

What constitutes effective governance of recreational fisheries?



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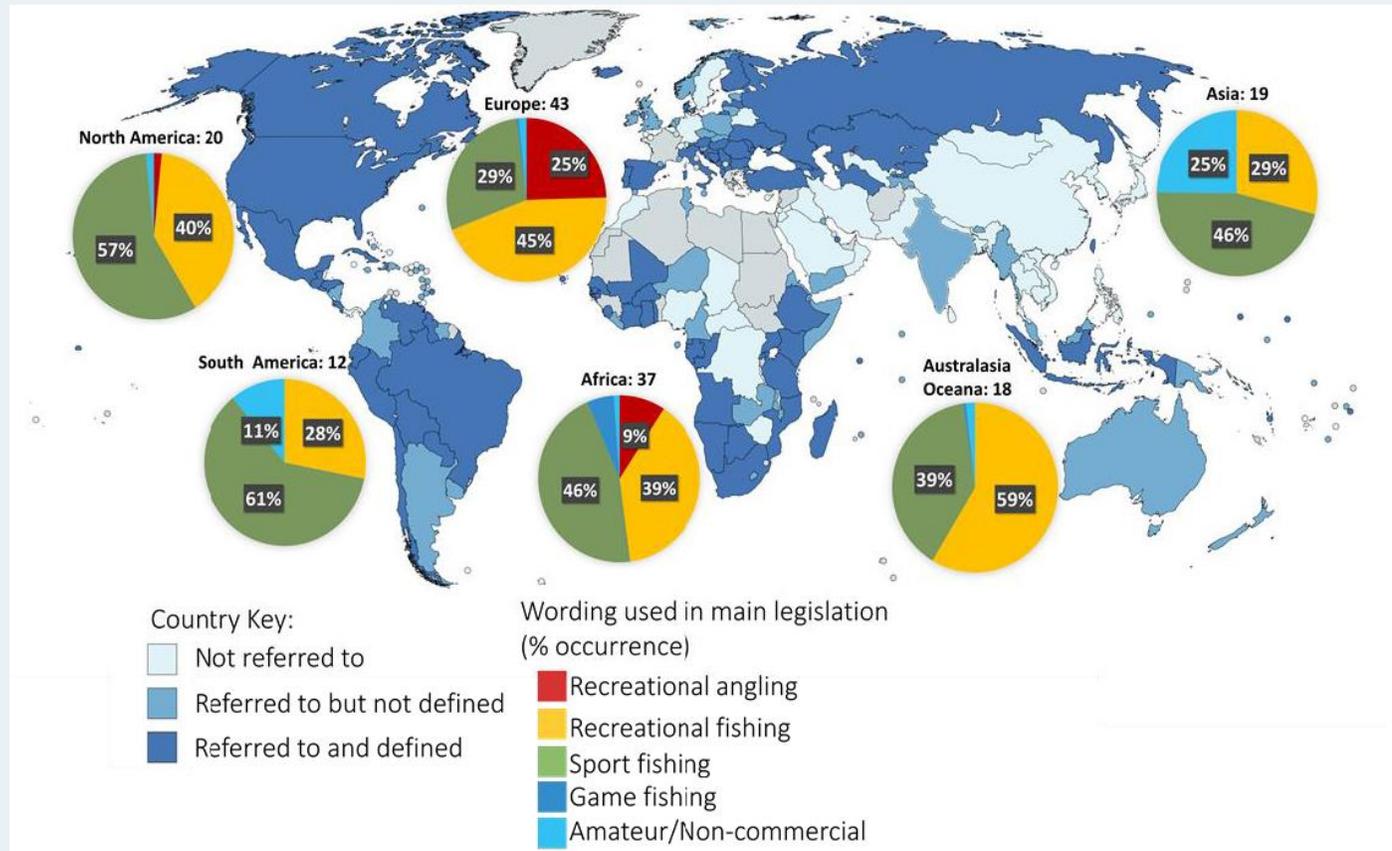
Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (Cefas) & University of East Anglia, UK
Recreational Fisheries & Aquatic Environment Forum, European Parliament, Brussels, 19 February 2020

Outline

- What constitutes effective governance?
- What is the current situation in Europe?
- What is needed in future to become world class?



