

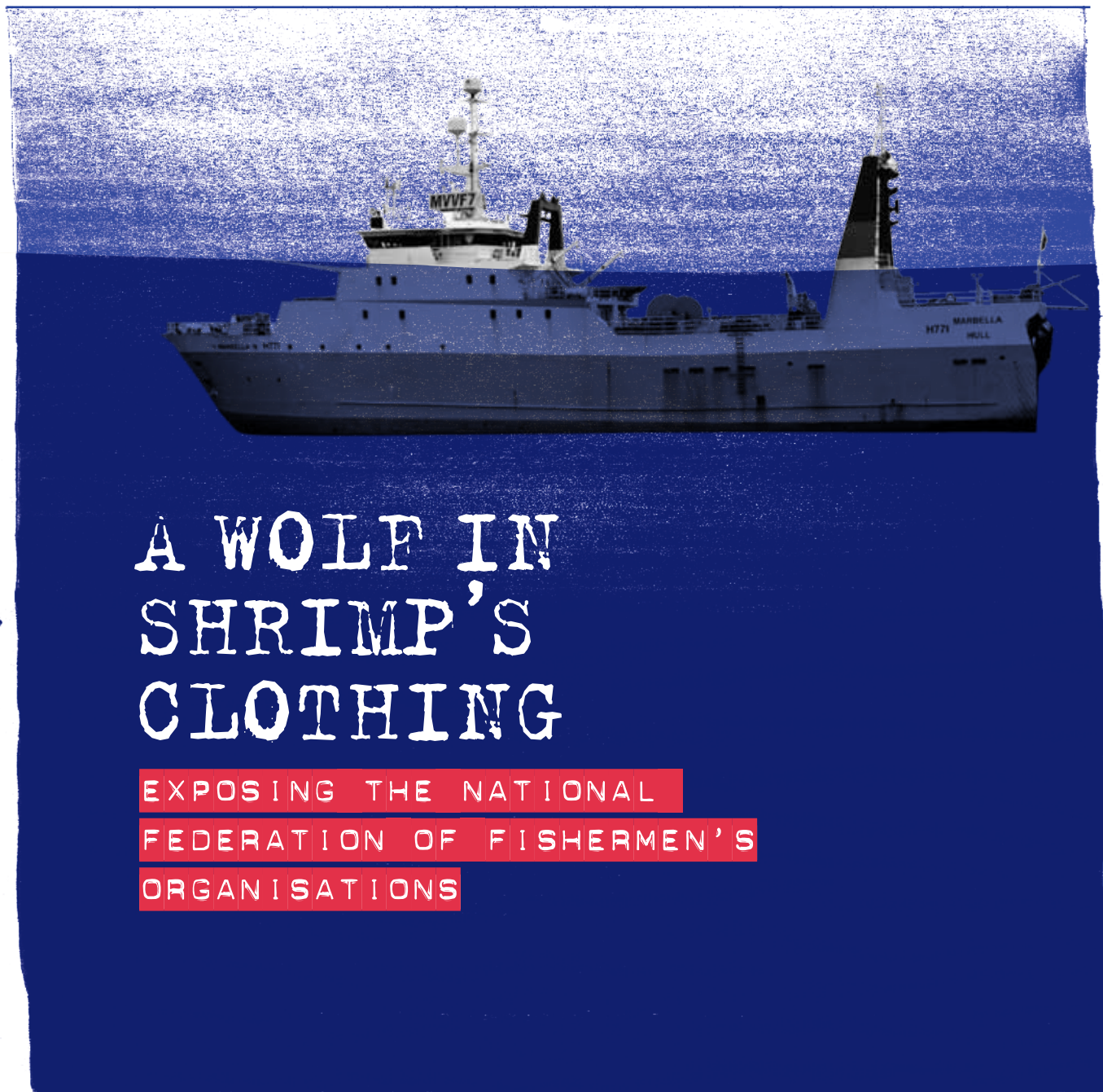
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GREENPEACE

INQUIRER

ISSUE #05 / JANUARY 2013

EXPOSING SEA CRIMES



A WOLF IN
SHRIMP'S
CLOTHING

EXPOSING THE NATIONAL
FEDERATION OF FISHERMEN'S
ORGANISATIONS



THE STORY

Traditional low-impact fishing is in crisis. These fishermen are the lifeblood of our coastal communities both across the UK and in many other European countries. They have been fishing responsibly for generations but are disappearing.

