



European Inshore Fishery

**A report from the project ECOast Fish
and the final Seminar in Denmark
the 7th - 11th of December 2000**

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The project objectives in **ECOast** Fish - an introduction of organic fishery through the mobilisation of small-coastal fisheries

- To establish a national and international network within the coastal fisheries.
- To raise the attention among the coastal fishermen on the necessity and the advantages of a sustainable and organic fishery.
- To have the active fishermen, working in the coastal fishery, organise themselves in local trade structures that make it possible to distribute fish products outside the established highly industrialised systems of treatment and distribution
- To raise the attention in the fishing commerce and in the smaller industries on the necessity and the advantages of the marketing of fish products from a sustainable and organic coastal fishery.
- To raise the attention among the consumers on the advantages in purchasing fish products from the small-scale coastal fishery.
- To support the introduction of a blue label for organic fish products that satisfy a set of organic criteria and rules, laid down and controlled by the public authorities.



Preface

By: Gunnar Jakobsen, skipper and Chairman of »Danish Society for a Living Sea«

Finally, after several postponements and reductions of the budget, we held the first international inshore fishermen's seminar. The seminar marks the conclusion of the EU funded project: ECOast Fish. With attendance from English, Finish, Swedish and Danish fishermen we held a prolonged weekend seminar and discussed common problems relevant for inshore fishery with smaller vessels. Many of the problems presented during the weekend showed that we, as fishermen, have many things in common – this weekend revealed that we each fight many of the same problems. A general problem is our difficulty in getting through to our politicians and fisheries associations – it seems as if they are more concerned about the larger units and their fishing.

Seals, whales and seabirds seem, also on a European level to be more worthy of preservation than the fisherman and his industry. In addition comes the increasing pollution of the seas with toxic and chemical waste. A pollution which the fisherman only learns about when measures of dioxin generates headlines in the newspapers and causes temporary fishing stops in certain areas – but when is the actual pollution stopped?

After nearly 30 years of cut back in quotas we are now forced to conclude, that a large number of our most important species are fished down and reduced to a minimum. It is about time to realise, that the 'armchair' regulation of nature, by so called experts, has failed. In the future, regulation must be revised and re-thought if the stocks are ever to reach an acceptable level again.

As a conclusion of the ECOast Fish seminar, we decided to raise funds in order to meet again in 2001. We hope to meet again in order to evaluate the results of this first seminar and continue to work with our common problems. All in order to preserve and promote inshore fishery. Hopefully, representatives from more countries will join the next seminar. It is crucial that we unite ourselves and agree upon common issues. The chance of being heard increases for each voice shouting.

On behave of the board in Living sea I will like to thank: EU – commission DG14, The Green Foundation, The Danish Ministry of Environment, Strukturdirektoratet, The Danish Ministry of Food, for the economical support.



*Gunnar
Jakobsen*

Introduction



Espen Nordberg

By: Espen Nordberg, Ethnographer, editor, Denmark

Who, what, when and where

It was with great satisfaction that the ECOast Fish project group, in December 2000, finally was able to welcome the seminar participants to Denmark. For almost three years we have worked through delays due to cut backs in funding. Finally, in a slightly reduced version compared to the original plan, approximately 35 people met for a three-day seminar. The agenda was the European Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and a search for common grounds between European fishermen fishing inshore with smaller vessels.

Basically, the ECOast Fish project group wanted to create a forum for international 'harbour talk'. The overall aim for the seminar has been to give the participants an idea about what goes on in foreign harbours - what is discussed on the other side of the North Sea, or around the Baltic Sea? What problems do other inshore fishermen face - how do they deal with them?

As the conclusion of this report reveals, the inshore fishermen of northern Europe have a lot in common. There is no doubt, that many participants were struck by the similarities of the different problems. Consequently, a feeling of community developed.

This report is written in order to account for the issues debated at the ECOast Fish seminar and to reveal on what grounds the participators could meet. Included is an idea of the perspectives and possibilities for a future international co-operation. It is a collection of viewpoints and an account for what was discussed at the seminar. As the report states how and with what aims future co-operation can take place, the report is also an 'European Inshore Fisheries Resolution'.



Introduction



After this introduction we pursue to give a summary of what was debated. We do that by drawing on some of the many examples given as participants' presentations and during plenum discussions. As extension of the summary some of the participants have been asked to elaborate on topics we found it difficult to cover in detail ourselves.

The seminar was planned with a very tight schedule. It began on a Thursday evening with a brief personal presentation of each participant. Friday morning an excursion was arranged to the near by fishing harbour of Grenaa, its fish auction and the local fishermen's association. Afterwards the group visited Boennrup Harbour, and heard the story of how the local fisheries association initiated a windmill project in order to finance a needed expansion of the breakwaters.

After the excursion, the participating fishermen were benched for two days' intensive discussion. Each participant had the chance to give a more detailed introduction to his background, who he represented and to elaborate on a chosen subject. After each presentation the risen topic was discussed in plenum. Saturday night a list of common aims was passed. These common aims are the backbone of this report!

A significant result of the seminar is the fact the seminar participants unanimously decided to continue the co-operation founded by ECOast Fish. First of all by maintaining and developing the existing network and by meeting again in the summer of 2001.

- ***The participants agreed to continue co-operation with the title: »ECOfriendly Fisheries Board«.***

The following report will account for issues debated during the weekend. It endeavours to be rich in examples in order to bring 'reality' as close as possible to the reader. Moreover, rich examples leave, in contradiction to the often used academic phrases, little to interpret: What is in this report, is what is really going on - said and explained by fishermen concerned, about their jobs and the sea we leave for future generations to inherit.

Harbour Talk - Seminar Summary



Espen Nordberg

By: Espen Nordberg

The summary of the seminar has been divided into three thematic sections. One part deals with inshore fisheries' interaction with other industries. Part II deals with protection of stock and breeding grounds and part III addresses the growing problem fishermen face with the constantly increasing number of predators.

Part I: Interaction with other industries

Many different industries have an unwanted impact on the marine environment.

Pollution

Even though today's wastewater is cleaner than 20 years ago the fishermen still see pollution as a big problem. The fishermen experience how their fishing deteriorates due to other industries' dischargement of various harmful substances in the sea. It is not only chemical pollution like in the 50s and 60s. Nowadays, pollution stems from a great variety of materials interfering with the natural balance and reproduction of sea life.

Danish fishermen explained how all wastewater in Denmark is cleaned nowadays. But told how organic material washes out from the fields, drain oxygen from the water, deplete the sea and leave it barren.

- *Danish participants gave many examples of how inner waters estuaries but also areas in the North Sea regularly suffer from oxygen depletion.*

English fishermen representing the fishing in the Thames estuary commented that their fishing grounds were cleaner than in a very long time. On the other hand, they have started worrying about the more invisible, and less tangible, kinds of pollution. I.e. genetic pollution from dischargement of different drugs and important fish stock turning sterile because of hormone material as dischargement of the contraceptive pill. Pollution from road traffic washed into the sea is a potential danger. Questions expressing concern about the impact of ship paint containing toxic were risen from all represented areas. John Gilson, a fisherman from the Thames estuary referred to a recently published scientific report, stating that creosol in paint is far more dangerous than what was generally believed. All participants agreed to recommend further action to prevent toxic and genetic waste in the sea.

The Baltic Sea

The Baltic Sea seems to have a special problem with pollution. Fishermen representing the Baltic Sea harbours, emphasised the poor condition of the fishing grounds. Because the Baltic Sea is a relatively closed pond, with only little circulation and renewing of salt water, problems seem to stand out very clear there. Mr. Bengtson, a Swedish gillnetter, made a strong argument and highlighted three main pollution related problems: First of all, the rate of phosphor in the sea has increased tenfold since the 1950s. Secondly, large tankers pollute the waters, due to unofficial cleaning of tanks and leakage. Thirdly, Mr. Bengtson explained that 150 million people discharge their waste in the Baltic Sea. Here, the Finish delegation drew attention to Sct. Petersburg's 5 million inhabitants as a big



Henry Bengtson

Harbour Talk - Seminar Summary

threat. As most of former Soviet countries, the Russian infrastructure is in a very bad condition. Sct. Petersburg has no cleaning of waste water; neither from private household nor from the industries.

To understand the critical situation about the Baltic Sea, Mr. Bengtson explained how renewing of the water in the Baltic Sea has been minimised over the last few years. Due to construction of two large bridges¹ in 2 of just 3 major channels connecting the North with the Baltic Sea. It now requires a 30-40 m/sec. north western storm to press a significant amount of North Sea water into the Baltic. Without a significant inflow of water, the salt percentage of the Baltic decreases and have significant impact on the reproduction rate of cod. In addition to that, organic material, human wastewater and chemicals are never washed out and/or recirculated. As recommended above, the Baltic Sea desperately needs common policing of dischargement. Co-operation with the former Soviet nation states must be established to save the Baltic.

