



Effort management in the crustacean pot fishery - Stakeholder Call for Evidence

**Pot Fishery
Effort Management**

In the crustacean fishery questionnaire 2021
84%* of respondents told us **rising effort** is the **biggest threat** to the fishery
Therefore Cornwall IFCA would like to take a more detailed look at
effort management for the fishery.

We would like your thoughts on:

1. POT LIMITS
2. GEAR MARKING
3. LIMITING TYPES OF POTS
4. CHANGING THE MAXIMUM VESSEL SIZE
5. CLOSED PERIODS
6. DAYS AT SEA LIMITS
7. INCREASED MANAGEMENT OF RECREATIONAL FISHING

For each option please tell us:

Are you in favour?

If yes, tell us how

If not, tell us why

How to respond
Via our website: www.cornwall-ifca.gov.uk
Email: enquiries@cornwall-ifca.gov.uk
Or alternatively,
Call: 01736 336 842 to speak to an officer
Closing date: 14/06/23

*Respondents to the 2021 Cornwall IFCA Crustacean Fishery Questionnaire. 84% reported the threat of "rising effort" to be 4 or 5 on a scale of 1-5 where 1 = "low" and 5 = "high".

Summary of responses from the 2023 Call for Evidence

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Summary

This report summarises the responses to Cornwall Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority's (IFCA) 2023 Call for Evidence for stakeholder opinions on a range of fishery input management options for the crustacean fisheries in its district. The management options presented for consideration were based on the results of a questionnaire sent to all Cornwall IFCA Lobster, Crawfish and Crab Fishing Permit byelaw permit holders in 2021. The most common theme from the responses to that questionnaire was that rising effort was the biggest threat to the long-term future of this important fishery (Street *et al.*, 2022).

A total of 61 responses were submitted to the 2023 Call for Evidence. The majority of responses were from individual fishermen (70%) and fishermen with multiple vessels (11%), with the remaining responses from retired fishermen (5%), fisheries representative (2%), merchants/processors (3%), restaurateurs (2%) and anonymous and other (7%).

All responses were considered by Cornwall IFCA officers and processed to enable quantitative analysis. The responses have provided vital feedback on the seven potential management mechanisms highlighted in the call for evidence. This analysis and report have quantified the level of support for each measure, and collated the key suggestions, comments and concerns relating to effort management and the crustacean fishery in general.

This report will inform the development of new management measures to support the long-term sustainability of these key fisheries to their dependant coastal communities.

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1 Background and Introduction

Between the 17th May 2023 and the 14th June 2023, Cornwall Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) ran an open Call for Evidence to collect detailed stakeholder views on a selection of potential management interventions for potting for crabs and lobsters within the Cornwall IFCA District. This open call followed on from a stakeholder questionnaire in 2021 which was sent to all Cornwall IFCA Lobster, Crawfish and Crab Fishing Permit Byelaw permit holders. Many of the responses to that questionnaire identified rising fishing effort as being the biggest threat to the long-term future of this important fishery which supports over 270 commercial vessels in over 42 ports in Cornwall (Street *et al.*, 2022). This concern is also a repeated theme in the comments section on the Cornwall IFCA shellfish fisheries permit activity returns data, which are collected directly from inshore fishermen.

Similar concerns about increasing potting effort for edible crab and lobster were also shared with Cornwall IFCA during a consultation in December 2022 for the introduction of an emergency byelaw to limit effort from larger vessels operating in the district. Although that byelaw was not introduced, there has been continued support across the Cornwall IFCA District for fishing effort to be managed, particularly for edible crab. In the 2021 permit holder's questionnaire, over 60% of respondents suggested that further effort management in the crab and lobster fishery was medium-high in usefulness as a form of fisheries management measure (Street *et al.*, 2022).

The national Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) for the crab and lobster fishery in England is under development and has been through the public consultation stage, ending on 1st October 2023. Cornwall IFCA's work at a local level engaging with stakeholders to provide local solutions to local issues will link into the delivery of the national management plan.

1.1 Aims and objectives

1.1.1 Aim

- To gain stakeholder opinions on a selection of potential effort management interventions that could be applied to the crustacean fisheries in the Cornwall IFCA District.

1.1.2 Objectives

- Carry out a Call for Evidence around effort management in the crustacean pot fishery.
- Summarise the findings from the 2023 Call for Evidence and frame key ideas resulting from responses that will feed directly into the development of new management measures to support the future of these key fisheries.

2 The Call for Evidence

The Call for Evidence focused on options which had previously been highlighted by inshore fishermen in the 2021 Permit Holders questionnaire as being what they considered to be the most effective ways to manage effort (Street *et al.*, 2022). The Call for Evidence flyer, Figure 1 below, was published on the Cornwall IFCA website and posted to all shellfish permit holders in line with all General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) consent obligations on the 17th May 2023. The information was also shared via email with Cornwall IFCA committee members, all Cornwall Councillors, all Cornish MPs, and local Producer Organisations. If the Call for Evidence was raised in conversations with Cornwall IFCA officers during port visits, boardings, meetings and other encounters whilst the consultation was live, stakeholders were either directed to the Authority's website or could request a call back from Principal Officers.

Cornwall IFCA
Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

Pot Fishery Effort Management

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Cornwall IFCA
Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

*Respondents to the 2021 Cornwall IFCA Crustacean Fishery Questionnaire. 84% reported the threat of "rising effort" to be 4 or 5 on a scale of 1-5 where 1- "Low" and 5- "High"

Figure 1: Call for Evidence flyer

For each of the seven effort management options highlighted (Pot Limits, Gear Marking, Limiting Types of Pots, Changing the Maximum Vessel Size, Closed Periods, Days at Sea Limits and Increased Management of Recreational Fishing) the respondents were asked if in principle they were in favour of or against the management measure. In addition to this, respondents were asked to detail either how they thought the measure could be implemented within the Cornwall IFCA District (if support was shown for the measure) or if against such a measure to explain why support was not given for that measure. Officers were at pains to assure stakeholders that the Authority did not have any preconceived ideas for effort management and wanted to gain an understanding of stakeholder's opinions.

To ensure that responding to the Call for Evidence was made as accessible to all, responses were accepted in three forms: via a response form submitted on the Cornwall IFCA website¹, via email or via transcript created during a phone call with Cornwall IFCA officers.

3 Data handling

Each Call for Evidence response was logged by IFCA officers as a whole response then given an index code from 001 to 061, in no particular order. To quantitatively analyse the responses, they were initially copied into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet with each response (001-061) on a separate row. The seven effort management options were used as column headers and a further column was created for all other comments. Raw responses were then pasted under the relevant effort management category in the spreadsheet. Each individual response was then categorised and further analysed for comments, suggestions and concerns (as below), by two Cornwall IFCA officers to ensure consistency in the analysis. Again, to ensure consistency of the analysis, a 100% QA process was applied to the initial categorisation and analysis. This process ensured that all responses received for the Call for Evidence were depersonalised. The subsequent analysis has been included within the Annex tables (7.1 and 7.2) of this report.

3.1 Participation in the Call for Evidence

Each response was categorised into a sector (marked as 1 under the relevant sector heading), or sectors (marked as 0.5 in each of the two relevant sector headings), for which the response represented, based on respondent information given. Sector categories were: Individual Fishermen, Fishermen with Multiple Vessels, Retired Fishermen, Merchant/ processor, Restaurateur, Fisheries representatives and Anonymous/Other. This information was used to determine the percentage representation of responses from different sectors.

¹ Available from: <https://www.cornwall-ifca.gov.uk/consultation-response-form> [Accessed: 02/08/2023]

3.2 Potential effort management options

3.2.1 Response categorisation

For each effort management option, it was asked if the respondent was in favour of, or against the option, and based on their response, it was marked as a value of 1 in the relevant category or categories (chosen based on the wide range of responses received) as either 'For', 'Against', 'Uncertain', 'Management not relevant', 'Already doing', 'No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues', 'Not understood question' or 'Blank - No response'. In some cases, the response for an effort management option applied to two of the categories, in which instance it was added to both accordingly e.g. for Days at Sea Limits some respondents said they were 'Already doing' as limited by weather but were 'For' Days at Sea Limits for vessels with greater capability. Where the response showed both For and Against statements, for the same management option, it was categorised under both 'For' and 'Against' e.g. Against pot limits for <10 m vessels, In favour of pot limits >10 m vessels, 'Against' changing the maximum vessel size for under 10 m vessels but 'uncertain' for vessels over 10 m. Where responses were marked under two categories, both categories received a score of 1 to prevent dilution of clear 'For' and 'Against' responses.

The list below summarises how words and phrases were categorised to allow for quantitative analysis of the comments:

- The following words or phrases were used to categorise responses as 'For': In favour, yes, would be welcome, would be good, support, great idea, agree, no brainer, totally for, or if a management measure was proposed e.g. 'proposed pot limit of 1000 per vessel'.
- The following words or phrases were used to categorise responses as 'Against': No, not in agreement, I disagree, not in favour, against, do not support, do not agree.
- Any response that was indeterminate and/or stated words such as possibly, possible, may, maybe, no only maybe, I don't know, undecided, unsure, was categorised as 'Uncertain'.
- Where the response stated the management option in question, in their opinion, would not reduce effort, has no impact on stock, was unlikely to be effective or would not be relevant to their specific area, then it was categorised as 'Management not relevant'.
- Responses which stated the management option was already being done, to some extent, were categorised as 'Already doing'. An example being for the management measure, days at sea limits, is already being done by smaller vessels which are limited operationally, in the winter, due to weather.
- For Increased management of recreational fishing, some responses were categorised as 'Management already in place'. Comments under this category included current measures are sufficient, effective enforcement of current measures required and improved stakeholder awareness of current measures.

- Where there was insufficient information in the response for it to be categorised, or the response was related but not clear, or it only stated about the difficulty to enforce the measure, then it was categorised as: 'No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues'.
- Where it was clear that the respondent did not understand what was meant by the management option in question, it was categorised as 'Not understood question'.
- Where no text was given under the management option in question it was categorised as 'Blank - No response'.

3.2.2 Comments, suggestions and concerns

The raw text was converted into statements. The statements were pasted into Microsoft Excel into a sheet for all responses with the response index code (as explained above) plus a number for each statement sequentially e.g. 037_012, 037_013 etc. The responses were then categorised into eight options including the seven effort management options with an additional tab for 'other'. Tabs were created for each of the seven management options plus one for 'other', and the relevant statements were copied into each tab. The statements were defined as 'suggestions and comments' or 'concern'.

Text was categorised as below;

- Larger vessels = all vessels > 10 m
- Channel style crabbers = vivier crabber
- Super crabber = vivier crabber
- Large vivier vessels (over 12m) = vivier crabber
- Inshore grounds = 3 or 6 nm
- Within/ out to 12 nm = within 6 nm (relating response to the Cornwall IFCA District)

Statements were then grouped into higher themes where possible e.g.

- In relation to Pot Limits
 - Any pot numbers per person between 250-500
 - Any pot numbers per vessel between 60-1000
- In relation to vessel size
 - Larger vessels able to work in deeper water, able to fish more distant grounds, can work all year round, not limited by weather, can work more gear = 'Vessels >10 m have greater capability'.
- In relation to historic potting effort
 - Months between October and April = Winter

- In relation to Closed Periods
 - Months between October and February = Winter
 - Months between October and May = Winter to Spring

If responses contained lengthy paragraphs, they were broken down into multiple statements so that all of the information was included. The number of responses which matched the statement were counted using a formula in excel and then sorted numerically (largest to smallest) and then alphabetically (A to Z) if counts were the same.

In all other comments where responses detailed concerns over illegal fishing activities it was grouped as 'Occurrence of illegal fishing' and the information has been passed on to the Cornwall IFCA enforcement team.

4 Results

This report represents the final quality checked version of data analysis conducted by Cornwall IFCA officers and supersedes any previous representation of the data.

4.1 Participation in the Call for Evidence

A total of 61 responses were submitted. The majority of responses were from individual fishermen (70%), Fishermen with Multiple Vessels (11%), with the remaining responses from Retired Fishermen (5%), Fisheries Representative (2%), Merchants/processors (3%), Restaurateurs (2%) and Anonymous and Other (7%).

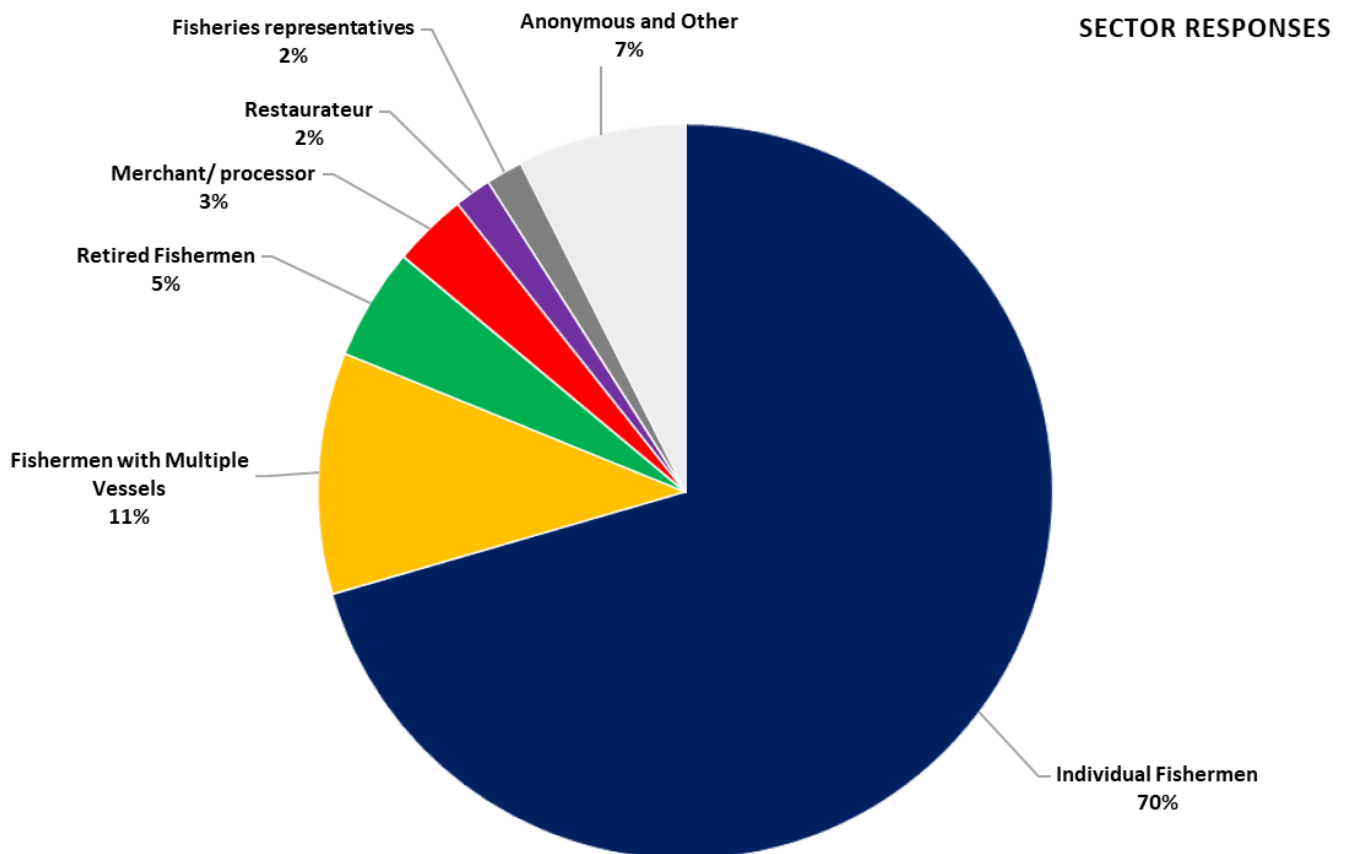


Figure 2: The percentage representation of responses from the 2023 Call for Evidence by sector.

