

### **Day 3 – 28.11.22**

I must admit, I really did not want to wake up this morning! The tiredness is catching up with me. The 4am starts are really hard, it feels like I go to sleep with sunlight and wake up in darkness, kind of upside down isn't it? The start of my day is left over croissants from yesterday's breakfast with a nice hot cup of tea, to warm my body up for the cold room again. From 4am to 7am was sorting through samples, taking pictures and weights from the species from the RMT nets. In the last post, I mentioned about the bait acoustics. The whole of today was spent sampling all of the bait species that the fishermen caught in the morning, I was mainly observing but did help where it was possible, as I am not competent at this at all. The team collected biological samples of length, weight, sex and maturity and otolith (a bit of a fish's ear). I did get exposure to identifying the sex and maturity of the fish with the help of the team. Myself and Kirsten were in charge of getting a small sample of the different bait species, this will be used later for stable isotopes (which I have no idea about at this moment in time, but once the work gets done I'll let you know).

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