- ***The Baltic Sea urgently needs common policing of dischargement. Co-operation with the former Soviet nation states must be established to save the Baltic marine environment.***

The North Sea

A Danish Anchor Seiner, Gunnar Jacobsen, who have operated his own boat all over the North Sea for nearly 40 years, explains how his net sweeps all kinds of different objects from the bottom of the sea. Tables, chairs, buckets, paint drums, large quantity of plastic and even big logs of tree, probably from the big European rivers. He rightfully asked what could not be on the bottom of the Sea if the rivers and the tides of the sea push around even big logs of tree? The skipper encouraged all participants, and fishermen as such, to bring ashore all the waste they would get in the nets. Some participants responded that in many harbours the authorities charge a 'collecting fee' and that they therefore, for economical reasons, had to throw the garbage back in the sea. The participants agreed to work towards a 'free of charge delivery' for all waste collected whilst at sea.

- ***In many harbours the authorities charge a 'collecting fee' from the fishermen who bring rubbish a shore.***

Commercialised sports anglers as serious competitors for livelihood

The amount of fish taken by sports anglers pose a growing threat to the fish stock – and is thus a serious competitor to the decreasing amount of fish. Peter Thias, a Danish trawler man working in the western part of the Baltic Sea and the inshore waters around Jutland and Fyn, works 6 months a year as skipper on a German sports angler boat. Working in two industries during the year; fishing- and tourist industry, places him in a moral dilemma: As skipper for the anglers he still, as all fisherman do, takes great pride in finding the fish. On the other hand he describes how he feels like a traitor to help these tourist catch that amount of fish for private consumption. The fish ought to be caught by professional fishermen.



Peter Thias

¹ »One in 'Storebælt« (The Great Belt) in 1998, a second one in Øresund (Orresund) in 2000. Additionally a third bridge in the last significant channel (Femern Belt) is being planned.

Harbour Talk - Seminar Summary



Mikael
Nikiforow

The Finnish representatives described, in the same line, how licenses to salmon fishermen decreased, while permits for sports anglers and part-time fishermen increased. Consequently, salmon fishing fleet is now down to just 13 active vessels and approximately 30 vessels registred.

Among the participants, there was general agreement that anglers and part time fishermen, at least when commercialised to an extent described by Peter Thias, had to be restricted by some sort of quotas. Danish fishermen suggested that anglers and part timers should fish on the national CFP quota – a suggestion that certainly ought to get the Danish Fisheries Association to take action. The participants agreed to discuss the extent of the problem in their local areas and push relevant bodies to take action.

The fishing industry and tourism

An interesting point made by Steve Peak, representing the Hastings' Fishermen Protection Society, and Kurt B. Christensen of the Danish Society for a Living Sea, discussed how the fishing harbours in the future could benefit from tourism.

Hastings is a picturesque little fishing village with a beach-launched fleet, counting app. 40 vessels. The beach, the fishing vessels and the fishery museum are the main attractions of the city. Even though the fishing industry attracts the tourists, it does not benefit from it. On the contrary, the municipality does not appreciate the existence of the fishermen, who constantly feel they are being counteracted.

In the same line of argument, Kurt B. Christensen informed about a project called “REFI-TOUR” that was carried out by the coordinator some years ago. It aimed to connect tourism and fishing. As the main issue, the fishermen took tourists out to haul the nets, clean the fish etc. Mr. Christensen explained that it proved difficult to make this kind of tourism offer a proper income for the fishermen. If fishermen should make money from tourism it had to be in the more adventurous kind of business. He recommends to target large companies and to offer fishing trips as part of team building projects and as an exclusive and alternative experience of nature.

Fish farming

The participants expressed concern about the growing competition from the fish farming industry. First of all the participants expressed concern that the farmed fish, raised with help from antibiotics and hormones, could harm the general image of fish and consequently scare the consumers into other eating habits. Secondly, the farmed fish put pressure on the value on the wild fish. In this way, the Norwegian and Canadian farmed salmon per example, has ousted the Baltic Sea salmon and made conditions very hard for the salmon fishermen of the Baltic Sea.

A third concern is the pollution of the seabed in the areas around the fish cages (both feed, antibiotics and stool). A Danish fisherman explains, how a rich fishing ground east of the island Samsø has been barren ever since the establishment of a fish farm. In stead of fish he found the seabed covered with mud.

- **Labelling of all farmed fish is strongly recommended.**

Harbour Talk - Seminar Summary



Magnus Nyholm



Mika Kiura



Krister Helström



Nils Tvilling

Sea side constructions - Freight companies

As a final example of interfering industries, the fishermen from the Thames estuary explained how the P&O Freight Company have planned to build an one mile long terminal on the banks of the estuary. The construction work² and the increased traffic would be fatal for the local nursery grounds in the area. Never the less, London Harbour has, due to harsh competition with harbours on the European continent, a great interest in better conditions for their container vessels. The local fishermen represented at the seminar by Paul Gilson and John Nichols would certainly protest. They were afraid however, that it was already too late.

Part II: Protection of habitat and juveniles

Skipper Nils Tvilling, from Strandby in northern Jutland told the participants how his father, a still active fisherman in his 80s, used to say: “I like to know that the small fish are down there” pointing below the deck, “but I don’t want to see them”. This way of thinking summarises the position expressed by the fishermen.

- *Without protection of the juveniles, there will not be any fish for future generations of fishermen.*

A recurrent theme for the whole seminar was the concern for the fishing grounds, the habitat and nursery grounds for juveniles. All representatives gave rich examples of how

² Construction work includes intensive dredging for sand. Consult Paul Gilson’s contribution to this report for more details.

Harbour Talk - Seminar Summary



Robert Woodman



Niel Murray



Mats Anderson



Jim Svensson

fishing grounds are mismanaged and how their yield deteriorates. The participants unanimously urged for immediate action to protect recognised nursery grounds and habitat.

Different approaches and initiatives were discussed:

Gear limitation

Limits on fishing gear can both be made as an increase in mesh size but also by limiting the amount of gear in the water for static fishery and by a limit on the weight of active gear. Gear limitation should be put in place for many reasons: First of all to prevent fishing of juveniles. Secondly, to protect the seabed.

Participants from Looe expressed concern about the fact that certain fisheries use small meshed gear. The Spanish fleet was mentioned to target small fish because there is a demand for juvenile fish for consumption in Spain. Another problem is that certain fisheries target small pelagic species of fish for industrial purposes. It was agreed that it is necessary to let the fish reach reproduction age and not catch them until they reach maximum value. The participants also agreed that industrial fishery in certain areas is interfering with the food chain, i.e. removing an important link.

Mr. Bengtson, representing Swedish gillnetters, told the participants how the situation in the Baltic Sea has evolved. The Baltic Sea in general and the cod in particular are under great pressure:

Powerful vessels with more than 1.500 horsepower take out approximately 1 million tons of fish annually for industrial purposes. These vessels, not only take out the feed for other fish, it also catches large quantities of immature salmon and cod. Furthermore, the former Soviet states now have app. 300 trawlers targeting the Baltic cod.

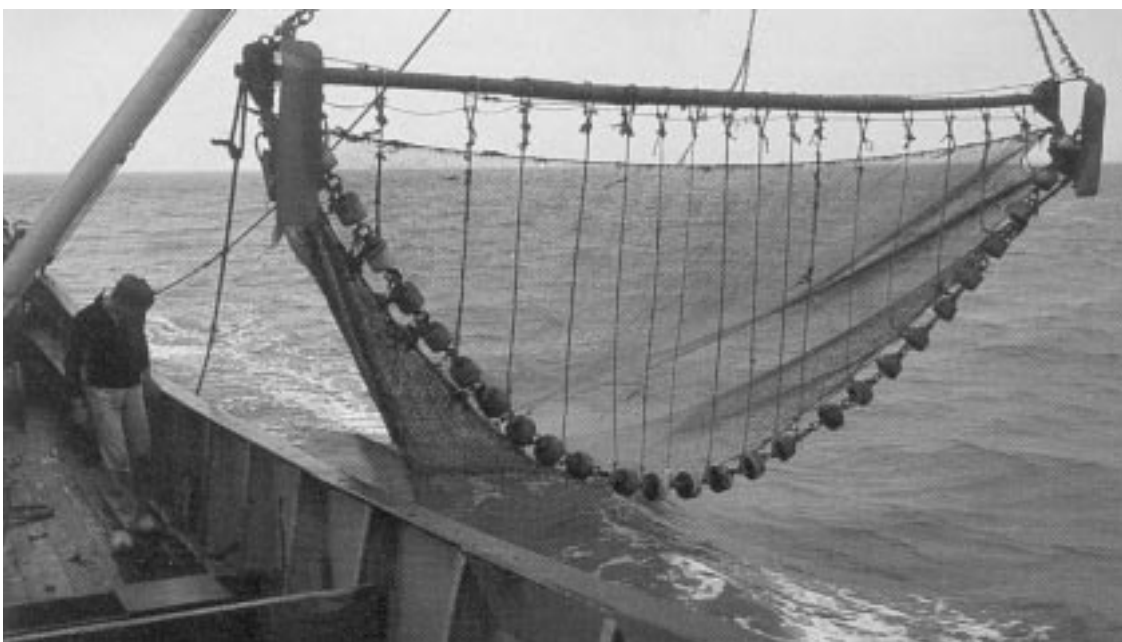
What can then be done to protect the Baltic cod? Mr. Bengtson classifies it is an endangered species and recommends to protected it like the Canadians did. A way to do that is to establish 3 small no-take-zones in the Baltic Sea: One at 500 square meters, another at 1.000 and a third at 3.000. Secondly, the minimum landing size of the cod should be 45 cm instead of the current 35 cm. At last, initiatives should be taken to establish international co-operation about policing the Baltic Sea.



