



NORTH WESTERN INSHORE FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
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NWIFCA Byelaw 3 Cockle and Mussel Hand Fishing Permit 2019 - Flexible Permit Conditions 2024.

Pilling Sands Cockle Fishery 2025/26

1. Fishing is permitted from **Tuesday 1st July 2025 until Friday 27th February 2026.**
2. **Fishing is permitted one tide per day, between Monday and Friday.** As specified in **Annex A.** Further tide times will be published by Friday 25th July 2025.
3. Access and egress to the Fishery is **only** permitted from Pilling Embankment slipway. (**Annex B**). No other routes are to be used to access the fishery.
4. Access to the fishery will be by ATV quad bike, 4x4 vehicle and shrimp tractor (no greater than two tonne and 60 hp) only.
5. Parking of vehicles, or any ancillary activities of the fishery can only take place within the designated car parks adjacent to the slipway. (**Annex B**).
6. **Cockles must be riddled on the cockle bed** with undersize cockles distributed evenly back in the area they were gathered as soon as reasonably practical.
7. The fishery is within a Marine Protected Area, as such required a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA). Should the fishery no longer be within the scope of information used to assess the fishery and there is potential for damage to protected features. The fishery will be suspended until further assessment has been carried out to ensure any fisheries remains HRA compliant.

Advisory Notes

1. This permit does not exonerate the holder from any other sea fisheries legislation.
2. Operate vehicles in a safe manner on the access road and when transiting to the fishery.
3. Byelaw 3 permit holders should adhere to the Code of Conduct for Intertidal Shellfisheries.
4. NWIFCA has the power to withdraw flexible permit conditions at any point should the need arise, subject to the review procedure.
5. Any breach of the conditions constitutes a breach of the byelaw.

6. Please note under NWIFCA's cold weather the fishery could be subject to closure during periods of cold weather <https://www.nw-ifca.gov.uk/app/uploads/NORTH-WEST-IFCA-INTERTIDAL-FISHERY-COLD-WEATHER-PROTOCOL-WEBSITE-VERSION-1.pdf>

By Order of the Authority

Mark Taylor
Chief Executive Officer
NWIFCA

Annex A – NWIFCA Byelaw 3 Pilling Sands Cockle Fishery Permitted Fishing Tides 2025/26

NWIFCA Byelaw 3 Pilling Sands Cockle Fishery Permitted Fishing Days and Tides				
	Date	Day	Low Water Information	
			AM Tide	PM Tide
			Time	Time
	July 2025	1 st	Tues	LW 10:54
2 nd		Wed	LW 11:36	
3 rd		Thurs	Fishery Closed	LW 12:21
4 th		Fri		LW 13:15
5 th		Sat		Fishery Closed
6 th		Sun		
7 th		Mon		LW 16:07
8 th		Tues		LW 16:55
9 th		Wed		LW 17:39
10 th		Thurs		LW 18:21
11 th		Fri	LW 06:50	Fishery Closed
12 th		Sat	Fishery Closed	
13 th		Sun		
14 th		Mon	LW 08:55	
15 th		Tues	LW 09:35	
16 th		Wed	LW 10:15	
17 th		Thurs	LW 10:56	
18 th		Fri	LW 11:43	
19 th		Sat	Fishery Closed	
20 th		Sun		
21 st		Mon		LW 15:11
22 nd		Tue		LW 16:22
23 rd		Wed		LW 17:25
24 th		Thu	LW 18:21	
25 th		Fri	LW 07:00	Fishery Closed
26 th		Sat	Fishery Closed	
27 th		Sun		
28 th		Mon	LW 09:07	
29 th		Tue	LW 09:41	
30 th		Wed	LW 10:12	
31 st		Thu	LW 10:41	

Annex B – NWIFCA Byelaw 3 Pilling Sands Cockle Fishery Permitted Access Route 2025/26