Meanwhile, big fishing businesses are still turning huge profits, while further fishing pressure is being put on our remaining fish stocks. EU fishing laws, which are supposed to support fishing communities and protect the seas, are failing to do either.

But there is a powerful trade body that represents our fishermen's interests in Westminster and Brussels – the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations. It speaks for fishing

interests large and small and puts their case to those who make the laws. Or so it claims. Yet Greenpeace has found that this body has been opposing changes to fishing policies, such as the realignment of fishing quota, which would help precisely the kind of small-scale fishermen they claim to represent.

An in-depth investigation by Greenpeace into the reality behind the NFFO has revealed that it is not what it claims to be:

- Over half of the member vessel's gross tonnage of this supposedly 'national' organisation is controlled by Spanish, Dutch and Icelandic fishing businesses.
- The NFFO is falsely claiming that it has more member associations than it does in reality. 11 out of the 20 Fishermen's Associations listed on their website are either not currently members or do not even exist.
- The NFFO represents vessels involved in illegal fishing, such as the *O Genita*, which is controlled by notorious Spanish fishing barons and was involved in one of the largest cases of illegal fishing in British maritime history.

Read on for more details about what we have discovered...

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Newlyn Harbour, Cornwall. EU fishing laws, which are supposed to support fishing communities and protect the seas, are failing to do either.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE EU

The laws that govern fishing in European seas have failed. This has resulted in the over-exploitation of about two thirds of the fish stocks in European waters and many fishermen face the loss of their livelihoods.

The Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) of the European Union was introduced to ensure a profitable fishing industry and healthy fish stocks. A key element of this is the imposition of fishing quotas to restrict how much fish is caught. The CFP is reformed just once every decade. We are in the middle of another round of changes right now; what is decided during the coming months will affect every fishing community in the UK and in all other European countries.¹ But as the CFP has developed,

the one sector of the fishing industry which tends to use more sustainable fishing practices – small, inshore vessels – seems to have become progressively worse off than every other sector. As a result, it has become harder and harder to operate a small, more sustainable fishing operation.

Why is this happening? Why does it appear to be getting harder for small-scale fishing operations to survive? And why have the people who run those operations lost faith in those who claim to represent them?

THE VOICE

In theory, small fishing operations have a powerful voice in the public sphere – a voice that is vital if their interests are to be heard during renegotiations of the CFP. That voice is the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO). It is the best funded and staffed national level representative body for the fishing industry, and it claims to represent fishing vessels of all sizes in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.²

The stated purpose of the Federation is to ensure that fishermen have a 'strong and

clear voice'³ when decisions that affect them are taken, whether in Westminster or Brussels. Its founding rationale, it says, is to help all 'fishermen to unite'⁴ and 'speak with a single industry voice'.⁵ It presents itself as the national voice of the fishing industry, large and small – 'all sizes and classes of fishing vessel are represented'⁶ – and it has huge lobbying reach.

The NFFO is a powerful voice, and has the ear of government, Parliament and European Parliamentarians. But does it really represent who it claims to?



INVESTIGATING THE NFFO

If the NFFO was really doing its job and representing its members equally, why would the more sustainable sector of the fishing industry, which makes up the majority of the UK fleet, be in such serious decline? And why would so many of these fishermen feel that they are not spoken for? In order to find out, Greenpeace undertook an extensive investigation into the NFFO, in order to see whether the impression that it gives – that it represents English, Welsh and Northern Irish fishermen and all sizes and classes of vessel – is true.

Our first task was to examine who its members were, in order to find out who it was really speaking for. Members of the NFFO fall into three groups: Producer Organisations (POs), which represent mainly vessels over 10m, Fishermen's Associations (FAs), which tend to represent vessels under 10m; and individual vessels, which are not affiliated to any organisation.

A list of all the NFFO vessel members is not available on the organisation's website, and when we asked them to provide us with this information, our request was ignored.