Cliffs at Hasting.

Harbour Talk - Seminar Summary

Paul Joy and Graham Coglan representing Hastings Fishermen's Protection Society, informed about the situation in The English Channel. Their greatest concern is similar to the example from the Baltic Sea, they want to take care of the juvenile fish and protect the in-shore nursery areas³.



Recently, a new type of vessel has occurred in the Channel. Small, under 10 meter beam trawlers with very powerful engines that fish very close to shore. These vessels are very efficient and can, in very short time, destroy an area that has been fished profitably for two months with more gentle methods.

'The Hastings Fishermen's Protection Society' has initiated negotiations with the local management authorities (Sea Fisheries Committee), in order to pass a bylaw that bans heavy gear in certain recognised nursery areas.

Mike Taylor and Dog Watt, representing the fishermen of Jersey, told the participants how they for years have tried to co-operate with the French fishermen. Today they have a mutual agreement on maximum number of pots and creels used for lobster and crab fishing, they have even agreed on common policing. Taylor's presentation was an inspiring example of how communication and co-operation yield mutual benefits.

Dredging for sand and scallops

Representatives from England told how sand- and scallop dredging poses a serious threat to the sea bed and fishing grounds. 90 % of the sand taken from English seabed is exported to countries that do not allow sanddredging in their own waters. Sand dredging removes large parts of the seabed. One fisherman told how the tide and waves changed dramatically after an area just outside the harbour had been dredged. Scallop dredging is the heaviest gear performing in the British waters⁴.

³ See Paul D. Joy and Steve Peak's paper on 'Netting from Hastings'.

⁴ See Paul Gilson's piece on dredging in English waters.



Graham Coglan



Mike Taylor



Dog Watt

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Graham Parker



John Lowell

John a fisherman from Brixham told how scallop dredging had become a growing problem in his area. The dredgers use more and more gear, now dragging 2 times 20 dredges. Scottish super scallopers operate in the Irish Sea and the Channel and can almost be classified as industrial scalloping. John suggested a reduction in numbers of scallop dredges towed.

Artificial reefs and oil rigs

John Nichols from the Thames estuary made an interesting point in suggesting future co-operation with the offshore companies. He explained how the oil companies faced huge expenses in order to get rid of decommissioned oilrigs. He sees this as an opportunity for the fishing industry to cut an advantageous deal:

The oil companies should be presented with the option to dump the outdated, but thoroughly cleaned, rigs in the sea. These oil rig wrecks would ten serve as first class artificial reefs; feeding/breeding/resting areas for fish and no-go areas for even the most powerful fishing gear⁵.

Part III: Active management of predators

Several presentations described how different species was a growing nuisance to the fishermen. All participants recognised that the discussion of management of seals, porpoises, cormorants etc. had to be taken in co-operation with the environmentalist/green NGOs.

- *Dealing with animals carrying such symbolic value as the seal and the porpoise, the fishing industry must be very careful not to be banned by the public. On the other hand, “many people a shore do not realise how big a problem it really is to the fishermen”. But how can we address the problem without causing too many emotions?*

⁵ See John Nichols piece on fisheries co-operation with the oil industry.



Harbour Talk - Seminar Summary

Seals

In the 70s the general public's awareness of seal-hunting was risen. Saving the baby seals was an important action initiated by the environmentalist NGOs. It seems however, that this 30-year-old campaign has stocked to peoples, and politicians' memory. The fishermen at the seminar recommend an adjustment of the management scheme.

Representatives from the Thames estuary explained that they saw between 100 and 200 seals from their vessels every day. One fisherman told how he hauled his nets, and found 60 seabass in one net damaged by seals. In the same line of argument, the fishermen from the Baltic Sea explained that the number of seals increases with 10.000 seals every year.

These statements, compared with the fact, that one grey seal eats between 2.600 and 4.200 kg of fish every year, make the seal a very significant predator. Since it does not have a natural enemy, the fishermen at the seminar recommend active management of the seals. The population of seals must be retained at a reasonable level.

- *An option could be to allow restricted hunting for seals. If shooting and hunting is considered too dramatic, another option could be to sterilise female seals.*



Cormorants

Nils Tvilling, a Danish Gillnetter from Strandby in the northern Jutland, made a passionate presentation of the situation around his fishing grounds. The island Hirsholm holds a sanctuary for cormorants. The sea around the island is a recognised nursery area for juvenile stock of cod and plaice. Some years ago there seemed to be a significant drop in number of juveniles. Nils Tvilling was suspicious of the increasing number of cormorants and started to study the impact of the bird on the stock:

In 1996 the sanctuary was founded, in 1998 the island had 70 nests, in 1999 there were 340 and in 2000 there were 1.200 nests. An estimate suggests that there are 5.000 cor-

Harbour Talk - Seminar Summary



Peter Winkel



Brian Werner
Thomsen

morant on the island, eating $\frac{1}{2}$ a kilo of juvenile fish every day. Multiplying the figures, Nils Tvilling feels sure that the birds cause the dramatic decrease in juvenile stock. He strongly recommends, backed up by other Danish fishermen, to reverse the protection of the cormorant.

- ***5.000 cormorants on one small island, each eating $\frac{1}{2}$ a kilo of juvenile fish every day.***

Nils Tvilling knows, from a conference he recently arranged addressing the issue, that the cormorant is a big problem not only in Denmark but also in Germany. Fishermen from the Baltic Sea and The English Channel commented that they have similar problems with the cormorants. Representatives from Cornwall explained how the seagull population was managed by pricking the eggs, and suggested similar action was taken to manage the cormorant.

- ***Since the cormorant has no natural enemies, the situation for the fishermen in Denmark will not get better before the total protection is revised.***

Porpoise

As with other protected species living in the sea and sharing hunting grounds with the fisherman, the porpoise is a growing problem. Since this mammal does not have any natural enemies and is protected by law, the population seems to grow and grow. With increasing numbers of porpoises, the chance of getting them in the net rises equally. This causes problems for the fishermen in several ways:

- ***Fishermen do not enjoy seeing a dead porpoise in the net, in fact most fishermen enjoy watching the animal alive and playing around.***

Secondly, the porpoises seriously damage the image of the fisherman. The general population is supporting a total ban on catching whales of all kinds. When fishing, there is a probability that porpoises are caught – for some reason, the population does not accept this as part of a natural cycle.

Thirdly, the large number of porpoises has financial consequences for the fisherman. In one way, similar to the example with the seals and the cormorants, the porpoises eat a lot of fish and are thus a serious competitor to the fisherman. In another way, catching a porpoise can do great damage to the fishing gear.



Harbour Talk - Seminar Summary

The problem about the porpoises is illustrated by an example from the Danish westcoast:

The number of porpoises caught by Danish fishermen has been a point of strong disagreement during the last few years. Henning Thøgersen, a netting skipper operating in the North Sea, explains how he feels that the number of porpoises caught by Danish fishermen has been very exaggerated by the responsible biologists. He feels that the society chooses to protect the animal before the fisherman. He asked why the porpoises are different from rabbits and hedgehogs... they are killed as a result of driving cars.

To oblige and address this growing problem, the fishermen agreed to be more informative about the number of porpoises they catch. Knud Andersen told how the fishermen in »Fishermen's Ecological Network«⁶ have to bring all the catch ashore and to register it in a special logbook. A Danish anchor seiner explained how he catches all kinds of material during a year, but only rarely a dead porpoise. That fact made the participants wonder how many porpoises are actually caught?

Part IV: Solutions and future action:

At the end of the seminar all participants were asked to evaluate the discussions and to come up with ideas to how the situation for the European inshore fishery could be better.

A number of very important agreements were reached:

It was decided to continue the co-operation initiated by ECOast Fish. In the future the forum will have the name: »**ECO Friendly Fisheries Board**« (EFFB). The board has appointed 6 people to be responsible for setting up the next meeting. EFFB decided to do pursue the following goals:

Immediate action to recommend protection of certain areas of the sea. It is strongly emphasised that without securing the reproduction of the fish, the inshore fishery will not have the foundation to survive. Securing of reproduction can, according to the participants be reached by protecting and creating nursery and breeding areas.

