

"It is important that you understand how the food web works when managing a fishery. It is not enough to manage how the fish and fisheries are changing. The availability and quality of food is at least as important", said Lena Bergström, researcher at the Department of Aquatic Resources at the Swedish Agricultural University.

In a collaboration between several universities, the authors of the study examined how the health and abundance of certain species has changed over two decades in the Bothnian Sea and the Baltic Proper, eurekalert.org wrote.

They investigated seal, cod, herring, sprat, isopods, amphipods and zooplankton; species that all occur at different levels in the Baltic Sea food web. The system is complex and several species can be both predators and prey. For example, herring eats zooplankton and some bottom fauna while the herring itself is eaten by cod and seal.

The study primarily shows that there are links between the health of both

Skinny cod, grey seal reveal troubling changes to food web in Baltic Sea



OLLE KARLSSON/eurekalert.org

cod and seal with the availability of bottom-living animals. Regarding the seals, the connection is indirect though the herring it eats is influenced by the availability of the bottom-living animals. In both cases, there is a link to climate change and eutrophication:

"Oxygen levels in Baltic Sea have reduced since the 1990s, in big part due to eutrophication, creating vast oxygen-free areas. This leads to less living

space for the bottom-living prey animals. This has, among other things, led to the fact that the isopods have become fewer and smaller, making them a poorer food choice for cod", said Agnes Karlsson, lead author and researcher at the Department of Ecology, Environment and Plant Sciences (DEEP) at Stockholm University.

The fat content and the mean weight of herring in the Bothnian Sea have,

according to the study, recently improved because of the supply of the bottom-living crustacean, the amphipod, has increased.

"However, the upturn is relative, because the amphipod in the Bothnian Sea collapsed in the early 2000s and what we now see are signs of a recovery", said Karlsson.

The bottom-living crustaceans were almost eliminated after a period of extremely heavy rain that changed the water quality of the Bothnian Sea.

"With climate change it is likely that we will see similar extreme events more frequently in the future. If activities that lead to eutrophication are not reduced, oxygen shortage in the Baltic Sea will likely continue, leading to further reductions in the numbers of bottom-living animals. This can have far reaching effects for the economy, with reference to the fish species that are important commercially. To manage a fishery, we must also manage the environment and the food web", said Bergström.

China smog hotspot Hebei meets air standard for first time in May: Government

China's smog-prone province of Hebei, the country's biggest steel producing region, met a national air quality standard for the first time last month, its environment bureau said on Tuesday.

The heavily industrial province surrounds Beijing and has been on the frontline of a war on pollution since 2014 after toxic smog spread from Hebei to the national capital city, Reuters wrote.

Hebei has converted thousands of households to natural gas from coal, curbed pollution from vehicles and imposed new ultra-low emissions standards on its many steel mills, cement factories and power plants.

In May, Hebei's average concentration of lung-damaging small particles,



REUTERS

known as PM2.5, stood at 33 micrograms per cubic meter, the Hebei Ecology and Environment Bureau said in a notice on Tuesday.

It was the first time that Hebei's monthly average fell below the interim standard of 35 micrograms since China began measuring PM2.5 in 2013, the bureau said.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends average PM2.5 rates of no more than 10 micrograms.

Hebei's overall air pollution index fell 6.6 percent in May compared to the same month last year.

While the province has had success in reducing PM2.5 rates and other air pollutants, concentrations

of ground-level ozone — known as 'sunburn for the lungs' — have continued to rise.

Ozone levels reached 196 micrograms per cubic meter in May, up 5.9 percent from the same month a year ago, the bureau said.

Ozone is caused by the interaction of sunlight with volatile organic compounds found in car exhaust fumes.

Air pollution in China generally eases in May as weather conditions improve and coal consumption falls.

From January to April, PM2.5 rates in Hebei actually rose year on year, raising fears that the war on pollution had stalled amid concerns about China's slowing economy.

2020 Olympic podiums to be made from recycled plastic



AFP

Podiums at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics will be made from plastic waste donated by local residents or collected from the sea, organizers said Tuesday, as part of a sustainability push.

It will be the first time podiums have been made from recycled materials and organizers say they will need about 45 tons of plastic to fashion around 100 podiums for the Games, AFP wrote.

Tokyo 2020 CEO Toshio Muto said the plan would help push a message of sustainability, which organizers want to be a key theme of the Games next year.

"By sending that message to both Japan and the rest of the world, we think this project will have great significance," he told reporters.

Plastic for the project will be gathered at more than

2,000 outlets of a local supermarket chain, where boxes will be set out for Tokyo residents to drop off their recyclable plastic waste.

The project will also use plastic waste that has been collected from the ocean during marine clean-ups.

The 2020 organizers have been keen to promote an eco-friendly message with the games, including making all the medals from recycled electronic waste.

