

# Tales of the Tide: the archaeology and cultural heritage of fish weir traditions

## Organizer

Name: Paul Montgomery  
Affiliation: TCD Dublin  
E-mail: paulmontgomery291@hotmail.com

## Co-organizers

Name: Magdalena Nowakowska  
Affiliation: University of Warsaw, Poland

## Session Description

Fish weirs, in their many forms, have been part of human development across the globe in diverse ecology zones and have heavily shaped human interaction with the marine environment. As tools of protein acquisition and playing important social and cultural functions for coastal communities, they have been present in the maritime landscape for the past 12,000 years and are most likely much older. Within this story, fish weirs, both stone and wood, have appeared in the archaeological record and are present in our contemporary period across coastal communities around the globe as part of their wider subsistence and resilient approach to living in balance and harmony with the natural and the spiritual world.

This session invites researchers and scholars interested in bringing together streams of cultural heritage and the context of fishing and fish weirs to share their perspectives on interactions between humans and oceans. This session will attempt to bring aspects of both Indigenous folklore, archaeological and historical evidence for this activity as well as encourage a fusion of non-indigenous evidence in the form of art, cartography, and exploration narratives, which recorded many of these traditions in their first interaction with the Indigenous communities. This activity brings together and fuses modern scientific differences as well as a repository of cultural traditions interwoven with the history of communities and our world's marine ecology.

## Keywords

Fish Weirs; Indigenous Communities; Climate Change; Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK); Underwater Cultural Heritage (UCH)