

## **Agenda item C7**

### **Sea Angling Report**

#### **Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority**

#### **Quarterly report for the period ending January 2019**

### **KEIFCA Progress**

Officers are waiting to receive confirmation from the MMO regarding the EU Council ruling in January on the latest bass restrictions for recreational fishers. This is proposed as the ability to retain one European sea bass per angler per day from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019. KEIFCA officers will be passing on this information on to anglers and tackle shops within the district once this confirmation is received.

KEIFCA officers have continued to patrol and inspect anglers along the KEIFCA shorelines and handout the minimum size ruler sticker when required.

### **Kent Angling Summary**

Whiting are being caught at most venues on the Kent coast, most are of a small size although there have been some bigger fish reported. In amongst the large amount of whittings, dogfish, flounders and dabs have also put in an appearance. Bass are still being caught but not in any great numbers.

Thornback rays are still being caught off the Dover and Deal piers, with Dover pier also producing the odd small codling

### **Essex Angling Summary**

As with Kent, the same species are showing in Essex. Whittings are making up the bulk of the catches, with flounders, dogfish and dabs also being caught. Thornback rays are being caught off the piers and the foreshore. Bass are reported as being caught but not in any significant numbers.

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

Multiple catches of whiting with a few flounders are being reported in both the rivers with the occasional bass and dogfish, Anglers are also reporting of catching thornbacks in the River Medway.

### **Boat Fishing**

Whiting are again dominating the catches on the boats. Thornbacks and dogfish are also coming to the rods. The occasional bass is being reported with cod making a rare appearance, mainly to the boats in the south of the district.

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