



## **Live Wrasse Fishery Guidance 2017-18**

Any person using pots to take live wrasse from the district of the Cornwall Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) is asked to comply with the following guidance conditions:

- **Live wrasse minimum and maximum conservation reference sizes**  
Only live wrasse within the size ranges specified below should be retained:  
  
Ballan wrasse and cuckoo wrasse - 16cm to 28cm;  
  
All other wrasse species - 12cm to 22cm.
- **Closed fishing areas**  
Pots used for fishing for live wrasse should not be placed within 100m of the coast in the six areas specified below:
  - (1) Porthkerris Point  
50° 03.758'N 005° 03.929'W to 50° 04.027'N 005° 04.250'W;
  - (2) Dennis Head  
50° 05.236'N 005° 05.697'W to 50° 05.383'N 005° 05.748'W;
  - (3) Pennance Head  
50° 07.966'N 005° 04.650'W to 50° 08.113'N 005° 04.471'W;
  - (4) Pendennis Point  
50° 08.656'N 005° 02.898'W to 50° 08.783'N 005° 02.652'W;
  - (5) Black Head (St Austell Bay)  
50° 17.916'N 004° 45.500'W to 50° 18.011'N 004° 45.263'W;
  - (6) Par docks to Polkerris  
50° 20.421'N 004° 43.303'W to 50° 20.130'N 004° 40.970'W.
- **Closed seasons**  
West of Rame Head: No pots should be placed or used for fishing for live wrasse in the district from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018, inclusive.

East of Rame Head: No pots should be placed or used for fishing for live wrasse in the district from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018, inclusive, or from the 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018, inclusive.

- **Catch care and discards of unwanted fish**

Live wrasse retained on board a fishing vessel or stored in a sea cage should be subject to minimal handling, physical damage and stress.

Live wrasse holding tanks on board a fishing vessel should contain clean and frequently replenished seawater which is at a temperature close to that of the local wrasse habitats.

Unwanted fish should be returned to the sea as soon as practicable, with all reasonable efforts made to reduce their mortality, including the avoidance of seabird predation at the sea surface.

- **Catch and fishing effort returns**

A person using pots to take live wrasse from the district should complete any wrasse fishing statistics returns forms, as provided and specified by Cornwall IFCA.

**Note:**

(1) Any individual or company buying live wrasse at the first point of sale from a licenced commercial fishing vessel must be registered as a buyer of first sale fish with an appropriate UK fisheries authority.

For further details, please seek advice from the Marine Management Organisation. Online guidance is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/buyers-and-sellers-of-first-sale-fish-and-submission-of-sales-notes>

(2) Any person holding or moving live wrasse for the purposes of supplying the aquaculture industry must be registered with the Fish Health Inspectorate. For details, please view <https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/fish-health-inspectorate>.

*Explanatory Note*

*This guidance provides minimum and maximum sizes for five wrasse species, six closed fishing areas for wrasse potting, closed seasons for wrasse potting, catch care principles and further research via fishermen's completion of data returns.*

*It aims to assist with the long-term sustainability of wrasse populations within the Cornwall IFCA district, contributing to commercial fishermen maintaining a viable inshore fishing industry and at the same time allowing others, most notably recreational sea anglers and divers, to enjoy the wrasse species which inhabit Cornish coastal waters.*

*The guidance was developed to help manage the live wrasse fishery whilst further research into it is being undertaken by Cornwall IFCA. The outcome of this work is expected to lead to the development of a live wrasse fishery byelaw which could ensure that live wrasse fishing in the district remains sustainable over the long term.*



# Live Wrasse Fishery Guidance

## Closed Areas 5 & 6

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