It was agreed upon that the inshore fishery had to enter a labelling contract with the consumers. Such a labelling should be done on the conditions of the fishermen and to the advantage of the fishermen and the consumers. A labelling contract should also include active promotion and serious information to the consumers about coastal fisheries. Fishermen were advised to be cautious towards private companies' wish to create labels for fish products. Labels should benefit the fishermen.

EFFB agrees to spread the conclusions of this seminar to as many fishermen as possible, and secondly to ensure that more countries are represented at the next meeting.



*Henning
Thøgersen*

⁶ See Knud Andersens piece on »Fishermen's Ecological Network« and the adherent rules.



Europe and Fisheries Management

By: Kurt B. Christensen

EU fisheries management

In the following the CFP quota politic will be dealt with. As introduction, however, we have to realise 25 years after EU was handed the overall responsibility for our fishing resources, that it has failed.

- ***CFP simply does not work and it is about time to revise and rethink it***

It has not only been a failure regarding management of the fishery; it has also been a disaster for the sea environment, the fish stock and for the whole industry from sea to consumer.

Basically, we have to conclude that the politicians, and the experts in the Commission, the Parliament and the many councils, due not have and due not have access to the necessary fisheries related knowledge, experience and profound understanding.

- ***The European fisheries management has not had proper ballast and has therefore capsized.***

A large and very complex industry, as the European fishery, dependent on the natural world, demands a management board with knowledge of how fishing is done, and a profound understanding of a fisherman's life. Such knowledge ought to be represented, also at the top of the decision pyramid.

- *An example of the importance of knowledge and insight national understanding, was expressed by the number of commissioners at the Nice negotiations in November 2000. It was stated from the Danish side that, even though a Danish commissioner is not supposed to pursue Danish goals and special interests, it is still crucial for a country in EU, to support the common work in EU, to have a representing present with extensive knowledge and understanding of conditions in a country - the fishing industry have the same need.*

Apart from the fishing industry, which as a fact has a very significant form of life, it is our opinion that other important industries are represented at the top level of EU. When studying commissioner Frans Fischler's CV, it becomes evident that provisions and farming play a significant part of his life. The former fisheries commissioner Mrs. Bonino's CV also clearly reveals that interests of developmental and humanitarian character play a leading role in her life. The fishing industry urgently needs a strong leader within the EU, a leader with real knowledge of the fishing industry, a leader that enters the decision making with heart and soul.

- ***The EU fisheries management has been under stimulated, also on the top level of political decision making.***

Having said that, a line of other critical issues has to be mentioned, for example:



Kurt B.
Christensen



Sheryl Murray

The slow decision making process in EU

Sheryl Murray: It took EU 9 years to pass the resolution that orders fishermen to use grids in the trawl in order to sort out unintended bycatch. In contrast, an example from Canada becomes relevant. In the Canadian waters there is a fish called 'silver hake' that is very popular in Cuba. As part of financial aid to Cuba, the Canadian government allowed Cuban fishermen to target the 'silver hake' in Canadian waters. Because the fish lived among haddock, which as known is very important to the Canadian fleet, the government made trawl grids a condition for the Cubans to fish. It took Canada and Cuba one year to reach this common understanding. The European fishery does not deserve and can not survive with such long time spans. Decision-making must be quicker

Cultural difference between northern and southern Europe

In the northern countries of EU there is a tradition for using minimum landing size as protection of the stock. In the northern countries it is impossible to buy undersized fish in the shops. The consumers are aware of the minimum sizes and why they exist. This is different in the southern countries like Spain, Portugal and Italy. Here the consumers demand small fish because they are seen as a delicateness. This fundamental difference is of great importance to EU management of the fishery.

Ideas for change

EU's fisheries management should be responsible for a fair and equal distribution of the resources and also take care of control and policing. More technical and fisheries related issues should be dealt with locally or regionally, or said in another way; only people who know what different management initiatives imply, should deal with such important issues as protection of stock and marine environment. By giving more competence to local or regional boards it would be realistic to make each fisherman take responsibility.

There is an urgent need for the fishermen to take part in the management. In order to make the fishermen co-operate and to co-operate with them. This is only possible if the fishermen are given a real say in the matters. In return the fishermen oblige to make a plan of how their fishing impact on the resource and how it could be improved.

Regarding the cultural differences it is much more difficult to make rules and laws. It is important to remember these differences – and to note that it is real. Politicians have to think of this when participating in meetings and assemblies. First and foremost when discussing minimum landing sizes and protection of juvenile fish.

CFP's quota policy has proved to be a failure

Unfortunately, the critique of the quota policy is not a new story. Even though everybody within the fishing industry is aware of the statement above, this truth has not reached the surrounding world yet. The general opinion, including national, regional and local assemblies, is that quotas are necessary to protect the fish, and the reason why there are no fish is because the fishermen overfish and transcend the quotas.

Quotas are not protection of the fish. Quotas are a way of distributing the fish among the member states of EU. The fishery needs a public debate and general illumination of the basic problems with the quota policy. At the moment, the fishery needs the support of the

Europe and Fisheries Management

consumer and the general public. Similar to the growing awareness regarding dairy products, general pollution and work environment, the fishing industry needs a public debate.

The national fisheries management under EU have not solved their task

The national regulations under the Common Fisheries Policy have also failed. The national governments and management assemblies have had a chance to influence the CFP and the national exploitation of the allotted quotas. One could claim that the national management initiatives are heavily influenced by the CFP and thus without chance for success.

It is however, evident that the national assemblies could have done many things in order to influence the development. For example to support the environmentally friendly fishing methods in stead of promoting bigger and stronger vessels with more and more heavy gear. In many ways, the national assemblies could have considered the maritime environment and the socio-economic aspects of modern fishing. Unfortunately it has not been done.

- *In Finland for example, there is no proper fisheries policy. The Finnish government tries to adapt EU legislation directly to Finnish conditions.*
- *In England, regulation initiatives have been given to a variety of different assemblies. The different groups speak on behalf of small and large groups within the fishing industry and have made it difficult to agree on even minor issues. A national fisheries policy with many advisors is not the solution.*
- *Denmark has an association that speaks on behalf of all the Danish fishermen. This has meant a serious unbalance because the same association has to cover all types of fishing from small dinghies to large beam-trawlers. One national fisherman's association is not the solution either.*

Another important issue is the national governments' lack of interest towards the fishing industry. The lack of interest seems to exist in most layers of government offices. It is because fishery is an industry with problems, and thus little political interest – and why waste time on problems when the prospects of success are not very good. It is a general assumption that the fishermen are the ones to blame; they overfish and thus destroy their chances for development. That is the fisherman's image today, in the world, in Europe and in each country.

Ideas for changes

- ***The fishermen have acquired a bad reputation and image. This proves a major problems in present media influenced modern world.***

EU must have a concrete and general concept of sustainable fishing. The national management assemblies present their ideas to how they will manage the general European concept of sustainability. Consequently, regional and local assemblies and boards carry the responsibility to promote and support the development of producers' organisations that manage a sustainable fishing. The fishermen carry the responsibility to develop and gene-

Europe and Fisheries Management

rate a local/regional definition of sustainability. By giving the fishermen competence and influence the management will be more likely to be successful.

Individual transferable Quotas (ITQ) and regulations by means of sea- or fishing days

It is without doubt that ITQs are a disaster for small-scale inshore fishery. Even without concrete examples from Iceland and New Zealand it must be accepted as a fact that ITQ will never solve any problems for small-scale inshore fishing. Even with free inshore fishing, coexisting with an ITQ regime would not help the inshore fleet in many years. One initiative that would really benefit the small-scale inshore fishing is a management that really aim at rebuilding the many different fish stocks. First of all with financial aid to the fishermen that have to leave the industry. This will be very expensive because it will be necessary to remove fishing capacity starting from the top, i.e. remove the highly efficient energy consuming fisheries like beam trawling, heavy trawling, fly shooting, industrial trawling and off shore industrial scallop dredges.

Regulations via days-at-sea or days-fishing are not a solution for small-scale inshore fishery. The wind and weather already limit this section of the fleet. It should not be the solution for off shore fishing either, because it would start a development of even more brutal fishing techniques. Limitations by days-at-sea or days-fishing would be a disaster for the marine environment and its resources.

The decommissioning scheme has not promoted a sustainable fishery

If the intention with decommissioning scheme just was to reduce the tonnage, then it has worked in most countries. But the decommission was primarily a mean to manage the decreasing resource in a sustainable way. In stead, today's fishermen, owning large and effective vessels pay a lot of money to banks and the oil companies.

Before the decommissioning scheme many fishermen earned their money from fishing. Today, very few fishermen earn their money in the fishing industry, yet the total turnover in the fishing industry is almost the same as before de decommissioning scheme. It is tempting to suggest that the remaining fishermen have become very rich – unfortunately that is not the case.

