

Devon and Severn IFCA News

New Potting Permit Conditions

D&S IFCA are circulating new Potting Permit Conditions.



From the 1st August 2019, the Potting Permit Conditions will have changed.

D&S IFCA will soon be in the process of issuing the [amended conditions](#) 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?

Permit condition 2.5.3 has been removed which previously stated:

A permit holder or named representative is not authorised under this Permit to use any finfish as bait within the District unless it meets sizes set out in Annex XII, Article 17 of Council Regulation (EC) 850/98.

Why remove this permit condition?

The change is due to the [Landing Obligation 2019 – Rules and Regulations](#).

These rules are related to the discarding of certain species of fish. All quota species must be landed and counted against quota unless exemptions apply. Therefore, some species of fish below the Minimum Conservation Reference Size (MCRS) must be landed, although they can't be sold for direct human consumption.

- Bass is not subject to the Landing Obligation.
- Prohibited species should be released unharmed if possible.

To reflect the fact that some fish below the MCRS must be landed and can then be sold as bait, the previous Potting Permit Conditions did not harmonise with the Landing Obligation. The D&S IFCA Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee (B&PSC), who are [tasked](#) with reviewing permit conditions, took the view that the resource should be available for those fishers that conduct potting, so it can be purchased and used as bait.

What was the process to make the change?

A process which included consultation and meetings of the B&PSC was undertaken earlier this year and has been fully documented in a report which you can read [here](#).

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.