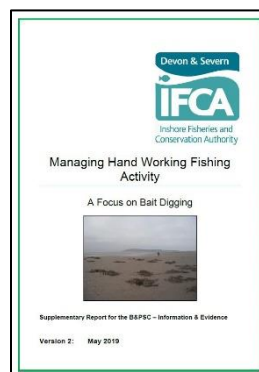


Devon and Severn IFCA News

Managing Bait Digging

D&S IFCA's Byelaw and Permitting Sub Committee discuss how to manage the fishing activity of bait digging.



On 16th May 2019, members of the D&S IFCA Byelaw & Permitting Sub-Committee (B&PSC) discussed the fishing activity of bait digging and began considering how it could be managed in the future. The focus on bait digging was part two of a [three-phase plan](#) to review the many different types of Hand Working Fishing Activities that are conducted in the District.

A Call for Information – A Focus on Bait Digging – campaign was conducted between 29th March and 26th April 2019. We asked all interested parties to examine the information we had prepared about bait digging and then give us their views on how this fishing activity could or potentially should be managed in the D&S IFCA District. Your view is important and D&S IFCA would like to thank all of those that submitted a response.

The responses were anonymised and summarised into a [report](#) that was presented to and discussed by the B&PSC. The findings of the report and the discussions of the members have highlighted that there is a need for the activity to be monitored further and it is of importance that sea grass beds are protected.

What Happens Now?

We have now examined the use of crab tiles and have done the same for the fishing method of bait digging. Reviewing the management of different fishing activities is a [key task for the D&S IFCA Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee](#).

When all methods have been examined in more depth, options for management, including the potential introduction of new restrictions, will be considered.

- **The next Hand Working “Call for Information” campaign will focus on the remaining hand gathering methods and is expected to begin in late June 2019.**

Do You Need More Information?

Keep an eye on our [CONSULTATION](#) page. Those on our contacts list will be directly notified by email about all our Call for Information campaigns. You can be added to our list of contacts by contacting D&S IFCA. You will then have on-going choices including receiving our free e-newsletter.