4.2 Potential effort management options

The below sections detail the categorisation of responses (in terms of 'For', 'Against', 'Uncertain', 'Management not relevant', 'Already doing', 'No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues', 'Not understood question' or 'Blank - No response') to each of the seven effort management measures respondents were asked about.

4.2.1 Pot Limits

- Response categorisation

69% of all responses were in favour of pot limits as a form of effort management, the second highest level of support shown across the suggested effort management measures. Only 5% of responses were against this measure (Figure 3). The analysis for pot limits is shown in Annex Table A below.

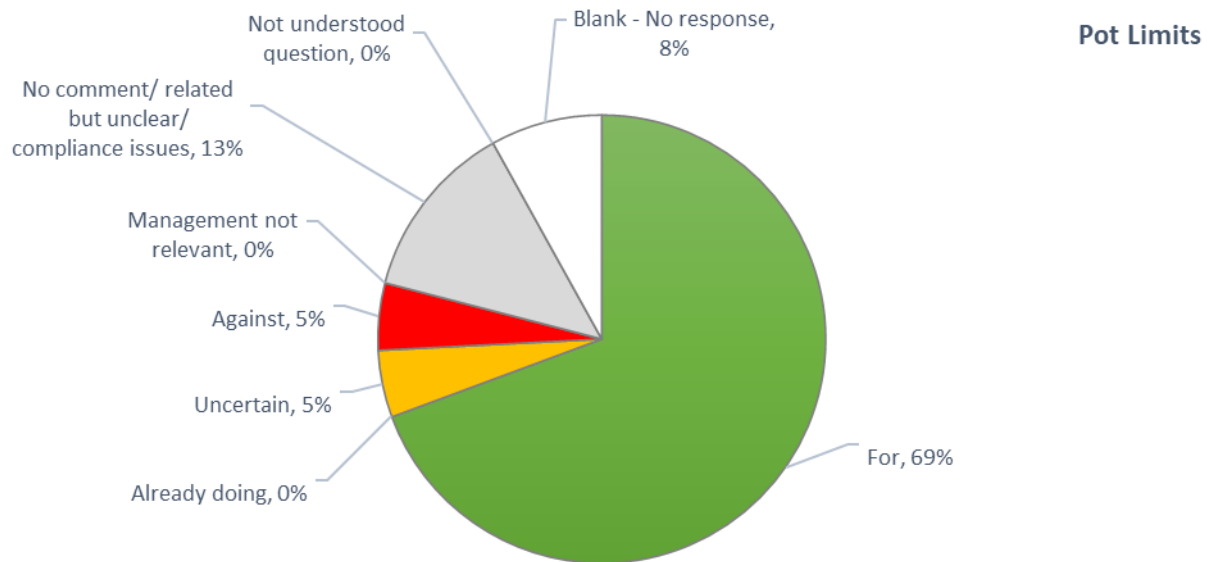


Figure 3: Pie chart showing a summary of the categorisation of responses for pot limits, analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence data.

The themes for pot limits and the suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA are shown in Annex Table H.

- Suggestions/ Comments

The most frequent suggestions and comments that were raised regarding pot limits included limiting the number of pots based on vessel size and limiting pots per person (with suggestions anywhere between 250 and 500 pots per person being mentioned) (Table 1). With further suggestions of limiting the number of pots per vessel (with suggestions anywhere between 60-1000 per vessel), limiting the number of pots to current levels (limiting further effort increase) was also mentioned (Table 1). Further comment and suggestion themes raised can be seen in Table 1 and Annex Table H.

Table 1: Suggestions and comments for pot limits analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence data.

Suggestions List	Total Count
Pot limit based on vessel size	7
Pot limit 250-500 per person	6
Pot limit 60-1000 per vessel	3
Pot limit at current levels	3
Interaction between pot limits and maximum vessel size	2
Pot limit based on vessel size or per person	2
Pot limit license	2
Pot limits would be effective	2
Technology to aid enforcement of pot limits	2
Baseline of current pot numbers	1
Compensation scheme for reduced pot numbers	1

Historic pot limit of 10 pots/ foot of vessel	1
Interaction between pot limits and days at sea limit themes	1
Pot limit based on pot days and landings	1
Pot limit based on pot type	1
Pot limit based on vessel number	1
Pot limit for recreational fishing	1
Pot limit per string inshore	1
Pot limits to be phased in	1
Pot limits would be the most effective measure	1
Pot limits would decrease the number of sea days	1
Pot limits would have been achieved this year if Cornwall IFCA were able to remove >12 m vessels from the district	1
Removing vessels >12 m would reduce the number of pots	1
Solution for larger vessels	1
Spatial pot limits	1

- Concerns

The most frequently raised concern was the perceived difficulty of enforcing pot limits as a management measure. Loopholes to enforcement and resource requirement to enforce this measure were raised in those concerns. Further concern themes raised can be seen in Table 2 and Annex Table H.

Table 2: Concerns for pot limits analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Concerns List	Total Count
Difficult to enforce	22
Loopholes to enforcement	3
Resource requirement for Cornwall IFCA	3
Capacity of smaller vessels already restricted	1
Could be a lack of opportunity for new vessels/ entrants	1
Equality of pot limits	1
Fishery should not be taken over by corporate boats working more gear	1
Pot limits are not economically viable	1
Pot limits are not economically viable for vessels >10 m	1
Reduction to current level of gear	1
Small vessels with a large number of pots dominate fishing grounds	1
Vessels <10 m are working more pots than vessels >10 m	1

4.2.2 Gear Marking

- Response categorisation

34% of all responses were for gear marking as a form of effort management with a further 23% stating that gear marking was already being done (often this related to marking gear ends) (Figure 4). Only 5% of responses

were against gear marking, though a further 11% suggested that gear marking was not relevant or would not reduce effort (Figure 4). The analysis for gear marking is shown in Annex Table B.

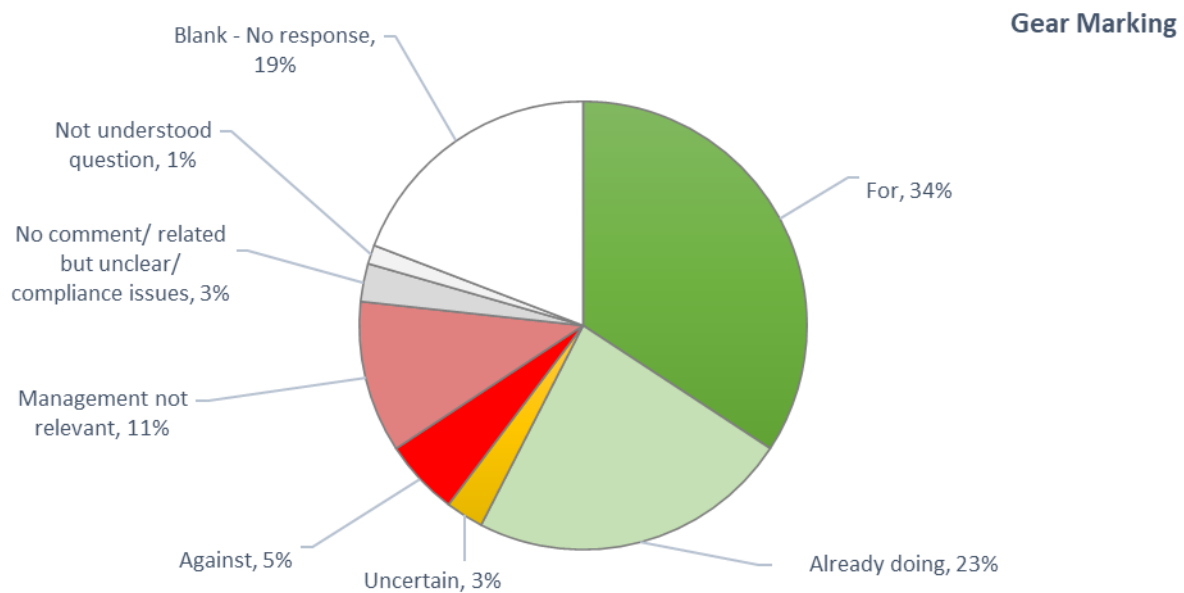


Figure 4: Pie chart showing a summary of the categorisation of responses for gear marking, analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence data.

The themes for gear marking and the suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA are shown in Annex Table I.

- Suggestions/ Comments

The most frequent suggestions and comments that were raised regarding gear marking included the comment that it was already happening, most commonly in terms of marking gear ends with dahns etc (Table 3). Further suggestions of tagging individual pots was also commonly raised, as was gear marking for recreational fishermen (Table 3). Further comment and suggestion themes can be seen in Table 3 and Annex Table I.

Table 3: Suggestions and comments for gear marking analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Suggestions List	Total Count
Already happening	14
Pot tags	8
For recreational fishermen	6
An effective tool	2
Cornwall IFCA to provide pot tags	2
Cornwall IFCA to replace lost tags	1
Licence per pot	1
Licence scheme	1
Not reduce effort	1
Permit renewed annually	1

Prevent areas being ringfenced	1
Reapply for lost gear	1
Reduce latent effort	1
Report lost gear	1
Track lost gear	1
Unsure what gear marking is	1

- Concerns

The most frequent concern raised was the difficulty in terms of enforcing gear marking as a management measure (Table 4). The cost of gear marking was also frequently raised as a concern (Table 4). Further concern themes raised can be seen in Table 4 and Annex Table I.

Table 4: Concerns for gear marking analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Concerns List	Total Count
Difficult to enforce	6
Cost	3
Inadequate gear marking by larger vessels	1
Inadequate gear marking by vivier crabbers	1
Lost tags	1
Resource requirement for Cornwall IFCA	1

4.2.3 Limiting Types of Pots

- Response categorisation

22% of responses were against limiting the types of pots used, with a further 8% suggesting that limiting the types of pots used was not relevant or would not reduce effort (Figure 5). Only 16% of all responses were for limiting the types of pots as a form of effort management, with a further 2% stating that limiting types of pots was already being done (relating to a respondent choosing to use bigger pots to reduce environmental impact) (Figure 5). The analysis for limiting the types of pots is shown in Annex Table C.

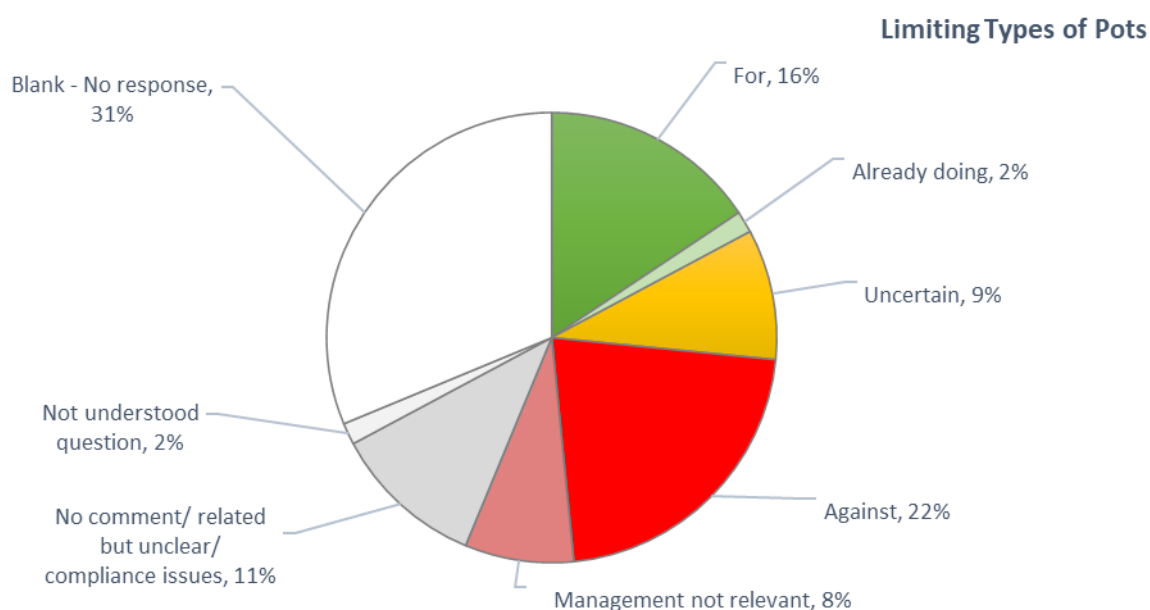


Figure 5: Pie chart showing a summary of the categorisation of responses for limiting the types of pots, analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence data.

The themes for limiting the types of pots and the suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA are shown in Annex Table J.

- Suggestions/ Comments

The most frequent suggestions and comments that were raised regarding limiting the types of pots used included the comments that larger pots are beneficial (to the fishermen, the fishery or the environment), that any pot limits should be based on the pot type and that newer pots are now more efficient than the older pots were (Table 5). Further comment and suggestion themes can be seen in Table 5 and Annex Table J.

