

NWIFCA Byelaw 4 Potting Permit 2020

Flexible Permit Conditions December 2021

1. Whelks

Category One Permits

- (a) Category One Permits will only be issued to an applicant who fulfils the track record requirements¹ of fishing for whelks as defined by the Technical, Science and Byelaws Sub-Committee of the Authority, and will be limited to the number of pots which can be fished (paragraph 1(c)).
- (b) When using a Category One Permit all whelks must be placed on and passed over a riddle so that any undersize whelks can pass through the riddle prior to sorting.
- (c) A Category One permit holder may fish with a maximum of:
 - i. 1000 pots for a vessel with track record; or
 - ii. 400 pots for an under 10 metre vessel with no track record in the District.
- (d) A Category One permit holder must not set a whelk pot that:
 - i. is not fitted with a tag issued by the Authority; or
 - ii. is fitted with a tag that has previously been notified to the Authority as lost.
- (e) A fee is payable for the replacement of a full set of tags up to a maximum of £0.10 per tag for the replacement of one set of lost or destroyed tags under a Category One Permit.
- (f) To obtain a replacement tag in the event that a tag is lost, the permit holder must submit a written request to the Authority.
- (g) If a lost tag is subsequently found by the permit holder it must be returned immediately to the Authority and not used to mark active fishing gear.

The following conditions apply to both Category One and Category Two permit holders:

- (h) A permit holder must not use a pot to fish for whelks unless the pot consists of a rigid container with an open top through which whelks can enter.

2. Crab and lobster

Category One Permits

- (a) A category One Class A permit holder has no pot number limitation
- (b) A Category One Class B permit holder may fish with a maximum of 25 pots.
- (c) A Category One Class C permit holder may fish with a maximum of 25 pots.

¹ As approved by the NWIFCA Authority at its meeting on 18th June 2020, the minutes of which are available at: <https://www.nw-ifca.gov.uk/app/uploads/2020-06-18-NWIFCA-Minutes-18th-June.pdf>

- (d) A Category One Class B or C permit holder must not set a pot that:
 - i. is not fitted with a tag issued by the Authority; or
 - ii. is fitted with a tag that has previously been notified to the Authority as lost.
- (e) A fee is payable for the replacement of a full set of tags up to a maximum of £0.10 per tag for the replacement of one set of lost or destroyed tags under a Category One Class B or C Permit.
- (f) To obtain a replacement tag in the event that a tag is lost, the permit holder must submit a written request to the Authority.
- (g) If a lost tag is subsequently found by the permit holder it must be returned immediately to the Authority and not used to mark active fishing gear.
- (h) A Category One Class C permit holder is limited to the allowances set out in Section 3 of the vessel's General Fishing Licence.

The following conditions apply to both Category One and Category Two permit holders:

- (i) A permit holder must not fish for crab or lobster using a pot which has a chamber with an entrance designed to restrict escape, unless the pot is fitted with at least one unobstructed rigid escape gap located in the lowest part of the exterior wall of the pot or in the case of a parlour pot in the lowest part of the parlour area.
- (j) The escape gap referred to in paragraph 2(i) must be of sufficient size so that a rigid box shaped gauge 80 millimetres wide by 45 millimetres high and 100 millimetres long may be passed through the gap.

3. Norwegian lobster:

The following conditions apply to both Category One and Category Two permit holders:

- (a) A permit holder must not use a pot to fish for Norwegian lobster unless the pot is fitted with at least one hard eye entrance hole of maximum 80 millimetres diameter.