

**NWIFCA Technical, Science and Byelaw
Committee**

10th May 2022: 10:00 a.m.

**Agenda Item
5B**

BYELAW REVIEW UPDATE

Purpose: To report on the progress of Byelaw 4 - Potting byelaw.

Recommendation: Approve the following:

a) Receive the report

1. Byelaw 4 – Potting Byelaw

a) Byelaw status

Byelaw 4 was reviewed and sent back to MMO for final sign off on the 1st of December 2021. The final version was sent to Secretary of State by the MMO on 15th Feb 2022. It is still awaiting sign off. Officers were briefed on the new byelaw in preparation for its implementation.

b) Permit applications

I. All permit holders

All Cat 1 commercial applicants were contacted by letter on the 4th of March 2022 to update them on the progress of the byelaw, confirm their applications, and where relevant, request for outstanding information.

Updates for applicants and application forms for new commercial and recreational fishers were added to NWIFCA website on the 15th of March 2022.

Letters to all current recreational permit holders to inform them of the changes to the byelaw and the requirement to apply for a new permit were sent week beginning 4th April. There are currently around 80 recreational permit holders, of which, 22 have to date applied for the new permit under byelaw 4.

II. Whelk track record appeals

Information provided by applicants regarding the appeals process has undergone review. Applicants with outstanding information were contacted again on 4th of March.

Five members of the authority have volunteered to form the appeals panel which will be brought together shortly once outstanding information from applicants is received.

c) Outstanding Actions:

- 1) Provide appeals panel with background information pack prior to appeals
- 2) Set time and date for appeals once final information is received
- 3) Continued processing of new applicants
- 4) Administration of tags and permit stickers in preparation for the byelaw to come into force

