

Devon and Severn IFCA News

Opportunity to take part in D&S IFCA's Potting REM Project.

D&S IFCA wishes to expand its trials of Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM) technology to potting vessels in 2024/25 and is now asking fishers to come forward and get involved.

D&S IFCA has already been trialling the REM technology on board mobile gear vessels since 2021 and the project intends to build on the successes achieved so far.

By extending the project, D&S IFCA wants to demonstrate:

- how REM technology can deliver low cost, effective monitoring of pot fisheries;
- how REM can support potential future changes to management including pot limits to manage effort;
- the robustness of the technology, and how it can be adapted to different vessels and fishing methods;
- how fishers' privacy is protected;
- how fishers can use the technology to potentially improve their businesses – e.g. marketing of catch, security of vessel and health and safety considerations.

The Equipment

The REM technology, that would be placed on board the vessel, consists of two cameras (image right) overlooking the hauling and shooting areas.

Sensors may be attached to the hauler or on the potting gear, an IVMS tracking device (not MMO type approved) and a Digital Video Recorder (image far right).



The devices will be installed, and if requested by the owner, uninstalled by professional engineers. No permanent fixing to the vessel is required.

How you can help and the benefits

We are looking for owners of two potting vessels that operate in D&S IFCA's District to be part of the trials.

By taking part you will help ensure that D&S IFCA and fishers are better informed about how REM can benefit the fishing sector and the marine environment in the future.

D&S IFCA is unable to pay fishers for their time or vessel costs, however whilst participating in the trial you will benefit from the following:

- full access to the data generated by the REM technology to explore marketing opportunities,
- ability to install further sensors and cameras to explore additional benefits such as hatch or door sensors, bilge alarm sensor and engine room cameras.

If you are interested in taking part in the REM Potting Project, then please contact D&S IFCA for more information by 23rd August 2024.

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