



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 29th August 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. The **permitted fishing area** is illustrated below in **Annex C**.
7. **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.
8. 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 Cockerle Fishery Permitted Fishing Tides 2025/26

NWIFCA Byelaw 3 Pilling Cockerle Fishery Permitted Fishing Days and Tides				
	Date	Day	Low Water Information	
			AM Tide	PM Tide
			Time	Time
October 2025	1 st	Wed	Fishery Closed	LW 12:44
	2 nd	Thurs	Fishery Closed	LW 14:25
	3 rd	Fri	Fishery Closed	LW 15:33
	4 th	Sat	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed
	5 th	Sun	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed
	6 th	Mon	Fishery Closed	LW 18:00
	7 th	Tues	Fishery Closed	LW 18:43
	8 th	Wed	Fishery Closed	LW 19:24
	9 th	Thurs	LW 07:48	Fishery Closed
	10 th	Fri	LW 08:27	Fishery Closed
	11 th	Sat	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed
	12 th	Sun	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed
	13 th	Mon	LW 10:33	Fishery Closed
	14 th	Tues	LW 11:44	Fishery Closed
	15 th	Wed	Fishery Closed	LW 13:24
	16 th	Thurs	Fishery Closed	LW 14:51
	17 th	Fri	Fishery Closed	LW 15:56
	18 th	Sat	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed
	19 th	Sun	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed
	20 th	Mon	Fishery Closed	LW 18:01
	21 st	Tues	Fishery Closed	LW 18:31
	22 nd	Wed	Fishery Closed	LW 19:00
	23 rd	Thurs	Fishery Closed	LW 19:29
	24 th	Fri	LW 07:47	Fishery Closed
	25 th	Sat	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed
	26 th	Sun	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed
	27 th	Mon	LW 08:16	Fishery Closed
	28 th	Tues	LW 08:54	Fishery Closed
	29 th	Wed	LW 09:46	Fishery Closed
	30 th	Thurs	LW 11:04	Fishery Closed
	31 st	Fri	Fishery Closed	LW 12:37

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



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