

Providing a Choice of Remotely Accessed Electronic Reporting Devices (iVMS/VMS) – Have Your Say

Have your say on potential on changes to Category One Mobile Fishing Permit Conditions that will give owners of vessels under 12 metres in length a greater choice on which device to have fitted to their vessels.

D&S IFCA is directly contacting all Category One Mobile Fishing Gear Permit Holders to inform them about the Authority's intention to amend the Category One (at sea) Mobile Fishing Permit Conditions. The changes only relate to what remotely accessed electronic reporting devices (VMS/iVMS) may be fitted and the transmitted positional information. The changes being proposed will allow owners of vessels under 12 metres in length a greater choice of which device to have fitted to their vessel. The suggested changes will not impact any fisher operating under a D&S IFCA Potting, Netting or Diving Permit.

Your view is important, and the circular explains how you and others can participate in the process and have your say if you choose to do so.

Links to Information:

- The circular can be viewed in full [here](#).
- Information is also posted on D&S IFCA's [Engagement & Have Your Say](#) (Active Consultations) website page.

What are the benefits?

The proposed changes will mean that:

- Vessels under 12 metres in length, that do not have an iVMS device fitted, will be able fish in D&S IFCA's District under a Category One Permit, provided that the vessel has fitted an approved and fully operational iVMS device.** (*Owners of such vessels will be able to obtain a type approved iVMS device through the national rollout*)
- Vessels under 12 metres in length, issued with a valid Category One Permit, can continue to fish in D&S IFCA's District if the already fitted iVMS device is fully operational.**
- When vessels under 12 metres in length have new type approved devices fitted, they will be able to fish in D&S IFCA's District if the new device is fully operational.**
- Vessels over 12 metres in length (up to 15.24 metres) do not need to replace their current devices and can continue to fish (under a permit) within D&S IFCA's District provided that the device is fully operational.**

The circular explains how you can have your say and what the next steps will be.

The information gathering exercise ends on **7th February 2022**.