For the POs, we used official data (as of 1 January 2013) from the fishing authorities. For the FAs, we made direct enquiries to the Secretaries, Chairmen or Chief Executives of each association. It was not possible to identify independent vessel members, as this information is not in the public domain, and is only known to the NFFO. Any independent vessel members are therefore not included in this investigation, though according to industry experts, it is unlikely that there are many.⁷ Therefore our findings are indicative and as complete as they can be on the basis of information available to us. We do not claim to have identified every NFFO member in the fleet.

Using a range of databases,⁸ we then looked into the ownership of all these vessels to see who they were being controlled by. This gave a clear – and surprising – result.

WHAT IS A PRODUCER ORGANISATION?

Producer Organisations are regional trade bodies established under the CFP to enable groups of fishermen to market the fish they catch. Many also manage their member vessels' fishing quota. Vessels that are members of an NFFO-affiliated PO are automatically members of the Federation.⁹

WHAT IS A FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION?

Fishermen's Associations are local and generally less formal groups of fishermen which exist to benefit their vessel members.¹⁰

The following findings are presented both according to number of vessels and gross tonnage. Whilst number of vessels is a useful quantitative figure, in many cases the gross tonnage (GT) figure is more meaningful because it is a measure of a vessel's capacity to catch fish, scale of operation, and financial interest in a fishery. Therefore both are used.

UNCOVERING THE TRUTH

Firstly, we can reveal that – though the NFFO claims to speak for English, Welsh and Northern Irish fishermen, giving the impression they represent UK interests – **57% of the gross tonnage of vessels represented by the NFFO is controlled by overseas fishing companies that are either Dutch, Spanish or Icelandic.**¹¹ What this means in practice is that more than half of the NFFO's vessel members' gross tonnage is controlled by non-UK interests. Whilst the NFFO admits to having such interests in its fleet, it does not go anywhere near revealing the extent of them.¹² Interestingly, if measured by number of vessels rather than gross tonnage, these overseas boats total just 42 – just 8% of the NFFO's members. The fact that, by size, they make up over half of the NFFO's tonnage, shows that these boats are overwhelmingly from the large and powerful end of the fleet. **This small but dominant group of 42 vessels together has almost the same gross tonnage as a third of the entire fishing fleet in England, Wales and Northern Ireland put together.**

The fact that, by gross tonnage, over half the NFFO's vessel members are controlled by companies or individuals from the Netherlands, Spain or Iceland, means that these fishing interests are probably being represented twice at an



OVERSEAS CONTROL

Netherlands:

There are 9 vessels which are owned by Dutch entities outright. There are also 6 vessels owned by companies registered in England or Northern Ireland, but these companies are controlled by Dutch entities. Further, there are 9 vessels which are owned by companies registered in Scotland, but these companies are also controlled by Dutch companies.



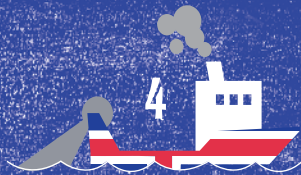
Spain:

There are 11 vessels owned by companies registered in England or Wales, but these companies are controlled by Spanish entities. There are a further 3 vessels owned by companies registered in Scotland, but these companies are also controlled by Spanish entities.



Iceland:

There is one vessel owned by a company registered in England, but this company is in turn owned by an Icelandic company. A further 3 vessels are owned by companies registered in England, but these companies have a long chain of ownership and are ultimately jointly controlled by Dutch and Icelandic companies.



This investigation has revealed that there are 42 vessels that are owned, or ultimately controlled by, overseas companies that are Dutch, Spanish or Icelandic.

Others:

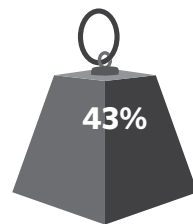
Finally, it is important to note that there are an extra 14 vessels in the NFFO's membership which are owned by companies registered in Scotland, despite the Federation's claims that it represents fishermen and fishing vessels in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

EU level: once through the fishing lobby bodies in their own country and then again through the NFFO, in the UK. It also means that the large UK fishing quota held by this group of vessels is benefitting overseas fishing business owners.

