

Devon and Severn IFCA News

Berried Lobster Seasonality Surveys

A project investigating the seasonality of berried lobsters in D&S IFCA's District is underway.



Officers have begun surveys on board vessels operating in D&S IFCA's District to gather data on the seasonality of egg bearing of lobsters. These surveys are the first of many that will be completed throughout the year to:

- help understand the months of the year that lobsters do and do not carry eggs,
- determine the various stages of egg development, and
- determine whether there is a main shedding period.

Under D&S IFCA's Potting Permit Byelaw conditions, a potting permit holder or named representative is not authorised to remove any berried lobster (or berried edible crab) from a fishery within the District. The evidence from these surveys will help inform the use of the enforcement tools that may be used to identify if a berried lobster has been scrubbed of its eggs.

The full Potting Permit Byelaw Permit Conditions can be found [here](#).

If you are targeting lobster and would like to be involved in these surveys, then please get in touch with the Senior Environment Officer, James Stewart:

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Phone - 07720 683624

If you would like to find out more about D&S IFCA's environment and research work, please visit the [Environment & Research webpages](#).