The surplus, that could have made the remaining fishermen rich, has disappeared in investments, improved effectiveness and higher fuel expenses. In addition, decommissioning was only offered to vessel owners with sufficient available capital in the ship. Said in another way, decommissioning was only an option to those fishermen who had not invested heavily in effectiveness and increased performance.

Consequently, the European fishing fleet was decommissioned from the bottom. In stead, in consideration of the marine environment and the resources, it should have been decommissioned from the top. The top part of the fleet, counting the large and expensive units that was built with massif funding from EU and the national governments, was not decommissioned.

Europe and Fisheries Management

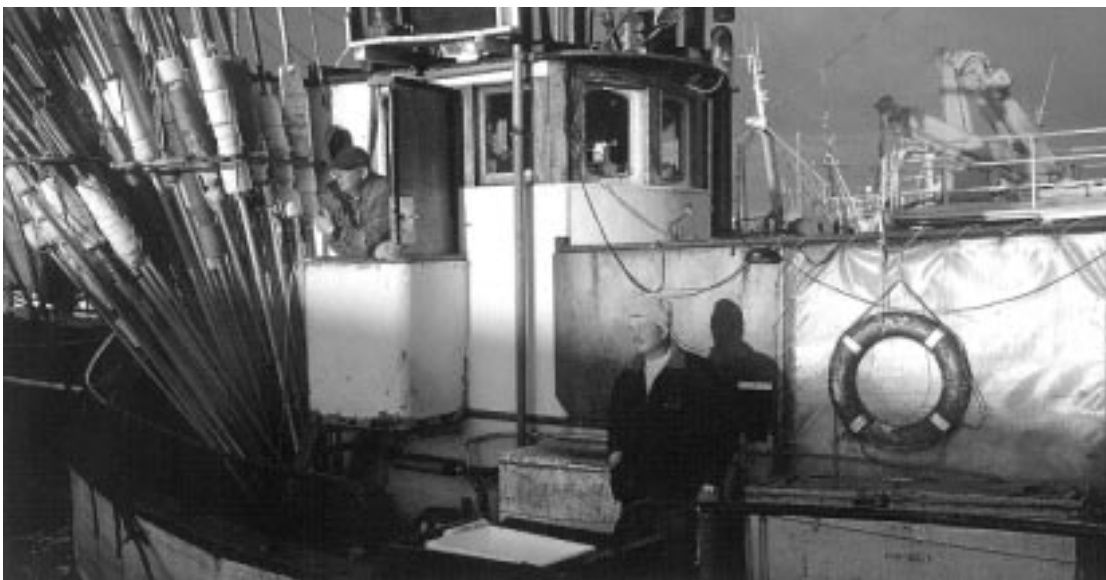
- ***Similar to the quota policy, the decommissioning scheme has failed to solve the fundamental problems in the European fishery – the lack of ecological sustainability in the fishery.***

An ecological sustainable fishery can be developed by measuring the fuel consumption. Instead of allowing technical adjustments with engine and gearbox there should be looked at the energy input. It is possible to mount an energy meter on the engines. Consequently, if a fisherman wanted to target plaice in the Plaice Box he would have to obey maximum energy input. In this simple way it becomes possible to exclude large engines and reward the less consuming vessels. Such technical limitations are examples of alternative ways to protect the marine environment and the stock. Such initiatives are preferable to satellite monitoring.

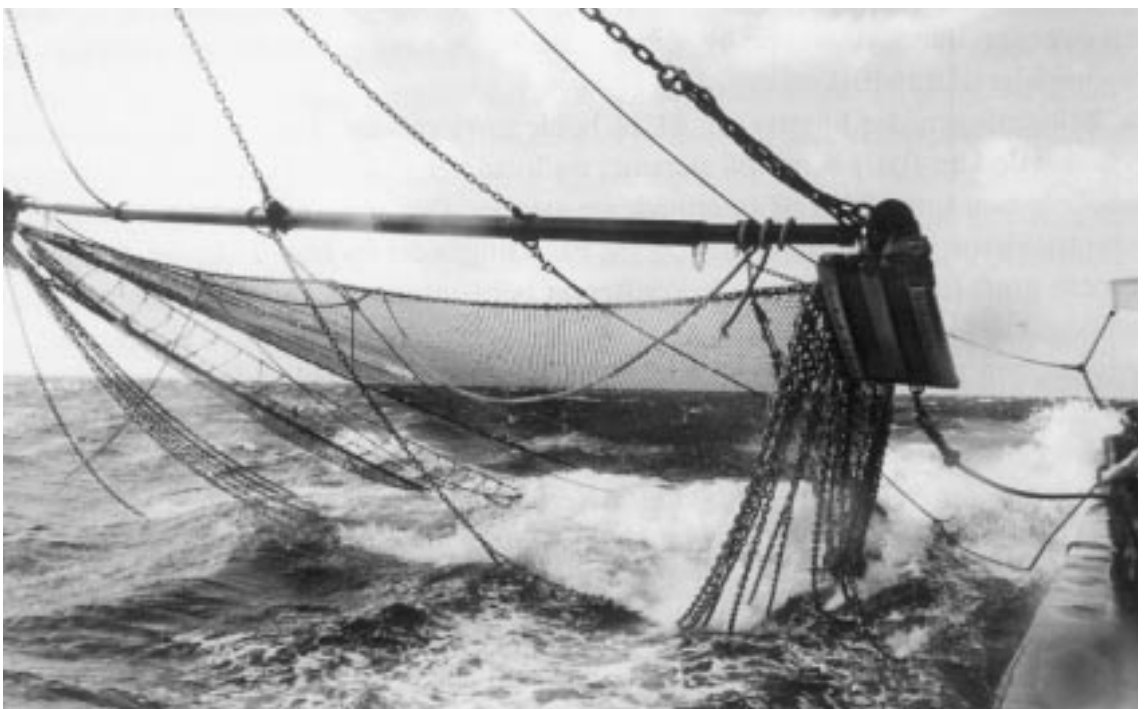
Decommissioning of vessels must relate to the actual requirements and the current policy. EU has decided to promote and support a sustainable fishery defined by environmental and resource impact (EU Policy 2001-06). It proves logic to decommission high tonnage trawlers. It is an expensive policy compared to earlier decommissioning schemes. At the same time it is a good opportunity for EU to stand up and take responsibility. It would be far more difficult for the national governments to gather the financial means.

Summary

The course towards a sustainable fishery must now be shaped together with the fishermen. The energy consuming fishing vessels must be phased out and replaced by vessels that successfully exploit the resources according to, ***Kilos of fish/energy input***. Because monitoring the energy input is the best regulation method towards an ecologically and environmentally sustainable fishery. Those fisheries with lowest energy consumption should be rewarded with fishing licenses in the future.



Dredging in British waters



Dredging in British waters

By: Paul Gilson

Capital Dredging

Capital dredging is dredging for profit, it is being carried out along nearly all the East Coast of England. From the Humber to the Thames there are very few gaps. We believe that there is far too much dredging. We liken it to deforestation; it takes away or breaks up the seabed leaving it barren. The only fish that appear to stay are scavengers; it would be fair to say that if the fish is not killed it is driven off. The ECO system is destroyed all but totally. (The dredging companies would have us believe that, there is enough ground left untouched in these areas to enable the sea bed to recover.) One wonders if this has any effect on the fish? Could stress and trauma stop or restrict breeding? How long does the seabed take to recover, will or have these practices effected North Sea stocks?

Maintenance Dredging

Maintenance dredging in Estuaries that have port facilities is commonplace but Estuaries are more often than not nursery areas. The Thames is no exception; the upper reaches are full of small and juvenile fish. It is recognised as the most important breeding ground for sole in the British Isles yet the Harbour Authority or Ministry carry on as is they are of no importance. Dredging is allowed to take place often when the density of small fish is at its height. We the fisherman then get the blame for over fishing when stocks drop too low levels and have to reduce our effort or not fish at all!!

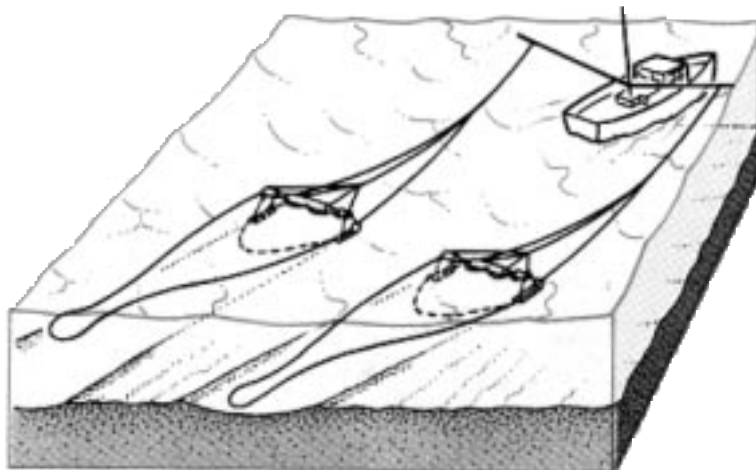
Development Dredging

This problem comes from the larger container vessels that are plying their trade around the world. They need deep-water to operate and most of the ports around the UK do not have the depth of water required. What has happened in Harwich and proposed for a site well up the Thames is that the Rivers have to be dredged much deeper than their natural depths. In many cases five or six metres more. We have the same problem an area of seabed is destroyed a new environment made and delicate eco system left in turmoil.

