

Dr Michael Pawson.

Mike Pawson recently retired as senior fisheries advisor at Cefas, Lowestoft, after 39 years carrying out biological research and providing scientific advice to Defra, the EC and other national and international organisations on fish stock abundance (marine teleosts, elasmobranchs, salmonids and eels), technical conservation measures and fisheries management regulations, and on related monitoring, sampling, survey and research programmes. Between 1974 and 1980, he initiated and led acoustic surveys for blue whiting and mackerel, in L. Turkana, Kenya, and trawl surveys in the North Sea (1975-1979), and then spent 1 year working as an UNESCO Expert in Ichthyology in Tripoli, Libya. From 1980 to 1990, Mike designed and managed MAFF's coastal fisheries programme, implementing biological sampling, trawl surveys, a fishermen's logbook scheme and socio-economic evaluation of sea bass fisheries, and between 1990 and 2000 he led the Cefas Western demersal team, providing analytical assessments and management advice for 12 finfish stocks. During this time he was co-ordinator of the Anglo-French English Channel Fisheries Study Group (1989-1997) and chairman of the ICES Southern Shelf Demersal Stock Assessment Working Group (1996-98), and subsequently chaired the ICES Seabass Study Group (2000-04) and Elasmobranch Study Group (2001-02). He has initiated and managed EU-funded multi-national projects on methods for egg-production stock biomass estimation, bio-geographical identity of English Channel fish stocks, bio-economic modelling of Channel fisheries, development of assessment methods for elasmobranchs, marine recreational fishing in Europe etc.

Mike has provided scientific evaluation, quality assurance and advice to several national and EC-funded projects on fisheries biology, monitoring and assessment, and one of his major roles over the last 15 years has been peer-reviewing papers, reports and manuscripts in preparation. Since 2002, Mike directed and managed the assessment of salmon and eel stocks in England and Wales and provided scientific advice on their conservation. All of Mike's work has been published in refereed Journals, in ICES and EC working group reports, and in contract reports.