
Overview

This standard is about being able to work with fisheries data. It covers being able to analyse fish to produce standard forms of fisheries data to support the management of fisheries.

This standard requires the assessment of dead fish using:

1. stomach content analysis
2. internal parasite loading
3. external parasite loading
4. sex and maturation
5. internal gross pathology
6. external gross pathology

This standard requires that you carry out work safely in line with health and safety requirements and that you work to maintain bio-security and minimise environmental disturbance at all times.

The legislation controlling the application of this standard will vary depending on the location of the fishery within England, Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 maintain traceability and control of samples
- P2 prepare samples for analysis according to organisation requirements
- P3 prepare and maintain equipment into a serviceable condition
- P4 use equipment to accurately collect and interpret data
- P5 analyse samples according to standard protocols
- P6 report any observations that fall outside own understanding
- P7 dispose of waste according to organisational procedures
- P8 sterilise and store equipment after use
- P9 accurately record and present data using organisational systems
- P10 complete error checks on data collected

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how to prepare samples for analysis
- K2 how to use standard protocols for ageing and back calculations of growth patterns (scales and using bones)
- K3 how to extract materials to use in ageing
- K4 basic fish physiology
- K5 basic fish anatomy
- K6 how to access additional advice and support
- K7 common fish abnormalities and their causes
- K8 the importance of maintaining bio-security
- K9 common fish parasites (internal and external)
- K10 how to identify and classify stomach contents
- K11 the importance of error checking
- K12 data presentation techniques (length/frequency histograms)
- K13 basic statistical techniques
- K14 units for presenting data

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Suite Fisheries Management

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