We believe that more consideration should be given to the long-term effects of dredging on fish stocks. English Nature criticises the beam-trawler for damaging the seabed, what then the damage by dredging?



Paul Gilson



Reef Forming



Reef Forming

By: John Nichols, England

It has long since been an idea of mine to form breeding areas with small no go fishing areas using decommissioned oil, gas installation rigs and decommissioned ships.

The oil and gas industry spend billions of pounds in the decommissioning and site clearance of oil and gas production platforms and rigs in the E.U. waters. Massive savings could be made by the oil and gas industry with the co-operation of the fishing industry throughout the E.U.

My idea would be to an on site decontamination of the installation to the point that it would not cause pollution. This would have to be done anyway when the installation is brought a shore. The next stage would be to blow up the installation and spread it over an agreed area, for instance a 1500 metre box. The highest point being two or three metres, higher if the depth of water allowed.

In case of such installations as the Brent Spar the solution would be to tow it to an agreed site, sink and explode. The chosen site would also need to be beneficial to the marine environment. The same could happen with ships that are waiting to be scrapped. This option has now been adopted in Canada.

It is a known fact by fishermen that rough ground and wrecks provide a good holding and breeding habitat for fish. It is therefore not only beneficial to round fish but also to shellfish as well as all types of marine growth. Such wreck boxes would be almost impossible to fish over by the sheer roughness of the ground.

The method I am proposing must not be considered as a means of cheap irresponsible dumping but as a method of responsible reef forming.

The fishing industry would also gain in the financial area. The massive financial saving on decommissioning of such installation would then be shared with fishing industry. If this method were to be fifty percent cheaper than other methods of decommissioning, twenty five per cent could then be passed on to the fishing industry and the remaining twenty five per cent to the oil and gas companies.

The money received by the industry would be held by the government, in which the installation was sunk. Alternatively if it was sunk in international waters it would then be held in a central fund. The interest of the fund could be used for such things as safety and may in time make the fishing industry of each E.U. state completely self-funding.

These ideas of mine are very basic in their outline but I believe the possibilities are sound.



John Nichols

A View from Finnish Fisheries



A View from Finnish Fisheries

by Markku Saiha, Finland

In Finland we understand that eating fish is healthy. But troubles occur when we are talking about fishing, especially full-time professional fishing. Sport fishing is well protected by the authorities, because more than a million voters have fishing as a hobby. Their total catch of many species, such as perch and pike is more than that of the professional fishermen. Although Finnish laws protect private enterprising – fishing included – it is professional fishing that loses when these two interests meet.

Still, there is no Finnish fish without professional fishing. The discussion about quality, safety and reliability in delivery to today's markets benefits our industry. But as the market works in its own way, the authorities should create the basic possibilities to cope with these elements. We don't, however, have any long-term fishing policy in Finland. The only practical guideline is EU's structural programme, which gives opportunities, of course, but there are no clear national goals here.

A sad and depressing example of this is the fishing of salmon in Finland. We did have strong and capable salmon fishery in the early 90s, but it collapsed due to poor management and short-term regional policy. Within just a few years our total catch sank from 2.000 tons to 500 tons because of fishing distinctions, which meant a disaster to salmon fisheries, and at same time all coastal fishery were pushed to the edge.

Our authorities always explain that the Finnish quota from EU at the time of our joining the union was so low that we couldn't keep up our salmon fishing fleet. This is partly true, but nobody in our government was opposed to the situation, because some politicians thought that it was better to be a little greenish and act as the saviour of naturally breeding salmon stocks and stop professional fishing. Fishing in rivers and all sport fishing were of course kept outside of this discussion.

Only few survived. Some had enough capital to change from salmon to Baltic herring. Those who were close to retirement gave up fishing. Perhaps the most tragic consequence of all this was that so much knowledge was lost with those men. Salmon fishing did not develop in a day and behind it lies a whole cultural evolution, which was now swept away by some shortsighted politicians.

We do not have so many ways to continue. The herring markets are limited and here in Finland we don't have too many commercially important species as compared to other EU countries. The only choice is try to change the strategy to multi-species fishery. That is not possible for everybody, because most of the inshore waters are private, because and it takes money to get new gear and boats, and there is the biggest problem of how to deal with greyseals. There are more than ten seals for every fisherman and they are hungry, too.

There are still possibilities to go forward but it needs lots of faith. We have to get better prices from coastal species like perch, white fish and pike by higher quality and dynamic marketing. That is the only way to have decent value for smaller catches, which are the basic elements to build the everyday salary.



Markku Saiha

A View from Finnish Fisheries

And how we do that. I believe that once we show our customers that we really care about environmental issues, demonstrate that fishermen are true environmentalists, then we can create new markets. It is also important to work together with our colleagues around northern EU and try to create pressure on our government to keep up living fisheries in Finland. And of course the practical aim should be to have some kind of mutual trademark or label, which could be used as a tool to ensure customers that they are buying quality instead of bulk. This could be the way for us to save our wild stocks and at the same time increase all kinds of ecological fishery.



Netting from Hastings

By: Paul D. Joy and Steve Peak, England

Hastings has the largest beach-launched fleet of fishing boats in Britain. There are 40 vessels, providing a livelihood to about 120 fishermen, plus many retailers and wholesalers. It is one of the oldest fishing fleets in Britain, having been in existence for over a thousand years. Many fishermen can trace their family history back many centuries. Fishing is also looked on as at the heart of the tourist industry in the Hastings area.

All the fleet are under 10 metres in length, a mixture of clinker construction, steel and fibreglass. All are flat-bottomed, with bilge runners to allow them to land on, and launch from the beach. This is done by bulldozers and winches. Many of the boats are now over 30 years old. The boats themselves use mesh sizes which allow immature fish to pass through, irrespective of which species they are fishing for. Examples: sole 100 mm mesh, cod 150-200 mm.

The main methods of fishing are set-nets and trawling. The main fishery is Dover sole, with plaice during the summer months and cod in the winter. But the fleet also diversifies to non-pressure stock species, such as cuttle-fish, lobster and crab.

Since Britain entered the Common Fisheries Policy there has been a rapid decline in fish abundance, owing, it is believed, to lack of control of quota uptake from other European countries in the English Channel. British fishermen are regularly scrutinised at sea by the Navy and on shore by government officials, with huge fines imposed for irregularities. British boats have a small amount of protection in inshore waters from the government's 12 regional sea fish authorities, which for over a hundred years have had the legal power to impose restrictions of certain fishing grounds within its jurisdiction, ranging out to six



Paul D. Joy



Netting from Hastings

miles. This is unique to Britain. These authorities are run by appointees, made up of many different interests connected with the sea. The costs are paid by local government taxes, and include the running of fast protection vessels for their area which enforce local fisheries bylaws.

For many generations Hastings has fished in a conservation-oriented manner. The government's Sea Fish Industry Authority in the 1980s carried out an in-depth investigation into eco-friendly fishery methods, and its conclusion was that the Hastings fishing fleet has as near-perfect a method as could be devised, taking in mesh size, discards and soak times.

Hastings fishermen see the main worry as being the failure of the European Common Fisheries Policy to protect the industry for future generations. For the past two decades, Britain, like many other countries, has seen a rapid decline in fish stocks, with little control over the decimation that has taken place. A radical rethink is the only way to protect fisheries for the future. This includes the increase of the minimum landing size of fish. All fish species now outside of pressure stock (eg turbot, brill, lemon sole, etc) should be included. There must also be increased mesh size and a large cut-back in industrial fishing. These regulations should be more rigorously controlled than at present, possibly by multi-national enforcement.



Ecological Fishery

- an Alliance between the Fisherman and the Consumer

By: Knud Andersen, Denmark

People in general and consumers in particular often wonder how fishing is done – how are the fish brought to the table. This is a natural outcome of the great consumer interest in organic and ecological farming. Consumers have also heard about brutal fishing methods, about fishing communities ousted and deserted. People demand transparency and relations between producer, product and consumer. Finally, the consumer demands quality.

How can the consumer identify the products that derive from the responsible and caring fisheries? It is not possible until rules for eco-friendly fisheries are formulated and accessible to the consumer by labelling.

The Danish Society for a Living Sea has for several years worked with this issue and carried out a comprehensive survey among Danish fishermen. This survey provided the central background when the 'working group for an ecological fishing' completed 'The Rules for Ecological Fishing'.

