

Marine Research Update

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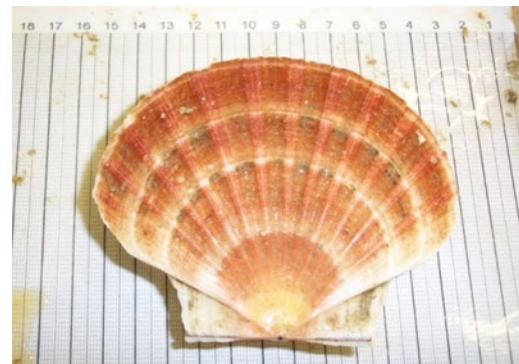
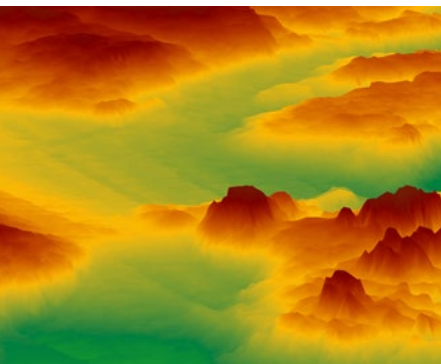
Joint Heads of Marine Science & Technology



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Fisheries - Shellfish

- Ongoing commitment to support the Shetland Shellfish Management Organisation
 - SIC funding via SSMO - £179,931 core research, additional projects £31,483
 - Operationally impacted by staff turnover and recruitment issues around merger
 - Unable to complete scallop survey and proposed projects – funding re-routed to alternative projects
 - Recruitment currently underway for both Fisheries Research Assistants and a Shellfish Scientist



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Fisheries - Finfish

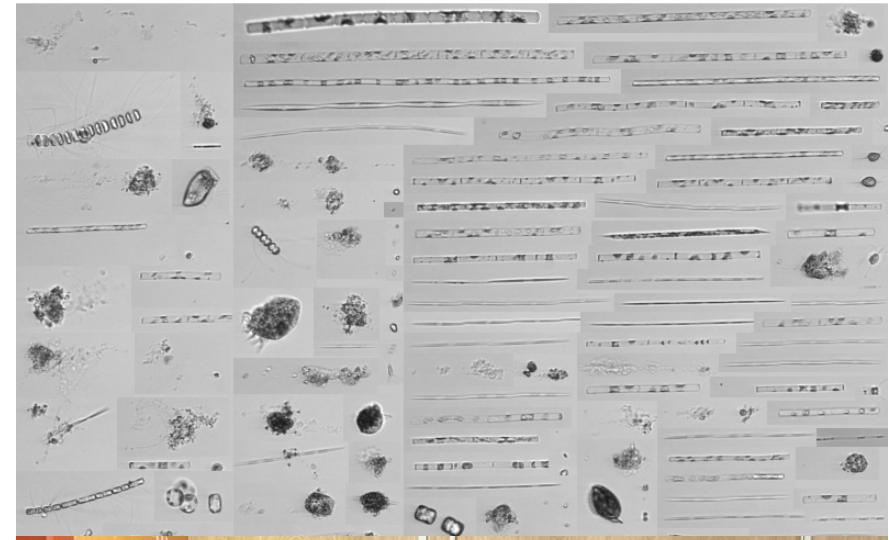
- Successful Inshore fish survey
- Aberdeen University – support for smart trawl project including significant vessel time
- Shaun Fraser presenting at MASTS Conference
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1j7hjz1wgf3uant/AAD6jBtPAoypZQ3XWjCbiFJ_a?dl=0
- Market sampling impacted by staffing
- PANDORA [How fisher self sampling can enhance pelagic fisheries data collection – YouTube \(World Fisheries Congress presentation\)](#)



