



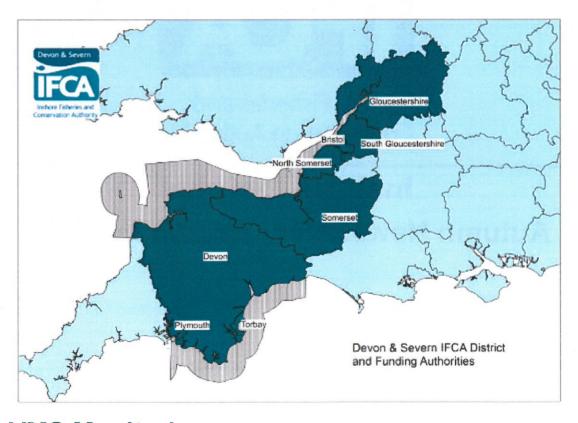


Inshore Insights
Autumn Newsletter - September 2018



New Seabass Project Launched

Working with marine scientists from the University of Plymouth and local stakeholders, an ambitious new <u>sea bass project</u> has been launched to tag and monitor juvenile bass movements within and beyond their nursery areas. The project, using acoustic sensors will create a picture of their movements to investigate why stocks have fallen in the last ten years. Although the project has only recently started, <u>major milestones</u> have already been achieved with this project.



VMS Monitoring

All 84 vessels under 12 metres in overall length, engaged in the towed gear fisheries within the District are now fitted with Vessel Monitoring Systems

(VMS). This will enable our ability to monitor positions of vessels at the frequency of ten minutes or less and will assist with ensuring compliance by the mobile gear fleet.

Data Protection

The new General Data Protection Regulation 2018 came into force at the end of May and we are now fully compliant with these regulations. Stakeholders have been informed of the changes and a copy of our IFCA Privacy Policy has been produced and available to read here.



Enforcement News

The D&S was very grateful to the jury at a recent court case in Gloucester for the close attention they gave to our case, which was lengthy and contained some evidential challenges.

The proceedings have strengthened our resolve to prosecute where necessary and has greatly increased our knowledge of matters to be addressed in evidence in such cases.



Annual Plan

This sets out our ambitious work targets for the next twelve months, with key drivers, objectives and work streams that will direct our focus, resources and decision making for 2018-19.



Illegal Netting Removed

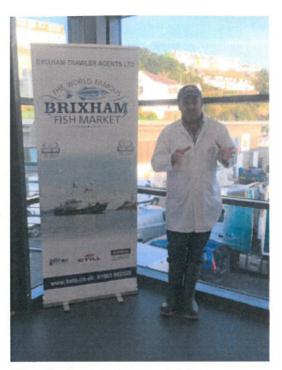
Following a recent report of a net which had come ashore near the Natural Arch, Torquay the ghost fishing net was removed by our officers. It had already trapped some fish which fortunately our officers were able to release. We will now investigate with the aim to find the owner of the net.



FOR RECREATIONAL FISHERS, ANY BASS CAUGHT DURING 2018 MUST BE RETURNED IMMEDIATELY.

Bass Fishing

Please remember, if you're sea fishing, Bass is catch and release only this year for recreational fishers and any caught must be returned to the water immediately. This measure is part of an EU package to rebuild the fishery.



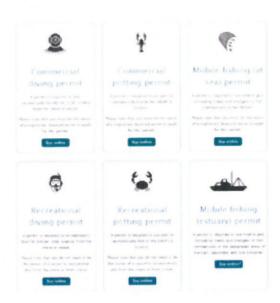
Collaborative future with MCS

Future possibilities for collaborative working and what makes Brixham such a prosperous, well documented and managed fishery was discussed with the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) at a recent visit to Brixham Fish Market with the MCS.



New Protection Measures for Otters

New Potting Permit measures have recently been introduced in our District. Key changes include protection of otters, spiny lobsters, whelks and restrictions for the Lundy Island No Take Zone. The



Permits

Are you up to date with our Permit Byelaws? D&S IFCA currently has four Permit Byelaws: mobile fishing, potting, netting or diving (for crab, lobster or scallops). If you are involved in any of these activities, you need a permit. Please be aware of the current legislation in force which applies within our District.