It is very important to keep in mind, that the rules:

- Are built on fishermen's knowledge – not biologists' or bureaucrats'
- Has background in the fishermen's world – a life in nature dependent coastal communities
- Are based on the fishermen's professional knowledge – a moral today pressed aside by the heavy, energy and capital demanding and industrialised fishery,

During the evaluation of the international inshore fisheries seminar labelling of eco-friendly fisheries was given high priority. As an outcome of the evaluation, the seminar participants requested a translation of the newly developed 'Rules for an ecological fishery' (see Appendix I). Having done it, we hope to inspire similar initiatives in other countries. Inshore fishermen all around the world face different conditions but still have a lot in common. This community provides a background for co-operation and solidarity among people supporting a sustainable development – also in the fishing industry.



Knud Andersen



Appendix I:

Rules for Ecological Fishery

- *Composed by the working group regarding an ecological fishery appointed by the Danish Society for a Living Sea (DSLS).*

The rules are approved by DSLS. This issue: May 2000.

Objectives for an ecological fishery:

An ecological fishery is governed by a set of rules that considers the ecosystem, fish resources and the method of fishing and aims to promote a sustainable environment and resource management.

- *A fishery that respects these rules, catches, treats and distributes the fish in a way that is friendly and sustainable to the resource and the environment*

An ecological fishery lives up to the objectives by:

- Maintaining the marine environment by minimising the impact of fishing gear.
- Minimising the catch of juveniles and other unwanted bycatch.
- Reducing fuel consumption as a percentage of catch and value.
- Freeing the marine environment from inorganic pollution by minimising loss of fishing gear and refraining from throwing inorganic waste in the sea.
- Providing education about marine pollution. If necessary to stop fishing in certain polluted areas
- The development of the ecological fishery providing the background for viable fishing communities.
- Promoting a fishery that increases the practising fisherman's share of fish value.
- Producing the best possible quality by careful treatment of the catch.

The following fishing methods are, under appointed rules, accepted as ecological fisheries:

- Danish anchor seining
- Gillnetting
- Jig fishing
- Hook fishing
- Tremmel net fishing
- Trap- and creel fishing
- Trawl fishing

An ecological fishery cannot generally include following fishing methods:

(cf. remarks to present rules)

- Industrial fishing
- Beam trawling
- Trawling using Rock Hopper gear
- Dredging for shell fish (mussels, scallops, queens)
- Eel trawling

Appendix I:

Rules for Ecological Fishery

Fundamental rules applying for all fisheries

(Please note that present rules are bylaws superseding the laws and rules already applied regarding fishing)

Target species

The target species must be the main part of the catch. The fishing gear used, must be adjusted to target species.

Limit on engine power

Fishing vessels must, , not be able to pull more than 2_ ton, within 3 miles from the coast. In all other areas there is a maximum of 4 ton.

Control

The rules for an ecological fishery are voluntary and founded on the fisherman's willingness to accept regulations that are additional to those already in existence. Compliance with the rules are based upon mutual reliance. Fishermen producing and selling their catch according to rules for an ecological fishery, are not governed by 'the Danish Society for a Living Sea'.

The vessel shows a clear symbol produced by the producers organisation 'Fishermen's Ecological Network' (FEN), that organises the fishermen operating according to present rules.

The fisherman agrees to keep a log, documenting at least the following information:

- Documentation of lost nets and other gear.
- Difference in fishery in comparison with scheduled fishery according to present rules.
- Documentation of catch of undersized if the amount exceeds the agreed maximum.
- Percentage of undersized fish in active gear.

The fisherman agrees to compose a plan for the following year, including how he will take action to enhance the quality of the catch and minimise the environmental impact. This has to be done every year, starting from the moment the fisherman diverts from the present rules.

Preservation

No chemical preservations can be used in the fishery.

Cleaning of fishing gear

No chemicals can be used to clean the fishing gear

Sale

All fish must be stored in fish boxes and sold as 'ecological fish'

Protection and preservation of the fish resource

Landed fish must, if possible, not include undersized fish. If undersized fish are caught, and if they account for more that the recommended percentage for the target species, the

Appendix I: Rules for Ecological Fishery

fisherman has to take action in order avoid it. Either by using another gear or by leaving the fishing ground.

Guiding maximum percentage of undersized in active gear:

Flatfish: 15 %

Roundfish: 5 %

Norwegian lobster: 15 %

The work routine has to be planned in a way that allows undersized fish to be set back in the sea. The fish/catch has to be sorted before the next pull or set.

Minimum size for plaice is 27 cm.

All landed fish above the minimum size has to be brought to shore.

Waste

All inorganic waste has to be brought to shore

Quality

All living fish has optimum quality. To keep the highest quality the fishing has to be conducted in a way that keeps the fish alive until landed on the deck.

The fisherman has to make sure that the loss of quality is minimised on the journey from the sea to the consumer.

The fish must be cleaned, rinsed and cooled as quick as possible, or put in a holding tank and kept alive.

Ice water cooling must be used wherever suitable.

All fish are boxed with the cleaning cut downwards.

All fish are date and period marked.



Appendix I: Rules for Ecological Fishery

Rules applying to specific fisheries

Creel, Tremmel- and trapnet fishing.

Creels, Tremmel- and trap net fishing are tended so that catch and bycatch are kept alive.

Hook and jig fishing

The type and origin of the bait must be documented.

Gillnet fishing

Not more than 100 nets can be hauled per man per day.

Nets with a mesh smaller than 250 mm must be hauled once every 24 hours.

Nets with a mesh larger than 250 mm must be hauled once every 72 hours.

The smallest mesh allowed is 120 mm, with the exception of herring and mackerel nets. Fishermen registered in specific areas can be compensated for this rule.

Fishing on wrecks must be done with gear suited for the purpose. Ex. weak or twin bottom tallow.

Picking off has to be done while hauling, allowing unintended bycatch and juveniles to be discarded alive. If it is not possible to haul and pick off at the same time, 20 nets per person may be hauled before picking off.

Nets must be set in straight lines and clearly marked.

General rules for bottom towed gear

It is not allowed to use bottom towed gear on stony or rocky ground.

Foot rope discs on bottom towed gear have a maximum diameter of 4 inches.

Anchor seining

Ropes using to tow the seine has a maximum thickness of 24 mm.

General rules for trawl

Selective trawls devices and instruments must be used concurrently with the development of such.

If the target species demands a meshsize that detains other undersized species, a sorting grid or equivalent device must be used.

Maximum length of tow is 3 hours.

Maximum weight of gear is 850 kg. measured from the trawl doors and downwards.

Specific rules applying for certain trawl fisheries

Appendix I: Rules for Ecological Fishery

Herring trawling

Maximum of 10 % underseized fish and maximum of 2 % bycatch.

Prawn trawling

50 mm mesh is allowed if sorting grid is used.

Horseprawn

Beam trawling is allowed with a minimum mesh size of 20 mm.

Lobster trawling (Norwegian Lobster)

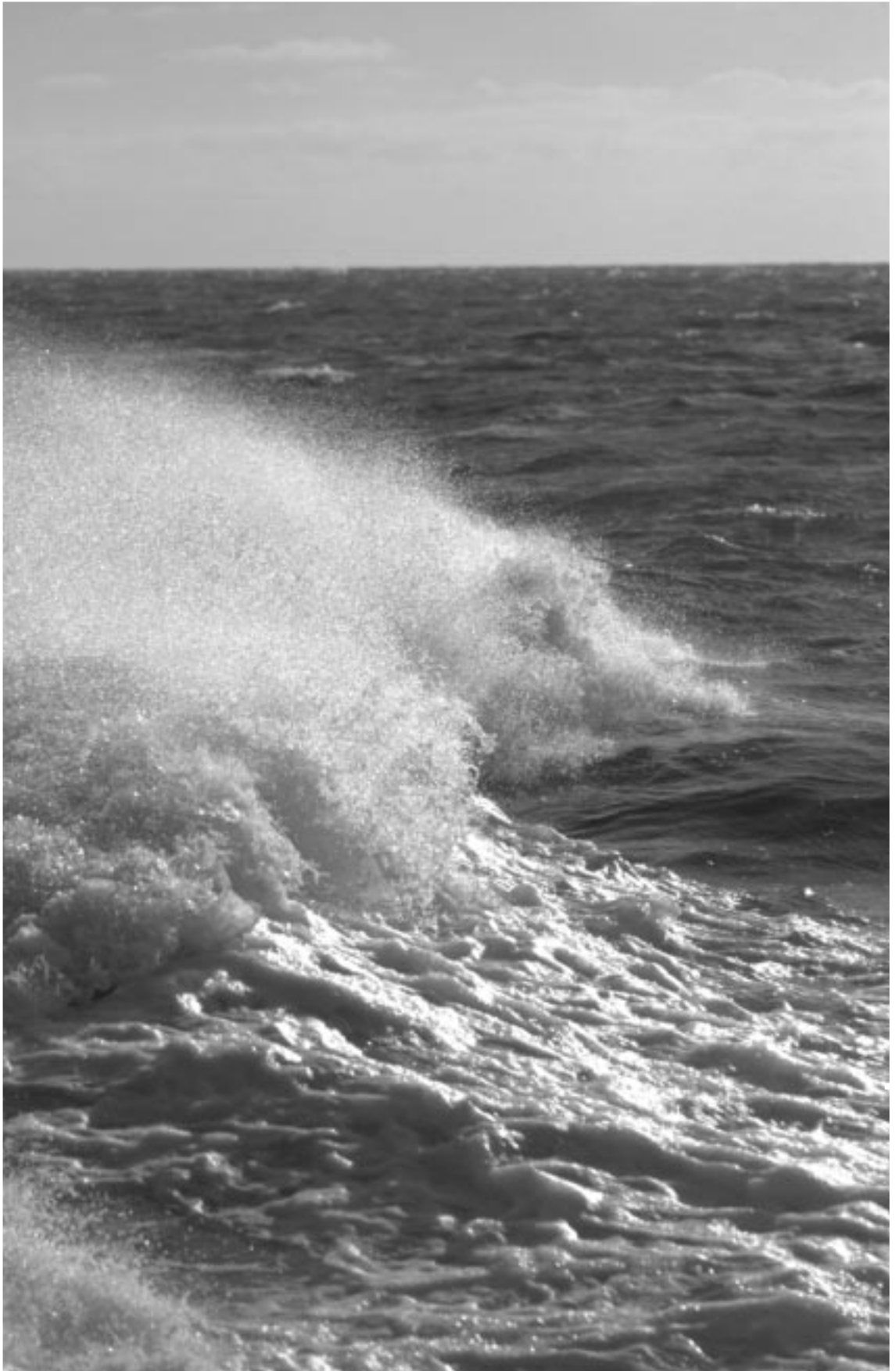
Lobster may not be rinsed in “natrium bisulfit” (some sort of sodium)

