

Leasowe Cockle Fishery 2020

NWIFCA Byelaw 3 Permit Holders Authorisation to gather cockles by hand

11th February 2020

This notice constitutes written authorisation against the closure under NWSFC Byelaw 13A for current NWIFCA Byelaw 3 permit holders to gather cockles by hand on Leasowe Cockle bed, six days a week, excluding Saturdays, from 00:01 Sunday 16th February 2020 until NWIFCA closes the bed due to the TAC being reached or until the beginning of the seasonal closure at 00:01 hrs on 1st May 2020, whichever is sooner.

Conditions

- (a) The authorisation is only valid for current NWIFCA Byelaw 3 permit holders. It does not allow any other person to take or remove cockles.
- (b) This authorisation to fish applies only to Monday to Friday inclusive, and Sundays.
- (c) This authorisation will be revoked once the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 400 tonnes has been reached.
- (d) All measures under NWIFCA Byelaw 3 apply except for paragraph 21 (requirement for monthly returns).
- (e) It is a condition of this authorisation that all permit holders are required to file with the NWIFCA, no later than the 5th day of the month following, catch and fishing effort for the previous month's fishing. Permit holders not filing returns may have their permits suspended by the NWIFCA until returns have been filed.
- (f) Permit holders not filing returns may have their permits suspended by the NWIFCA until returns have been filed.
- (g) Fishing is only permitted in the area as defined in paragraph 2 and illustrated in Annex A. This area lies within the bivalve mollusc production area classified under EU Regulation 854/2004. Selling cockles taken from outside this area could lead to enforcement action under food hygiene legislation.
- (h) Vehicles used to access the fishery must be ATV quadbikes. There shall be no parking of any other vehicle associated with the fishery or tonning up on the beach.
- (i) Any fishing taking place under this authorisation shall be carried out in accordance with the Authority's Code of Conduct for Intertidal Shellfisheries.
- (j) A person must not obstruct an IFCA pursuant to MACAA s292(4) carrying out a relevant function pursuant to MACAA s287.
- (k) 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.

- (l) 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.
- (m) Damage to conservation features could lead to prosecution.
- (n) This authorisation does not exonerate the holder from other sea fisheries legislation, nor does it prejudice any other consents the holder may need to obtain nor does it override or provide permission to go over private land.

2. Definition of Authorised Area

The **authorised fishing area** is the area enclosed by a straight line connecting points A, B, C, D, E in order, and returning to point A along the line of the Highest Astronomic Tide.

Point	Latitude (decimal degrees)	Longitude (decimal degrees)	Latitude (degrees, decimal minutes)	Longitude (degrees, decimal minutes)
A	53.41150	-3.14233	53°24.69' N	3° 8.54' W
B	53.43283	-3.14283	53°25.97' N	3° 8.57' W
C	53.44750	-3.11567	53°26.85' N	3° 6.94' W
D	53.44800	-3.05933	53°26.88' N	3° 3.56' W
E	53.43967	-3.05917	53°26.38' N	3° 3.55' W

This authorisation may be revoked by the NWIFCA at any time and any breach of the terms or conditions of this authorisation shall make it null and void.

By Order of the Authority

STEPHEN ATKINS
Chief Executive

Annex A – Leasowe Cockle Fishery 2019-20 Authorised Area

