

General news – 30th January 2018

Latest News on the Live Wrasse Fishery



Work on the live wrasse fishery continued into late summer with four boats operating out of Plymouth within the D&S IFCA district. The fishermen involved have complied well with management measures put in place in July, have supported the voluntary closed areas and have supplied all details of their catches and locations of their pots.

Twenty on-board surveys carried out by IFCA officers revealed that catches had been dominated by Rock Cook and Goldsinny wrasse, with Ballan wrasse only accounting for 4% and even less being retained. All caught Cuckoo wrasse was returned to the sea and more than 60% of Rock Cook and Goldsinny caught in pots was returned due to minimum size requirements. Spawning fish were also identified from April, May, June and some of July. Data collected between April and October have been analysed and a full report, produced in November 2017, is now available. The D&S IFCA Byelaw and Permitting Sub-committee has reviewed the findings and have made recommendations for some changes in the management of the wrasse fishery. As part of the formal review of this fishery a six-week consultation on the proposed changes will commence on 31st January 2018. Further information can be found on the home page of the D&S IFCA website.

[Live Wrasse Fishery -Data Analysis Research Report November 2017](#)

[Measures taken by D&S IFCA \(Management of the “Live” Wrasse Pot Fishery – Version 3 Aug 2017\)](#)

[Cornwall IFCA’s guidance on wrasse](#)

[Southern IFCA’s guidance on wrasse](#)