

News story: Master and vessel owner fined for fisheries offences

Kenneth Savels, master of Belgian beam trawler Van Eyck (Z53) and owner Irina NV (represented by Steven Savels) were sentenced at North Tyneside Magistrates' Court on 26 September 2017 in a prosecution brought by the MMO.

The court heard how the defendants had failed to maintain an accurate logbook by incorrectly recording the area of capture for sole and plaice on several trips in 2015.

On 7 May 2015 the Van Eyck was boarded by MMO officers on a joint patrol with the Isle of Man Fisheries Department in Welsh waters. A diary was found containing details of 12 fishing trips in 2015. The recordings for three of these trips did not corroborate recordings in the logbook.

Both entered not guilty pleas but were found guilty by the judge. Irina NV was ordered to pay a £27,000 fine, £9,115 costs and a £120 victim surcharge. Kenneth Savels was ordered to pay a fine of £3,000 and a £120 victim surcharge.

In sentencing, the judge said:

Taking together all of the evidence for all of the trips, I am satisfied that there are no credible or plausible explanations for the existence of the diary or the inconsistencies between the diary and the log. On each contentious trip there is a clear incentive to misrecord.

A spokesperson for the MMO said:

The court in this case considered these offences to be serious in nature and imposed significant penalties, which recognises the scale of offending that took place in failing to record logbook information correctly.

In these cases the MMO will always take the appropriate action, including prosecution, to ensure offenders do not profit from such illegal activity and to protect fish stocks for the wider fishing industry and future generations.

News story: Fish merchant fined for fisheries offences

Midland Fish Company Ltd, which operates from Fleetwood Fish Market, was sentenced at Blackpool Magistrates' Court on 25 September 2017 in a prosecution brought by the MMO.

The court heard how the company, a registered buyer of first sale fish, had failed to submit sales notes to the MMO within the 48 hour period required by EU regulations.

Investigations by MMO officers revealed a total of 49 sales notes, with a total value of £13,811 and a total weight of 1,875kg were not submitted to the MMO by the company between 23 April 2014 and 29 September 2016.

Director Kenneth Hayton pleaded guilty on behalf of the company and was ordered to pay a fine of £2,500, £2,197.50 costs and a victim surcharge of £170.

A spokesperson for the MMO said:

The requirement to submit sales notes within 48 hours enables the MMO to gain an accurate picture of fish stocks on which to base its fisheries management decisions.

When, as in this case, sales notes are not submitted that picture becomes partial, distorted or inaccurate. This prosecution shows that the MMO will take the appropriate enforcement action to prevent such a situation occurring.

Notice: SY8 2AJ, Mr Gareth Morgan: environmental permit application advertisement

The Environment Agency consults the public on certain applications for waste operations, mining waste operations, installations, water discharge and groundwater activities. The arrangements are explained in its [Public Participation Statement](#)

These notices explain:

- what the application is about
- how you can view the application documents
- when you need to comment by

The Environment Agency will decide:

- whether to grant or refuse the application
 - what conditions to include in the permit (if granted)
-

Notice: HG4 3LT, Potters Farm Production LLP: environmental permit issued

The Environment Agency publish permits that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit and decision document for:

- Operator name: Potters Farm Production LLP
 - Installation name: The Poultry Farm
 - Permit number: EPR/MP3436YV/A001
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Notice: LS9 0NX, Carbon8 Aggregates Limited: environmental permit application advertisement

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