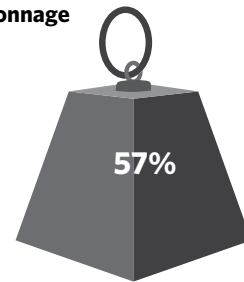
These overseas-controlled vessels that the NFFO represents are so powerful, in fact, that they include the largest vessels in the whole UK fleet, such as the 114m long and 5,579 GT *Cornelis Vrolijk*, the 98m long and 3,229 GT *Atlantic Princess* (both Dutch-controlled) and the 69m long and 2,882 GT *Marbella* (jointly Dutch and Icelandic-controlled).

Further, the majority of the NFFO's subscription income comes from over 10m members,^{13a} in fact 75% does. This is because membership rates are based on the number of Vessel Capacity Units (VCUs) held per vessel,^{13b} and given that the larger boats usually have higher numbers of VCUs, it is clear that a large part of the NFFO's income comes from these overseas-controlled vessels. In fact, from a financial point of view, these vessels are likely to make up the largest bloc in the NFFO. This is where the majority of money from membership rates comes from.

NFFO member vessels by gross tonnage



UK-controlled



Controlled by overseas fishing interests



NFFO member, the Dutch-controlled *Cornelis Vrolijk*
©Joost J. Bakker

'LOCAL FISHERMEN HAVE BEEN LOSING OUT TO BIG BUSINESS FOR YEARS BUT WHAT IS GALLING IS THAT THESE PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS ARE GIVEN SO MUCH QUOTA BY THE UK GOVERNMENT THAT THEY END UP SELLING SOME OF IT OFF TO SPANISH AND FRENCH FISHING COMPANIES, MAKING A TIDY PROFIT IN THE PROCESS.'

Sharon Bowles
Lib Dem MEP, South East

FLEET MATTERS

The NFFO claims that it is the representative body for fishermen in England, Wales and Northern Ireland which gives the impression it represents much of the fleet. But this is misleading.

In our research we discovered that the NFFO's members are both heavily skewed towards the more powerful end of the fleet and represent a fraction of the under 10m fleet. Out of the total number of NFFO members we could identify, just 2% of its vessels, by gross tonnage, are small boats under 10 metres (m) long (254 vessels in total). Vessels over 10m represent 98% of all NFFO members by gross tonnage and over half by number of vessels (293 vessels). This means that the NFFO's membership is dominated by large vessels – they represent the majority of the fishing capacity of the Federation's members.

When we compared the makeup of the NFFO's membership to that of the total fleet in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, we again found that the NFFO's members are not 'representative' of the fleet. Our investigation discovered that the Federation represents just 39% of all vessels over 10m in the fleet, by number, or 54% by gross tonnage. When it comes to vessels under 10m, they represent less than 9%. This works out as 293 out of 752 of vessels over 10m and just 254 out of 2,951 vessels under 10m in the English,

Welsh and Northern Irish fleet. This is despite the fact that vessels under 10m make up 77% of the total UK fleet.

Overall, the NFFO represents just 547 vessels out of 3,743 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. This works out as 15% of the total number of vessels in this fleet, and just over half of its gross tonnage.

Having the mandate to speak for just 254 vessels under 10m in length out of a possible 2,951 suggests that the NFFO might not be greatly motivated to represent this sector's interests both domestically and at the EU level.