Table 5: Suggestions and comments for limiting types of pots analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Suggestions List	Total Count
Larger pots beneficial	4
Pot limit based on pot type	3
Pots now more efficient	3
Easy to enforce with other measures	2
Larger vessels use larger pots	2
Already happening	1
Alternative pot designs will be sought if management not introduced	1
Apply for consent for new pot designs	1
Different pot types currently used	1
Larger pots less efficient	1
Larger pots more efficient	1
Limit use of larger pots	1
Limit use of more efficient pots	1

No coffin pots within 6 nm	1
No pot type restrictions for <7 m vessels	1
Not reduce effort	1
Phase out larger pots	1
Pot design to include sustainable measures	1
Pot limit per string based on pot type	1
Requires more research	1
Will make no difference	1
Will not benefit the crab fishery	1

- Concerns

The most frequent concern raised was the difficulty in terms of enforcing limits to the types of pots as a management measure (Table 6). Costs that could be incurred, through any limits on pot types, was also raised as a concern (Table 6). Further concern themes raised can be seen in Table 6 and Annex Table J.

Table 6: Concerns for limiting types of pots analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Concerns	Total Count
Difficult to enforce	6
Cost	2
Small vessels limited by weather	2
Cannot legislate against pot efficiency	1
Disposal of redundant pots	1
Safety issues	1

4.2.4 Changing the Maximum Vessel Size

- Response categorisation

74% of all responses were for changing the maximum vessel size as a form of effort management (the highest level of support shown across the effort management measures asked about) (Figure 6). Only 8% of responses were against changing the maximum vessel size (Figure 6). The analysis for changing the maximum vessel size is shown in Annex Table D.

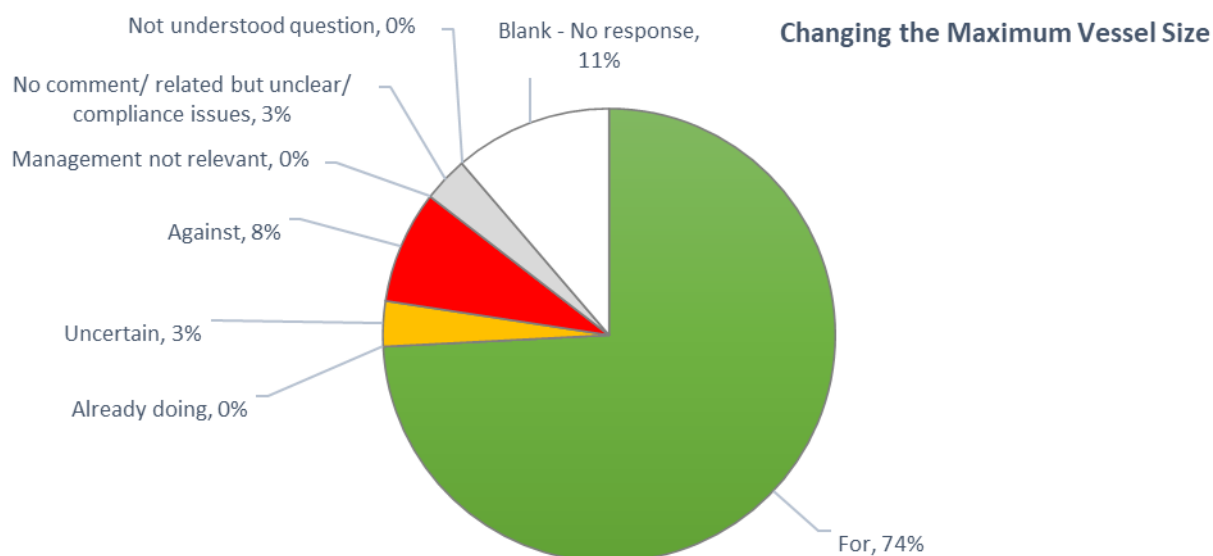


Figure 6: Pie chart showing a summary of the categorisation of responses for changing the maximum vessel size, analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence data.

The themes for changing the maximum vessel size and the suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA are shown in Annex Table K.

- Suggestions/ Comments

The most frequent suggestions and comments that were raised regarding changing maximum vessel size included the suggestion that no vivier crabbers, no vessels >12m in length and no vessels >10m in length should be allowed within the 6nm limit. With further suggestions that no vivier crabbers should be allowed within the 3nm or 6nm limit. (Table 7). Further comment and suggestion themes can be seen in Table 7 and Annex Table K.

Table 7: Suggestions and comments for changing the maximum vessel size analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from Call for Evidence response data.

Suggestions/ Comments	Total Count
No vivier crabber within 6 nm	9
No vessel >12 m within 6 nm	8
No vessel >10 m within 6 nm	7
No vivier crabber within 3 or 6 nm	4
Agreed with the proposed Crab and Lobster Pot Fishing (Restricted Vessels) Emergency Byelaw 2022	3
Interaction between vessel size and closed period themes	3
Negate need for a closed period during winter	3
Maximum vessel size <10 m	2
Protect inshore fleet	2
Definition of 'larger vessel' required	1
Easy to enforce	1

Fishing by smaller vessels is sustainable	1
Fishing effort by vessels >10 m has remained static	1
Grandfather rights to prevent new vessels	1
Interaction between vessel size and pot limits themes	1
Large vessels provides regular supply of product and employment	1
Management measures for vivier crabbers	1
Management of vivier crabbers would have the most impact on stock recovery	1
Maximum vessel size 10 m (with or without a tank) inside 6 nm (potting and netting)	1
Maximum vessel size 12 m with a single hull and 10 m catamaran	1
No measures for <10 m vessels	1
No vessel >10 m within 3 or 6 nm	1
No vessel >12 m (incl. Gemini catamarans) within 6 nm	1
No vessel >12 m (not incl. Gemini catamarans) within 6 nm	1
No vessel >14.5 m within 6 nm	1
Poor indicator of fishing pressure	1
Possible option for vessels >10 m	1
Prevent any new build vessels within 6 nm	1
Removing vessels >12 m would reduce the number of pots	1
Small protected areas where vessels >10 m are prohibited	1
Small vessels are not capable of overfishing	1
Smaller vessels should have priority to local fishing grounds	1
To be phased in	1
Vessel > 10 m does not fish within 6 nm during summer so cannot blame vessel size	1
Vessels >10 m have not caused the decline in stocks	1
Vessels >12 m have not caused the decline in stocks	1
Would only apply to new entrants as measures to exclude the existing fleet of larger vessels wouldn't get through	1

- Concerns

The most frequent concerns raised in relation to changing the maximum vessel size were that vessels >10m in length have greater capacity, and that smaller vessels are limited in their activity by weather (Table 8).

Loopholes to enforcement was also commonly raised when looking at changing the maximum vessel size as a management measure. Further concern themes raised can be seen in Table 8 and Annex Table K.

Table 8: Concerns for changing the maximum vessel size analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Concerns List	Total Count
Vessels >10 m have greater capability	26
Small vessels limited by weather	9
Loopholes to enforcement	5
Vivier crabbers dominate fishing grounds	3
Vivier crabbers have greater capability	3
Vivier crabbers not limited operationally	3
Forced out of business by vivier crabbers	2
If vivier crabbers continue, there will be empty harbours in the future	2
Increase in effort by vivier crabbers	2

Increase in the number of vivier crabbers	2
Small vessels restricted to inshore fishing grounds	2
Spatial squeeze by vivier crabbers	2
Vessels >10 m dominate fishing grounds	2
Vessels >10 m forcing smaller vessels out of business	2
Vessels >10 m have overfished brown crab	2
Vessels >10 m targeting lobster stock	2
Vessels >10 m threatening future of small vessels	2
Vivier crabbers are destroying local fishing communities	2
Vivier crabbers catch a significant quantity of stock	2
Disparity in effort between vivier crabbers and small vessels	1
Displacement	1
Future of small vessels under threat if no management introduced	1
Increase effort inshore	1
Increase effort inshore by smaller vessels if vivier crabbers are forced offshore	1
Increase in effort by small vessels using more pots	1
Increase in effort targeting lobster by vivier crabbers	1
Increase in pot soak time by all vessels	1
Increase in the number of pots by all vessels	1
Increase In the number of vessels >10 m with aerated tanks	1
Loss of employment	1
No benefit to the crustacean fishery	1
No future for small vessels if vivier crabbers are not excluded	1
No future while larger vessels are operational	1
Reduced supply of crab to processors	1
Reduced supply to market during poor weather	1
Reduction to local economy	1
Risk of damage to gear by trawlers if vivier crabbers have to work offshore	1
Rumours there will be an increase in the number of vessels >10 m	1
Small vessel owners will always complain about larger vessels, major issues being overlooked in a bias blame	1
Small vessels have had their gear cut due to longer strings of gear being worked	1
Small vessels have limited capability	1
Spatial squeeze	1
Spatial squeeze by vessels >10 m	1
Stopped fishing due to decrease in wages while vivier crabbers work more gear	1
Too much effort by vessels >10 m on brown crab	1
Variations to market price	1
Vessels >10 m cause the most damage to stock levels of all species	1
Vessels >10 m have caused a decline in stock levels by overfishing	1
Vessels >10 m have more crew	1
Vessels >10 m overfishing lobster	1
Vessels >10 m will be replaced with more efficient vessels	1
Vessels >10 m working inshore fishing grounds	1
Vivier crabbers are overfishing	1
Vivier crabbers have been fishing the ground harder than ever before since the emergency byelaw didn't go through	1
Vivier crabbers have the potential to cause the collapse of fish stocks	1
Vivier crabbers have the potential to put small vessels out of business	1

Vivier crabbers will move to other areas when there is nothing left to catch	1
Would like to return to fishing but will not until vessels >10 m have greater restrictions	1

4.2.5 Closed Periods

- Response categorisation

49% of all responses were for closed periods as a form of effort management (the third highest level of support shown across the effort management measures asked about), with a further 15% stating that closed period were in some form already being done, in relation to smaller vessels being restricted by weather in the winter (Figure 7). Only 10% were against closed periods as a form of effort management (Figure 7). The analysis for closed periods is shown in Annex Table E.

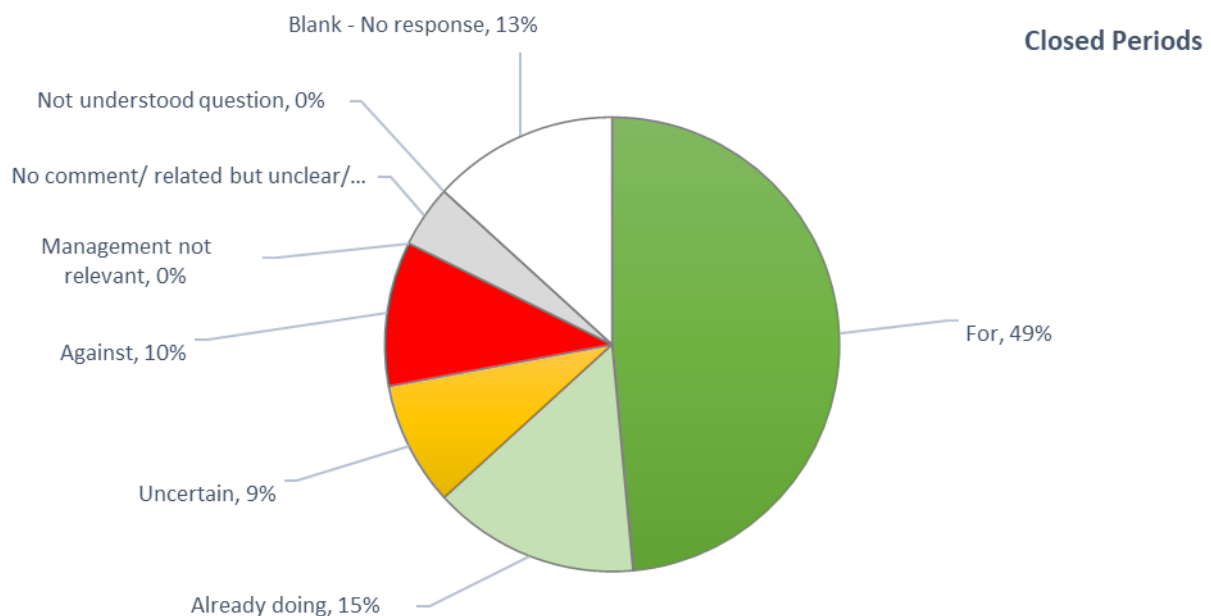


Figure 7: Pie chart showing a summary of the categorisation of responses for closed periods, analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence data.

The themes for closed periods and the suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA are shown in Annex Table L.

- Suggestions/ Comments

The most frequent suggestions and comments that were raised regarding closed periods included the suggestion that closed periods should be in place during the winter, that closed periods already happen with smaller vessels (due to weather and vessel capabilities) and the comment that potting used to stop over the winter (due to vessel sizes being smaller, but that now larger vessels can work over winter, so potting is all

round for larger vessels) (Table 9). Further comment and suggestion themes can be seen in Table 9 and Annex Table L.

Table 9: Suggestions and comments for closed periods analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Suggestions List	Total Count
Closed period during winter	12
Potting used to stop over winter	10
Already happening for small vessels	9
Small vessels limited due to weather	8
Closed period winter to spring	7
Interaction between closed periods and vessel size themes	4
No need for closed period if maximum vessel size changed	3
Small vessels limited by weather	3
Closed period for vessels >10m	2
Closed period over spawning period	2
Closed period winter to protect berried hens	2
Easy to enforce	2
Gear should be bought ashore in winter	2
Allowed to tend to gear to maintain during closed period	1
Closed period to include all types of fishing to let the ground rest	1
Closed period winter to spring for crawfish	1
Closed period winter to spring from 3 to 6 nm	1
Closed period winter to spring to protect crab stocks and breeding lobsters	1
Closed period winter to spring within 3 nm	1
Closed periods effective	1
Closed periods for vessels > 10m	1
Compensation scheme	1
Enable time to enforce gear marking	1
Fishing already limited by sea temperature stopping shellfish moving	1
Flexibility to declare which months they would fish	1
For recreational fishermen only	1
Hard to define as crustacea have an extended breeding season	1
Last resort measure	1
Provide time to quantify pot numbers	1
Reduce conflict with other fishing gear	1
Small vessel to have priority access to fishing ground after closure	1
Small vessels bring gear ashore over winter	1
Small vessels bring gear ashore over winter to let ground rest	1
Small vessels do not work over winter	1
Smaller vessels are restricted by strict inshore management	1
Vessels > 10m can work in all weathers	1

- Concerns

The most frequent concern raised regarding closed periods as a form of effort management was issues that may arise regarding storage of gear over the winter (during potential closed period), and that vessels >10m in

length have greater capability. Additionally, concerns that gear may be left out over winter and remain fishing, causing further issues was raised (Table 10). Further concern themes raised can be seen in Table 10 and Annex Table L.

