## **Devon and Severn IFCA News**

# **Amended Potting Permits**

D&S IFCA is in the process of issuing Potting Permit Conditions with an amendment that is relevant to fishers engaged in the Live Wrasse Pot Fishery





Following a review of the Potting Permit Conditions, changes have been made to all D&S IFCA Potting Permits. D&S IFCA is now in the process of issuing amended Potting Permits to commercial and recreational potters.

#### The Amendment

The amendment is only relevant to commercial fishers who are also authorised to engage in the Live Wrasse Pot Fishery.

Paragraph 2.6.2 (a) has been amended as follows:

A permit holder or named representative is not authorised to remove live wrasse within the District other than within the size ranges as set out in (a-d) below:

a) ballan wrasse less than **180mm or greater than 260mm**, measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail fin:

There are no other changes to (b, c, and d) in paragraph 2.6.2 of the Potting Permit Conditions.

Within each Potting Permit there is also a schedule that provides guidance on the measurement of a marine organism. Although not a permit condition, this schedule has also been amended in line with the change to the slot size for ballan wrasse. It now reads:

Please note that fishers engaged in the Live Wrasse Pot Fishery are subjected to specific permit conditions that relate to a slot size for live wrasse species.

ballan wrasse must be between 180mm and 260mm in length.

#### **What Happens Now?**

The amended Potting Permits will be valid from 9<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and will remain valid until the expiry date as set out on each individual Potting Permit. Permit holders that have supplied an email address will receive their amended Potting Permits electronically free of charge. Others

with no email address will receive their amended Potting Permits via the post free of charge. D&S IFCA has also updated its Policy Statement for the Live Wrasse Fishery.

The amended Potting Permit Conditions can be viewed here.

### Why Make the Change?

D&S IFCA undertakes a regular review of the Live Wrasse Pot Fishery. After reviewing the findings of D&S IFCA's research work in February 2021, the Byelaw & Permitting Sub-Committee (B&PSC) concluded that a change to the Potting Permit Conditions would be appropriate.

A consultation was undertaken by D&S IFCA (that ended on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021) which highlighted the proposed change to the Potting Permit Conditions. The findings of the consultation can be read <u>here</u> and an Officers' paper relating to the decision making of the B&PSC can be read <u>here</u>. On 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021, the B&PSC agreed to the change as set out in the consultation.

#### **More Information**

If you have any questions relating to the change, please contact D&S IFCA.

If you don't have a Potting Permit but would like to apply for one, this can be done <u>online</u> or by contacting D&S IFCA and completing an application form.

All papers referred to at B&PSC meetings are displayed on the D&S IFCA website, with the most recent appearing on the <u>Authority Meetings</u> display page. An even larger collection of B&PSC papers and past minutes of meetings can be found in our website <u>Resource Library</u> – Section B.

You can be added to our list of contacts by contacting D&S IFCA. Those on our contacts list will be directly notified by email about all our consultation work. Those on our list of contacts have on-going choices including receiving our free e-newsletter.