

Devon and Severn IFCA News

Salcombe Harbour Patrols

Devon and Severn IFCA have recently conducted patrols within the Salcombe Harbour area to monitor the small-scale scallop dredge fishery that is regulated via D&S IFCA mobile fishing permit conditions.



Since the Salcombe Harbour scallop fishery opened from the 16th December (as the 15th December was a Sunday), officers from D&S IFCA have conducted patrols to monitor the fishing activity taking place. Scallop dredging within the estuary requires a mobile fishing category two permit that is issued by D&S IFCA. There are restrictions in place to manage this activity and the restrictions were originally developed with the input of fishers. No infringements were detected during the patrols.

What are the restrictions?

Fishers are not permitted to dredge within the whole estuary and areas of seagrass are protected. The closing lines at each end of the fishery are shown in a chart ([Annex 3](#)) which forms part of the [permit conditions](#). Line A at the top of the fishery is between Snapes Point and Scoble Point and line B at the bottom of the fishery is between Ager Point and Woodville Rocks. There are 9 controls in place to regulate the activity which are listed below.

1. The area of the Salcombe estuary that can be fished is defined in Annex 3;
2. The vessel used must not exceed seven metres in overall length;
3. Dredging is permitted between 15th December to 15th March. The permit holder must inform the Authority prior to fishing for the first time during the fishing season;
4. The permit holder must submit to the Authority at the end of the period the number of scallops landed;
5. The maximum dredge width to be used shall be one metre;
6. The maximum number of dredges to be used at any one time shall be two;
7. No toothed dredges shall be used;
8. Dredges shall be hauled by hand only and no mechanical assistance is permitted;
9. Fishing shall only take place between 0900hrs (local time) and 1600hrs (local time) on weekdays, but not during public holidays.

How to get a permit?

If you are a commercial fisher you can apply for a category two mobile fishing permit by completing an application form. You can [contact](#) D&S IFCA for an application form or apply using the [on-line permit application facility](#) on the D&S IFCA website.

Reporting Suspicious Fishing Activity

D&S IFCA makes use of intelligence received to target their enforcement operations and welcome any information concerning suspicious fishing activity. During office hours we can be contacted on 01803 854648. Out of office hours, we have a duty phone which can be used to report any suspicions fishing activity on 07740 175479.

You can subscribe to our free E-newsletter by [contacting](#) D&S IFCA or by using this [link](#).