Table 10: Concerns for closed periods analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Suggestions List	Total Count
Storing gear ashore over winter	4
Vessels >10 m have greater capability	4
Gear would be left at sea and still fish	2
Difficult to find best time as smaller and larger vessels would want a different period	1
Financial	1
Gear left at sea could be damaged	1
Gear left at sea could be lost to storms or trawlers	1
Good crab fishery in winter for vivier vessels	1
Implications on market and crew could be considerable	1
Increase in effort when fishery opens	1
Large market for shellfish over Christmas period	1
Lobster fishery sustains smaller vessels during winter	1
No compensation for closed period	1
Not suitable due to species migration	1
Pressure on quota species	1
Small vessels need to work all year round to sustain income	1
Vivier crabbers not limited operationally	1

4.2.6 Days at Sea Limits

- Response categorisation

20% of all responses were for days at sea limits, with a further 25% stating that days at sea limits were in some form already being done, in relation to smaller vessels being restricted by weather in the winter (Figure 8). 22% were against days at sea limits as a form of effort management (Figure 8). The analysis for days at sea limits is shown in Annex Table F.

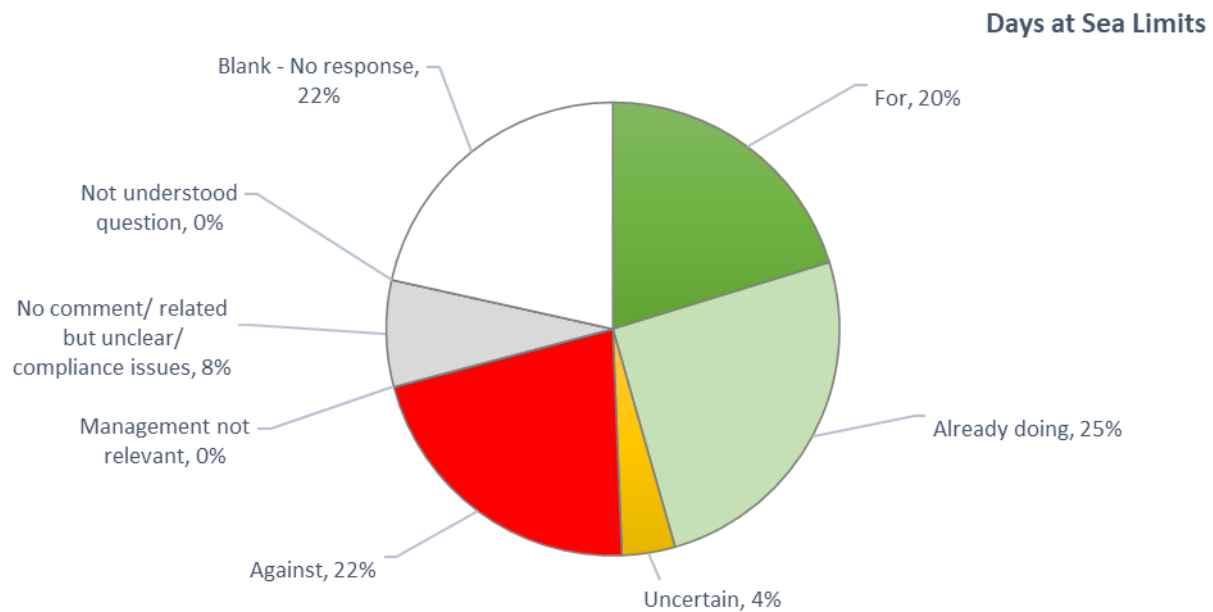


Figure 8: Pie chart showing a summary of the categorisation of responses for days at sea limits, analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence data.

The themes for days at sea limits and the suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA are shown in Annex Table M.

- Suggestions/ Comments

The most frequent suggestions and comments that were raised regarding days at sea limits included the comments that days at sea limits are in some form already happening for smaller vessels and that small vessels are limited by weather. Further suggestions that days at sea limits for vessels >10m would be appropriate and further comments highlighting that >15m vessels are already restricted, relating to the Western Waters 15m and over vessel kilowatt days at sea regulations, were also frequent in responses (Table 11). Further comment and suggestion themes can be seen in Table 11 and Annex Table M.

Table 11: Suggestions and comments for days at sea limits analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Suggestions List	Total Count
Already happening for small vessels	22
Small vessels limited due to weather	21
Limits for vessels > 10 m	6
Vessels > 15m already restricted	4
Easy to enforce	3
Allocated by area to be fished	1
Apply to all classes or sizes of vessel	1
Consider impact of weather on smaller vessels	1
Days at sea limits effective	1
Days at sea limits to be carried over	1

Depends on how many vessels companies own	1
Effort by all vessels and impact on market reduced	1
Interaction between days at sea limits and maximum vessel size themes	1
Interaction between days at sea limits and pot limits themes	1
Larger vessels would leave gear at sea all year round	1
Limits for different species and not a total ban	1
Limits for vessels > 12 m	1
Limits for vivier vessels	1
Maximum impact on recovery of stock	1
No need for days at sea limits if maximum vessel size changed and larger vessels worked outside 6 nm	1
Phased in	1
Pot limits would decrease the number of days at sea	1
Small vessels limited by bait availability	1
Take into account current effort by pot numbers or kilowatt/days	1
Would only affect larger vessels	1

- Concerns

The most frequent concerns raised regarding days at sea limits as a form of effort management were loopholes to enforcement that may arise with this form of effort management, as well as the concern that vessels >10m in length have greater capability (Table 12). Additionally, the difficulty to enforce days at sea limits was also commonly mentioned. Further concern themes raised can be seen in Table 12 and Annex Table M.

Table 12: Concerns for days at sea limits analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Concerns	Total Count
Loopholes to enforcement	7
Vessels >10 m have greater capability	5
Difficult to enforce	4
Gear would be left at sea and still fish	2
Large companies would buy more vessels	2
Not reduce effort	2
Increase in pot numbers	1
Vivier crabbers not limited operationally	1
Would cause small vessels to take more risks	1
Would encourage smaller vessels to work in poor weather	1

4.2.7 Increased Management of Recreational Fishing

- Response categorisation

35% of all responses were 'for' increased management of recreational fishing. 10% stated that recreational management was already in place (this related to existing Cornwall IFCA management measures being sufficient with some respondents stating that increased stakeholder awareness and enforcement of current

measures would be beneficial) (Figure 9). 4% were against increased management of recreational fishing with a further 17% stating that this form of effort management would not be relevant or would not reduce effort (often stated lack of impact on shellfish stocks and/or commercial fishermen and to the relevance to the respondents fishing area) (Figure 9).

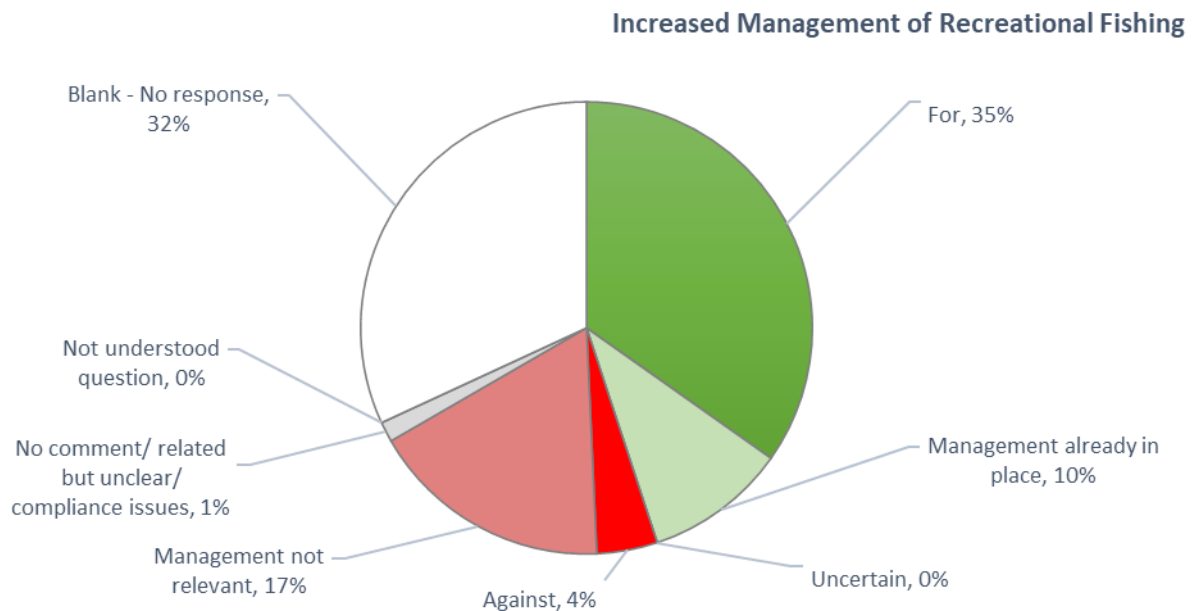


Figure 9: Pie chart showing a summary of the categorisation of responses for increased management of recreational fishing, analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence data.

The themes for increased management of recreational fishing and the suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA are shown in Annex Table N.

- **Suggestions/ Comments**

The most frequent suggestions and comments that were raised regarding increasing management of recreational fishing included the suggestion that stricter enforcement measures are needed for recreational fishermen and gear marking for recreational fishermen (Table 13). Further comments that were less common included current measures being enough (with some of these respondents also mentioning that increased enforcement of current measures would be beneficial) and the suggestion that pot limits should be in place for recreational fishermen (Table 13). Further comment and suggestion themes can be seen in Table 13 and Annex Table N.

Table 13: Suggestions and comments for increased management of recreational fishing analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Suggestions List	Total Count
Stricter enforcement measures for recreational fishermen	7
Gear marking for recreational fishermen	6
Current measures enough	4
Educate recreational fishermen	4

Pot limits for recreational fishermen	4
Effect of recreational fishing is minimal	3
Permit for recreational fishermen	3
Recreational fishing does not impact stock levels	2
Recreational fishing is not a threat to stocks	2
Recreational fishing not relevant to area	2
2 shellfish a day (maybe 1 crab/ 1 lobster)	1
Cap on the number of pots allowed to be used (3 pots)	1
Closed periods for recreational fishermen	1
Greater resource directed at recreational fishermen	1
Increase in recreational fishing activity	1
Licence scheme for recreational fishermen	1
Limit the number of crustaceans taken by recreational fishermen	1
Management effort should be directed at crab and lobster fishery than recreational	1
Management effort should be directed at larger vessels than recreational	1
More beneficial to direct measures at commercial fishermen if there are time constraints	1
Pot limit 4 per person for recreational fishermen	1
Pot limit 5 per person for recreational fishermen	1
Recreational fishermen do not need two lobsters a day	1
Recreational fishermen should abide by the same measures as commercial fishermen	1
Recreational fishermen should not have store pots	1
Recreational fishermen should pay a fee to take one lobster a day	1
Recreational fishermen targeting lobster	1
Recreational fishing does not impact brown crab stock levels	1
Reduction in the number of shellfish allowed to be taken (1 lobster, 2 crab)	1
Single pots for recreational fishermen	1
Stricter management measures for recreational fishermen	1
Two pots sufficient	1
Will make no real difference	1

- Concerns

The most frequent concern raised was the occurrence of illegal fishing in the recreational sector and the difficulty of enforcing increases in management of recreational fishing (Table 14). Further concern themes raised can be seen in Table 14 and Annex Table N.

Table 14: Concerns for increased management of recreational fishing analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Concerns	Total Count
Occurrence of illegal fishing	13
Difficult to enforce	5
Access to inshore fishing ground limited by recreational fishermen during summer months	1
Current management for recreational fishing is insufficient	1
Ghost fishing from recreational gear	1
Recreational fishermen working 20 to 30 pots	1

Several recreational boats working 20 to 30 pots	1
Some recreational fishing should be classified as commercial	1

4.2.8 Other

On of top responses to the seven effort management measures, many responses contained other suggestions, comments and concerns that the below tables highlight in themes.

The themes for other and the suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA are shown in Annex Table O.

- Suggestions/ Comments

Among the other suggestions and comments the most frequent suggestions included the need for stricter prosecutions, the need for uniform minimum landing size limits in the crustacean fishery for both inside and outside the Cornwall IFCA District, escape hatches on all pots (Table 15). Further comment and suggestion themes can be seen in Table 15 and Annex Table O.

Table 15: Suggestions and comments for all other comments analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data.

Suggestions List	Total Count
Stricter prosecution required	9
Minimum landing size should be uniform inside and outside District	6
Escape hatches on all pots	4
Closed areas	3
Prohibition for landing soft brown crab	3
Step approach resulting in loss of permit	3
Updated stock assessment required	3
Implement maximum landing size for lobster	2
Implement quota	2
Increase minimum landing size for brown crab	2
Increase minimum landing size for lobster by 2-3 mm	2
Management required	2
Market improvement for spider crab	2
Prohibition to use non-UK Nationals as crew	2
Proposed a working group	2
Remote technology for management	2
Restricted licence within 3 nm	2
Sufficient evidence required for management measures	2
Adaptive management	1
At minimum, restrict fishery at current level	1
Cap on the number of shellfish permits	1
Catch limit for no shellfish entitlement should be reduced	1
Cornwall IFCA to check vivier tanks during inspections	1
Cornwall IFCA to raise awareness of berried shellfish legislation	1
Crab fishing is seasonal	1
Current stock status increase in mature shellfish	1
Detain offenders	1
Differences around the coast needs to be considered	1
Effectiveness of lobster hatchery not proven	1

Evidence breeding to support minimum landing size	1
Food web considerations for management	1
Good crab fishery in winter	1
Greater presence of Cornwall IFCA officers on quays	1
Implement maximum landing size	1
Implement maximum landing size for female lobster	1
Implement TAC for brown crab	1
Increase fines for offenders	1
Increase in lobster landings	1
Increase minimum landing size	1
Increase minimum landing size for brown cock crab by 10 mm	1
Increase minimum landing size for brown hen crab	1
Increase minimum landing size for brown hen crab by 5 mm	1
Increase minimum landing size for crawfish to 110 mm	1
Increase minimum landing size for lobster	1
Increase minimum landing size for male spider crab by 10-20 mm	1
Increase minimum landing size for spider crab	1
Increase prosecution for repeat offenders	1
Increased enforcement checks by Cornwall IFCA	1
Increased management needed for non shellfish licenced boats	1
Limit on new licences	1
Lobster Hatchery does not have capacity to restock the fishery	1
Management has to be enforceable	1
Management required for angling vessels	1
Management required for lobster stock	1
Notching carapace of brown crab	1
Prohibition for landing brown crab claws	1
Prohibition for landing crab claws	1
Prohibition for landing crippled brown crab	1
Prohibition for landing spider crab claws	1
Prohibition for scalloping	1
Prohibition for taking white crab and whelk bait	1
Promote/ Fund lobster hatchery	1
Prosecution to reflect seriousness of offence	1
Quantifiable measures for management	1
Seasonal prohibition for scalloping to protect spawning crab	1
Single pots are sustainable	1
Stricter prosecution required for commercial and recreational	1
Supports v-notching lobsters	1
Supports work of lobster hatchery	1
Temporary suspension of licence for 6 months	1
Update Cornwall IFCA permit scheme	1
Use remote technology for enforcement	1
Use remote technology to provide baseline fishing activity information	1
Use sensors on hauls, remote electronic monitoring and pot tags	1
Use technological management measures	1

- Concerns

Amongst the other concerns raised the most frequent were the view that brown crab is overexploited, the issues that were caused by government grants for gear that increased the number of pots on the ground and in general the large amount of gear that is on the grounds (Table 16). Other less frequently mentioned concerns included the occurrence of illegal fishing, fishing ground getting no rest from fishing and a lack of stakeholder engagement (Table 16). Further concern themes raised can be seen in Table 16 and Annex Table O.