Only 15% of the vessels in the UK fleet* are represented by the NFFO

KEY



= 100 boats



NFFO members



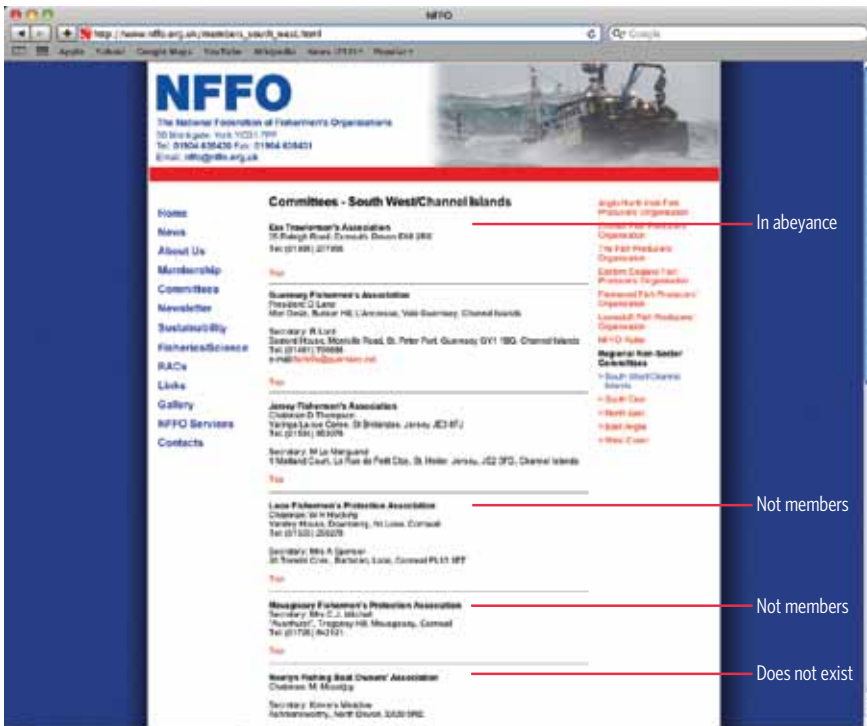
* Not including Scotland, which has their own representative bodies

MISREPRESENTATION

The NFFO website lists 20 fishermen's associations, which are portrayed as members through its regional non-sector committees.¹⁴ We have discovered that, in fact, 11 of these are either not members, have never been members, or do not even exist.¹⁵

'WE HAVE NOT BEEN MEMBERS OF THE NFFO IN THE 7 YEARS THAT I HAVE BEEN CHAIR AND SECRETARY OF THE PLYMOUTH FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION, NOR HAVE WE RECEIVED ANY COMMUNICATIONS FROM THEM. THEIR WEBSITE IS CLEARLY INACCURATE.'

Dave Cuthbert,
Plymouth Fishermen's Association



A section of the membership list on the NFFO website, 23 January 2013

THE NFFO AND ILLEGAL FISHING

The NFFO also represents a vessel involved in one of the biggest cases of illegal fishing in British maritime history. The *O Genita* belongs to one of Spain's most notorious families of fishing barons – the Vidals – which Greenpeace exposed in a separate investigation in 2011.¹⁶



Manuel Antonio Vidal Pego, Spain's notorious fishing baron © Tom Morgan-Jones / Greenpeace

They were convicted in July 2012 by a crown court in Cornwall of lying about the size of their catches, manipulating quotas by swapping fish from one boat to another, and abusing the system for weighing fish at sea, whilst fishing in UK waters, with UK fishing quota. And they were given penalties totaling £1.62 million.¹⁷ This vessel was clearly fishing UK stocks, against the interests of UK fishermen, whilst being represented by the NFFO.

This vessel belongs to Fleetwood PO, which is a member of the NFFO. All of Fleetwood's vessel members are also NFFO members automatically. Since the conviction, the NFFO has remained curiously silent on this matter – expressing no views on what was widely covered in the national press.¹⁸ Fleetwood PO has even defended the vessel in the fishing trade press – despite being the body which, in theory, has the power to sanction the vessel. The Spanish-controlled *O Genita* remains a member of Fleetwood PO and the NFFO, despite its conviction for illegal fishing, with no suggestion it might be forced to leave or be denied further access to fishing in UK waters or with UK fishing quota.



Maria Dolores Vidal Marino and her lawyer leave Truro Crown Court, July 2012 © Greenpeace



The UK-flagged but Spanish-controlled *O Genita*, convicted of illegal fishing and still an NFFO member © Greenpeace

BLOCKING THE INTERESTS OF SMALL-SCALE FISHERMEN

Despite giving the impression that they represent small-scale fishermen and have their best interests at heart, the NFFO is both actively trying to oppose changes that would benefit this group and trying to deny them access to more fishing quota.

