

Devon and Severn IFCA News

Commercial & Recreational Sea Bass Fishing Guidance

Updated Bass catch restrictions for the commercial sector – Updated 25th May 2022

As of the 25th of May 2022, the Council Regulation (EU) 2020/123 has been amended to reflect new catch limits.



What has changed?

The Council regulation (EU) 2020/123 fixing for 2020 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters is amended as follows.

- **Demersal trawls and seines- unavoidable bycatch not exceeding 760kg in any two consecutive months and 5% of the weight of total catches per trip.**
- **Hooks and lines- not exceeding 5.95 tonnes per vessel per year**
- **Fixed gillnets – by-catches not exceeding 1.5 tonnes per vessel per year**

Recreational Fishing

It is important to note that the regulations regarding recreational Bass fishing have not changed and remain the same. Key restrictions include the following:

- Bass may only be retained between 1st March and the end of November in each calendar year.
- Two Bass may be retained per person, per day within this period.
- Bass retained must measure at least the Minimum Conservation Reference Size of 42cm in length.
- Fixed nets cannot be used to catch or retain Bass.
- These rules apply when fishing from a boat or from the shore.

More Information

If you wish to seek further information about Bass restrictions please click [here](#) to visit the Marine Management Organisation website page.

Please click [here](#) to visit the D&S IFCA Bass Compliance Direction website page.

You can subscribe to our free E-newsletter by contacting D&S IFCA.