## **Devon and Severn IFCA News**

## **D&S IFCA Officers Patrol... and Beach Clean**





D&S IFCA Officers recently conducted a recent patrol of the fishing villages and towns of East Devon. One of the main aims of the patrol was to monitor and carry out inspections on the small day boats that operate along the coast. One of the main methods of fishing used by these boats is potting for crab and lobster, therefore any potters operating need to comply with the D&S IFCA Potting Permit Byelaw.

The D&S IFCA Potting Permit Byelaw was brought in to manage potting activities within the D&S IFCA District. This byelaw brought in the need for anyone (commercial and recreational) wishing to fish with pots to possess a D&S IFCA Potting Permit. The Permit contains a number of conditions of use and has separate Annexes (charts) to help manage and regulate potting activity. A Potting Permit costs £20 and is valid for 2 years.

While waiting for boats to return to Beer Beach, Officers took it upon themselves to do some litter picking, using litter pickers and bags hung up by the Beach Office. Amongst the items found included a single use coffee cup, plastic bottles and bits of old fishing nets. Keeping Britain's beaches clean is very important to protect wildlife as well as tourism and the fishing industry. If you would like to get involved in a Beach Clean then check out the Marine Conservation Society's <a href="Beachwatch">Beachwatch</a> page, where you can sign up to local beach cleans or organise your own.

## **Reporting Suspicious Activity**

We use the intelligence we receive to target our enforcement work.

If you see any suspicious fishing within the D&S IFCA then please report it directly to us, anonymously on 07740 175479.

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