Table 16: Concerns for all other comments analysed and grouped by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Concerns List	Total Count
Brown crab overexploited	18
Government grants for gear	13
Large amount of gear on ground	11
Occurrence of illegal fishing	6
Fishing ground gets no rest	5
Lack of effective stakeholder engagement	5
Increase in effort	4
Increase in gear size	4
Lobster overexploited	4
Gear on ground navigational hazard	3
Increase in common octopus	3
Increase in soak time	3
Decrease in lobster catch	2
Distrust between Cornwall IFCA and stakeholders	2
Fishery not economically viable	2
Fishing occurs year round	2
Inappropriate application of the precautionary principle	2
Increase in effort targeting lobster	2
Limited representation of fishing interest on the Cornwall IFCA committee	2
Loss of earnings due to stricter management	2
Not enough enforcement checks by Cornwall IFCA	2
Shellfish overexploited	2
Spatial squeeze	2
Spider crab market collapsed	2
Use of non-UK Nationals as crew	2
Brown crab with both claws removed	1
Business closed due to lack of management	1
Chemical use for cleaning gear at sea	1
Cornwall IFCA non-compliance with high level objectives	1
Cornwall IFCA permit return statistics are not a true reflection of the actual fishing effort	1
Cornwall IFCA resource limitations for management	1
Damage to catch	1
Decrease in V-notched lobsters	1
Difficult to enforce using remote technology	1
Escape hatches do not reduce catch	1
Fishery may be data deficient	1
Fishery not economically viable for small vessels	1
Increase in effort to stay economically viable	1
Increased angling boats inshore	1
Increased in lobster landings due to pot type	1

Lack of local economic gain shellfish industry due to non-UK Nationals working as crew	1
Lack of research of the crustacean fishery by Cornwall IFCA	1
Landing of brown crab claws by netters	1
Loopholes to enforcement	1
Loss of employment due to lack of management	1
MMO data maybe incorrect during Covid-19	1
Parlour pots do not have escape hatches	1
Pre-recruit lobster stock decline	1
Resource requirement for Cornwall IFCA	1
Short periods of reasonable fishing and then it declines	1
Static gear preventing bottom towed gear vessels	1
Technological creep extended fishing season	1
Undetected illegal fishing	1
Unregulated trade of fish	1
Vessels turn off AIS	1
Vivier crabbers impacting handlining and angling	1

4.3 Summary

Table 17 represents a summary of the responses to the 2023 Call for Evidence presented above. The highest level of support was shown for changing the maximum vessel size, followed by pot limits and closed periods across the effort management measures asked about.

Table 17. Summary of responses for the seven effort management measures considered in the Cornwall IFCA 2023 Call for Evidence.

Effort management measures	Percent of responses (%)							
	For	Already doing	Uncertain	Against	Management not relevant	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Not understood question	Blank - No response
Pot Limits	69	0	5	5	0	13	0	8
Gear Marking	34	23	3	5	11	3	1	19
Limiting Types of Pots	16	2	9	22	8	11	2	31
Changing the Maximum Vessel Size	74	0	3	8	0	3	0	11
Closed Periods	49	15	9	10	0	4	0	13
Days at Sea Limits	20	25	4	22	0	8	0	22
Increased Management of Recreational Fishing	35	10	0	4	17	1	0	32

5 Limitations

The main limitation of the 2023 Call for Evidence was the number of participants that chose to respond.

The call for evidence was designed to allow stakeholders to freely voice suggestions for effort management and therefore was very unstructured in terms of response format. This makes quantitative analysis of the responses difficult preventing clear 'for' and 'against' categorisation meaning that some responses could not be categorised either way.

6 References

Street, K., Sturgeon, S., Jenkin, A., and Trundle, C. 2022. Cornwall IFCA CFMP Questionnaire Response Brief Summary. Cornwall Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (Cornwall IFCA), Hayle.

7 Appendices

7.1 Response Categorisation Analysis

7.1.1 Pot Limits

Annex Table A: Response categorisation analysis for pot limits analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
001	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
002	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
003	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
004	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
005	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
006	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
007	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
008	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
009	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
010	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
011	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
012	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
013	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
014	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
015	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
016	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
017	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
018	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
019	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
020	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
021	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
022	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
023	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
024	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
025	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
026	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
027	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
028	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
029	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
030	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
031	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
032	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
033	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
034	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
035	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
036	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
037	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
038	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
039	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
040	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
041	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
042	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
043	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
044	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
045	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
046	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
047	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
048	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
049	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
050	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
051	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
052	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
053	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
054	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
055	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
056	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
057	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
058	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
059	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
060	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
061	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

7.1.2 Gear Marking

Annex Table B: Response categorisation analysis for gear marking analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	Already doing	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
001	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
003	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
004	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
005	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
006	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
007	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
008	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
009	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
010	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
011	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
012	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
013	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
014	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
015	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
016	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
017	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
018	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
019	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
020	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
021	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
022	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
023	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
024	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
025	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
026	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
027	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
028	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
029	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
030	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
031	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	Already doing	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
032	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
033	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
034	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
035	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
036	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
037	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
038	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
039	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
040	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
041	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
042	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
043	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
044	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
045	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
046	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
047	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
048	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
049	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
050	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
051	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
052	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
053	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
054	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
055	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
056	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
057	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
058	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
059	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
060	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
061	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

7.1.3 Limiting Types of Pots

Annex Table C: Response categorisation analysis for limiting the types of pots analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	Already doing	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
001	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
002	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
003	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
005	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
006	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
007	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
008	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
009	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
010	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
011	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
012	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
013	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
014	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
015	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
016	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
017	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
018	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
019	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
020	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
021	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
022	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
023	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
025	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
026	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
027	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
028	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
029	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
030	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
031	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	Already doing	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
032	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
033	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
034	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
035	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
036	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
037	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
038	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
039	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
040	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
041	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
042	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
043	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
044	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
045	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
046	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
047	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
048	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
049	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
050	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
051	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
052	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
053	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
054	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
055	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
056	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
057	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
058	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
059	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
060	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
061	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

7.1.4 Changing the Maximum Vessel Size

Annex Table D: Response categorisation analysis for changing the maximum vessel size analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
001	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
002	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
003	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
004	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
005	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
006	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
007	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
008	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
009	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
010	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
011	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
012	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
013	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
014	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
015	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
016	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
017	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
018	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
019	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
020	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
021	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
022	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
023	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
024	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
025	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
026	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
027	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
028	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
029	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
030	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
031	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
032	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
033	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
034	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
035	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
036	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
037	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
038	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
039	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
040	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
041	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
042	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
043	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
044	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
045	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
046	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
047	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
048	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
049	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
050	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
051	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
052	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
053	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
054	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
055	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
056	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
057	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
058	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
059	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
060	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
061	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

7.1.5 Closed Periods

Annex Table E: Response categorisation analysis for closed periods analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	Already doing	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
001	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
002	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
003	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
004	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
005	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
006	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
007	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
008	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
009	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
010	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
011	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
012	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
013	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
014	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
015	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
016	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
017	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
018	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
019	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
020	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
021	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
022	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
023	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
024	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
025	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
026	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
027	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
028	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
029	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
030	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
031	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	Already doing	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
032	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
033	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
034	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
035	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
036	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
037	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
038	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
039	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
040	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
041	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
042	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
043	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
044	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
045	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
046	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
047	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
048	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
049	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
050	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
051	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
052	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
053	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
054	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
055	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
056	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
057	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
058	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
059	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
060	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
061	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

7.1.6 Days at Sea Limits

Annex Table F: Response categorisation analysis for days at sea limits analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	Already doing	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
001	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
002	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
003	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
005	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
006	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
007	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
008	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
009	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
010	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
011	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
012	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
013	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
014	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
015	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
016	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
017	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
018	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
019	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
020	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
021	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
022	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
023	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
024	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
025	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
026	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
027	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
028	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
029	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
030	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
031	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant/ Would not reduce effort	Already doing	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
032	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
033	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
034	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
035	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
036	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
037	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
038	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
039	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
040	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
041	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
042	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
043	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
044	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
045	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
046	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
047	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
048	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
049	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
050	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
051	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
052	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
053	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
054	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
055	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
056	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
057	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
058	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
059	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
060	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
061	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

7.1.7 Increased Management of Recreational Fishing

Annex Table G: Response categorisation analysis for increased management of recreational fishing analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant (to area fished/ impact on stock)	Management already in place	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
001	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
002	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
003	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
005	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
006	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
007	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
008	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
009	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
010	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
011	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
012	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
013	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
014	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
015	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
016	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
017	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
018	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
019	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
020	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
021	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
022	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
023	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
024	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
025	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
026	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
027	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
028	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
029	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
030	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
031	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

Respondents	For	Against	Uncertain	Management not relevant (to area fished/ impact on stock)	Management already in place	No comment/ related but unclear/ compliance issues	Blank - No response	Not understood question
032	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
033	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
034	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
035	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
036	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
037	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
038	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
039	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
040	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
041	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
042	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
043	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
044	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
045	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
046	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
047	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
048	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
049	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
050	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
051	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
052	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
053	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
054	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
055	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
056	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
057	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
058	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
059	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
060	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
061	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

7.2 Suggestion/ Comments Analysis

7.2.1 Pot Limits

Annex Table H: Themes for pot limits and interpreted suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Against pot limits	2				
Against pot limits for <10 m vessels	1	x		Pot limit based on vessel size	
Big companies might operate more vessels if pot limits are introduced per vessel	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
Removing vessels >12 m would reduce the number of pots, achieving more than a pot limit	1	x		Interaction between pot limits and maximum vessel size	
	1	x		Removing vessels >12 m would reduce the number of pots	
Concerned about field enforcement costs of pot limits, administrative costs of pot limits, tag costs (initial and replacement) and tag trading	1		x		Resource requirement for Cornwall IFCA
Concerned about the equitably allocation of pot limits	1		x		Equality of pot limits
Concerned all fishermen will be restricted to a percentage reduction in pot numbers	1		x		Reduction to current level of gear
Cornwall IFCA does not have the resources to enforce pot limits	1		x		Resource requirement for Cornwall IFCA
Cornwall IFCA would have to provide effective administration of a pot limit scheme, tags to identify pots and replace tags	1		x		Resource requirement for Cornwall IFCA
Difficult to enforce pot limits	20		x		Difficult to enforce
Difficult to enforce pot limits if introduced per vessel size or per crew numbers	1		x		Difficult to enforce
Fishermen would buy bigger vessels if pots limits/ vessel size were introduced to maximise the number of pots they could work	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
Fishermen would use loop holes such as employing more crew or saying crew members were off sick if pots limits/ crew numbers were introduced	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
For larger vessels, pot limits is the answer	1	x		Solution for larger vessels	
General view that there is an increase in fishing effort and the fishery is in danger of being overexploited, but the fisheries data is not of sufficient longevity and quality to act as the basis for evidence-based management. Under these conditions, it was reported that consideration be given to hold fishing effort at the current level with an immediate cap on pot numbers	1	x		Pot limit at current levels	
If a population assessment concludes that fishing effort is to be changed then a 'sunset' period could be applied to assist in overcoming the concerns of fishermen and a compensation scheme considered where pot numbers are required to be reduced	1	x		Compensation scheme for reduced pot numbers	
If a pot limit is introduced it should not stop opportunities for new vessels from fishing	1		x		Could be a lack of opportunity for new vessels/ entrants
In favour of calculating pot limit/ vessel by using a formula based on vessel VCU's to pot numbers	1	x		Pot limit based on vessel size	
In favour of categorising pots due to increased catchability of different pots within pot limits	1	x		Pot limit based on pot type	
In favour of pot limits	37				
In favour of pot limits (licensing)	2	x		Pot limit license	
In favour of pot limits >10 m vessels	1	x		Pot limit based on vessel size	
In favour of pot limits for recreational fishing	1	x		Pot limit for recreational fishing	
In favour of pot limits per vessel length or per man	1	x		Pot limit based on vessel size or per person	
In favour of using extensive tracking and camera technology to enforce pot limits	1	x		Technology to aid enforcement of pot limits	
Knowing the current number of pots is critical to establish a baseline	1	x		Baseline of current pot numbers	
Many <10 m vessels are working more pots than >10 m vessels	1		x		Vessels <10 m are working more pots than vessels >10 m
Pot limits are not viable	1		x		Pot limits are not economically viable
Pot limits could be enforceable using iVMS	1	x		Technology to aid enforcement of pot limits	
Pot limits could be phased in over a period of time	1	x		Pot limits to be phased in	
Pot limits only enforceable by inspection	1		x		Difficult to enforce
Pot limits would be effective in monitoring and protecting brown crab stocks	1	x		Pot limits would be effective	
Pot limits would be the most effective mechanism to manage fishing effort and sustainable management for the brown crab population	1	x		Pot limits would be the most effective measure	
Pot limits would decrease the number of sea days as fewer pots to work	1	x		Pot limits would decrease the number of sea days	
	1	x		Interaction between pot limits and days at sea limit themes	
Pot limits would have been achieved this year if Cornwall IFCA were able to remove >12 m vessels from the district	1	x		Pot limits would have been achieved this year if Cornwall IFCA were able to remove >12 m vessels from the district	
Pot limits would impact bigger boats by decreasing the profitability and making them not viable	1		x		Pot limits are not economically viable for vessels >10 m
	1	x		Interaction between pot limits and maximum vessel size	
Proposed limiting the number of pots in a string within 1 mile of the coast	1	x		Pot limit per string inshore	
Proposed pot limit based on boat length (<8 m 400 pots, 8-10 m 750/800 pots, 10-12 m 1000 pots, 12 m+ 1250 pots) estimated	1	x		Pot limit based on vessel size	
Proposed pot limit of 1000/ vessel	1	x		Pot limit 60-1000 per vessel	
Proposed pot limit of 250/ person	1	x		Pot limit 250-500 per person	