Pair trawling

If pair trawling, both vessels must together observe the rule regarding towing power for one vessel. I.e. 2 vessels are seen as counting for 1.

However, if pair trawling with herring trawl, both vessels must perform according to the rules regarding towing power.





Appendix II: Program for Seminar Presentations:

Friday the 8th of December 2000:

- Gunnar Jacobsen:** »Environmental friendly fishery«.
- Sheryl Murray:** »EU fishery policy and fishery«.
- Paul Joy &
Graham Coghill:** »Coastal, state and community management«.
- Knud Andersen:** »Rules for ecological fishing and Ecolabelling«.
- Paul Gilson &
John Nichols:** »Fishing in the Thames Estuary«.
- Mika Kiuru &
Mikael Nikiforow:** »EU and national management of fisheries«.

Saturday the 9th of December 2000:

- Henry Bengtsson:** »Gillnetting in the Baltic Sea«.
- Henning Thøgersen:** »Small scale gillnetting in the North Sea«
- Nils Tvilling:** «Fishermen's competition with the cormorants
– a problematic preservation«
- Steave Peak &
Kurt B. Christensen:** » Tourism and professional fishing«
- Niell Murray:** »Conservation and fishing from Looe«
- John Lowell:** »South west producers organisation and fishing«
- Mike Taylor:** »Conservation, measures and having to cooperate«.



Appendix III

List of participators, phonenumber, adress, title etc.

- ¹ One in 'Storebælt' (The Great Belt) in 1998, a second one in Øresund (Orresund) in 2000. Additionally a third bridge in the last significant channel (Femern Belt) is being planned.
- ² Construction work includes intensive dredging for sand. Consult Paul Gilson's contribution to this report for more details.
- ³ See Paul D. Joy and Steve Peak's paper on 'Netting from Hastings'.
- ⁴ See Paul Gilson's piece on dredging in English waters.
- ⁵ See John Nichols piece on fisheries co-operation with the oil industry.
- ⁶ See Knud Andersens piece on 'Fishermen's Ecological Network' and the adherent rules.

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The first part of this list is participants in the seminar

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Appendix III

List of participators, phonenumber, addresses, title etc.

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*The persons listed below is persons from ECOast Fish network in the european costal fishery.
The project have personal contact to many of this person and the project has been in contact
with all of them, and they wil resive this report*

Alex Midlen, Colchester, England
Andy Marr, Fisherman Whitby, England
Barry Walpoe, Fisker Hearty Ferry, East Kent, England
Carl-Christian Schmidt, Co-ordinator, London, England
Chris Amos, Chief Fishery Officer, King's Lynn, Norfolk, England
Dave Horsley, Fisherman, Hartlepool, England
David Haslam, Secretary Lowestoft, Suffolk, England
Duncan MacInnes, Secretary Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, Scotland
Fred Normandale, Fisherman, Scarborough North, Yorkshire, England
James Hasclay, Fisker, Filey North Yorkshire, England
Jean-Pierre Pollet, Fishsalesman, Boulogne-Sur-Mer, France
Jerymy Phillipson, Geographer, Hull, England

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José Haleux, Fisherman, Marck, France
Kurt Christensen, Fishsalesman, Grimsby, England
Michael Nugent, Fisherman, North Shields, Tynemouth, England
Mike Bould, Fisker, Amble Northumberland, England
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Poul Smith, Fisheries Inspector, Bridlington, England
Roger Lefebvre, Fisherman, Wimeieux, Boulogne, France
Roy Cullen, Fisherman, Laceby, Grimsby, England
Tom Brown, Fisherman, Ramsgate, Kent, England
Willem Lanszweert, Manager, Koksidge, Oostduinkerke, Belgium
Jim Portus, Chairman, Ivybridge Devon, England
Vesa Karttunen, Fisheries Biologist, Helsinki, Finland
Alexander Smith, President, Arbroath, Scotland
Alastair Thomson, Chairman, Anstruther Fife, Scotland
Ann Bell, Co-ordinator, Aberdeen, Scotland
Brian Bathgate, Fisherman, Edinburgh, Scotland
Derek Bathgate, Fisherman, Edinburgh, Scotland
George A. Geddes, Fisherman, Peterhead, Scotland
George A. Smith, Fisherman, Buckie, Scotland
Darrell Campbell, Fisherman, Ullapool Ross-shire, Scotland
Hugh Allen, Secretary, Mallaig Inverness-shire, Scotland
Roy MacGregor, Fisherman, Ullapool, Scotland
Kenneth MacNab, Fisherman and Chairman, Tarbert Argyll, Scotland
Patrick Stewart, Campbeltown, Argyll, Scotland
John Johnston, Harbourmaster, Eyemouth, Scotland
Tommy Thomson, Fisherman and Chairman, Port Seton, Scotland
William Hughes, Manager, Pittenweem Fife, Scotland
Ross Campbell, Fisherman & Biologist, Mallaig Inverness-shire, Scotland
Sandy Watters, Fisherman, Ullapool Wester-Ross, Scotland
Peter Donald, Manager, Arbroath, Scotland
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J. Evans, Secretary, Eyemouth, Scotland
Robyn Dutton, Secretary, Ullapool, Ross-shire, Scotland
Craig Egner, Deputy Chief Executive, Aberdeen, Scotland
James Hasclay Jr., Fisherman, Filey, England
Chris Venmore, Fisherman, Torcross Devon, England
Chris Armstrong, Fisherman, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, Northumberland, England
Roberto Brandt, Fisherman, Baabe Über Oostseebad, Germany
Barrie Deas, Chairman, Grimsby, England
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Kim Iordas, Chairman, Helsingborg Finland
Kevin Henderson, Fisherman, Amble, England
Flor Vandekerckhove, Oostende, Belgium
Bernd Kuhn, Fisherman, Gothmund, Germany
Henri Mille, Oostende, Belgium
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Anders Carlberg, Programchef, Göteborg, Sweden
Iankar Andskog, Fisherman, Mariashamn, Ålandsøerne
Wilhelm Alexandersson, Ordförande, Göteborg, Sweden
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Leif Hansson, Ordföranda, Karlskrona, Sweden
Lennart Swenson, Ordföranda, Malmö, Sweden
Bertil Johanson, Ordförande, Hjo, Sweden
William MacCloud, Fisherman, Lochinver, Scotland
George Traves, Chairman, Bridlington, North Yorkshire, England
Riku Varjopuro, Helsinki, Finland
Frank Doyle, Dublin, Ireland
R. H. James, Portavogie, County Down Northern, Ireland
A.W. Ogier, President, St Peter, Port Channel Islands, England
Mike Taylor, Chairman, Le Hocq, St. Clements Channel Islands, England
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Parzival Copes, Professor, Vancouver British Columbia, Canada
David Langdon, Fisherman, Paignton, England



The main objectives of Living Sea:

- to work for the conservation of the maritime landscape and ensure the diversity of species in the associated flora and fauna.
- to work for the future generations and their fisheries based on ecological principles that are sustainable both economically and socially and that ensures the employment in the trades different units.

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