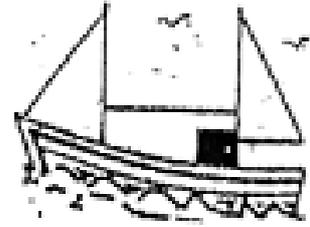


# CLYDEFISH



Clyde Fishermen's Association Newsletter

March 2015

## Welcome To CFA Update!

Dear CFA members, colleagues and partners, welcome to the first newsletter of 2015! It's also the first release since I was appointed as the new Executive Secretary of the CFA in late January 2015.

I'd like to firstly take this opportunity to thank Patrick Stewart for his long service to the CFA and for his excellent handover and advice. I'm sure I represent all of the members at the CFA in thanking him for his dedication and in wishing him well for the future. I would also like to thank all the members and partners of CFA who have helped me to settle in, it's been great working with you all so far and I'm looking forward to times ahead.

It's been a busy initial few weeks with a number of topics covered which I hope this newsletter will touch on. We've responded to three consultations, saw the release of SIFT's proposed regulating order, attended numerous meetings looking at everything from the release of the next tranch of European Funds (EMFF), Clyde 2020, guardship duties, fish farms, cable laying and landing obligations, and this really is just a snapshot! The next key date for CFA internal administration is **Saturday the 21st of March 2015** so be sure to feed any issues through your branch representative.

Being aware that this is ***your newsletter*** I would encourage members to get in touch with any topics they would like to see covered in future additions. We are always happy to receive ideas and suggestions. Just get in touch at [ew@clydefish.org](mailto:ew@clydefish.org)



### ***SEND IN YOUR EMAIL!***

*CFA are updating their systems. They will continue to post out Newsletters & essential information to members without email, however additional useful information is normally sent electronically. Please send or update your email by contacting [ew@clydefish.org](mailto:ew@clydefish.org)*



Thanks to CFA members for their contributions to our gallery archive, please continue to send any images the CFA can use.

## Highlights in this Issue

- Marine Scotland -Building on links
- SIFT Proposed Regulating Order
- Clyde 2020
- Landing Obligations
- EMFF
- Development Work



Quality catches from CFA members



Many CFA members will be aware of the recent proposed Regulating Order from the Scottish Inshore Fisheries Trust (SIFT)

The proposal can be read in detail at:

<http://www.sift-uk.org/publications.aspx>

SIFT will also run a number of drop in workshops

- ◆ **16th of March— Auchrannie Resort, Arran, 12.30—6.30pm**
- ◆ **17th of March—Carlton Hotel, Preswick, 12.30—6.30pm**
- ◆ **19th of March— Anchor Hotel, Tarbert, 12.30—6.30pm**
- ◆ **20th of March— Loch Fyne Hotel, Inverary, 12.30—6.30pm**

CFA's last stance was in principle against a RO, but at that stage (December 2014) no proposed RO had been drafted by SIFT. The RO details one current option out of a total of three options SIFT will submit.

It's impossible to comment on the further two options which are not shown, but certainly the CFA would point out that the one option which is detailed would be incredibly damaging to the inshore fishing industry in the Clyde area as it stands. It would represent a loss of employment and a very real downturn in economic activity, neither of which would be beneficial to local communities. CFA remain open to partnership collaboration but remain concerned by initial proposals.

The CFA Executive Secretary and Chair met informally with Alex Watson Crook of SIFT on the 13th of March. CFA are continuing to liaise with MSP's, MEP's, Marine Scotland and fishing industry sectors regarding their concerns.

We would encourage members and partners to read the proposed Regulating Order and get in touch with any thoughts, queries or opinions they have at [ew@clydefish.org](mailto:ew@clydefish.org)

## Clyde 2020—26th February

CFA attended a Clyde 2020 Stakeholders meeting . The event was well attended by a number of Stakeholders. The majority of the meeting focused on developing the priorities for the development of a short, medium and longterm action plan for the group. Some of the actions will focus on developing science (with Marine Scotland's involvement where they have capacity and through the establishment of a scientific group affiliated to Clyde 2020). Other action points considered the membership of the group and the longterm funding and resourcing of the work.



## Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group

The Chair of the CFA attended a core Firth of Clyde Forum core group on the **11th of March**. The CFA will continue to develop strong links with this group.

Clyde Breakers should shortly release a Clyde Breakers Newsletter which features the CFA, look out for its release at [www.clydeforum.com/newsletters](http://www.clydeforum.com/newsletters)



CFA remains in close contact with SFF attending both its Executive Committee on the 11th and 12th of February in Edinburgh and the Sub Committees on the 2nd and 3rd of March in Aberdeen.

At the SFF Executive Committee a range of issues were covered including Landing Obligations, Quota Consultations, Shellfish and Pelagic reviews, EMFF, Safety and Training, MPA's, Regional Marine Planning Partnerships, IFG stocktake, and a review of the Grid Report which can be located at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/01/4022/0>

The SFF subcommittees looked at shellfish policy, training, sustainable fishing, IFMAC, SIFT and session with Jim Watson, Head of Inshore Marine Scotland.

Up and coming key SFF dates include the next Executive Committee which will be held on Thursday the 30th of April and Friday the 1st of May 2015.



## Fishing Sector Focus Group—5th of February

A Fishing Sector Focus Group was held on the 5th of February. Various issues were covered in relation to IFG development, floating offshore energy proposals, MPA development (recent submissions were discussed, 4 new MPA proposals expected by summer 2015 and 14 SPA's in relation to birds). The next FSFG's will be held on the **5th of June** and the **2nd of October 2015**.

## Orientation Visit—5th of March

Marine Scotland invited CFA to an induction day at Victoria Quay. The session was attended by Elaine Whyte, CFA Executive Secretary and Tommy Finn, CFA Vice Chairman. The visit offered a great grounding in Scottish Marine Policy from EMFF through to the forming of Regional Marine Planning. The CFA Executive Secretary has requested that close two way contact continues with Marine Scotland.

## IFMAC—11th of March

An IFMAC (Inshore Fisheries Marine and Conservation) meeting. Items on the agenda included the IFG stocktake exercise, concerns over an influx to fishing following oil sector job losses, an update on the responses of the recent Gear Conflict Consultation, a possible Inshore Fisheries Conference and Regional Marine Planning. A key issue for the CFA was the debate concerning the recent Grid Report <http://www.gov.scot/publications/2015/01/4022/0>, discussing from the fishing industry generally expressed dissatisfaction with the report. Marine Scotland acknowledged the report was not ideal, but offered the start of a methodology which could be developed and improved. SIFT offered a presentation on their proposed RO which was generally met with lack of support from the fishing representatives around the table, from the Clyde (including CFA and SFF) and beyond. The meeting will convene again in around four months (**July 2015**)

## Consultations—Gear Conflict/Scallops/MPA's

The CFA responded to Marine Scotland's recent consultations on Scallops, Gear Conflict and MPA's. The Executive Secretary will keep members updated of progress, response detail is available on request.

## FMAC—Next Meeting April 2015

The last scheduled meeting of FMAC was rescheduled and is now likely to take place in April, please feel free to get in touch with any suggested agenda items.

## SIDI—18th of February

Issues covered at the last SIDI included the EU Commissions on species update, and it is likely the EU will opt for a fisherized species approach. Which is in non paper development stage at the moment. A broken cluster approach of haddock in the West Coast and Whiting in the Celtic Sea is likely. Discussions on the lifting of the Cod ban for 2017 are in development. Other issues covered were selectivity and gear, quota, research, discards and up and coming multi-rig research. A paper is available on request. **The next meeting will be April 2015.**



**Most CFA members will be aware of the recent proposed Regulating Order which SIFT have released.**

**The Fishing News detailed a letter on the 26th of February in relation to the RO, detailing an MSP's support,**

**the CFA responded on the 5th of March 2015 through the letters section, a copy of the letter can be read below for members who have not had a chance to see the response.**

**The CFA aim to continue an active and positive presence in various press outlets .**

#### **CFA RESPONSE - Letter (MSP Welcomes Clyde Control).**

The Clyde Fishermen's Association members noted with interest a submission to the Letter's section of Fishing News on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February 2015 (***MSP Welcomes Clyde Control***) which outlined an MSP's support for SIFT's recent proposed SIFT Regulating Order. The CFA are heartened that many official stakeholders remain supportive of the preferred route of engagement and development for the Clyde marine area through the established Clyde 2020 Group.

