

Amendments to the Mobile Fishing Permit Conditions – Proposal (2)

Officers Recommendation

That Members agree to amend the Category One Mobile Fishing Permit Conditions as proposed in the formal public consultation, and set out below, with the changes to apply from 1st July 2026.

Proposal 2 - Mariculture Sites – Protective Measures.

- . To introduce protective measures, using the Permit Conditions, for mariculture sites that have already been licenced by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) in Labrador Bay, South Devon and Bideford Bay, North Devon.**

It is proposed to introduce Mobile Fishing Permit Conditions to prohibit the use of mobile fishing gear within the defined area of two mariculture sites.

The formal consultation set out charts and positions of two mariculture sites in the District. The formal consultation explained how the proposed permit condition would function. The two mariculture sites will be added to current Annex 12 (No Access Areas – Coastal Mariculture Sites).

The Category One Permit Conditions (paragraph 10.1) will remain as follows:

A permit holder or a named representative must not access the areas as defined by the co-ordinates set out in the attached Annex 12 to these permit conditions (the Coastal Mariculture sites) with demersal mobile fishing gear unless the demersal mobile fishing gear is stowed on deck and no fishing is taking place.

The Consultation Response

There were four responses that referred to proposal (2). There were **no objections** to proposal (2). In their response relating to proposal (2), the British Spearfishing Association also highlighted concerns regarding proposal (1).

Consideration by B&PSC:

It is the Officers' view that there is no new information or evidence to suggest that the B&PSC should not proceed with the change as proposed. The Permit Conditions can be amended and circulated to apply from 1st July 2026.

Background Papers

B&PSC Papers and meeting minutes ([Section B of D&S IFCA Website Resource Library](#)) and Agenda Item 7 (Annex A) – A summary of Response from the Formal Consultation