

## Flookburgh and Leven Sands: Authorisation for Cockle Fishing using a craam

**21 January to 30 April 2019.**

1. The Flookburgh and Leven Sands cockle fisheries were closed on 1 September 2018 until further notice to protect stocks.
2. This notice constitutes written authorisation under NWSFC Byelaw 13A for NWIFCA Byelaw 3 permit holders to fish for cockles on Flookburgh and Leven Sands using a craam only from 12.00 21 January to 2359 30 April 2019.

### **Conditions**

3. Byelaw 3 applies. Byelaw 3 paragraph 7a and b do not apply to this fishery.
4. In this fishery no person shall gather cockles except by hand using a 'jumbo' (tamp) and/or craam. Use, carriage or possession of any rake within the fishery is prohibited, including rakes which have been cut down to 3 prongs.
5. The seasonal closure will commence on 1 May. Returns must be filed.
6. A person must not obstruct an IFCO pursuant to MACAA s292(4) carrying out a relevant function pursuant to MACAA s287.
7. A craam (example shown below) made up of no more than 3 fine or thin curved prongs may be used.
8. A 'jumbo' or tamp must be no more than 182cm (6 foot) length and 35cm (14 inches) width as measured from its extremities including any extensions.
9. Vehicles used to access the fishery must be ATV or Tractors. There shall be no parking of any other vehicle or tonning up on the intertidal area, saltmarsh or hard core track.
10. The fisheries must be accessed via the hard core track off Moor Lane, West Plain (SD36892 74153) as shown in the photo below.
11. Fishing or vehicle movement must not damage shellfish beds or saltmarsh or cause excessive bird disturbance.
12. The NWIFCA may close the fishery or take other appropriate management action if in the opinion of NWIFCA Officers or Scientists there is a failure to comply with these conditions. Such closure or management action may take place with immediate effect.
13. Damage to conservation features could lead to prosecution.
14. NWIFCA may close the fishery during periods of cold weather (predicted below zero

temperatures for more than 12 hours a day for 5 consecutive days) or on advice from Natural England.

15. The area open to fishing is also the area classified by environmental health services under the shellfish hygiene regulations. Selling cockles taken from outside the classified area could lead to prosecution by EHS services.
16. Definition of a craam: A short handled three pronged fork, as illustrated in the photograph below. A craam should be used to select and flick large cockles individually into a net or basket. Used correctly a craam has minimal impact on a cockle bed. Using a craam as a rake may damage juvenile cockles and other features of the habitat.



17. Photo showing only authorised access to the fisheries.



Dr S ATKINS Chief Executive NWIFCA