



Tidal Thames Environment and Heritage Conference

The River Users' perspective: Using the river to bring about improvements to the environment

31 January 2019

The North Thames Fisheries Local Action Group

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European Union
European Structural
and Investment Funds



**Marine
Management
Organisation**



**NORTH
THAMES**
FISHERIES LOCAL
ACTION GROUP

- **European Maritime and Fisheries Fund**
 - **Administered by the Marine Management Organisation**
 - **£600,000 allocated to projects for each FLAG**
 - **Individual and specific *Local Development Strategy***
1. **Leigh Port Infrastructure**
 2. **Environmental Monitoring**
 3. **Marketing and Promotion**
 4. **Training, skills and education**
 5. **Culture and Heritage**

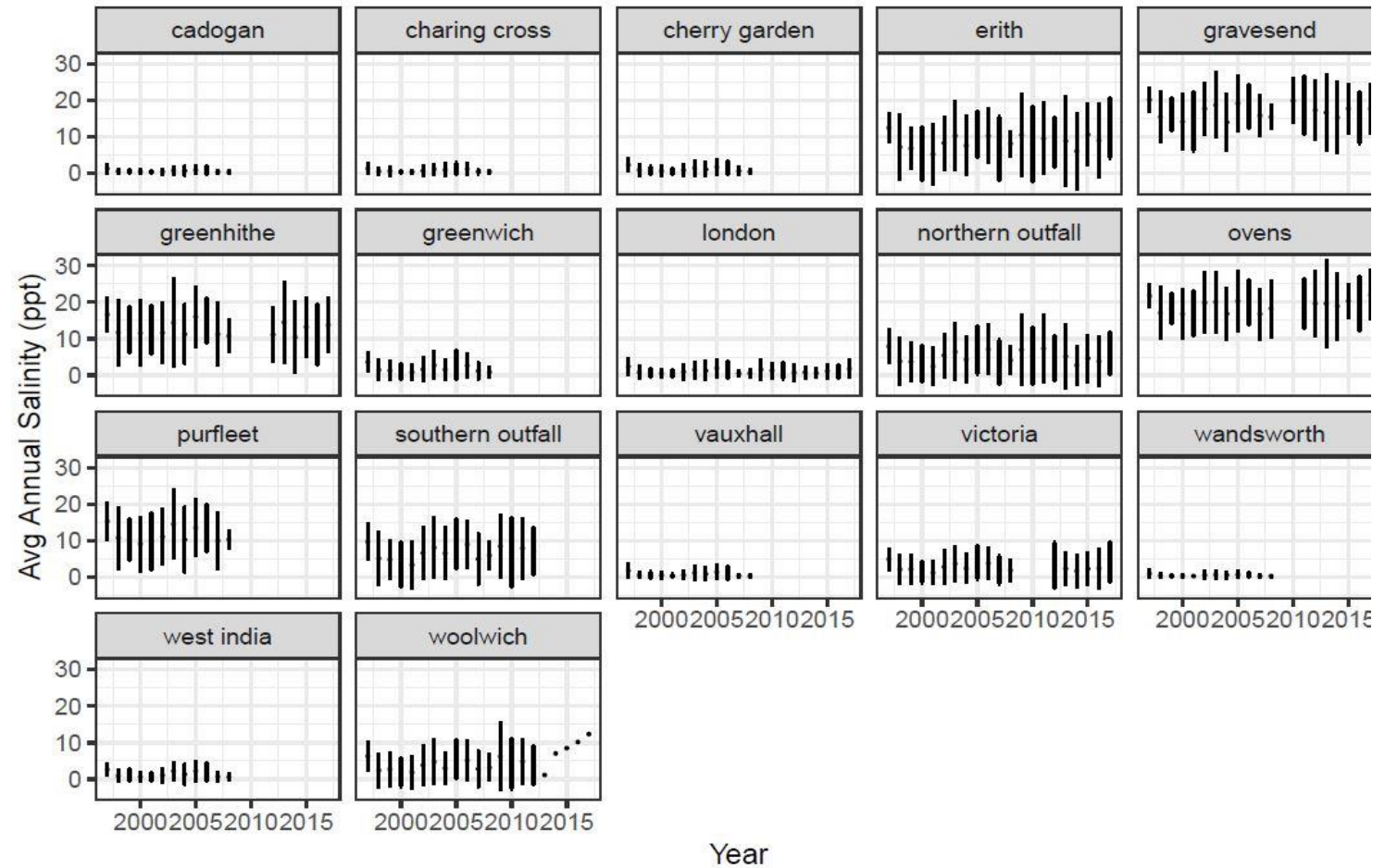
Marine Stewardship Council – Thames Estuary Cockles



- Cockling community in Leigh on Sea + KEIFCA
- Sustainable fishery: low discards, low TAC, seasonal, strict licensing
- 12-16 month process to gain the MSC

Thames Data Collation – Thames Estuary Partnership

- Gap analysis
- Abiotic factors
- Species richness and abundance
- Comparisons with industry anecdotal data
- Future monitoring programme including the anecdotal data
- Building relationships and trust



Marine education and citizen science surveys

Education: Public talks and school sessions, Thames Estuary specific programme



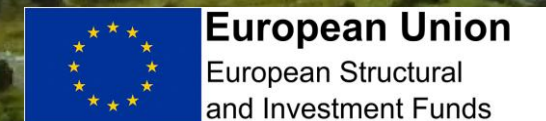
Surveys: local volunteers, estuarine fish survey training, building local fisheries knowledge



Upcoming projects

Funding is closed, projects coming up in 2019:

- Leigh fishing film
- Leigh creek modelling, licenses, regulations
- Revealing the maritime History of Leigh on Sea
- Marketing and branding for local catch
- Safety Equipment
- Fishermen's association website





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