



Marine
Management
Organisation

Fisheries management

The Fisheries Management Team helps deliver the fisheries policies of Defra to ensure the sustainable management of fish stocks.

What we do:

- Issue permits for fisheries scientific research to better understand fish populations;
- Give guidance to the fishing industry to help them comply with the rules;
- Work in partnership with the fishing industry to manage fishing quotas worth hundreds of millions of pounds each year;
- Swap quotas between UK fishing companies and other countries so the quota gets to those who are catching the fish;
- Carry out the licensing of sea fishing vessels;
- Regulate and support the work of fish producer organisations who have roles including marketing and managing quotas on behalf of the fishermen who are members.

Why we do it:

We are passionate about providing a great service to those working hard to make their living by fishing and providing delicious and healthy British produce. We care about the marine environment and are proud that most UK fish stocks are getting healthier every year.

Key achievements:

- Helping English inshore fishermen to earn over £25 million from fish quotas in 2016.
- Playing a part in EU fish stocks recovering from overfishing to 59% being sustainable.
- Working closely with the fishing industry and Cefas to improve the understanding of fish stocks so that 61% are now based on the highest level of knowledge
- Joint working with the Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities

Facts:

- We deliver over 200 fishing licence transactions per year to help the fishing industry buy and sell vessels.
- We promote the maximum use of the UK's fishing quota and effort allocations to achieve economic growth.
- In 2016 we secured over £1 million of extra fishing quotas for the UK by trading quota we didn't need for those we could use in 2017.
- We implemented new controls to protect the sea bass stock in 2017 to ensure it is able to recover for the long-term benefit of commercial and recreational fishers.
- Over 40 scientific research permits were issued to improve the data available to manage fish stocks.
- We gave over 1000 individual pieces of advice to the fishing industry and members of the public about marine fisheries in 2016.
- We helped the UK fishing industry to increase its economic activity from £775 million in 2015 to £936 million in 2016.

