



# Byelaw 7 (Netting Byelaw) Bass Entitlement Fact Sheet

## What is Bass Entitlement?

Under the new Byelaw 7, NWIFCA will have the ability to issue 26 Bass Entitlements. This means 26 commercial permit holders will be able to retain bass (as a bycatch) in one intertidal shore-set net each.

Netters can swap which net is used to retain bass and it must be tagged to show it holds the entitlement.

Entitlement holders will have to abide by any flexible NWIFCA sets and will have to submit returns.

## Who gets a Bass Entitlement?

Individuals will complete an application form which will cover set criteria. Applicants will accrue points for their answers which will then be ranked in a list. The highest 26 scores will be offered entitlements first.

Applications will be assessed and scored by a small panel of Authority members. Applications will be anonymised so panel members **will not know** applicants' details.

## What is the criteria?

To be eligible to apply for a Bass Entitlement, applicants **must meet both** of the following requirements:

- Live within the NWIFCA district
- Have no significant unspent convictions for bass-related offences in the past five years

Eligible applications will then be assessed by the decision panel against the following criteria:

- Intention and justification for wishing to hold a bass entitlement
- Experience of commercial fishing with intertidal nets within the district in the past five years
- Evidence of sales of fish caught in intertidal nets set within the district from the past five years
- Demonstrable routes to markets for bass, preferably within the district
- Good fisheries compliance history.

The application form will ask for specific information to allow the panel to assess applicants against these criteria. Each application will be assessed and scored against four questions on the application form. Applicants can achieve a maximum overall score of 60 points. Scoring for each question will be on a 0–3 scale:

- 0 = No evidence provided
- 1 = Limited or weak evidence
- 2 = Adequate evidence
- 3 = Strong evidence

Please see Bass Entitlement Guidance and applications form for full details.

## Can I appeal?

No. As there is only 26 entitlements to be issued, there can be no appeals process. If you are unsuccessful, you will be placed on the waiting list if eligible.

## Will I have to renew my Bass Entitlement?

Entitlements will be reissued annually at the same time you renew your netting permit.

You will be free to give up your entitlement at anytime, or by not renewing your entitlement as part of your permit renewal.

If an entitlement is given up, it will be offered to individual at the top of the waiting list.

**Please read the full Bass Entitlement Guidance before applying**

**Click the links below for quick access**

**Bass Entitlement**  
**Guidance**

**Website**