

# Fishing into the Future:

## News and Update December 2016



### Introduction:

Fishing into the Future has been busy behind the scenes and we can now bring you some exciting news and updates:

#### 1. Office move

We are delighted to announce that we will be moving to a new office in the New Year! Thanks to support from Seafish and the Plymouth University, we will be moving to the [Brixham Environmental Laboratories](#). This is a wonderful location and an exciting opportunity for us. We will be close to key stakeholders, the fishing industry, scientists and regulators, and will be part of a growing 'blue environmental hub'. We are also advising on how the premises might be used from the point of view of better engagement with fisheries and fishermen and it is likely that we will be holding training programmes and workshops from this venue in the future.



#### 2. Project delivery and planning

We have moved out of the 'start-up' phase of the charity and are now operational. Alongside current projects, we are also delighted to announce that we will be delivering the first of our long-awaited training programmes. This will be held in Scotland in the early summer of 2017, with thanks to support from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, as well as Sainsbury's.

##### *Fishermen-Science Interface Programme*

- A series of workshops is being delivered aimed at developing a suite of protocol guidelines for industry-science. These are now at the first draft stage. This work has gone exceptionally well and we are gaining a lot of traction in this area - with a good profile and growing reputation. We are looking to build on our convening and coordinating role in the New Year

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and will play a significant role in the strategic development of this agenda in the future. Our Protocol Guidelines are being tested and examined at a workshop in January and we are working closely with Cefas, SPFA and the NFFO to deliver this.

- We have co-designed a pilot scallop survey for the channel scallop fishery. The results of this pilot will be known in January and we will be working with the group to refine the detail of a full survey, scheduled for delivery in 2017. We have been asked to undertake a similar process with the Eastern Channel scallop fishery and we are looking at when this will best be delivered.

### *Scottish Training Pilot*

- Funds to deliver this long-awaited training effort are finally in place and we are looking to deliver this in May/June next year
- Steering Group has convened its first meeting - with good engagement and clear outputs for action
- venues and timings of the training are under discussion and we hope to have a decision on these soon
- We hope to be able to compliment this with an English training course once the EMFF finances are in place in the New Year (this looks reasonably likely at present)
- Contracts for Communications, printed materials and facilitation (Alexa) have already been awarded and work will start on all these fronts next week. Alexa has been working hard for us in the background all the time, but her role is as official lead facilitator and chair of the Steering Group and we are delighted to have secured her services.

### 3. Project Development

We are constantly looking for new projects to get involved with, and we are very keen that we support innovations in fishing gear and deployment. To this end, we have been working on a concept for a 'Disruptive Gear Innovations Hub' in partnership with Young's Seafood and others. This is in its early stages at present and we expect these ideas to crystallise into a funding application in the New Year.

### 4. Trustees

We will be looking for new Trustees in the New Year to support our mission as we grow and gain influence. We will be discussing how best to recruit fishermen and other Trustees onto the charity at our next AGM and may well invite candidates to this event in March 2017. If you or any of your colleagues would like to get involved in the charity as a Trustee, then please contact the Executive Director at the address below.

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*Have a wonderful festive season, happy  
Christmas and a great New Year!*

Very best wishes from all members of Fishing into the Future

*Contact:*

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