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Proposed pot limit of 300-400/ person	1	x		Pot limit 250-500 per person	
Proposed pot limit of 500/ person	1	x		Pot limit 250-500 per person	
Proposed pot limit of 500/ vessel (isle of man model)	1	x		Pot limit 60-1000 per vessel	
Proposed pot limit of 60-100/ vessel	1	x		Pot limit 60-1000 per vessel	
Proposed pot limits calculated by vessel size	1	x		Pot limit based on vessel size	
Proposed pot limits depending on number of vessels companies own	1	x		Pot limit based on vessel number	
Proposed pot limits of 400/ person	1	x		Pot limit 250-500 per person	
Proposed pot limits of 500/ person	1	x		Pot limit 250-500 per person	
Proposed pot limits of 500/ vessel	1	x		Pot limit 250-500 per person	
Proposed pot limits set per crew number	1	x		Pot limit based on vessel size or per person	
Reported that consideration should be given to freezing the number of pots at current levels while the status of the fishery is assessed and the principles of a pot limit developed	1	x		Pot limit at current levels	
Reported that historically pot limits have been allocated by vessel size	1	x		Pot limit based on vessel size	
Reported that pot limits have been successful in other fisheries	1	x		Pot limits would be effective	
Reported that pot limits have included regional caps being placed on both effort (essentially pot-days) and overall landings (tones). Per vessel upper limits would then be placed on the number of pots that can be handled by individual vessels – probably allocated on the basis of a combination of the physical parameters of the vessel and the scale of operation of the business. For those potting vessels landing shellfish of a value exceeding a certain threshold figure a per vessel catch quota would also be applied – the intention being to focus this second-tier control on that part of the fleet landing the most crab. For each of these areas set an upper ceiling for pot numbers and landings set at no higher than the levels operating today. Where appropriate these levels could be sub-divided between inshore and offshore regimes	1	x		Pot limit based on vessel size	
	1	x		Pot limit based on pot days and landings	
	1	x		Spatial pot limits	
	1	x		Pot limit at current levels	
Small vessels already limited by the number of pots they can work	1		x		Capacity of smaller vessels already restricted
Small vessels with large number of pots dominate fishing grounds	1		x		Small vessels with a large number of pots dominate fishing grounds
The shellfish fishery should not be taken over by corporate boats working thousands of pots	1		x		Fishery should not be taken over by corporate boats working more gear
There used to be a typical rule of 10 pots/ foot of vessel in the 80's which was profitable	1	x		Historic pot limit of 10 pots/ foot of vessel	

7.2.2 Gear Marking

Annex Table I: Themes for gear marking and interpreted suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Against gear marking	3				
An effective gear marking scheme may assist in identifying the impact of ringfencing as a means of protecting fishing grounds	1	x		Prevent areas being ringfenced	
Concerned about field enforcement costs of pot limits, administrative costs of pot limits, tag costs (initial and replacement) and tag trading	1		x		Resource requirement for Cornwall IFCA
Concerned about the expense of gear marking, especially if gear is lost	1		x		Cost
Cornwall IFCA would have to provide effective administration of a pot limit scheme, tags to identify pots and replace tags	1	x		Cornwall IFCA to provide pot tags	
	1	x		Cornwall IFCA to replace lost tags	
Cornwall IFCA would need to provide tags	1	x		Cornwall IFCA to provide pot tags	
Difficult to enforce gear marking	6		x		Difficult to enforce
Gear marking could also be used to reduce latent effort by requiring identification of active and latent effort	1	x		Reduce latent effort	
Gear marking has been successful in other fisheries	1	x		An effective tool	
Gear marking is already happening	13	x		Already happening	
Gear marking is already happening in local area	1	x		Already happening	
Gear marking is expensive	1		x		Cost
Gear marking might be beneficial	1				
Gear marking schemes could become an effective mechanism of monitoring and influencing pot design	1	x		An effective tool	
Gear marking would be an extra expense to fishermen if gear is lost	1		x		Cost
Gear marking would not reduce effort	1	x		Not reduce effort	
In favour of a licence per pot and if lost would need to be reapplied for	1	x		Licence per pot	
	1	x		Reapply for lost gear	
In favour of an allocated tag system per pot, allocated on renewal of a permit each year	1	x		Pot tags	
	1	x		Permit renewed annually	
In favour of gear marking	16				
In favour of gear marking (permitted number of tags for identifying pots)	1	x		Pot tags	
In favour of gear marking (pot tags)	4	x		Pot tags	
In favour of gear marking (written on buoy or a plastic plate attached)	1	x		Pot tags	
In favour of gear marking for recreational fishing	5	x		For recreational fishermen	

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
In favour of including recreational fishing gear within gear marking or licence scheme	1	x		For recreational fishermen	
	1	x		Licence scheme	
Not sure what gear marking is	1	x		Unsure what gear marking is	
Other examples of successful gear marking include tagging all pots with boat registration and year and reporting of lost pots in Normandy and Jersey and remote tracking technology in Canada to track lost pots reducing ghost fishing	1	x		Pot tags	
	1	x		Report lost gear	
	1	x		Track lost gear	
Some larger vessels inadequately mark gear currently	1		x		Inadequate gear marking by larger vessels
Tags could be lost due to weather or mobile gears	1		x		Lost tags
Vivier crabbers not marking gear making it harder for smaller vessels	1		x		Inadequate gear marking by vivier crabbers

7.2.3 Limiting Types of Pots

Annex Table J: Themes for limiting the types of pots and interpreted suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Against limiting types of pots	12				
All fishermen would be required to apply for consent to use an alternative design of pot	1	x		Apply for consent for new pot designs	
Already using different types of pot	1	x		Different pot types currently used	
Aware that the current types of pots are more efficient at catching than they used to be	1	x		Pots now more efficient	
Cannot legislate against efficiency of pots	1		x		Cannot legislate against pot efficiency
Coffin pots are too efficient	1	x		Larger pots more efficient	
Coffin pots currently limited to larger vessels	1	x		Larger vessels use larger pots	
Difficult to enforce limiting the types of pots	5		x		Difficult to enforce
Enforcement of limiting the types of pots could be carried out alongside pot limits and gear marking	1	x		Easy to enforce with other measures	
If limiting types of pots was not introduced any concerns regarding catch efficiency is likely to drive fishermen to look for alternative designs to improve catch efficiency and, possibly, result in a negative impact upon the sustainable management of the fishery	1	x		Alternative pot designs will be sought if management not introduced	
If you use bigger pots you will haul less	1	x		Larger pots beneficial	
In Cornwall inkwell pots have been replaced with parlour pots	1	x		Pots now more efficient	
In favour of categorising pots due to increased catchability of different pots within pot limits	1	x		Pot limit based on pot type	
In favour of limiting the types of pots	7				
In favour of limiting the types of pots (must be considered as part of the pot limits)	1	x		Pot limit based on pot type	
In favour of limiting the use of newly designed, more efficient pots, such as double chambered pots, to prevent an increase in exploitation rates	1	x		Limit use of more efficient pots	
It is better for fishermen to have fewer pots that are bigger	1	x		Larger pots beneficial	
Large coffin pots don't have the same level of catchability as soft eye pots for crab	1	x		Larger pots less efficient	
Limiting the types of pot is not a good idea for <7 m vessels	1	x		No pot type restrictions for <7 m vessels	
Limiting the types of pot would not reduce fishing effort	1	x		Not reduce effort	
Limiting the types of pots could be monitored via an effective pot marking scheme	1	x		Easy to enforce with other measures	
Limiting types of pot only enforceable by inspection	1		x		Difficult to enforce
Limiting types of pots already in place	1	x		Already happening	
Limiting types of pots will make no real difference	1	x		Will make no difference	
Limiting the types of pots will not benefit the crab fishery	1	x		Will not benefit the crab fishery	
More research into limiting the types of pots needs to be done	1	x		Requires more research	
No benefit of limiting the types of pots due to safety issues	1		x		Safety issues
Pot design could enhance sustainable practices such as escape hatches or incorporating biodegradable materials as a means of reducing ghost fishing	1	x		Pot design to include sustainable measures	
Proposed a possibility to phase out extra large pots over several years	1	x		Phase out larger pots	
Proposed a possible limit to the number of coffin pots	1	x		Limit use of larger pots	
Proposed categorising pots due to increased catchability of different pots e.g. 60 inkwells or 50 parlours or 40 coffin	1	x		Pot limit based on pot type	
Proposed coffin pots should not be used within 6 nm	1	x		No coffin pots within 6 nm	
Proposed limiting the number of pots in string by the type of pot with creels/ soft eyes and parlours in shorter strings and Inkwell pots with 10 inch top entrances in longer strings	1	x		Pot limit per string based on pot type	
Small vessels limited operationally due to weather	1		x		Small vessels limited by weather
Small vessels limited operationally due to weather during the winter	1		x		Small vessels limited by weather
Some larger vessels are buying bigger pots	1	x		Larger vessels use larger pots	
The evolution of pot design has an impact on catch rates	1	x		Pots now more efficient	
There would be a financial loss to fishermen if limiting the types of pot was introduced	1		x		Cost

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
There would be an increase in the amount of waste if limiting the types of pot was introduced	1		x		Disposal of redundant pots
There would be large financial loss to fishermen and suppliers if limiting the types of pot was introduced	1		x		Cost
Using bigger pots is more environmentally friendly as it uses less materials such as a plastic and rope	1	x		Larger pots beneficial	
Using bigger pots than other vessels but less of them so overall footprint of gear is lower	1	x		Larger pots beneficial	

7.2.4 Changing the Maximum Vessel Size

Annex Table K: Themes for changing the maximum vessel size and interpreted suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
A >10 m vessel provides a regular supply of product for export and employment	x			Large vessels provides regular supply of product and employment	
Against changing the maximum vessel size	4				
Against measures for <10 m vessels	1	x		No measures for <10 m vessels	
Agreed with emergency byelaw	3	x		Agreed with the proposed Crab and Lobster Pot Fishing (Restricted Vessels) Emergency Byelaw 2022	
Big companies might buy more smaller vessels if changing maximum vessel size introduced	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
Carrying capacity of small vessels restricts annual catch	1		x		Small vessels have limited capability
Changing the maximum vessel size could be an option for vessels >10 m	1	x		Possible option for vessels >10 m	
Changing maximum vessel size would negate the need for a closed period	1	x		Negate need for a closed period during winter	
	1	x		Interaction between vessel size and closed period themes	
Changing the maximum vessel size could be phased in	1	x		To be phased in	
Channel style crabbers should not work inshore	1	x		No vivier crabber within 3 or 6 nm	
Concerns within the fishing community over the comparative differences in fishing effort between day boats and the larger crabbers	1		x		Disparity in effort between vivier crabbers and small vessels
Cornwall IFCA didn't specify size of larger vessels	1	x		Definition of 'larger vessel' required	
Easy to enforce maximum vessel size	1	x		Easy to enforce	
Excluding vivier crabbers will give small vessels a future	1		x		No future for small vessels if vivier crabbers are not excluded
Fisheries management required for vivier crabbers	1	x		Management measures for vivier crabbers	
Fishermen could create a loop hole by re-designing slightly smaller vessels if changing maximum vessel size introduced	2		x		Loopholes to enforcement
Fishing by smaller vessels is sustainable and will be in the future	1	x		Fishing by smaller vessels is sustainable	
Fishing effort by larger vessels within the fishery has remained relatively static	1	x		Fishing effort by vessels >10 m has remained static	
Forced out of business by the vivier crabbers but would like to return to fishing	2		x		Forced out of business by vivier crabbers
Future of small vessels under threat if no management introduced	1		x		Future of small vessels under threat if no management introduced
Further restrictions to maximum vessel size is unlikely to significantly benefit the Cornish crustacean fishery	1		x		No benefit to the crustacean fishery
If vivier crabbers are forced to move out to find new ground risking their gear to trawlers whilst other smaller vessels move on to the grounds where they have had good fishing	1		x		Risk of damage to gear by trawlers if vivier crabbers have to work offshore
	1		x		Increase effort inshore by smaller vessels if vivier crabbers are forced offshore
If vivier crabbers continue then there will be empty harbours in the future	2		x		If vivier crabbers continue, there will be empty harbours in the future
In favour of changing the maximum vessel size	39				
In favour of limiting vessel size within the District to allow the ground on the west and north coast to rest during the winter months	1	x		Negate need for a closed period during winter	
	1	x		Interaction between vessel size and closed period themes	
Increase in effort by smaller vessels using more pots in recent years	1		x		Increase in effort by small vessels using more pots
Increase in effort due to vivier crabbers	2		x		Increase in effort by vivier crabbers
Increase in numbers of larger vessels with aerated tanks allowing vessels to stay at sea for longer	1		x		Increase In the number of vessels >10 m with aerated tanks
Increase in pot soak time by vessels of all sizes	1		x		Increase in pot soak time by all vessels

