



Marine
Management
Organisation

Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing team

We are the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing team (IUU).

What we do:

- Ensure that the UK complies with its obligations under the IUU Regulation (Council Regulation 2005/2008). The regulation requires that any fish imports into the European Union (EU) are supported by Catch Certificates that can be verified by officials at designated ports;
- Review and monitor procedures undertaken by Port Health Authorities who carry out these verifications and also to provide guidance and support when required;
- Verify catch certificates for fishery products that are leaving the EU for processing, but that will return to the EU;
- Verify UK catch certificates for fisheries exports to 3rd countries that require them upon entry into their territory (8 in total) or for fishery products that have been exported from the UK for processing and that are returning to the EU;
- The IUU team is the UK Single Liaison Office (SLO);
- The SLO provides the UK with a single point of contact when dealing with requests for information, incoming and outgoing, through both Mutual Assistance and Mutual Legal Assistance, to the Commission, Other Member States and 3rd country authorities.

Why we do it:

Our key objectives are to prevent and deter the movement of illegally caught fish from entering the EU, and through this to deter the catching and landing of that fish. However, IUU activity can be highly organised and difficult to detect, and the UK works closely with the EU and other countries worldwide to try and achieve these objectives.

Key achievements:

- In 2015/16 we worked closely with the UK insurance industry to educate them on the IUU regulation. This was to prevent UK insurance companies from insuring vessels engaged in IUU fishing.
- The team works closely with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to provide them with briefings on IUU fishing.

Facts:

- It is believed that up to 1/3 of all landed fish is IUU fish – estimated at up to 26 million tonnes per year.
- According to Interpol, over \$23 billion is lost to the world economy each year as a result of IUU activity with most harm done to the economies of developing countries. IUU fishing is also linked to organised crime such as drug and people smuggling.
- In 2016 the UK processed 37659 Catch Certificates and 6567 Processing Statements for imports from 73 3rd Countries into the UK.
- The IUU team validated over 70 landings of non-containerised imports at Grimsby which involved verifying over 1200 catch certificates. These consisted of mainly cod and haddock stocks from Norway and Russia.