For example, the European Commission has begun a review of the composition of influential Regional Advisory Committees (RACs), to ensure they reflect the various groups of stakeholders as closely as possible – in particular, small-scale fleets. RACs are considered to be the main conduit for the fishing industry and other stakeholders to influence EU fishing policy and the best place for representation. **What is shocking, then, is that the NFFO has formally lobbied the Commission not to allow into these committees other organisations that represent small-scale fishermen in the UK, because – they claim – the NFFO**

already does this job and has greater legitimacy. In fact, they say, to do so would undermine the NFFO and cause them ‘a great deal of harm’.¹⁹

Here the NFFO is abusing its influence at a very high level to prevent the fair representation of a major section of the UK fleet. Although the Federation has stated that there remains a problem in the adequate representation of what is a widely diverse and dispersed small-scale fleet,²⁰ it simultaneously tries to discredit the legitimacy of other small-scale representative organisations, and prevent them from being recognized by the Commission. Instead, it says,

existing organisations [such as the NFFO], should be given assistance and financial help by the Commission to get more small-scale members.²¹

Given the findings of our investigation, the NFFO’s claims to having ‘greater legitimacy’ than other organisations are hollow. It is using its influence illegitimately because, as we have shown, its members include just 9% of the small-scale vessels in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. And it is dominated by the interests of its powerful, overseas-controlled members.

Finally, the NFFO, despite giving the impression that it represents the interests of small-scale fishermen, has lobbied the minister against the realignment of a small amount of consistently unused fishing quota from POs to small-scale fishermen:²² a move that could throw a lifeline to some inshore fleets. An organisation called the UK Association of Fish Producer Organisations (UKAFPO) – has brought a legal challenge against the government to stop them from making this re-alignment. UKAFPO includes all of the POs that are part of the NFFO. It is effectively just another name for the same interests. Remember that small-scale, sustainable fishermen make up 77% of the UK fleet, but have access to only 4% of the quota. If the NFFO really had the interests of this sector of the fleet in mind, why is it (wearing its UKAFPO hat) trying to deny them more quota? The answer may perhaps be that its genuine aim is to serve its PO members that overwhelmingly represent larger vessels.

THE NFFO’S VESTED INTERESTS

The NFFO is structured so that it is ‘wholly owned and controlled by its members.’²³ This means that it is controlled by Producer Organisations and Regional Committees (which are made up of Fishermen’s Associations). Eight of the Federation’s members are Producer Organisations and nine are Fishermen’s Associations. The vast majority of the vessels represented by the POs are over 10m. These include

the overseas-controlled NFFO members.

The NFFO is driven by its Executive Committee, and 13 out of 16 seats on that committee are taken up by chairmen and representatives of POs.²⁴ All of this means that the interests of the vessels of POs are undoubtedly the driving force behind the NFFO. Indeed, this is where the majority of the money from membership subscriptions will come from.

On further investigation, we can

also reveal that not only are the majority of vessels represented by the NFFO, by gross tonnage, controlled by Dutch, Spanish and Icelandic fishing interests, but even members of the Federation’s Executive Committee are from the Netherlands and Spain. There are three Dutch individuals and one Spaniard on the NFFO’s Executive Committee.



Hastings, Sussex. Many small-scale fishermen are being put out of business by European policies and UK governance that shuts them out and threatens their livelihoods. © Sandison / Greenpeace

CONCLUSIONS

A crucial sector of the UK's fishing industry is being shut out of the system. This problem is more urgent right now because the overarching rules governing fishing in Europe – the Common Fisheries Policy – are being reformed.

Many fishermen with boats under 10m are facing bankruptcy due to a Common Fisheries Policy and national rules that discriminate against them. With them will go our local fishing communities all around our coasts, along with their heritage and culture. The NFFO, which ought to be defending these communities, has a vested interest in maintaining the status quo because it mainly represents vessels owned by big and overseas fishing businesses, which hold large amounts of fishing quota, and which benefit from the current CFP regime.

What is at stake in this are the health of our seas, people's jobs and livelihoods, and the coastal communities that depend on them. Our small-scale fishing fleet makes up 65% of full time employment at sea in England and generates many shore-

based ancillary jobs, as well as being integral to the social, economic and cultural fabric of coastal communities.

The findings of this investigation show that the NFFO is giving a deeply misleading impression about its work, and who it speaks for. The interests of the large, often overseas-controlled vessels it represents are not the same as those of the small-scale fleet it claims to represent.

This means they cannot represent them fairly in matters such as the allocation of fishing quota, where the interests of the sectors are different.

