

## **Agenda item C5**

### **Sea Angling Report**

#### **Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority** **Quarterly report for the period ending 30 September 2015**

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Summary: To report on the Recreational Sea Angling Sector in KEIFCA District

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### **KEIFCA Progress**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 the size limit for Bass was raised to 42cm. To highlight this change and promote other minimum size limits, officers have been visiting tackle shops and angling venues throughout the district, handing out tackle box stickers and business cards. These have been well received, although on occasions the officers have had to explain that there can be no size limit for certain species. Concerns have been raised about a minority of anglers taking small or undersize fish; officers have visited venues in response to these complaints.

### **Essex Angling Summary**

Thornback rays continued to be caught through this quarter and smooth hounds were also targeted successfully. Green weed proved to be the bane of both shore and boat anglers, making fishing difficult and at times impossible in some areas. Bass fishing continued to be steady with the odd larger fish showing. Codling started to reappear along the Essex coast in early September, with the numbers increasing at the close of this quarter. Whiting are ever present making it hard to present baits for the bigger fish.

### **Kent Angling Summary**

Throughout this quarter green weed has been a problem for the shore angler on the North Kent coast, in some cases making it difficult to be able to fish. Those who have persevered have been able to enjoy good fishing for smoothhound and the occasional bass or thornback.

Small whiting have been a nuisance on the Kent coast, especially on the south coast and at times it has been impossible to connect with anything bigger. A few larger bass have been caught that have appeared to have taken a hooked whiting by mistake providing the Anglers with better sport.

As the quarter drew to a close, small codlings and a few bigger cods started to appear throughout the district both on the shore and in the boats.

The charter vessels have reported various degrees of success with all manner of species being targeted.