employment and income for billions of people. Using data from scientific stock assessments and a statistical model for other [fish stocks](#) the past and present status, and the potential catch, abundance and profit for 4713 fish stocks constituting 78% of global fisheries are estimated. Three major scenarios of future trends are considered; business as usual (BAU) in which largely unmanaged fisheries move towards bioeconomic equilibrium but where well-managed fisheries maintain their management, [maximum sustainable yield](#) (MSY) in which fisheries are managed to maximize yield, and fisheries reform (REF) where the competitive race to fish is eliminated and fisheries are managed to maximize profit. The future prospects differ greatly based on region of the world and product type. This analysis forecasts that yield in major tuna and forage fish species will remain roughly the same as current levels under all three scenarios, while there does appear to be potential for increased yield of whitefish. There is considerable room for increased profit in most of these fisheries from better management. Increased yield will come from rebuilding overexploited stocks, reducing fishing mortality on stocks that are still abundant but fished at high rates, and surprisingly from fishing some stocks harder. Indeed in Europe and North America the primary potential for increased yield comes from fully exploiting stocks that are now lightly exploited. Asia provides the greatest opportunity for increased fish abundance and increased profit by fisheries reform that would lead to reduced fishing pressure.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X1730074X#>

- **Altered fish community and feeding behaviour in close proximity to boat moorings in an urban estuary**

Coastal urbanization has led to large-scale transformation of estuaries, with artificial structures now commonplace. Boat moorings are known to reduce seagrass cover, but little is known about their effect on fish communities. We used underwater video to quantify abundance, diversity, composition and feeding behaviour of fish assemblages on two scales: with increasing distance from moorings on fine scales, and among locations where moorings were present or absent. Fish were less abundant in close proximity to boat moorings, and the species composition varied on fine scales, leading to lower predation pressure near moorings. There was no relationship at the location with seagrass. On larger scales, we detected no differences in abundance or community composition among locations where moorings were present or absent. These findings show a clear impact of moorings on fish and highlight the importance of fine-scale assessments over location-scale comparisons in the detection of the effects of artificial structures.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0025326X18300912>



- **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