The NFFO should be honest about who it represents.

The biggest concern is that the NFFO has managed to disguise itself as something it is not, and its claims have given it access to the corridors of power. It is using this power and influence

to uphold the status quo and block change, for example, by trying to prevent other representative fishing organisations from joining influential advisory committees. This power is illegitimate because, as we have shown, they do not represent who they give the impression of representing. They represent only 15% of the fleet in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and a proportion of these vessels are owned by large overseas companies. Have our politicians been hoodwinked by this group?

As it stands, the NFFO is an obstacle standing in the way of a new fisheries policy that could give higher priority to low-impact fishing and reward those who fish more sustainably. Instead of speaking for small-scale fishermen, it is both sidelining them and trying to shut them out.

ACTION NEEDED

Fishermen with vessels under 10 metres do not have the same time, resources or capacity to organise national and EU level representation for themselves in the way that owners of the larger vessels have. It is clear that not only does the NFFO not fulfill this role, but it is actively trying to block other organisations from doing it either.

Effective representation of the small-scale fleet was something that was highlighted by the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs committee in their inquiry into EU fishing policy in February 2012. Amongst other things, the committee recommended that Defra should press the European Commission to ensure the small-scale fleet is properly represented on Advisory Councils.²⁵ This is exactly the thing that the NFFO is trying to prevent.

During the current reform of the Common Fisheries Policy and during change in domestic fisheries management, major sectors of the fleet need to have a voice and be 'in the room'. This is especially true for those vessels that generally fish with a lower impact on the environment. They deserve meaningful representation – through other representative organisations that better serve them – and therefore a chance to positively affect their own future.

'WE CAN'T AFFORD TO BE REPRESENTED AT ALL THESE MEETINGS... IT'S BIG FISHING COMPANIES WHICH HAVE GOT THE INFLUENCE WITH POLITICIANS AND QUOTA MANAGEMENT AND ALL THE REST OF IT, WE'RE JUST SO FAR DOWN THE SCALE.'


Kirk Stribling, Under Ten Fishermen, Aldeburgh, Suffolk

WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN?

- **The NFFO should adopt the principle of transparency and make a full list of its membership public, as well as correct all false claims about Fishermen's Association members.**
- **Organisations that represent the under 10m sector must have better recognition, support and access to decision-makers.**
- **All stakeholders need to be properly represented. The fisheries minister should follow EFRA's recommendation and press the European Commission to ensure the small-scale fleet is properly represented on Advisory Councils.**
- **We need reform of the Common Fisheries Policy that gives fair and preferential access to those that fish with the lowest impact on the marine environment. This should include a reprioritisation of financial support to the development of, and training for, low-impact fishing methods.²⁶**
- **We need a reform of the Common Fisheries Policy which genuinely tackles overfishing and its causes, in particular the excessive fishing capacity within the high-impact fishing sector.**