Furthermore the article noted that employment in the Clyde had dwindled in recent years, whilst this may be true in some sections of the marine industry, the CFA would like to note that the economic value of the fishing industry in Scotland and in the West Coast continues to grow year on year. This economic benefit can be experienced in the employment, trade and upskilling the sector continues to offer in the region. Without a doubt the fishing industry has changed and faced a number of challenges over the years, from alterations to fisheries management through to variations in climate and seal numbers, but it has remained a buoyant industry. A particularly marked achievement in the global climate of economic downturn.

The fishing industry in the Clyde flies the flag for ***Scotland the Brand*** with its world recognised quality seafood. The benefits incurred from the industry are in many instances the very lifeblood of local coastal communities, it supports fishermen, process plants, global trade, local restaurants retailers and importantly families and communities.

The CFA members remain open minded to improvements, but are cautious that any unreasonable restriction on the in-shore fishing industry in the Clyde marine area would ultimately have a negative economic and social effect on local sustainable communities, and on the nation as a whole. The CFA have concerns that SIFT'S recent proposed Regulating Order may in fact inadvertently cripple some thriving coastal communities based around fishing. Rather than offer more control to local people, it could have the effect of driving local businesses and families away from the area.

The article also outlines that the Regulating Order was developed in consultation with the fishing industry and fishermen, the CFA would dispute the level of consultation. The CFA are one of the major interested stakeholders in the Clyde Marine area, yet were not consulted prior to the release of the proposed Regulating Order. The CFA would also welcome the proposal of more accurate science for the Clyde area and are currently actively engaging with academics from various Scottish Universities to examine stocks and survival rates in the Clyde. They have fully engaged with Marine Scotland's recent Marine Protected Areas consultation willingly. However the CFA would address the importance of accurate science and note that some of the reported science in the proposed Regulating Order are debatable in terms of relevance, sourcing and accuracy in respect to subjects such as fish stocks and various other issues.

The CFA remain open to partnership and collaboration with any willing partners, particularly through the route of Clyde 2020. They also remain committed to improving sustainability in their fishing techniques, engaging in regular schemes such as fishing for rubbish initiatives to clean up the Clyde. If any interested parties would like to engage with CFA or receive further information please get in touch at [ew@clydefish.org](mailto:ew@clydefish.org)

## Scallop Entitlements



Marine Scotland are currently reviewing Scallop Entitlements due to recent science indicating pressure on scallops. Some CFA members who have not been actively fishing scallops for 5 years may have received correspondence that their license has been suspended.

Members have the right to appeal any suspensions up until the 31st of March. Please note that members can appeal more than once up until the closing date of the 31st of March.

Appeals should be made to Ingrid Drever at:

[Ingrid.Drever@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Ingrid.Drever@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) .

Please note that a vessel inspection can be requested through Ingrid to local fisheries offices and the CFA would encourage members to pursue an inspection.

If the vessels are ready to fish for scallops this will be a consideration in reviewing the license, but will not be the only deciding factor.



Discussions on Funding, Programmes and Fisheries Policy are still open and under way

## EU Update

The CFA Executive Secretary has been extending meeting invitations to Scottish MEP's with the hope of strengthening working links and mutual knowledge.

Current timetables for the next round of EMFF, the new EU funding program, seem to indicate a slippage in time in the development. Its expected that the programme will be live around September/October 2015.

The next PECH Committees will be held on the 30/31st of March in Brussels, details at: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/pech/home/html>

DG Mare events, papers and research is at; [http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/maritimeaffairs\\_fisheries/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/maritimeaffairs_fisheries/index_en.htm)

## Scottish Parliament

The CFA have also made active contact and extended meeting invitations to a number of MSP's , again with the hope of developing closer working relations to governance.

The Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee meets every Wednesday details at <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/29878.aspx> and papers relating to fisheries can be sourced here.





Underwater Sea Cables,

## Celtic Seas Partnership

On the 6th and 7th of February the Executive Secretary and the Chair of the CFA attended an event in Inverness which was aimed at building bridges and links within and across the Scottish fishing industry. Professional mediators were brought in to assist in the facilitation of the event

Richard Lochhead MSP took part in a number of the exercises including a role play session. The event was well attended and is hoped to be the first step in a series of many in a new mediation style approach aimed to support co-operation and mutual respect in the sector.

A follow up session is penciled in for the **24th of April 2015**. Further details regarding increased involvement amongst the sector will be considered shortly .

## Moyle Cable Connector

The CFA Chairman will meet with AWJ Ltd on the **16th of March** to discuss the timetable for work and proposals. Initial project timetables are detailed below, but an update will follow post the scheduled meeting on the 16th.

Pre-lay survey work: start in March 2015  
 Pre-lay grapnel run (if needed: Q2 2015  
 Marine cable installation: Q3-Q4 2015

### Proposed Cable Route



Mediation and partnership work

## Development & Marketing



Some members will be aware that the CFA is currently developing its marketing and supporting material. We will be looking at new forms of communication, a website, branding, possibly short films, logos, research to support and develop our work and our key messages and values.

The importance of positive key messages in relation to the fishing industry and in particular the CFA are vital to publicize to the public and key stakeholders.

The fishing industry gives so much to communities in socio-economic terms, and indeed to the environment (*Fishing for Litter schemes etc*), we should take every opportunity to ensure this contribution is acknowledged.

Many thanks to CFA members who have already contributed by sending in suggestions, photographs and information. Please do keep the submissions coming to [ew@clydefish.org.uk](mailto:ew@clydefish.org.uk)



A Recent Clean Catch from the Clyde



UNIVERSITY OF  
STIRLING



## Nethrops Research

CFA members responded to an open tender to complete a study looking at the survivability and size of nethrops in the Clyde.

We are delighted to report that a CFA member was selected to complete the work in collaboration with scientists at Stirling University and SAMS

Two winter trawls and three summer trawls are planned, it is expected that the work will be completed by late summer 2015, a date for the publicized findings is yet to be discussed. The first trial has taken place and initial findings are under analysis,



Any vessels interested in Guardship generally are encouraged to express interest.

## Register Guardship Vessel Interest

The CFA would encourage members to get in touch to register a general interest in any up and coming Guardship Vessel Duties by getting in touch with the Executive Secretary on [ew@clydefish.org](mailto:ew@clydefish.org).

The SFF are currently urgently looking for vessels to guard cables, conditions for vessels over 15 meters with a crew of four and vessels under 15 meters with a crew of two or three. Generally vessels should have a GV Stability Book or be roll tested, in addition adequate facilities and provisions to remain on station for up to seven days. We look forward to hearing from members.

## PFD's—REMINDER!

SFF have gotten in touch with a list of vessels who have not yet applied for free Personal Floatation Devices (PFD's). Could any vessels who have not applied but are interested please complete the application at:

[http://sff.co.uk/PFD\\_Application\\_Form](http://sff.co.uk/PFD_Application_Form)

## Annual General Meeting.

Please keep an eye out for the release of the next CFA AGM date, expected in June.

## SWIFG

The CFA Vice President attended the South West Inshore Fisheries Group on the **3rd of March**. Items on the agenda included a possible Marine Scotland Inshore Fisheries Conference, a Discards Strategy, the Economic Grid Report and EFF projects. A Solway Subgroup will be held on the **16th of March** in Newton Stewart.

Importantly for the CFA a further SWIFG meeting has been called for the **30th of March** to discuss the proposed Regulating Order by SIFT, Clyde 2020 and regional marine planning. The CFA will be represented.

## New CFA Members!

The CFA would like to extend a warm welcome to our recent new members who we are delighted to have onboard.