They solicited waste from the public as well as local Japanese industry and business, collecting 2,700 kilograms of bronze, 30.3 kilograms of gold and 4,100 kilograms of silver.

And Japanese athletes competing at the games will also wear an official kit made in part from recycled clothes collected from across the country.

Yorkshire village faces petrochemical giant in anti-fracking fight

A petrochemical company owned by Britain's richest man, Jim Ratcliffe, is attempting to overrule a Yorkshire council to drill a shale gas well next to a sheltered housing development.



theguardian.com

Residents in Woodsetts in Rotherham have crowd-funded £10,000 to pay a lawyer to help them oppose the application by INEOS, one of the world's largest chemical producers and a significant player in the oil and gas market, to carry out test core drilling on a field just outside the village, theguardian.com wrote.

Councillors in Rotherham have twice refused planning permission for the well, citing concerns about highway safety and the lack of information on control of environmental impacts. Denying INEOS for the second time in

September against the advice of their own planners, councillors said they worried about the proximity to Berne Square, which provides housing for people who are elderly or ill.

INEOS has a UK Petroleum Exploration and Development Licence (PEDL) for a field outside Woodsetts, which allows it to pursue a range of oil and gas exploration activities, subject to necessary drilling and development consents and planning permission.

Matthew Wilkinson from Woodsetts Against Fracking said houses in Berne Square backed right on to INEOS's site: "The site would be clearly visible from their homes. You could throw a ball and probably get very close to the well pad."

Three weeks ago INEOS submitted an application to put up a 270-meter-long fence to be an 'acoustic sound barrier' to shield the estate, which has already been dubbed the 'Great Wall of INEOS'.

Residents will feel trapped, claimed Wilkinson: "If somebody sticks a huge wall up outside your house, which it pretty much is, you're going to feel enclosed."

He added: "The 'Great Wall of INEOS' will act like nothing more than a prison wall to the most vulnerable people in our village, obscuring their views, reducing their light and causing stress."

The Conservative government is in favor of fracking and has made it difficult for local councils to deny planning permission to energy firms hoping to crack for shale gas. To turn down a fracking application, councillors must cite concerns over traffic, noise or environmental impact, rather than an ideological objection to the process of fracking.

TENDER NO.:31-95204-53-092

First Announcement

PERMIT NO:1398.1609

National Iranian South Oilfields Company
AHVAZ-IRAN

National Iranian South Oilfields Company (NISOC) intends
To purchase the following goods:

Items	Material Description	Quantity
01	LINE PIPE API 5L GRADE X52 PSL 2, SEAMLESS BLACK ACCORDING TO IPS - M - PI - 190(3) SUPPLEMENTED TO API, 5L, 45TH EDITION 2012, BASIC OXYGEN OR ELECTRIC FURNACE PROCESS, FULLY KILLED & FINE GRAIN, IN RANDOM LENGTHS OF, M, FROM MIN. 10 MAX 12.8 MIN LENGTH, MIN AVG 12.11.6M IN LENGTH WITH A MINIMUM OF 95% OF PIPES BETWEEN (12.2MM IN LENGTH) DAUB OF FULLY, CIRCUMFERENTIAL PAINT STRIP ON INSIDE SURFACE AT BOTH ENDS, OF EACH PIPE CAP 8BEVEL & PROTECTOR ARE REQUIRED FOR EACH, PIPE SUPPLIED BARE (UNOILED, DELIVERY CONDITION OF PIPES, IS NORMALIZE, (N OTHERWISE SHALL BE APPROVED BY CLIENT, PRODUCT, INSPECTION SHALL BE DONE BY APPROVED THIRD PARTY INSPECTOR ACCORDING TO 'NISOC/ MPS, QCP, ITP- 1394 REW.1 DATED 2016/03/05 NOW, PIPE SIZE OD (IN) PIPE (OD(MM), PIPE SCH, PIPE WT(MM) PIPE WEIGHT (KG/M AS SPECIFIED, SERVICE CONDITION: SOUR SERVICE PIPE END BEVELED FOR WELDING AT ANGLE OF 30 DEG (+5.0) WT 22MM, 12 IN. 323.8MM OD, WT.11.13MM, WEIGHT 85.82 KG/M NOTE: TECH. EVALUATION SHOULD BE DONE BY END USER (E&C OIL&GAS PLANTS, MECH. ENG. AHVAZ) ATTENTION: THE ABOVE ITEMS HAVE TO BE MANUFACTURED IN ACCORDANCE WITH NACE STANDARD MR 0175/ISO 15156 (METRA 58000)	5000

Qualitative Assessment Form no. 2, available at: www.nisoc.ir not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 298,534 EURO or 14,038,000,000 rial, in favor of NISOC. Tender Conditions, Material technical thorough specifications and Qualitative Assessment Forms can be accessed via: www.nisoc.ir -material procurement management tab

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