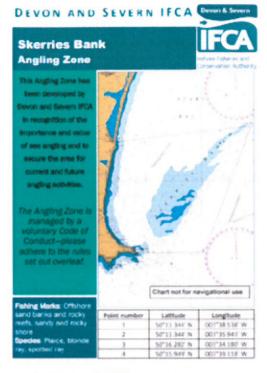
Click here to apply for your D&S IFCA Permit online implementation of these new measures follows extensive consultation with fishers and other stakeholders.



Launch of New Patrol Vessel

We look forward to taking delivery in the next month of our new patrol boat, 'David Rowe' following a successful grant application to the European Marine Fisheries Fund (EMFF). After its launch and a series of sea trials, the boat's naming ceremony will this Autumn (date and time will be announced on our website and social media). We have also applied for EMFF funding for a Forward-Looking Infra-Red (FLIR) camera which will increase the opportunities of detection in low light conditions. The new boat and equipment will increase our current patrol capabilities and also offer added protection and safety for our officers. The boat is named in honour of David Rowe, who had been with the D&S IFCA and its predecessor Devon Sea Fisheries Committee for over 25 years.

Environment News



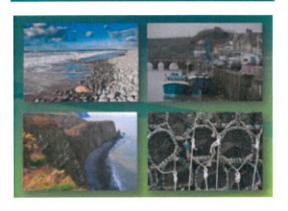


Voluntary Codes of Conduct

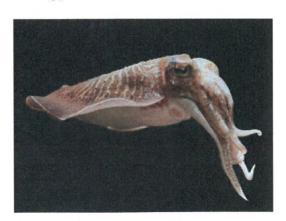
Are you up to date with the Voluntary Codes of Conduct in the following angling zones: Burnham, Berrow & Brean, Emsstrom Wreck and Skerries Bank? These have been developed by the D&S IFCA and stakeholders to secure the area for current and future angling activities.



A review of the potential ecological role and benefits of voluntary closed areas to Wrasse fishing was recently undertaken to assist the Byelaw Sub-Committee's future Wrasse Fishery Management.



The North Devon Marine Pioneer
Programme is currently involved in a
number of projects including
Fisheries Research and
Management Plans for the key
species in North Devon, the Bristol
Channel Herring Project and a
fishermen-science-regulator
partnership project to further local
knowledge of fishing and species
ecology.





Brexit Consultation

One of the many items under discussion in the <u>Defra Fisheries</u> White <u>Paper</u>. Please have your say by the 12th of September to help determine the future of our UK fisheries.

Suspect Suspicious Activity?

If you suspect suspicious activity or illegal permit activity within the D&S District please report directly to us, anonymously on **07740 175479**. To maximise our efficiency we often use targetted patrols, based on information from the public.

BASKING SHARK CODE OF CONDUCT

SHARK

BOAT-USERS, KAYAKERS, SWIMMERS, DIVERS AND SURFERS

The following guidelines have been disagned to help water-users reduce the risk of Injuring or hazarding flaziong Sharks, concurring they return to British waters exist, your failure of the hazarding flaziong Sharks, concurring they return to British waters exist, your failure of the hazarding flazions are as a first flativited.

Do not appearant within soon of the Sharks – but if you do find your special close to Balang Sharks here are some general dips:

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A trial is currently underway to investigate potting for cuttlefish - how cuttlefish pots interact with seagrass within the Torbay MCZ and the survivability of cuttlefish eggs on the pots. This work is being undertaken in collaboration with fishermen to determine the impact of the current activity.IFCA will engage with the cuttlefishermen to potentially encourage the use of egg-laying media on cuttlefish pots for the 2019 season.

Staff News

Olga Pepper has recently joined our team as our new Permitting Officer please contact her regarding any queries about new or existing permits. Also, our congratulations to Enforcement Officer Kelly Hobson and Environment Officer Lauren Parkhouse for successfully completing the RYA Advanced Powerboat Course.





Basking Sharks

If you're lucky enough to spot a basking shark off the Devon or Cornwall coast, please remember they are protected species and should not be disturbed.







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