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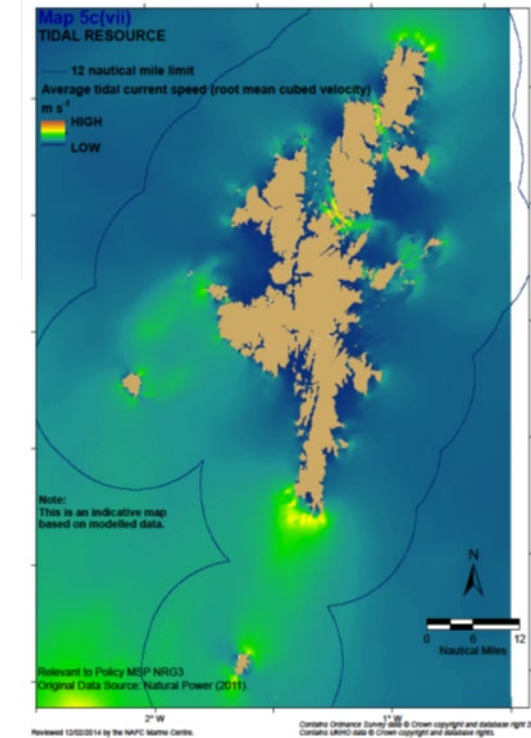
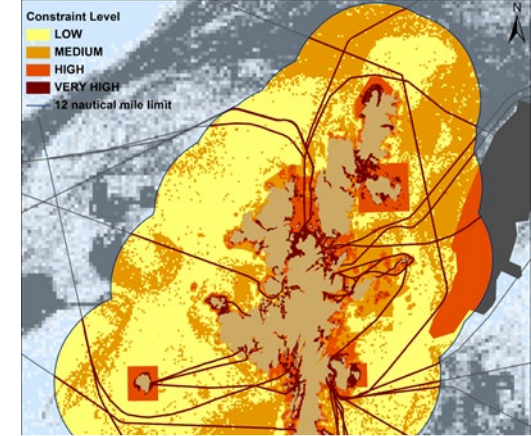
Aquaculture

- Development of Shellvolution Islands Deal Bid
- Collaborative projects with SAMS utilising the IFCB – with a second funded unit arriving at the end of the year
- Support and engagement for UHI Aquaculture HUB
- Exploring opportunities for postgraduate provision



Marine Spatial Planning

- Successful UKRI bid 'Integrating diverse values into the sustainable management of marine resources in the UK' which is led by Professor Stephen Fletcher, University of Portsmouth. Rachel Shucksmith will be leading the project at Shetland UHI. (£197,398 over three years)
- Advertising for a Planning Officer and will soon be advertising for a PDRA for the above project
- Non –native monitoring project for Scottish Sea Farms
- Several papers en route to publication
- Shetland Community Wildlife Group is recruiting volunteers for porpoise surveys and the project is progressing well



Post Graduate Students

- Two student completions this year
 - Frances Sandison (with Aberdeen University) *“What role can Scottish-caught pelagic fish play in delivering a climate smart future”*
 - Paul Dees (with SAMS UHI) *“Improving the predictability of harmful algal blooms around the Shetland Islands”*



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Post Graduate Students

- Current students:
 - Iain Detrey (with ERI & Total) “ *“Bog in a Box”*; is long term peat storage for future restoration viable?” submitting later this month
 - Inne Withouck (Bryden Centre) “*The siting of offshore renewable energy developments in a crowded marine space*” submitting later this year
 - Clare Hill (with SAMS) “Addressing the impact of the landings obligation on the fishers of Shetland. How is the EU CPF landing obligation affecting the local fishers of Shetland?” Submitting October 2021.
 - Solene Giraudeau-Potel (with SAMS UHI, Marine Scotland & The Data Lab) ““A 21st Century Approach to address the risk to Scottish aquaculture from harmful algal blooms”



In Development

- As part of the Fair Isle DRMPA steering group we are working up joint research proposals
- PhD Project on the history of the aquaculture industry – awaiting final confirmation of funding (supervisory collaboration with UHI Centre for History)
- Application for MASTS DTP Studentship in collaboration with Heriot Watt approved for submission by UHI
- ‘Post-PANDORA’ – pelagic fisheries research theme in collaboration with SPFA
- Chair in Sustainable Seafood

