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## Bait For British Open

Regrettably, in last month's feature on the British Open (page 73), we missed out one of the biggest and best tackle shops in the area. So, if you need any tackle or bait for the event, contact North Bay Angling, 84 Promenade, Bridlington, YO15 2QL. Tel: 01262 401144.



## Cod Ban

communities could be destroyed by any further attempts to decommission fleets and campaigners warn that fishermen will resort to increasingly militant action if further cuts are made.

So what is the next step? Well, much will depend on who has the strongest voice over the next few years. This is simply because we have the scientists and environmentalists telling us that some species are on the verge of an unsustainable level, while the fishing fleets say that the same species are recovering, albeit slowly. All we know as anglers is that there are fewer fish in our seas and we are still waiting to see signs of a recovery.

No-take zones would certainly avoid any further collapse in fish stocks. They have worked exceptionally well in other parts of the world, they are easy to police and they ensure future stocks for both the commercial and the recreational sectors.

But if we don't do something about it soon there may come a time when it is simply too late to put it right.

The Main Quota Increases Are:

- 138 per cent increase in Western Channel sole.

- 50 per cent increase in monkfish (North Sea surrounding the north and northwest of Scotland).

- 20 per cent increase in monkfish (Northwest)



## MUSTAD PLEDGES \$15,000 TO TSUNAMI DISASTER FUND

The Mustad Group will make a total contribution of \$15,000, around £8,000, to the victims of the tsunami disaster in South Asia. The company has already donated \$6,000 (£3,200) from the Mustad Company in Singapore to the Singapore Red Cross. Another \$9,000 (£4,800) will be donated from the Mustad Group in Norway through an ongoing fundraising campaign.

Mustad has supplied fishermen in the Indian Ocean with fishing equipment for decades, and Mustad knows the needs of the fishermen in the area.

Together with the FORUIT organisation, which is situated in Gjøvik, Norway, and as part of their Campaign For Development and Solidarity, Mustad will supply communities with the fishing equipment they need to begin harvesting the seas once again.

In this long-term project, Mustad hope to involve all Mustad companies in the region and also its distributors. In communities where the number of fishermen has been drastically reduced, Mustad will work through its local representatives in order to teach the skills required for efficient fishing.

## SEA COULD EXPOSE TOXIC SITE

A seaside community is at risk from coastal erosion, which is also threatening to expose a toxic landfill site.

The 60-year-old site at Trow Quarry in South Shields contains arsenic, cyanide, asbestos and methane pockets. But the cliffside site is at risk of being exposed by erosion from the tides that batter the coastline.

The quarry is owned and managed by the National Trust, which has reassured residents and visitors to the area that there are no short-term risks.



## Dinosaur Alive And Kicking In British Columbia

AT over 400lb, this sturgeon took five of these anglers more than two hours to land after following it downstream for more than a mile!

For many years the Canadian Fraser River's white sturgeon was hunted for food, to the point of virtual extinction. British Columbia should be given a pat on the back and taken as an example of conservation success.

Thanks to an ongoing tag-and-release programme, these mighty creatures are back in abundance and now not only provide valuable data for research into the species, but some of the most intense big-game fishing for thousands of addicted sturgeon anglers.

Recorded to weights in excess of 1,500lb, the white sturgeon is a prehistoric species and a close relative of the shark family. This, coupled with their armour-plated looks, explains why they are known locally as dinos.

The bottom feeders scavenge on the spoils of the Fraser River's huge salmon runs and, as such, the most common baits are balls of salmon eggs, salmon heads and livers. Anglers fishing from boats in the tidal waters can expect anything up to 20 fish to the boat on any one day and, averaging at between 80lb and 200lb, it unsurprisingly makes for mind-blowing sport!

Flights to British Columbia are a bargain from the UK these days and the whole package, including five days of guided fishing, can be had for well under a grand.

For more information, contact: Great River Fishing. Tel: 07870 570767; Web(1): [www.greatriverfishing.co.uk](http://www.greatriverfishing.co.uk); Web(2): [www.greatriverfishing.com](http://www.greatriverfishing.com). E-mail: [info@greatriverfishing.com](mailto:info@greatriverfishing.com).

## GREENPEACE Slam New Cod Quotas

ENVIRONMENTALIST group Greenpeace has slammed the European Union's new fishing quotas, which they say: "Will push cod closer to extinction in British waters."

Under pressure from Tony Blair's Government, EU ministers ignored the scientific advice which called for a halt to cod fishing. It also threw out proposals to close fishing grounds to protect cod stocks.

Greenpeace oceans campaigner Oliver Knowles said: "It's a very simple argument, if fishing for cod in the North Sea is allowed to continue then cod will be wiped out. That

would be bad news for the oceans and the fishing industry. It's inexcusable that the ministers have failed to address this issue with any sort of decisive action.

"If the EU was serious about protecting oceans and the fish, they'd be listening to the scientists and banning cod fishing."

Greenpeace is calling for 40 per cent of the North Sea to be turned into large-scale marine reserves – essentially national parks, but at sea.

Marine reserves would be off-limits to help protect threatened species, such as the cod.



## NFSA Annual General Meeting

The standing committee of the National Federation of Sea Anglers has agreed that the annual general meeting will be held in London on Saturday, May 14th, 2005. Exact details of the venue, along with the agenda and papers, will be circulated during March 2005. For more information, contact the NFSA tel: 01364 644643