Devon and Severn IFCA News

Bass Restrictions for 2019

In 2019 between the 1st April and 31st October the restrictions for catching bass by recreational fishers is one per person per day.



Following the December Council of Fisheries meeting, the new TAC (Total Allowable Catch) regulations have been published. For recreational fishers a bag limit of one European Sea Bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) per day from the 1st April to 31st October 2019 will be implemented.

The Marine Management Organisation have published the <u>revised rules for 2019</u> in a news story.

What does this mean?

- Between 1st January and 31st March 2019, it is <u>catch and release only</u> for recreational fishers
- Between 1st April and 31st October 2019, a bag limit of one fish per day is allowed
- Between 1st November and 31st December 2019, it is <u>catch and release only</u> for recreational fishers

During the periods of catch and release, recreational fishers are not allowed to retain any Bass. Any Bass caught must be immediately returned to the water. Although not a specific D&S IFCA Byelaw, IFCA officers can assist the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) in enforcing this EU Bass legislation. The amended Regulation can be viewed in full online <u>here</u>.

The Minimum Conservation Reference Size (MCRS) for Bass remains at **42cm**. For a list of fish and shellfish sizes, see our <u>Minimum Size Guide</u>.

Should you require any further clarification please contact the office on 01803 854648 or the Marine Management Organisation.

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