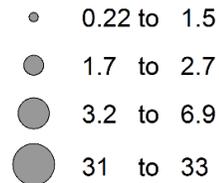
Effective governance of rec fishing



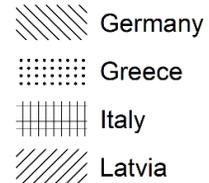
- Global review:
 - Defined in 67% cases
 - Not effectively managed
 - Compliance challenging
 - Rights needed
- Effective governance:
 - Legal definition
 - Policy statement
 - Co-management
 - Biological, economic & social data
 - Cost recovery
 - Balance needs of all users

Important activity in Europe

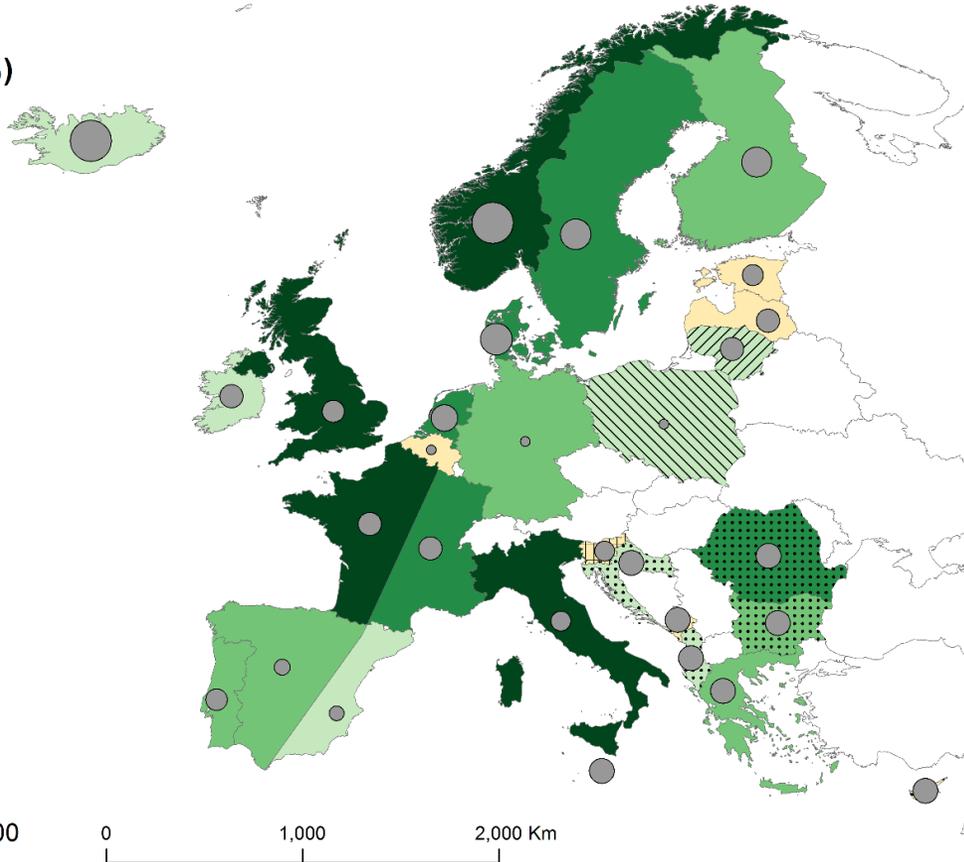
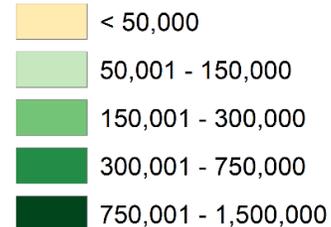
Participation rate (%)



Extrapolation



Numbers of fishers



Category

Total

Numbers (millions)	8.67
Participation (%)	1.60
Activity (million days)	77.6
Days per angler	9.04
Expenditure (billion €)	5.89
Spend per angler (€)	679
Economic impact (billion €)	10.5
Number of FTEs (thousands)	97.2



Impacts:

- Stock: 2-43% removals
- Live bait (disease & NNS)
- Lead (sinker loss)

Management paradox



More & bigger fish
(MTS)

