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Ms Gemma Daniels,
Secretary,
The SAIF Advisory Group
DEFRA

**ANGLING TRUST RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSITION PAPER
“STEPS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE INSHORE FISHERIES”
(Produced by the SAIF Advisory Group, January 21st 2010)**

Dear Ms Daniels

We note the content of the Paper by the Sustainable Access to Inshore Fisheries Advisory Group. However its main thrust appears to focus on sustaining the access to, and maximising the return for the commercial fishery from the already depleted stock, rather than the proposed “Steps towards sustainable inshore fisheries”. This current emphasis seems to 'put the cart before the horse'.

We consider the emphasis must be changed to "Access to Sustainable Inshore Fisheries" with the emphasis on the recovery and restoration of the fish stocks to sustainable levels in the long term, rather than on how to maintain the maximum access and financial return from the existing stock level.

Our view would be that in all these processes it is important to remember that the stocks in question need to be viewed as the common property of the nation as a whole and future generations, not just current participants in the commercial fishing industry.

Yours faithfully,

Mike Heylin
Chairman, Angling Trust