Toolkit for challenging the management of fishing in Natura 2000 marine sites

Key scientific references to show damage to reefs, maerl, and rich sandbank features:

Legal briefings and analysis of issues:
1. Interpretation of article 6(2) and 6(3) - ClientEarth briefing series.
2. A document setting out the main legal arguments that can be used in a campaign and/or correspondence with regulators.
4. A sample letter to regulators (available upon request).

What you might borrow from the English approach...:
1. The development of a ‘new’ precautionary approach by UK government (policy documents from government).
2. The matrix of SAC ‘FEATURE’ Vs ‘FISHING GEAR’ vulnerability (linked excel spreadsheet)
3. Specific habitat papers (from sandbanks to reefs) detailing damage risk evidence from UK government.
4. A list of the specific location (site names) of sites where high risk (red) features are, and where they were protected from bottom towed fishing gears between December 2013 and May 2014.
5. This presentation of the history of the case also given at a recent EU N2K marine conference (St Malo, May 2015).

Documents from the EU Marine Expert Group:
1. A feature-gear interaction matrix, which identifies activities that could have a priori significant negative impacts on features for which Natura 2000 sites have been selected (extracted from this report).

You can also watch the webinar on a ‘Guide to Consistent Protection Across Europe from Destructive Fishing in EU Natura 2000 Sites’ presented by MCS and ClientEarth on 14 July 2015.