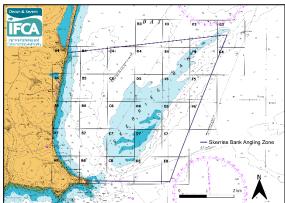
Devon and Severn IFCA News

Have Your Say - D&S IFCA is looking to develop Recreational Sea Angling Opportunities at Skerries Bank

D&S IFCA would like to engage with various stakeholders to gather information and evidence to better understand how the Skerries Bank Angling Zone is currently being used across all fishing sectors – Questionnaires are now available





The Skerries Bank Angling Zone was one of three sites selected as a pilot study to introduce appropriate fishery management that would proactively develop the Recreational Sea Angling ("RSA") sector. A <u>Voluntary Code of Conduct</u> was developed and introduced, which aimed to balance the different sectors' needs.

D&S IFCA would like to engage with various stakeholders to gather information and evidence to better understand how the Skerries Bank Angling Zone is currently being used across all fishing sectors, whether there has been a change in usage since the Skerries Bank Angling Zone and Netting Permit Byelaw was created, and whether there are any management concerns among stakeholders.

Why is this information needed?

It has been six years since monitoring surveys were conducted on the Skerries Bank Angling Zone. Due to the length of the time since the data collection occurred and the subsequent introduction of the Netting Permit Byelaw, D&S IFCA would like to obtain up to date information on all fishing activities currently undertaken in the Skerries Bank Angling Zone.

This initial request for information will allow us to involve and engage with the users of the Skerries Bank Angling Zone directly and understand management needs in the area.

How can you have your say?

Questionnaires

Three separate questionnaires have been developed for the <u>commercial</u>, <u>charter</u> and <u>recreational</u> sector.

Please select the relevant questionnaire (depending on which sector you represent) by clicking on the above links and the questionnaire of your choice can be downloaded in word format.

The questionnaires can also be found on our 'Engagement and Have Your Say' page or on the Angling News page of our website.

Please return the questionnaire to us by **9**th **December 2022** via the methods below or call us to discuss the questions over the phone.

- 1. Contact us via email s.curtin@devonandsevernifca.gov.uk
- 2. Write to us:

Devon and Severn IFCA Brixham Laboratory, Freshwater Quarry, Brixham, TQ5 8BA.

3. Call us (Environment Officer Sarah Curtin) between 10.00am and 15.00pm on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday - **07590 224014** to discuss the questions.

The development of the Skerries Bank Angling Zone will feed into a review of the Authority's RSA Strategy.