

# ETN Newsletter



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## ETN IN NUMBERS

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# 01

## ETNews

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*ETN Symposium is on, and no it's not an April Fool's joke!*

Registration and abstract submission for the ETN Symposium is now open! You can find all the relevant information on our [website](#), but here's the down-low:

- When: 13-15 October 2026
- Where: Copenhagen, Denmark
- Hosts: Our very own Kim Birnie-Gauvin (DTU)

Registration is **free** - yes, you read that right! You can register right [here](#).

Abstract submission is also open. You can submit an abstract to one of our six thematic sessions, or the open "tracking" session, right [here](#).

# 02

## ETN R Package glow-up

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*You can now access ETN data from your own computer!*

etn 3.0.0 is the freshly released version of the etn R package, thanks to [Pieter Huybrechts!](#)

The biggest change?

You don't have to use the VLIZ RStudio server anymore! Instead, you store your credentials in an .Renviro file in your project directory, and the database connection is established automatically.

All the changes are neatly described in [this](#) blogpost!

If you run into problems, make an [issue](#) on the github repo.

# 03

## BEACH TREASURES

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*A receiver had a wild adventure across the Kattegat*

Several receivers were deployed at the mouth and estuary of the River Hvering in Denmark to track brown trout smolts and adults as they migrate out of the river and towards the Kattegat Sea. One of those receivers unknowingly began to drift on the 26 June 2025, and drifted across the Kattegat all the way to the Archipelago of Gothenburg (Göteborgs Skärgård) over the course of several months. The receiver met land on 23 November 2025, and was later discovered by beach walkers 25 January 2026.

As if that wasn't enough of a journey, the receiver picked up some interesting pings along the way. Two nearly 1 m long female spiny dogfish tagged by DTU were detected, with sensor information suggesting the fish were swimming at depths of 30 to 210m, at around 12°C. In addition, a bluefin tuna tagged in 2022 was also detected, likely on its way back out towards the North Sea!



Figure 2: Acoustic receiver initially deployed in Danish waters, found on a Swedish beach.

# 04

## ONE FISH, TWO FISH, SMALL FISH, BIG FISH

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*Study reveals size-dependent movement strategies and highlights key aggregation sites*

A recent study by Tambithurai and colleagues tagged and tracked 222 gilt-head seabream between 2019 and 2022 as part of the [CONNECT-MED](#) and [RESMED](#) projects, supported by ETN.

Seabream were found to remain highly localized while foraging in lagoons during the summer, but embarked on long-distance seasonal migrations of more than 180km in the autumn. Detections of tagged fish demonstrated strong site fidelity over the years. Larger fish also showed more complex and dynamic movement networks than smaller fish.

Importantly, the study identified the area around Marseilles (Calanques National Park & Côte Bleue Marine Park) as a major spawning region. These findings highlight the importance of accounting for connectivity year-round, in addition to important habitats, to develop effective fisheries management for this species in the Mediterranean.

Read the full study [here](#).



Figure 3: Gilt-head seabream upon release. Image by R. Dermathon ©

# 05

## Survey time!

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*Help colleagues make better-informed decisions*

**Survey 1** (approx. 20min): The Ocean Tracking Network's International Data Management Committee is conducting a short online survey to gather global perspectives on researcher perceptions and barriers to data sharing and open-access telemetry data. The survey is anonymous and should take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Participants are asked to complete the survey only once.

Access the survey here: [OTN IDMC Survey on Telemetry Data](#)



The Ocean Tracking Network's International Data Management Committee is conducting a short **anonymous survey** to gather global perspectives on researcher perceptions and barriers to **data sharing** and **open-access data**. This online survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Interested participants are asked to only complete the survey once.



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**Survey 2** (approx. 10min): The DTOTrack project would like to invite you to take part in a short survey exploring how acoustic telemetry is currently viewed and used within the offshore sector.

(A brief explanation of the concept is provided in the survey, so no prior knowledge is required.)

We are looking to better understand:

- how acoustic telemetry infrastructure is perceived across the offshore sector,
- whether it aligns with operational and regulatory needs, and
- where you may see potential for future deployment in your development areas.

Your insights are extremely valuable. As someone directly involved in offshore planning, monitoring, or consenting, your perspective will help us identify opportunities where shared or regional acoustic telemetry infrastructure could support both industry and environmental objectives.

The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete:

<https://forms.gle/H8NcrohTfTEgjaYRA>

# 06

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## KEEP AN EYE OUT - UPCOMING EVENTS

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### *Sharks International 2026*

- Sharks International is the global conference for scientists working on sharks, rays and chimaera. In 2026, the conference will take place in Colombo, Sri Lanka, 4-8 May 2026. Find out more [here](#).

### *2026 Pelagic Symposium*

- The 2026 Pelagic Symposium is happening in Mexico City, Mexico, 4-8 May 2026, with the conference theme of "Navigating changes in small pelagic fish and forage communities: climate, ecosystems, and sustainable fisheries". Find out more [here](#).

### *BioMonWeek*

- A new European conference dedicated to advancing biodiversity monitoring is taking place in Montpellier, France, from 4 to 8 May 2026. Find out more [here](#).

### *World Biodiversity Forum*

- Under the theme of 'Leading Transformation Together', the fourth edition of the World Biodiversity Forum WBF will take place from

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Sunday, 14 June to Friday, 19 June 2026 in Davos, Switzerland. Find out more [here](#).

### *Estuarine and Coastal Sciences Association*

- The ECSA61 is happening in Brussels, Belgium, 24-27 August 2026. The meeting aims to bridge the gap between science and policy in estuarine and coastal marine biodiversity. Find out more [here](#).

### *iMARCO 2026*

- The 8th International Marine Connectivity Conference will be held in Vigo, Spain, 2-4 September 2026. There's a session on animal movement called "Species on the move: Movement as a driver of ecological connectivity". Call for abstracts is open, and closes 5 May 2026! Find out more [here](#).

### *Movement Ecology Annual Meeting*

- The Movement Ecology Annual Meeting is happening in Cardiff, UK, 2-3 September 2026, under the theme Movement Dynamics in a Changing World. The deadline for poster or talk abstracts submission is 30th June 2026. Find out more [here](#).

### *2026 ICES Annual Science Conference*

- The 2026 ICES Annual Science Conference will take place in Brest, France, 15-18 September 2026. Call for abstracts is open! Find out more [here](#).

### *ETN Symposium 2026*

- The 4th biennial ETN Symposium will take place 13-15 October 2026 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Registration **and** abstract submissions are open!! Visit our [website](#) for more info 😊

### *International Marine Conservation Congress*

- The 8th International Marine Conservation Congress will be held at the Edinburgh International Conference Center (EICC) November 13-17, 2026. Researchers working alongside policymakers, ocean users, and resource managers come together to share research, tools, and lessons learned that advance marine science, policy, and practice. Find out more [here](#).

### *World Conference on Marine Biodiversity*

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- The 7th edition of the World Conference on Marine Biodiversity will be organized in Bruges between November 17th and 20th 2026. The WCMB 2026 will fly the UN Ocean Decade flag, as it has been endorsed as a UN Ocean Decade Event. The overall theme of the Conference is “The marine biodiversity insights we need, for the ocean we want”. **There is a [session](#) on animal movement, behaviour and biologging!** Find out more [here](#).

# 07

## KEEP IN TOUCH

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*Stay updated; follow us everywhere!*

