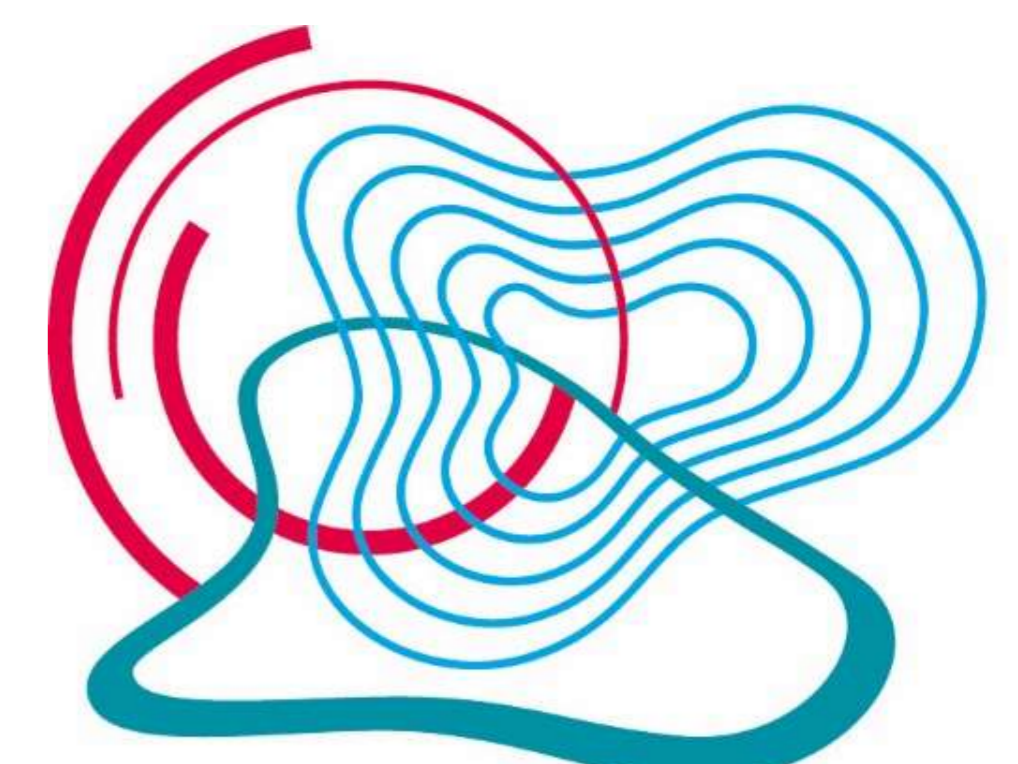


Coastal fishing and fishing culture in the North Sea and Baltic Sea



Helmholtz-Zentrum
hereon

Dr. Andreas Kannen, Dr. Kira Gee, Dr. Jürgen Schaper, Human Dimensions of Coastal Areas, Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, Geesthacht
Dr. Tobias Lasner, Thünen Institute of Sea Fisheries, Future structures of coastal fisheries in the North Sea and Baltic Sea, Bremerhaven
Dr. Fanny Barz, Thünen Institute of Baltic Sea Fisheries, Future structures of coastal fisheries in the North Sea and Baltic Sea, Rostock
Dr. Martin Döring, Institute of Geography and Cluster of Excellence „Climate, Climatic Change, and Society“ (CLICCS), University of Hamburg, Hamburg

Introduction

Coastal fishing as a commercial profession still has the aura of a man's world, where one of the last traditional interactions with marine wildlife takes place. At the same time, fishermen and especially small-scale fisheries in the North and Baltic Seas are currently facing many changes and challenges: Climate change, declining fish stocks, fishing bans in marine protected areas, Brexit, bureaucracy, an aging fleet, lack of successors, Covid-19, and increasing spatial competition, e.g. from offshore wind farms, threaten their long-term social and economic existence. While research often focuses on the technical and economic dimensions, little is known about the social dimensions of fisheries and their influence on the (social) adaptive capacity of small-scale fisheries. To this end, the joint analysis by the Thünen Institute, the University of Hamburg and Hereon examines coastal fisheries and fishing cultures in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea.

Brown shrimp fisheries in Greetsiel (Lower Saxony)



Photos: Jürgen Schaper

Press articles on the current development (March 2023)

GEPLANTES VERBOT VON GRUNDSCHLEPPNETZEN BEDROHT DIE EXISTENZ DER NORDSEEFISCHER

EU-Angriff auf unsere Krabbenbrötchen!

„Von uns wird nix übrig bleiben“ Deutsche Krabbenfischer fürchten wegen EU-Plänen um Existenz

Die EU-Kommission will die Fischerei mit Grundschleppnetzen in Schutzgebieten verbieten. Viele Fanggründe würden wegfallen, so das niedersächsische Landwirtschaftsministerium.

Aktion in Greetsiel

Schwarze Kreuze – Stiller Protest der Fischer nur der Anfang

FANGVERBOT MIT GRUNDSCHLEPPNETZEN

Warum Frieslands Krabbenfischer um ihre Existenz fürchten

Verbot von Grundschleppnetzen
Beschließt Europa das Aus für das Krabbenbrötchen?

NRBOTE

Mehr Schutz für Schweinswal und Seevögel in der Nordsee

Neue Einschränkungen für die Fischerei in der Nordsee

Meereswende in Sicht: Allererste Fischereimaßnahmen in deutschen Nordsee-Schutzgebieten treten in Kraft



Schutzgebiete in der Nordsee – Neue Regeln für die Fischerei

Özdemir bekämpft Totalverbot für Grundschleppnetze



Uncertain future of coastal fishing in Germany

German coastal (brown shrimp) fishers are significantly under pressure from market structures, competition with other fleets and potential area closures in particular due to nature conservation regulations in protected areas and offshore wind farms. This creates existential threats specifically for small family businesses dependent on fishing within the Wadden Sea National Parks.

Providing a perspective for fishers requires an understanding of the emotional and cultural aspects relating to the activity of fishing.

Using computer-supported text analysis of a set of 75 semi-structured interviews and more than 102 hours of audio-files an understanding of the self-perception of fishers, their oral traditions and social challenges is elaborated to support policy development.

Preliminary results show for example that fishers react to oral presentation and discussion, but less to text documents, so planners should aim to talk to them directly