ENDNOTES

1. In many other European countries, such as Spain, Greece and France, small-scale vessels make up the majority of their fishing fleets. In Spain, for example, there are over 11,000 vessels in their fleet.
2. The Scottish fleet has its own fishing representative bodies.
3. <http://www.nffo.org.uk/index.html>
4. Ibid.
5. http://www.nffo.org.uk/about_us.html
6. Ibid.
7. Communication to Greenpeace from industry experts.
8. A range of maritime sources and databases was used including: the UK Ship Register, Lloyds List Intelligence <http://www.lloydslistintelligence.com>, Sea-Web <http://www.sea-web.com>, Companies House <http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk/> and industry sources.
9. <http://archive.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/fisheries/ww/porg.htm>; http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/market/producer_organisations/index_en.htm; <http://www.nffo.org.uk/membership.html> and Industry Skills work package - Fishing for the Markets, Industry Skills - a map and gap analysis April 2011 <http://www.fishingforthemarkets.com/results.html>
10. Industry Skills work package - Fishing for the Markets, Industry Skills - a map and gap analysis April 2011 <http://www.fishingforthemarkets.com/results.html>
11. GT (Gross Tonnage) is a volumetric measurement of vessel capacity under the rules of the ITC69 (International Tonnage Convention). By the end of 2003 all UK fishing vessels over 15m overall length were required to have their tonnage measured on this basis. http://www.marinemangement.org.uk/fisheries/statistics/documents/ukseafish/2011/structure_activity.pdf p.34
12. http://www.nffo.org.uk/about_us.html
- 13a. Letter from Barrie Deas, NFFO to Ernesto Penas-Lado, Head of Policy Development and Co-ordination, European Commission, 29th June 2012 'Representation on Advisory Committees'
- 13b. <http://www.nffo.org.uk/membership.html>. Vessel capacity units (VCUs) are a measurement of a fishing vessel's capacity - VCUs = (overall length x breadth) + (engine power in kW x 0.45) <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Licensing/FVLS/11285/11286>
14. http://www.nffo.org.uk/members_south_west.html
15. Associations that told us they were not members: Exe Trawlermen's Association (in abeyance); Looe Fishermen's Protection Association; Mevagissey Fishermen's Protection Association; Newlyn Fishing Boat Owner's Association (defunct); Plymouth Fishermen's Association (not member for at least 7 years); South Devon and Channel Shellfishermen Limited (have never been members); King's Lynn Fishermen's Association (now Cooperative Ltd); North Norfolk Shellfishermen's Association & Greater Wash Fishing Industries' Group; Hoylake Fishermen's Association (does not exist); Morecambe & Heysham Fishermen's Association; Southport & North Fishermen's Association (have never been members).
16. Greenpeace report, Wide Open to Abuse: The Common Fisheries Policy, (2011) [http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/sites/files/gpuk/ocean_inquirer_v10_low_res\(1\).pdf](http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/sites/files/gpuk/ocean_inquirer_v10_low_res(1).pdf)
17. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2012/jul/26/anglo-spanish-fishing-fine> and <http://www.itv.com/news/westcountry/story/2012-07-26/spanish-fishing-firms-fined/> and <http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/blog/oceans/biggest-fine-maritime-history-spanish-fishing-barons-uk-20120726> and see Greenpeace report, Wide Open to Abuse: The Common Fisheries Policy, (2011) [http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/sites/files/gpuk/ocean_inquirer_v10_low_res\(1\).pdf](http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/sites/files/gpuk/ocean_inquirer_v10_low_res(1).pdf)
18. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2012/jul/26/spanish-fishermen-fines> <http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/food-and-drink/news/spanish-fish-barons-admit-taking-illegal-catches-in-uk-waters-7964246.html>; <http://www.itv.com/news/westcountry/story/2012-07-26/spanish-fishing-firms-fined>
19. See 13a.
20. Ibid.
21. Ibid.
22. http://www.nffo.org.uk/news/meeting_minister_2012.html
23. <http://www.nffo.org.uk/index.html>
24. See NFFO Executive Committee meeting minutes from 11th May 2012 held by Greenpeace.
25. <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201012/cmselect/cmenvfru/1563/156314.htm>
26. For more, see the Greenpeace Manifesto for Fair Fisheries: http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/sites/files/gpuk/manifesto_for_fair_fisheries_v7.pdf



'THE UNDER 10 METRE FISHING VESSELS EMPLOY FISHING TECHNIQUES THAT ARE MORE SUSTAINABLE SUCH AS THE BAITED LINE TECHNIQUE. THEY ARE ABLE TO BE MORE SELECTIVE WITH WHAT SPECIES OF FISH THEY CATCH AND ARE LESS DISRUPTIVE TO THE ENVIRONMENT. THIS IS WHY WE NEED TO SUPPORT OUR UNDER 10 METRE FISHING FLEET.'

Ashley Fox
Conservative MP, South West

GREENPEACE STANDS FOR POSITIVE CHANGE THROUGH ACTION. WE DEFEND THE NATURAL WORLD AND PROMOTE PEACE.

WE INVESTIGATE, EXPOSE AND CONFRONT ENVIRONMENTAL ABUSE BY GOVERNMENTS AND CORPORATIONS AROUND THE WORLD.

WE CHAMPION ENVIRONMENTALLY AND SOCIALLY JUST SOLUTIONS, INCLUDING SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION.



77% of UK fishing boats are small-scale – under 10m in length – but they are allowed to catch just 4% of the UK's fishing quota. © Greenpeace