

7.9 Specified Information – Catch Data (Exe Estuary)

Officer Recommendation

To introduce a requirement for fishers (working under a Category Two Permit for mussel within the Exe Estuary) to supply information regarding the removal and relaying of mussel within the public fishery.

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.

The Officers' paper highlighted that the potential exists to expand the content of a Category Two (Estuary) Mobile Fishing Permit regarding the requirement for fishers to supply catch information to the Authority.

Fishers in the Salcombe Estuary that fish with a Category Two Mobile Fishing Permit are already required to submit information to the Authority including the total number of scallop landed in the authorised fishing period. Fishers in the Exe Estuary that fish for mussel in the public fishery currently have no such requirement.

Due to the nature of the Exe Estuary mussel fishery Officers can see value in requiring fishers to provide information on both the weight of mussel removed from the fishery and the weight of mussel relayed to the fishery.

Officers' Comments and Rationale for the Recommendation

- It is the view of Officer's that the inclusion of this requirement balances the requirements of fishers working in both Salcombe and the Exe Estuary
- The provision of this information will improve the Authority understanding of the level of activity in this public fishery.

Background Papers & Hyperlinks

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

End.