

# D&S IFCA - Notice to Permit Holders

## Data Stick

Dear Mobile Fishing Permit Holder

Whilst undertaking an investigation into a suspected access offence recently, Officers from D&SIFCA have been informed that an USB memory stick is reportedly in circulation among the towed gear sector which has the areas closed to demersal mobile fishing gear loaded on it.

Based on the investigation so far, D&S IFCA is writing to inform you that the information contained on this memory stick may not be contain all of the closed areas and if relied upon could lead to you undertaking illegal fishing activities.

The Annexes that contain all of the co-ordinates for the areas closed to demersal towed gears are included in your permit condition and can also be found on D&S IFCA's website:

<https://www.devonandsevernifca.gov.uk/Enforcement-Legislation/Current-Permit-Byelaws-Permit-Conditions>

It is important that you check that the co-ordinates on your vessel's plotter are the same as those listed in the Annexes. Complying with all relevant legislation is the responsibility of the Owner, Master and Charter of any fishing vessel.

D&S IFCA is working in collaboration with SEAFISH on a project aimed at producing an interactive webmap, accessible through any platform including an updatable data stick for use with plotters, that contains ALL national Marine Protected Areas. For the D&S IFCA permit holders this will go further to include ALL spatial management measures within the D&S District. It is hoped this project will reach completion in October 2021.

If you wish to discuss any matter raised in this Notice or have other permit related questions that you would wish to raise with D&S IFCA, please contact D&S IFCA, preferably by email, [office@devonandsevernifca.gov.uk](mailto:office@devonandsevernifca.gov.uk) or by phone 01803 854648. If you wish to report any suspicious or illegal fishing activity, please call the Duty Phone on 07740 175479

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