



Fisheries management West of Walney



We recently organised a stakeholder workshop to discuss options for adaptive management of fisheries in the Irish Sea Marine Conservation Zone West of Walney. This work is part of a JNCC-led project funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund. It brings together the fishing sector, non-governmental organisations, regulators, scientific advisors and academic researchers to develop and trial an approach to participatory management of fisheries in Marine Protected Areas. <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-7598>

Work to change the world



JNCC's Chief Scientist Professor Christine Maggs, Marine Data Specialist Emily Sym and Chair, Professor Chris Gilligan attended the Work to Change the World careers event at Cambridge University. The event focussed on work opportunities offering "rewards beyond profit" and gave students the chance to engage with a wide range of organisations to discuss work experience and career pathways. They enjoyed speaking to the students about what JNCC does and the collaboration options we offer.

Seas the Future



JNCC's Bethany Graves and Megan Parry attended Scotland's International Marine Conference *Seas the Future* which focused on national and international actions to protect the marine environment. They appreciated the opportunity to be involved in engaging workshop sessions ranging from marine spatial planning to tackling marine plastics and litter. Megan presented in the Productive and Sustainably Used Seas session on the first day. The conference was hosted by Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister for Scotland, and Roseanna Cunningham, Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change & Land Reform. <https://www.marineconference2019.scot/>

For more than 25 years JNCC has provided robust evidence and trusted advice on nature conservation to enable UK governments to achieve their policy objectives. As a public body we also work in partnership with business and society. Our people are dedicated to providing high-quality evidence and advice on the natural environment for the benefit of current and future generations. Our vision is to be a world-leading provider of innovative solutions, placing nature at the heart of sustainable wealth and wellbeing.

Deep sea mining workshop



JNCC's Becky Hitchin, Laura Robson and Jason Weeks were involved in a workshop co-hosted by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Defra and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), to inform the International Seabed Authority's ongoing process of creating exploitation regulations for deep sea mining nodules in the Clarion-Clipperton Fracture Zone, off Hawaii. The ISA has till 2020 to finalise their regulations and create associated standards and guidelines.

Our team played an active part in the two days' productive discussions; Becky presented on the consenting issues for UK industries and Laura spoke about how JNCC's sensitivity work could be applied to deep sea mining.

JNCC in Nairobi



Global Environment Outlook is the United Nation's flagship assessment of the state of the world's environment; its 6th report (GEO6) is due to be published when the UN Environment Assembly meets in Nairobi on 11-15 March 2019. The full report, at over 700 pages, documents the challenges facing the world's environment and the risks that its degradation poses to human health and well-being.

At Defra's request, JNCC's Vin Fleming represented the UK at the negotiations in January to agree the 'Summary for Policy Makers' which synthesises, into c40 pages, the key messages of GEO6 in a form which is accessible to decision makers.

<http://enb.iisd.org/unep/geo/6/>

UKOTs Coral Reef Initiative



As part of the UK's commitment to the Coral Reef Life Declaration and 25 Year Environment Plan, JNCC's Dr Jane Hawkrigde and Megan Parry, together with Defra colleagues, ran a workshop with the Caribbean Overseas Territories (OTs) on coral reefs. Hosted by the Anguillan Government, the workshop provided an opportunity for representatives from the OTs, JNCC and UK Government to exchange knowledge and experience, discuss priorities and actions, and address barriers to effective coral reef conservation and management.

The hugely productive workshop saw participants enthusiastically develop country Action Plans. We will be working with the OTs to maintain momentum and implement these Action Plans.

Harbour porpoise monitoring of Southern North Sea SAC

Following the designation of a network of UK harbour porpoise Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), JNCC commissioned a project to determine the most appropriate platform for monitoring and to design a sampling plan. The purpose of the monitoring would be to collect data on the spatial and temporal use of the Southern North Sea SAC and wider area by harbour porpoise to inform assessments of site condition and the development of site management.

The report is available at <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-7723>



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