We would encourage new members to get in touch with the Executive Secretary with any ideas they would like to feed in to the CFA or any queries they may have.

We are happy to see the Association go from strength to strength,

We encourage new membership and advice and new member forms are available by emailing [ew@clydefish.org](mailto:ew@clydefish.org)



We look forward to working with you!

## Demersal Discard

The Vice Chair of the CFA attended a meeting on the **23rd of January** in Edinburgh. The Landing Obligation which will take effect on the 1/1/2016 was discussed. Two options were presented to attendees, one the preferred MS approach (include prawn trawlers from start of scheme) and one the preferred SIDI approach (include prawn trawlers in 2019). From the 1/1/16 any vessel with a codend mesh size of 80–109mm will be classed as a Nethrops trawler. MS are keen that discards are drawn down from TAC but with TR1 at 55% and TR2 at 5% it would be interesting to see how buy back is divided. The removal of catch composition in area V1a may be an advantage to the West Coast, but only if TR2 are included from 1/1/2016. MS also floated the idea of changing TR1/TR2 naming references of vessels.

## General Events of Interest

### Skipper Expo Aberdeen

30—31st May 2015

In conjunction with SFF a Skipper Expo will be held in Aberdeen, tickets are free & available at 00 353 749 548 037, or email

[sharon@maramedia.ie](mailto:sharon@maramedia.ie) or visit [www.maramedia.ie](http://www.maramedia.ie)



### Annual Scottish Fishing Conference 29—30th of July 2015



This conference will be held in St Andrews and the overarching theme will be *Working with Landing Obligations*. Booking at [www.fiscot.org](http://www.fiscot.org) and clicking on the Everbright event registration to enter contact details.



The CFA joined discussions regarding possible fish farms on the coast of Bute

## Scottish Salmon Company

The CFA Chairman and Executive Secretary attended a meeting on the **23rd of January** with the Scottish Salmon Company in Portavadie to review and advise on proposals they had developed for areas around the coast of Bute.

The CFA advised that previous fish farms in Bute had met with opposition, they also advised SSC to reconsider their initial locations as they were close to key towing/fishing areas. The Chair explained that scallops and prawns were fished closer to the inshore coast than expected due to the high mud content, SSC took on board the comments and agreed to arrange some site surveys.

The Buteman covered articles on the 26th and 27th of February 2015 regarding the possibility of more fish farms, they noted SSC had requested a presentation meeting with Bute Community Council.

In addition to the core business of the meeting the CFA advised SSC that some 40inch yellow floats which are corner anchored on sites as a condition of planning and in line with NLB conditions should be checked on some sites (eg Kilfinan). A discussion on the quality of lighting at night on these sites was also explored in respect to any possible improvements. SSC confirmed they would check sites and that recent poor weather and storms may have altered anchor locations. Please get in touch with the Executive Secretary if you encounter any marking issues at fish farms.

# Changes to Finance and Systems

Many members will have already been in contact with Laura Wilson, the new Administrator for the CFA . Laura is overseeing the financial procedures and contact details of CFA vessels. We hope to implement an open door system where members feel free to contact either Laura or Elaine with any concerns or queries.

We will also be introducing a new staged follow up scheme in instances where members fees are outstanding. We would encourage members to get in touch promptly with any issues they may encounter in payment of levies and the team will do all it can to assist.

## Gear Conflict

A quick reminder that following a meeting in January 2015 with Clydeport, it was agreed that any CFA member vessels involved in Gear Conflict should inform Clydeport directly. Of course as an extra precaution members are encouraged to also inform the CFA Executive Secretary.

**CFA - Look out for the next newsletter & get intouch with any feature ideas by email or postcard below!**

## Contact Us

Feel free to get in touch at:

**Executive Secretary**

**Elaine Whyte**

**[ew@clydefish.org](mailto:ew@clydefish.org)**

**Administrator**

**Laura Wilson**

**[lw@clydefish.org](mailto:lw@clydefish.org)**

Look out for our new website coming soon!

### **Clyde Fishermen's Association**

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