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Increase in the number of vivier crabbers	1		x		Increase in the number of vivier crabbers
Increase in the numbers of pots fished by vessels of all sizes	1		x		Increase in the number of pots by all vessels
Increased number of more efficient vivier crabbers	1		x		Increase in the number of vivier crabbers
Issues with larger vessels fishing on inshore grounds	1		x		Vessels >10 m working inshore fishing grounds
Larger vessels able to work in deeper water	1		x		Vessels >10 m have greater capability
Larger vessels are able to fish more distant grounds	1		x		Vessels >10 m have greater capability
Larger vessels are now targeting and overfishing lobster stock	1		x		Vessels >10 m targeting lobster stock
	1		x		Vessels >10 m overfishing lobster
Larger vessels can work all year round	9		x		Vessels >10 m have greater capability
Larger vessels do the most damage to stock sizes of all species	1		x		Vessels >10 m cause the most damage to stock levels of all species
Larger vessels dominate fishing grounds	1		x		Vessels >10 m dominate fishing grounds
Larger vessels dominate fishing grounds on the west and north coast	1		x		Vessels >10 m dominate fishing grounds
Larger vessels forcing smaller vessels out of business	2		x		Vessels >10 m forcing smaller vessels out of business
Larger vessels have more crew	1		x		Vessels >10 m have more crew
Larger vessels not limited by weather	7		x		Vessels >10 m have greater capability
Larger vessels overfished brown crab stocks	2		x		Vessels >10 m have overfished brown crab
Larger vessels targeting lobster	1		x		Vessels >10 m targeting lobster stock
Larger vessels threatening future of smaller vessels	2		x		Vessels >10 m threatening future of small vessels
Larger vessels will be replaced with more modern and efficient vessels	1		X		Vessels >10 m will be replaced with more efficient vessels
Larger vessels work all year round	1		x		Vessels >10 m have greater capability
Larger vessels work more gear	6		x		Vessels >10 m have greater capability
Larger vessels working 3000 to 4000 pots	1		x		Vessels >10 m have greater capability
Limiting the size of vessel in the District would protect the inshore fishing fleet	2	x		Protect inshore fleet	
Management of vivier crabbers would have the most impact on stock recovery	1	x		Management of vivier crabbers would have the most impact on stock recovery	
Owns vessel > 10 m does not fish within 6 nm during summer months so cannot blame the size of vessel	1	x		Vessel > 10 m does not fish within 6 nm during summer so cannot blame vessel size	
People might modernise boat design creating a loop hole if changing maximum vessel size introduced	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
People might modify slightly smaller vessels (including Gemini catamarans) creating a loop hole if changing maximum vessel size introduced	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
Proposed a possibility to prevent any new build vessels from working within 6 nm	1	x		Prevent any new build vessels within 6 nm	
Proposed changing maximum vessel size to <10 m	1	x		Maximum vessel size <10 m	
Proposed changing maximum vessel size to 12 m with a single hull and 10 m catamaran	1	x		Maximum vessel size 12 m with a single hull and 10 m catamaran	
Proposed limiting vessel size to <12 m inside 6 nm (not including Gemini catamarans as they do not have the capacity of the vivier crabbers)	1	x		No vessel >12 m (not incl. Gemini catamarans) within 6 nm	
Proposed maximum vessel size should be <10 m	1	x		Maximum vessel size <10 m	
Proposed maximum vessel size should be 10 m (with or without a tank) inside 6 nm (potting and netting)	1	x		Maximum vessel size 10 m (with or without a tank) inside 6 nm (potting and netting)	
Proposed no larger vessels within 3 or 6 nm depending on size	1	x		No vessel >10 m within 3 or 6 nm	
Proposed no larger vessels within 6 nm	3	x		No vessel >10 m within 6 nm	
Proposed no vessel >10 m or 12 m within 6 nm	1	x		No vessel >10 m within 6 nm	
	1	x		No vessel >12 m within 6 nm	
Proposed no vessel >10 m within 6 nm	3	x		No vessel >10 m within 6 nm	
Proposed no vessel >12 m within 6 nm	3	x		No vessel >12 m within 6 nm	
Proposed no vessel >12 m within 6 nm to let the ground rest	1	x		No vessel >12 m within 6 nm	
Proposed no vessel >12m within 6 nm	1	x		No vessel >12 m within 6 nm	
Proposed no vessel >14.5 m within 12 nm	1	x		No vessel >14.5 m within 6 nm	
Proposed no vessel with vivier tank within 6 nm	1	x		No vivier crabber within 6 nm	
Proposed no vivier crabbers within 3 nm	1	x		No vivier crabber within 3 or 6 nm	

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Proposed no vivier crabbers within 3 or 6 nm	1	x		No vivier crabber within 3 or 6 nm	
Proposed no vivier crabbers within 6 nm	3	x		No vivier crabber within 6 nm	
Proposed no vivier crabbers within 6 nm or 12 nm	1	x		No vivier crabber within 6 nm	
Proposed restrictions for vessels >12 m	1	x		No vessel >12 m within 6 nm	
Proposed the introduction of grandfather rights to prevent new vessels from fishing	1	x		Grandfather rights to prevent new vessels	
Proposed vessels >12 m (including Gemini catamarans) working outside the 6 nm	1	x		No vessel >12 m (incl. Gemini catamarans) within 6 nm	
Proposed vessels >12 m working outside the 6 nm	1	x		No vessel >12 m within 6 nm	
Proposed vivier crabbers excluded from inshore grounds	1	x		No vivier crabber within 3 or 6 nm	
Proposed vivier crabbers to work outside 6 nm	2	x		No vivier crabber within 6 nm	
Proposed vivier crabbers to work outside the 12 nm	1	x		No vivier crabber within 6 nm	
Proposed vivier vessels working outside the 6 nm to give fishing grounds time to recover	1	x		No vivier crabber within 6 nm	
Reducing maximum vessel size may reduce the consistency of the supply of crab required by large processors which will then result in a significant reduction in the economic input into the local economy and loss of related employment	1		x		Reduced supply of crab to processors
	1		x		Reduction to local economy
	1		x		Loss of employment
Reducing maximum vessel size may restrict the exploitation of offshore fishing grounds causing an increase of effort within inshore fishing grounds	1		x		Increase effort inshore
Reducing maximum vessel size within a zone or limit is likely to relocate fishing effort to other areas which may not be regulated	1		x		Displacement
Removing vessels >12 m would reduce the number of pots, achieving more than a pot limit	1	x		Interaction between vessel size and pot limits themes	
	1	x		Removing vessels >12 m would reduce the number of pots	
Reports of smaller vessels having their gear cut due to longer strings being worked	1		x		Small vessels have had their gear cut due to longer strings of gear being worked
Restricting the maximum vessel size may reduce the supply of stock to the market during periods of poor weather and result in considerable variations in market price	1		x		Reduced supply to market during poor weather
	1		x		Variations to market price
Restricting the size of vessels will provide closed period during winter	1	x		Negate need for a closed period during winter	
	1	x		Interaction between vessel size and closed period themes	
Restricting vessel size would only apply to new entrants to the fishery as measures to exclude the existing fleet of larger vessels wouldn't get through	1	x		Would only apply to new entrants as measures to exclude the existing fleet of larger vessels wouldn't get through	
Rumours that there will be an increase in the number of larger vessels working on the west and north coasts in the future	1		x		Rumours there will be an increase in the number of vessels >10 m
Sees no future with whilst larger vessels are operational	1		x		No future while larger vessels are operational
Since the emergency byelaw didn't go through, vivier crabbers have been fishing the ground harder than ever before	1		x		Vivier crabbers have been fishing the ground harder than ever before since the emergency byelaw didn't go through,
Small protected areas where larger vessels would be prohibited from fishing	1	x		Small protected areas where vessels >10 m are prohibited	
Small vessel owners will always complain about larger vessels. Thinks there are major issues being overlooked in a bias blame	1		x		Small vessel owners will always complain about larger vessels, major issues being overlooked in a bias blame
Small vessels are limited operationally due to weather	2		x		Small vessels limited by weather
Small vessels are restricted to a small local area	1		x		Small vessels restricted to inshore fishing grounds
Small vessels limited operationally due to weather	5		x		Small vessels limited by weather
Small vessels limited operationally due to weather during the winter	2		x		Small vessels limited by weather
Small vessels limited to inshore fishing grounds	1		x		Small vessels restricted to inshore fishing grounds
Small vessels should have priority to local fishing grounds which would improve local community and market	1	x		Smaller vessels should have priority to local fishing grounds	
Small, single handed vessels working inshore not capable of overfishing through potting	1	x		Small vessels are not capable of overfishing	
Spatial squeeze	1		x		Spatial squeeze
Spatial squeeze by larger vessels	1		x		Spatial squeeze by vessels >10 m
Spatial squeeze by vivier crabbers	2		x		Spatial squeeze by vivier crabbers
Stock levels have declined due to overfishing by larger vessels	1		x		Vessels >10 m have caused a decline in stock levels by overfishing
Stopped fishing due to wages decreasing yearly, whilst vivier vessels were using more gear	1		x		Stopped fishing due to decrease in wages while vivier crabbers work more gear
The vivier crabbers will move to another area when there is nothing left to catch	1		x		Vivier crabbers will move to other areas when there is nothing left to catch

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
There has been too much effort by larger vessels on brown crab	1		x		Too much effort by vessels >10 m on brown crab
Vessel size as a management tool is a poor indicator of fishing pressure	1	x		Poor indicator of fishing pressure	
Vessels >10 m have not caused the decline in stocks	1	x		Vessels >10 m have not caused the decline in stocks	
Vessels > 12 m cannot be accused of threatening stocks	1	x		Vessels >12 m have not caused the decline in stocks	
Vivier crabbers are destroying local fishing communities	2		x		Vivier crabbers are destroying local fishing communities
Vivier crabbers are dominating fishing grounds	1		x		Vivier crabbers dominate fishing grounds
Vivier crabbers are overfishing	1		x		Vivier crabbers are overfishing
Vivier crabbers can work all year round	1		x		Vivier crabbers not limited operationally
Vivier crabbers catch a significant quantity of the stock	1		x		Vivier crabbers catch a significant quantity of stock
Vivier crabbers dominating fishing grounds	2		x		Vivier crabbers dominate fishing grounds
Vivier crabbers (>12 m) have the potential to catch the same amount of fish as a whole harbour of smaller vessels	1		x		Vivier crabbers catch a significant quantity of stock
Vivier crabbers (>12 m) have the potential to cause the collapse of fish stocks	1		x		Vivier crabbers have the potential to cause the collapse of fish stocks
Vivier crabbers (>12 m) have the potential to put small vessels out of business	1		x		Vivier crabbers have the potential to put small vessels out of business
Vivier crabbers (>12 m) not limited by weather	1		x		Vivier crabbers not limited operationally
Vivier crabbers not limited by weather	1		x		Vivier crabbers not limited operationally
Vivier crabbers now targeting lobsters	1		x		Increase in effort targeting lobster by vivier crabbers
Vivier crabbers use long strings of gear	1		x		Vivier crabbers have greater capability
Vivier crabbers work all year round	1		x		Vivier crabbers have greater capability
Vivier crabbers work too much gear	1		x		Vivier crabbers have greater capability
Would like to buy own vessel and return to fishing but will not do this until larger vessels are subject to more regulation	1		x		Would like to return to fishing but will not until vessels >10 m have greater restrictions

7.2.5 Closed Periods

Annex Table L: Themes for closed periods and interpreted suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Against closed periods	7				
Against closed periods for commercial fishermen	1				
Changing maximum vessel size would negate the need for a closed period	1	x		Interaction between closed periods and vessel size themes	
	1	x		No need for closed period if maximum vessel size changed	
Closed periods a last resort measure among proposed management measures	1	x		Last resort measure	
Closed period already in place for small vessels due to weather	6	x		Already happening for small vessels	
	6	x		Small vessels limited due to weather	
Closed period already in place for small vessels on north coast due to weather	2	x		Already happening for small vessels	
	2	x		Small vessels limited due to weather	
Closed period could cause increase in effort when fishery opens	1		x		Increase in effort when fishery opens
Closed period over winter would let stocks breed	1	x		Closed period over spawning period	
Closed periods can cause financial problems	1		x		Financial
Closed periods would be easy to enforce	1	x		Easy to enforce	
Closed periods would provide the opportunity to quantify both pot numbers and types of pots if brought ashore as well as enabling the enforcement of any gear marking	1	x		Provide time to quantify pot numbers	
	1	x		Enable time to enforce gear marking	
Closed periods would put pressure on quota species if you were allowed to catch them	1		x		Pressure on quota species

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Difficult to come to an agreement for the best time of year as smaller vessels would want a closed period in winter and larger vessels would want a closed period in the summer	1		x		Difficult to find best time as smaller and larger vessels would want a different period
Easy to enforce closed periods	1	x		Easy to enforce	
Fishermen would not get compensation during closed periods	1		x		No compensation for closed period
Gear left at sea would not be safe from trawling activity	1		x		Gear left at sea could be damaged
Hard to define a closed period because Crustacea have an extended breeding season	1	x		Hard to define as crustacea have an extended breeding season	
If closed periods were introduced, changing the vessel size might not be needed	1	x		Interaction between closed periods and vessel size themes	
In favour of closed periods	29				
In favour of closed periods for recreational fishing	1	x		For recreational fishermen only	
In favour of letting fishermen tend to their gear during closed periods to maintain it	1	x		Allowed to tend to gear to maintain during closed period	
In favour of limiting vessel size within the District to allow the ground on the west and north coast to rest during the winter months	1	x		Interaction between closed periods and vessel size themes	
	1	x		No need for closed period if maximum vessel size changed	
In favour of people bringing their gear in during the closed period	1	x		Gear should be bought ashore in winter	
In favour of small boats having priority access to fishing grounds after closed periods	1	x		Small vessel to have priority access to fishing ground after closure	
Larger vessels can work all year round	3		x		Vessels >10 m have greater capability
Larger vessels not limited by weather	1		x		Vessels >10 m have greater capability
Lobster fishery is seasonal and keeps smaller vessels going over winter	1		x		Lobster fishery sustains smaller vessels during winter
Main market for brown crab during Christmas period	1		x		Large market for shellfish over Christmas period
Potting used to only occur from April to December which let species breed	1	x		Potting used to stop over winter	
Potting used to stop from January to April which let the ground rest	1	x		Potting used to stop over winter	
Potting used to stop in the winter	5	x		Potting used to stop over winter	
Potting used to stop in the winter which let the ground rest	3	x		Potting used to stop over winter	
Proposed closed period during the winter	1	x		Closed period during winter	
Proposed closed period for a month to protect berried lobsters	1	x		Closed period winter to protect berried hens	
Proposed closed period from December to April to protect crab stocks and breeding lobsters	1	x		Closed period winter to spring to protect crab stocks and breeding lobsters	
Proposed closed period from December to end of February	1	x		Closed period during winter	
Proposed closed period from February to April	1	x		Closed period winter to spring	
Proposed closed period from January to end of February	1	x		Closed period during winter	
Proposed closed period from January to February	6	x		Closed period during winter	
Proposed closed period from January to February inside 6 nm	1	x		Closed period during winter	
Proposed closed period from January to March	1	x		Closed period winter to spring	
Proposed closed period from January to March for crab and lobster	1	x		Closed period winter to spring	
Proposed closed period from January to March, 1 mile from the mean low water mark	1	x		Closed period winter to spring	
Proposed closed period from November to February	1	x		Closed period during winter	
Proposed closed period from November to March	1	x		Closed period winter to spring	
Proposed closed period from November to May or June for crawfish	1	x		Closed period winter to spring for crawfish	
Proposed closed period from October to April	1	x		Closed period winter to spring	
Proposed closed period from October to end of February	1	x		Closed period winter to spring	
Proposed closed period over the winter to protect berried hens	1	x		Closed period winter to protect berried hens	
Proposed closed period over winter due to warming seas and higher market prices	1	x		Closed period during winter	
Proposed closed period within 3 nm from October to May	1	x		Closed period winter to spring within 3 nm	
Proposed closed period within 3 to 6 nm from December to April	1	x		Closed period winter to spring from 3 to 6 nm	
Proposed closed periods for >10 m vessels	1	x		Closed period for vessels >10m	
Proposed closed periods for larger vessels	1	x		Closed period for vessels >10m	
Proposed closed periods that includes spawning	1	x		Closed period over spawning period	
Proposed closed periods to include all types of fishing activity including scalloping to let the ground rest	1	x		Closed period to include all types of fishing to let the ground rest	
Proposed pots bought ashore November to February	1	x		Gear should be bought ashore in winter	
Reported concerns that closed periods by not be suitable due to the movement of crab stocks	1		x		Not suitable due to species migration
Reported contention within stakeholders over the need to remove pots during closed periods	1		x		Storing gear ashore over winter
Reported that compensation could be provided to fishermen during closed periods	1	x		Compensation scheme	

