**Readme file**

**Project code: ES/K001043/1**

The collection contains:

A) Consent form, questionnaires templates and information sheet given to each interviewee before conducting the interview. The file named “questionnaires case studies” contain all the questionnaires used with different categories of stakeholders. A separate questionnaire and separate information sheet were developed for elite interviews conducted in 2015 and they are uploaded as a separate file.

B) 1 zipped file containing all the ‘elite interviews’ conducted in July and August 2015 by Margherita Pieraccini with regulators and conservation bodies in England and Scotland.

C) 3 zipped files with transcripts of interviews made with stakeholders in the three case studies of the project (South-East England, Isles of Scilly and North-West Scotland). More specifically, the South-East zipped file contains the interviews in South-East England with fishermen and a conservation body conducted in April 2013 by Margherita Pieraccini (PI) and also interviews with regulators and follow up interviews with fishermen conducted in summer 2014 led by Margherita Pieraccini, with contributions by Emma Cardwell. The South-East case study extended between Folkestone in Kent and Hastings in Sussex.

The Isles of Scilly case study contains all the interviews conducted with stakeholders in the Isles of Scilly and Cornwall in April 2014 by Margherita Pieraccini.

The South-West Scotland zipped folder contains all the interviews conducted by Emma Cardwell in February 2014 in the Scottish case study area, stretching from Barra in the north west to Arran in the south east.

D) 1 short movie filmed in April 2013 in Hastings containing the opinions of two fishermen (one small-scale and the other recreational) on the designation of tranche 1 Marine Conservation Zones in the Balanced Seas project. Margherita Pieraccini was directing the movie, assembled together with the help of cameraman, Sam Mansfield.

General points: all the interviews were semi-structured interviews, thereby allowing for new questions and points of view to be developed during the interview. The interviews have been anonymised and references to particular names crossed with an X or multiple XXX in the interview text to maintain confidentiality. Finally, each interview transcript file name contains the year in which it was conducted and the role of the interviewee. More or less detail is given on the role dependent interviewees’ wishes.