

**Agenda item C4**  
**Sea Angling Report**  
**Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority**  
**Report for the period December to January 2017**

**KEIFCA Progress**

At the beginning of 2017 new bass restrictions will be coming into force for recreational anglers, these are identical to last year, no bass to be retained from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> June then only one bass per person per day to the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

KEIFCA is committed to making sure that the anglers within our district get the right information as quickly as possible to allow them to continue to enjoy their sport. Poster and stickers will be issued to all interested parties.

Officers continue to visit angling venues and tackle shops, handing out our minimum size ruler stickers.

On 27<sup>th</sup> November both myself and the KEIFCA shore officer, Tom Clegg attended an angling match on the Isle of Sheppey hosted by Sheerness SAC, this match was well attended, with about 250 anglers in attendance.

**Kent Angling Summary**

Small whittings have arrived in vast numbers on the Kent foreshores, however they are, destroying baits intended for bigger specimens within minutes of being cast out. Fishing for cod has been poor with only one or two fish being reported.

All around the Kent Coast dabs, poutings and dogfish have interrupted the steady stream of whittings being caught, enabling shore anglers to put together nice mixed bags of fish. Flounders and small bass have also added variety to what is being caught.

**Essex Angling Summary**

On the Essex coast small whittings are making up the bulk of catches. Thornbacks and spotted dogs are also providing sport with the chance of a bass to add to the mix.

Essex piers have produced steady results, with bass, pouting and whittings coming to the rods. Thornbacks rays are still being caught with a bit of effort.

Cod have failed to make a good showing so far this season, any reports of cods being caught have been scarce.

## **Inner Thames and River Medway Angling Summary**

Again whittings feature strongly in catches with flounder, with the occasional bass being caught. Sport has appeared to slowed down during January.

### **Boat Fishing**

Cod are still proving elusive, with catches mainly being made up of dogfish and whittings. Thornback rays are still being caught within the Estuary but have become scarce for the charter vessels further out. Bass are still being caught by anglers that continue to fish for them.

D Deverson

First Mate/Angling Officer, Kent