Devon and Severn IFCA News

New Diving Permit Conditions

D&S IFCA are circulating new Diving Permit Conditions.



Several elements of the Diving Permit Conditions have been amended as part of the Three-Year Review of the Permit Conditions that began in late 2017 and has now been concluded. You may have taken the opportunity to have your say in the two phases of consultation that was undertaken.

What was the process to make the changes?

The D&S IFCA Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee (B&PSC) are <u>tasked</u> with reviewing permit conditions and the process, which included two phases of consultation and meetings of the B&PSC, has been fully documented in a report which you can read <u>here</u>.

What happens now?

From the 1st August 2019, the Diving Permit Conditions will have changed. D&S IFCA will soon be in the process of issuing the <u>amended conditions</u> free of charge and if you are a current permit holder you should soon receive them either by email or in the post. New applicants from 1st August 2019 will be issued with the new conditions. The on-line facility on the D&S IFCA website to apply for a permit will also be changed.

What has changed?

The wording within the Diving Permit Conditions has changed to introduce some new restrictions for commercial and recreational divers who have either a Category One or a Category Two Diving Permit. Annexes (Charts) have been introduced to help demonstrate the spatial conditions.

- The number of scallops that can be taken by a recreational diver (Category Two Permit) per calendar day has been increased to 25.
- The removal of spiny lobster that has recently cast its shell is prohibited.
- The removal of any parts of spiny lobster which is detached from the carapace is prohibited
- The removal of any edible crab, spider crab, lobster, spiny lobster or scallop from the Lundy No Take Zone is prohibited (<u>Annex 1</u>)
- The removal of spiny lobster from the Bideford to Foreland Point MCZ is prohibited (<u>Annex 2</u>)
- The use of any container or any other device to store any edible crab, spider crab, lobster, spiny lobster or scallop from the Knoll Pins area at Lundy Island is prohibited (Annex 3)
- The Diving Permit Conditions have been amended to replace a reliance on the deeming clause.

Do You Need More Information?

- If you haven't done so already, provide an email address to help us contact you and keep you informed about things that may affect you.
- You can subscribe to our free E-Newsletter by contacting D&S IFCA.