



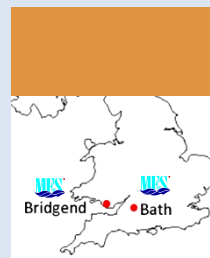
Marine Ecological Surveys Limited

Over 30 years of experience in Environmental Impact Assessment, Site Appraisals, Eco-Audit & monitoring programmes and research in the marine environment

A rich harvest at MESL this autumn!

New Welsh office

MESL have expanded beyond the Bath office with Consultations Manager Dan Brutto now relocated to the Titan offices in Bridgend. Dan will conduct work for both MESL and the Marine Planning Consultancy (mpc) (part of the Gardline Group of Companies) here. Daniel's move will allow MESL to strengthen working partnerships in Wales and allow the company greater opportunities to assist with the sustainable development of Welsh waters. If you need any assistance with any projects or research being undertaken in Wales then do not hesitate to get in touch with Daniel on 01656 673657, or via email at dan@seasurvey.co.uk.

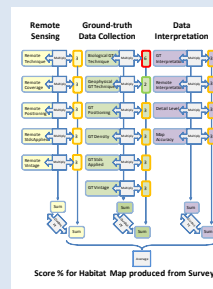


MESL carry out sustainability pre-assessment for the Wash brown and pink shrimp fisheries

The *Fish For Our Future* (FOFF) study group at MESL is currently carrying out a pre-assessment of the brown and pink shrimp fisheries operating in The Wash as part of its campaign to make fisheries sustainable. Matthew Green and Bryony Pearce attended meetings with representatives of the shrimp fishing industry and a review highlighting MESL's involvement in the process was reported in the 1st July 2011 edition of Fishing News. The pre-assessment is being carried out in accordance with Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) guidelines and it is hoped this will initiate improvements in the sustainability of these fisheries, potentially leading to a full MSC sustainability assessment.

Dissemination of research to the wider community

The summer months have been a focus for MESL to disseminate their research findings at key scientific and policy conferences. In June, Caroline Chambers presented a paper at the 1st Marine and Coastal Policy Forum at the University of Plymouth, entitled 'De-mystifying measures of confidence in marine habitat mapping', followed by a presentation given by Bryony Pearce at the 9th International Temperate Reef Symposium, also at the University of Plymouth, entitled 'Invertebrate Diversity Associated with *Sabellaria spinulosa* Reefs in the UK'. Both papers were well received and surprised even those with whom we already work, on our breadth of research and experience. So it is good to talk.....!



Taxonomy Summer School 2011

MESL ran a two-week summer school in July 2011 at the Marine Biological Association (MBA) as part of its new Taxonomy School. During the first week students were guided through field sampling techniques in the intertidal and subtidal marine environments followed by sorting and identification back at the MBA laboratory. The second week focused on identification of marine polychaetes and amphipods, two of the most commonly encountered groups of benthic invertebrates. With a subsequent course in August provided by Prof. John Ryland, the School has now carried out six courses since opening in late 2010. Full details of future courses (for example *Sabellids*, *Serpulids* and *Eunicids* in March 2012) can be found on the taxonomy school page of our website: <http://www.seasurvey.co.uk/taxonomy-school>

New contract for the EAOW project

Following the successful completion of the Zonal and EIA benthic analysis for the East Anglia Offshore Windfarm (EAOW) project, MESL are delighted to announce their continued involvement in this strategically important project. MESL have been commissioned by East Anglia Offshore Wind Limited, through ERM, to complete the benthic and intertidal studies associated with the proposed EAOW cable route. Dr Seiderer, the Managing Director of MESL, said "We are delighted with the recent award of the EAOW Cable Route contract and are very much looking forward to continuing our key involvement in the EAOW project". This award will allow MESL to continue their commitment to the UK's offshore renewable energy programme.



Other developments

Work for the aggregates industry has continued throughout the summer with current work including benthic surveying in the Humber, south coast, east coast and Bristol Channel regions. The award of these contracts enables MESL to further cement their reputation as a leading authority on benthic disturbance ecology. MESL are looking forward to providing their expert consultancy services to the aggregates industry. Work is also progressing on the London Gateway Port Development project, with the completion of several surveys including the ongoing annual benthic monitoring of the outer Thames estuary, and quarterly monitoring of Mucking Flats and Stanford Wharf Nature Reserve.

Students on placement with MESL

MESL welcomed MSc Marine Environmental Management student Tania Woodcock for a 4 week placement and MSc Aquatic Resource Management student Kirsty Ball for a 10 week placement. Both students assisted our 'Fish For Our Future' project in the production of the Pre-Assessment of the Wash brown shrimp fishery for MSC certification. Undergraduate Geography student James Milner also undertook a 3 week placement in the GIS department at MESL creating useful tools for use in ArcGIS as well as investigating certain GIS databases. MESL staff wish all three students the best of luck in their respective careers!



MESL staff meet Sir David Attenborough

The beginning of July brought great excitement to MESL staff when Sir David Attenborough paid a visit to [Topping & Company](#) Booksellers of Bath where he signed copies of his latest book, *New Life Stories*. For many of the staff, Sir David Attenborough is one of their biggest heroes and over the years his inspirational documentaries and books undoubtedly played a role for some in choosing a career in science. Everyone was delighted to meet Sir David and happily took home their signed copy of his book which is full of short stories covering a very diverse range of topics.

And more growth....of a different kind

Congratulations go to one of MESL's Senior Marine Ecologists Dr. Sara Marzialetti who recently gave birth to a healthy baby boy, Peter, weighing 9lb 8oz! MESL wishes Sara and her family all the best!



Can you tell us what these areas are...? Prize for winner!

We have brought some shapes together in a Matisse-esque style. Do you know where any of these areas have been taken from? Think numbers....Extra 'kudos' goes to those who get the Matisse artwork! Answers by email to marine@seasurvey.co.uk. The first correct respondent wins a picnic set. Congratulations go to Rob Clark of the Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority Unit for correctly guessing the photo in the spring edition's competition as *Petromyzon marinus*, Sea Lamprey.