

SC-10c: Historical trials and tribulations of the *Ostrea edulis* fishery in Wales

Wales once had a prolific fishery for the European native oyster, *Ostrea edulis*, which succumbed to overexploitation and disease. The previous knowledge and success of the species has been lost and the spoiled environment is now perceived as normal, known as 'environmental generational amnesia'. Local fishers in the Conwy Estuary would like to develop a historical timeline and descriptive account of the *Ostrea edulis* fishery in Wales to educate the surrounding communities, visitors and to support efforts to restore the important habitat of the European native oyster.



Impact

The collated historical archives will be presented in a display at the Conwy Mussel Museum, and will be made available in reports disseminated online, making them easily accessible to the general public. It is hoped that the museum feature will reignite interest in *Ostrea edulis* and the vital contribution the native oyster fishery made to the local coastal communities and the Welsh economy, and highlight the potential for the future.



Project Officer

Dr. David Smyth is the lead researcher for SC-10c

Project Partner

Conwy
Mussels
Company



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The Shellfish Centre is a research and innovation initiative supporting development of the shellfish sector in Wales. The Centre will collaborate with businesses to deliver science to support growth. The main focus of the project is shellfish aquaculture and the related supply chain, with scope also for research to support new/ underexploited shellfisheries and aquaculture of non-shellfish species that are compatible with shellfish production

A Research & Innovation Initiative: Supporting the development of the Shellfish Sector in Wales

www.shellfish.wales/ / [@shellfishcentre](https://twitter.com/shellfishcentre)

