

SRUC Recognition for Crichton's "Baggy" – Prize for meticulous, adaptable, innovative and empathetic scientist

Meticulous, adaptable, innovative and empathetic were the descriptions used about Baggy (Ainslay Bagnall), Principal Technician at SRUC's Crichton Royal Dairy Research and Innovation Centre.

News story: Fine of £5,753 imposed for fisheries offences

On 21 June 2017 James West, owner of the vessel Replenish and its master Stanley Ross pleaded guilty to a breach of the Fisheries Act 1981 at Bodmin Magistrates' Court.

The court heard that in May 2016 when the vessel was fishing in a Biologically Sensitive Area (BSA) in the Celtic Sea targeting nephrops, it was boarded by officers from the Royal Navy vessel HMS Tyne which was carrying out fisheries enforcement duties in the area. During a gear inspection it was found that both port and starboard net codends were within a prohibited mesh size for the BSA, contrary to Section 30(1) Fisheries Act 1982 as read with Article 5(2) of Council Regulation (EC) 494/2002. .

The vessel owner James West was fined £1,000, with £2,051.50 costs and a victim surcharge of £100.

The vessel master Stanley Ross was fined £500, with £2,051.50 costs and a victim surcharge of £50.

A spokesman for the MMO said:

"Nets used in this kind of fishery can shrink over time; as a result nets that were made in permitted mesh size range may shrink to a size that is considered damaging to juvenile fish stocks. It is the responsibility of the vessel master and owner to allow for this and ensure the gear is correct according to the fishing area the vessel is operating in.

The Replenish was fishing in a Biologically Sensitive Area and it is therefore critical to ensure the appropriate fisheries regulations are adhered to in order to protect juvenile fish. This prosecution shows that

when they are not the Marine Management Organisation will take the appropriate action.”

SRUC launches survey into migrant labour in Scottish agriculture

Researchers at SRUC are seeking help from farmers and rural businesses using seasonal migrant labour in Scottish agriculture.

Decision: ABLE Marine Energy Park variation

On 4 April 2017 and 10 May 2017, the MMO received requests from ABLE UK Limited to vary the deemed marine licence contained within Schedule 8 of the ABLE Marine Energy Park Order 2014. MMO’s decision was to vary the deemed marine licence, effective from 23 June 2017.

During this variation the MMO imposed variations to the Deemed Marine Licence (DML) contained within Schedule 8 of the ABLE Marine Energy Park Order 2014. These changes were administrative changes.

Press release: New Chief Scientific Advisor appointed by the MMO

Professor Selina Stead of Newcastle University has been appointed Chief Scientific Advisor (CSA) to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) it has been announced.

Prof. Stead is [Dean, Public Orator and Professor of Marine Governance and Environmental Sciences at Newcastle University](#) and has held a number of senior marine-related appointments.

She joins the MMO with a wealth of skills and experience having worked on

developing innovative marine policy programmes underpinned by interdisciplinary statistical evidence. In her work at Newcastle University she combines natural and social science methods and leads international teams to tackle complex problems such as poverty in coastal areas and marine food insecurity.

Her current and recent research spans marine science and governance of coral reef ecosystems; fisheries management and piracy in East Africa, Oman, Somalia and the UK; sea cucumber biology in South Africa; seaweed aquaculture in Malaysia; community based management in Nigeria, and; marine governance of Small Island Developing States in the Caribbean, Southeast Asia, South Pacific, and the western Indian Ocean.

The post is part-time and Prof. Stead will continue working independently in her outside career to encourage sharing of the latest thinking and learning in marine science, subject to the usual conflict of interest criteria.

Professor Selina Stead, Chief Scientific Advisor to the MMO, said:

I have my dream job as a marine biologist. I have a passionate belief that seas and oceans should be accessible to all.

My career aims are to improve how and why decisions are made for sustainable marine resource management. I look forward to progressing these with the MMO.

John Tuckett, Chief Executive of the MMO, said:

I'm pleased to welcome Professor Stead to the MMO. Her wealth of knowledge and experience will be of great benefit to our ambitions for the future of marine management in UK waters and beyond.

This appointment also represents our commitment to further strengthening our links with the marine science and academic community.

Professor Stead takes up post in June 2017, succeeding Stuart Rogers, Chief Scientist and Executive Director of the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), who fulfilled the role from Spring 2016.

More details about Selina's background and experience are available on [the MMO's website](#).

The MMO is a non-departmental public body. It licences, regulates and plans marine activities in the seas around England so that they're carried out in a sustainable way. The MMO is required by the [Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009](#) to appoint a CSA.