VS

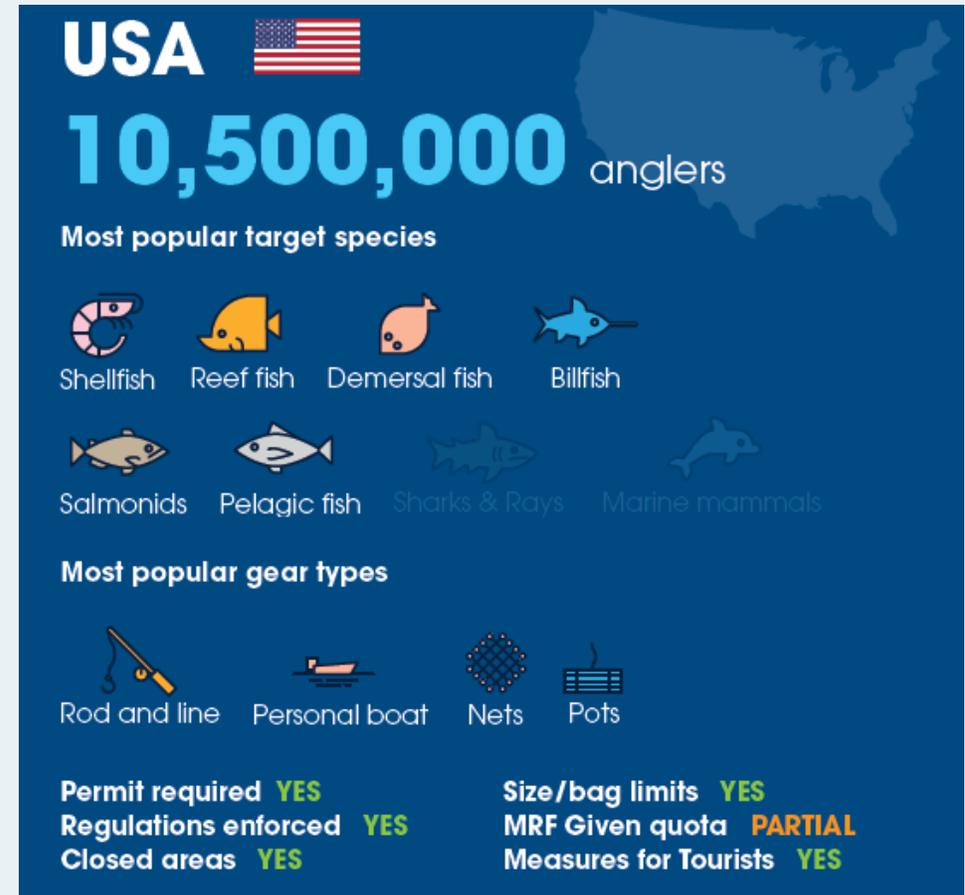


Sustainable catch
(MSY)

Different management objectives need to be accounted for to ensure fair & equitable allocation

Potential to generate more value

- Value & impact recognised (e.g. USA, New Zealand & Australia)
- Benefits: sustainable management; engaged community; & increased income from expenditure & tourism
- Europe: recognise, accept as sector for development, & integrate in CFP



Requires change in European governance



Image from: Cooke et al. (2019) Fisheries Research 94: 845–856.

- Clear policy - full integration in CFP
- Science & evidence available (biological, economic & social)
- Co-management that accounts for social & economic benefits, & adapts to changes (e.g. climate)
- Regular enforcement
- Cost recovery

‘Responsible’ angling community that understand & support control

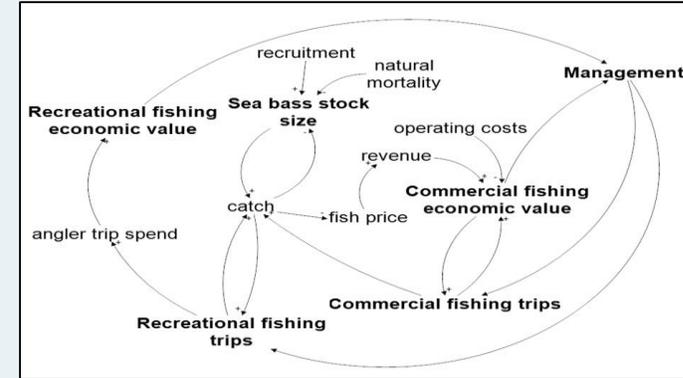
World class fishing opportunities

And new science to underpin policy

Governance (ecosystem, SDGs)



Co-management (data, methods)



Release (survival, ethics)



Human (participation, behaviour)

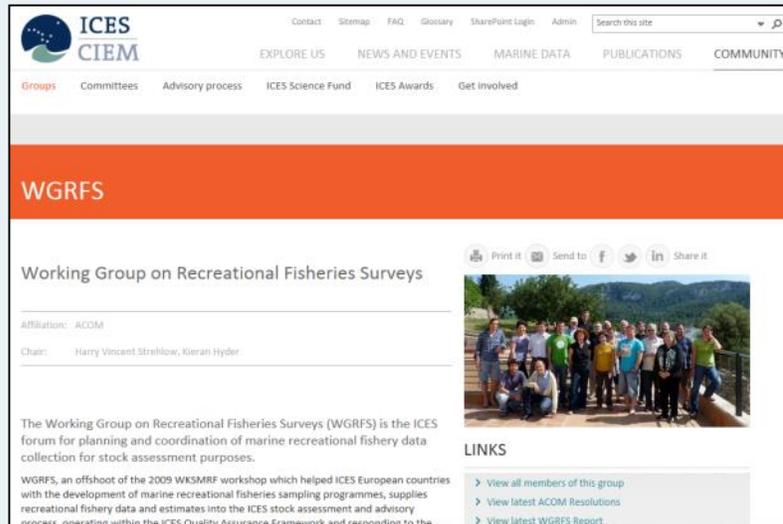
Requires funding – Framework Programme

Summary



- Governance varied, but ‘best practice’ exists
- Diverse sector in Europe that is socially, economically & ecologically important
- Mixed commercial & recreational fisheries need to account for different management objectives
- Increasing value possible if integrated in future CFP & provide world class fishing opportunities
- Responsible angling community that support control
- New science needed to underpin policy

Thanks for your attention!



[ICES Working Group on Recreational Fisheries Surveys](https://www.ices.eurymail.com/Working-Group-on-Recreational-Fisheries-Surveys)



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