

7.8 Specified Information – Logbooks

Officers' Recommendation

That a requirement for a Logbook to be completed and retained by fishers is not included within a Category One Mobile Fishing Permit.

Background

On 24th February 2022, the B&PSC were presented with an [Officers' paper](#) that provided an update on drafting work conducted by the Byelaw Technical Working Group. The Officers' paper included a recommendation that new restrictions are applied within a new "Specified Information" section of both Category One and Category Two Permit Conditions.

One, but not the only element of a "Specified Information" section in a Category One Mobile Fishing Permit could have been the inclusion of a "logbook". The inclusion of a "logbook" would require fishers to keep records of specific information in their fishing diaries which must also be retained for a minimum of twelve months. Members were informed that the requirements of a "logbook" as a Permit Condition, were envisaged to include the following:

- a) Name of the Relevant Fishing Vessel and the Port Letters and Numbers;
- b) The Relevant Fishing Vessel's Master's full name, address, and date of birth
- c) Date and time of departure from port
- d) Date and time of arrival port
- e) Duration of the Fishing trip.
- f) Start and end times of each tow.

Concerns of the B&PSC and Decision Making

On 24th February 2022, the B&PSC agreed that a new section within the Permit Conditions "Specified Information" should be included in ongoing drafting work; however, the required detail including logbooks, was not determined at that time. Members raised concern that a requirement for "logbook" information, as set out above, would be overly burdensome to fishers as the information could be available to D&S IFCA. The Marine Management Organisation requires all licensed fishing vessels to submit fishing and catch data via electronic logbooks or the 'Catch App'. Officers have now investigated the scope of the Catch App and determined that the fields that require entry by fishers within the Catch App are sufficient to assist with any potential investigation or fisheries management work.

Officers' Comments and Rationale for the Recommendation

- *The inclusion of a logbook as a permit condition represents unnecessary duplication and is available from other sources*
- *Previous legal advice indicated that duplication of legislation requirement should be avoided.*

Background Papers & Hyperlinks

Officers' Paper from 24th February 2022 - ([Agenda Item 8 – Developing the Mobile Fishing Permit Byelaw & Associated Permit Conditions](#)).