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**Review of evidence on the impacts of under 10 m and over 10 m fishing fleets in England, UK.**

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**Abstract**

Over the last 20 years, fisheries management in Europe has increasingly defined groups of fishers by their target species, type of gear used and size of vessel. Some of these categorisations have led to permanent fleet groups with consequences on management decisions such as licences and quota entitlements. In the UK, the segmentation of the under 10 m fleet took off in the last 12 years, initially with shellfish licences and quota stocks after 2004. In order to properly develop policy in relation to the under - and over 10 m fleets in an evidence-based and transparent manner, data and information on the impacts of both fleets is needed. This study synthesises evidence on the economic, social and environmental impacts of the inshore and offshore fleets, and assesses how this evidence can be used in policy making. Results show that most of the data and information required to understand the environmental impacts of the two fleets are available. While these are not necessarily disaggregated by vessel length, it is possible to disaggregate data for some of the variables. Data on the economic contribution of the two fleets at a national level are relatively good and provided through MMO and Seafish economic performance database. Data for most of the economic variables are disaggregated at the level of the under and over 10 m fleets and could therefore be used to compare impacts of the two fleets. Data and information on the social impacts of the two fleets, on the other hand, are usually combined with the economic impacts and studied as 'socio-economic impacts'. Studies focusing solely on social impacts are generally one-off research projects. In conclusion, activity patterns of the over 10 m fleet are generally known. This fleet has been subject to considerable policy and regulatory attention and evidence gathering over many years as it has the greatest share of catches of the most commercially important stocks. The activity patterns of the under 10 m fleet is subject to a lower level of monitoring and reporting. For example, there is some uncertainty over the precision of landings data for the inshore fleet. Depending on the specific management question under consideration, primary studies may be required in the under 10 m fleet.

**Key words:** Inshore fisheries assessment; social and economic impacts; data; inshore and offshore fleets;

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