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Reported that implications of closed periods on both market and crew could be considerable	1		x		Implications on market and crew could be considerable
Reported that several stakeholders consider that closed periods could be applied to larger vessels which are capable of fishing in most weathers and are more capable of avoiding some of the restriction that may be applied to stricter inshore management to which smaller vessels are restricted	1	x		Closed periods for vessels > 10m	
	1	x		Vessels > 10m can work in all weathers	
	1	x		Smaller vessels are restricted by strict inshore management	
Reported that some stakeholders considered the only way a closure could work would be to have flexibility to declare which months they would not fish	1	x		Flexibility to declare which months they would fish	
Reports that many stakeholders consider that spatial or temporal closures could be a useful tool to relieve the excessive pressure on stock and could also reduce the level of conflict with other forms of fishing gear	1	x		Closed periods effective	
	1	x		Reduce conflict with other fishing gear	
Restricting the size of vessels will provide closed period during winter	1	x		Interaction between closed periods and vessel size themes	
	1	x		No need for closed period if maximum vessel size changed	
Small inshore vessels only operate from March to October	1	x		Already happening for small vessels	
Small vessels bring gear ashore over winter	1	x		Small vessels bring gear ashore over winter	
Small vessels bring gear ashore over winter which lets the grounds rest	1	x		Small vessels bring gear ashore over winter to let ground rest	
Small vessels do not operate much during the winter months	1	x		Small vessels do not work over winter	
Small vessels limited operationally due to weather during the winter	1	x		Small vessels limited by weather	
Small vessels need to work all year round for sustained income	1		x		Small vessels need to work all year round to sustain income
Small vessels on the north coast are limited operationally due to weather	2	x		Small vessels limited by weather	
The weather plays a major role in stocks and sea temperatures stop shellfish moving	1	x		Fishing already limited by sea temperature stopping shellfish moving	
There are issues leaving gear at sea during winter as they continue to fish	1		x		Gear would be left at sea and still fish
There are issues leaving gear at sea during winter when pots are lost to storms or trawlers	1		x		Gear left at sea could be lost to storms or trawlers
Vivier crabbers can work all year round	1		x		Vivier crabbers not limited operationally
Winter months is the main crab season for vivier vessels	1		x		Good crab fishery in winter for vivier vessels
Would be issues leaving gear at sea during winter causing damage and ghost fishing	1		x		Gear would be left at sea and still fish
Would be issues storing gear ashore during winter months	3		x		Storing gear ashore over winter

7.2.6 Days at Sea Limits

Annex Table M: Themes for days at sea limits and interpreted suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Against days at sea limits	13				
Against days at sea limits as not fair on smaller vessels who might be forced to work in poor weather	1		x		Would encourage smaller vessels to work in poor weather
Against days at sea limits for vessels <10 m as only possible to work half the year	1	x		Already happening for small vessels	
Big companies would buy more vessels to carry on fishing at same level if days at sea limits were introduced	1		x		Large companies would buy more vessels
	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
Days at sea limits already in place for small vessels due to weather	13	x		Small vessels limited due to weather	
	13	x		Already happening for small vessels	
Days at sea limits already in place for small vessels on north coast due to weather	6	x		Small vessels limited due to weather	
	6	x		Already happening for small vessels	
Days at sea limits already restricted for >15 m vessels	2	x		Vessels > 15m already restricted	
Days at sea limits could be phased in for smaller vessels	1	x		Phased in	
Days at sea limits could cause an increase in pot numbers	1		x		Increase in pot numbers
Days at sea limits for small vessels not relevant	2	x		Already happening for small vessels	
Days at sea limits have been considered as a mechanism by which the varying efforts of smaller and larger vessels and their impact upon market prices may be reduced	1	x		Effort by all vessels and impact on market reduced	

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Days at sea limits not necessary if the maximum size of vessel was changed as larger vessels would have to work outside 6 nm	1	x		Interaction between days at sea limits and maximum vessel size themes	
	1	x		No need for days at sea limits if maximum vessel size changed and larger vessels worked outside 6 nm	
Days at sea limits will not reduce effort much unless measures are severe so a last resort measure	1		x		Not reduce effort
Days at sea limits would cause maximum impact on stock recovery	1	x		Maximum impact on recovery of stock	
Days at sea limits would cause small vessels to take more risks	1		x		Would cause small vessels to take more risks
Days at sea limits would only affect larger vessels	1	x		Would only affect larger vessels	
Difficult to enforce days at sea limits	3		x		Difficult to enforce
Difficult to enforce days at sea limits inside 6 nm	1		x		Difficult to enforce
Easy to enforce days at sea limits	3	x		Easy to enforce	
Fishermen could create a loop hole by using multiple vessels if days at sea limits were introduced	2		x		Loopholes to enforcement
Fishermen could create a loop hole by working more gear on days allowed if days at sea limits were introduced	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
If days at sea were limits were introduced, the impact of weather related restrictions for smaller vessels should be considered	1	x		Consider impact of weather on smaller vessels	
In favour of days at sea limits	4				
In favour of days at sea limits although companies might work multiple boats to get around this	1		x		Large companies would buy more vessels
	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
In favour of days at sea limits depending on number of vessels companies own	1	x		Depends on how many vessels companies own	
In favour of days at sea limits for different species and not a total ban on fishing	1	x		Limits for different species and not a total ban	
Introducing days at sea limits would allow larger vessels to work on inshore grounds during the winter and work outside 6 nm the rest of the year	1		x		Not reduce effort
	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
Larger vessels already have days at sea limits so not relevant	1	x		Vessels > 15m already restricted	
Larger vessels not limited by weather	4		x		Vessels >10 m have greater capability
Larger vessels will leave gear on the ground all year round if days at sea limits are introduced	1		x		Larger vessels would leave gear at sea all year round
Larger vessels work all year round	1		x		Vessels >10 m have greater capability
Limiting days at sea is an effective and simple mechanism to manage fishing effort within larger vessels and could be applied to all classes or sizes of vessel within the fleet	1	x		Days at sea limits effective	
	1	x		Apply to all classes or sizes of vessel	
Limiting days at sea would increase pots left fishing and increase waste	1		x		Gear would be left at sea and still fish
Pot limits would decrease the number of sea days as fewer pots to work	1	x		Interaction between days at sea limits and pot limits themes	
	1	x		Pot limits would decrease the number of days at sea	
Pots would still be fishing if days at sea limits were introduced	1		x		Gear would be left at sea and still fish
Proposed days at sea limits for >10 m vessels	1	x		Limits for vessels > 10 m	
Proposed days at sea limits for >12 m vessels	1	x		Limits for vessels > 12 m	
Proposed days at sea limits for larger vessels	5	x		Limits for vessels > 10 m	
Proposed days at sea limits for the vivier fleet	1	x		Limits for vivier vessels	
Reports that days at sea limits could be effectively applied through an annual or biannual declaration of where vessels intend to fish and would require calculations of CPUE and a conversion of current effort through pot numbers or kilowatt/days into the DAS system. Stakeholders suggested that the application of a cap on annual tonnage of crab landed per vessel, determined by historical landings (e.g. last 5 years) with agreement to cut back by x% if the stock declines	1	x		Allocated by area to be fished	
	1	x		Take into account current effort by pot numbers or kilowatt/days	
Small vessels limited by bait availability	1	x		Small vessels limited by bait availability	
Small vessels limited operationally due to weather	2	x		Small vessels limited due to weather	
Vessels >15 m already have days at sea limits	1	x		Vessels > 15m already restricted	
Vessels will use bad weather days to stay in if days at sea limits are introduced	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
Vivier crabbers not limited by weather	1		x		Vivier crabbers not limited operationally
Wonders if days at sea limits would be carried over	1	x		Days at sea limits to be carried over	

7.2.7 Increased Management of Recreational Fishing

Annex Table N: Themes for increased management of recreational fishing and interpreted suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCA from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
A more effective measure for repeat offenders should be a temporary suspension of licence for 6 months should be introduced instead of fines	1	x		2 shellfish a day (maybe 1 crab/ 1 lobster)	
Against increased management for recreational fishing	2				
Current enforcement measures should be enough to manage the recreational fishery	3	x		Current measures enough	
Current enforcement measures should be enough to manage the recreational fishery if enforced	1	x		Current measures enough	
Current management for recreational fishing is insufficient	1		x		Current management for recreational fishing is insufficient
Current measures should be enough to manage the recreational fishery	1	x		Current measures enough	
Difficult to enforce management for recreational fishing	1		x		Difficult to enforce
Difficult to enforce recreational fishing due to resourcing	1		x		Difficult to enforce
Difficult to enforce recreational management	2		x		Difficult to enforce
Difficult to enforce recreational management due to resourcing	1		x		Difficult to enforce
Educating recreational fishermen would be beneficial	2	x		Educate recreational fishermen	
Effect of recreational fishing is minimal	1	x		Effect of recreational fishing is minimal	
In favour of a pot limit for recreational fishing	1	x		Pot limits for recreational fishermen	
In favour of a similar byelaw to the Isles of Scilly with a limit of four pots for recreational fishermen	1	x		Pot limit 4 per person for recreational fishermen	
In favour of closed periods for recreational fishing	1	x		Closed periods for recreational fishermen	
In favour of gear marking for recreational fishing	5	x		Gear marking for recreational fishermen	
In favour of including recreational fishing gear within gear marking or licence scheme	1	x		Gear marking for recreational fishermen	
	1	x		Licence scheme for recreational fishermen	
In favour of increased management for recreational fishing	20				
In favour of limiting the number of crustaceans taken by recreational fishermen	1	x		Limit the number of crustaceans taken by recreational fishermen	
In favour of permits for recreational fishermen	1	x		Permit for recreational fishermen	
In favour of pot limits for recreational fishing	3	x		Pot limits for recreational fishermen	
In favour of recreational fishermen not having store pots	1	x		Recreational fishermen should not have store pots	
In favour of recreational fishermen possibly paying for a permit to keep shellfish	1	x		Permit for recreational fishermen	
In favour of single pots and a recreational permit for recreational fishermen	1	x		Single pots for recreational fishermen	
	1	x		Permit for recreational fishermen	
In favour of stronger enforcement measures for recreational fishermen	2	x		Stricter enforcement measures for recreational fishermen	
In favour of stronger enforcement measures for recreational fishermen urgently	1	x		Stricter enforcement measures for recreational fishermen	
Increased management for recreational fishing will make no real difference	1	x		Will make no difference	
Issue with ghost fishing from recreational gear	1		x		Ghost fishing from recreational gear
Issue with store pots being used by recreational fishermen currently and who they belong to	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Issues with a small number of conflicts regarding access to inshore fishing grounds during summer months due to recreational fishermen	1		x		Access to inshore fishing ground limited by recreational fishermen during summer months
It is more beneficial to regulate commercial fishing over recreational fishing if there are time constraints	1	x		More beneficial to direct measures at commercial fishermen if there are time constraints	
More resources could be directed at recreational fishermen	1	x		Greater resource directed at recreational fishermen	
No need for recreational fishermen to take two lobsters a day	1	x		Recreational fishermen do not need two lobsters a day	
Observed an increase in recreational fishing in some areas	1	x		Increase in recreational fishing activity	
Proposed pot limit of five/ person for recreational fishermen	1	x		Pot limit 5 per person for recreational fishermen	
Proposed recreational fishermen should pay a fee per year to take one lobster per day maximum	1	x		Recreational fishermen should pay a fee to take one lobster a day	
Proposed that current recreational management needs to be stricter with a cap on the number of pots (3 pots) and reduction in the number of shellfish taken (1 lobster and 2 crabs)	1	x		Stricter management measures for recreational fishermen	
	1	x		Cap on the number of pots allowed to be used (3 pots)	
	1	x		Reduction in the number of shellfish allowed to be taken (1 lobster, 2 crab)	
Recreational fishermen are landing undersized and berried individuals	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Recreational fishermen don't follow regulations	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Recreational fishermen fish where they want, when they want, with no controls	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Recreational fishermen landing bass	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Recreational fishermen landing berried hens	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Recreational fishermen landing undersize individuals	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Recreational fishermen landing v-notched and damaged tail lobsters	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Recreational fishermen not aware of regulations	1	x		Educate recreational fishermen	
Recreational fishermen reportedly targeting lobster	1	x		Recreational fishermen targeting lobster	
Recreational fishermen should abide by the same management measures as commercial fishermen	1	x		Recreational fishermen should abide by the same measures as commercial fishermen	
Recreational fishermen stealing from pots	2		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Recreational fishermen taking more than five shellfish a day	2		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Recreational fishermen would catch enough shellfish to eat from 2 pots	1	x		Two pots sufficient	
Recreational fishers need to be better informed about size limits and v-notching/ tail damaged lobsters	1	x		Educate recreational fishermen	
Recreational fishery management would have minimal impact on stock recovery	1	x		Effect of recreational fishing is minimal	
Recreational fishing does not affect stock levels	2	x		Recreational fishing does not impact stock levels	
Recreational fishing does not effect commercial fishing	1	x		Effect of recreational fishing is minimal	
Recreational fishing does not have a significant impact on the sustainability of the fishery	1	x		Recreational fishing is not a threat to stocks	
Recreational fishing does not have an impact on brown crab stocks	1	x		Recreational fishing does not impact brown crab stock levels	
Recreational fishing for shellfish not a threat to stocks	1	x		Recreational fishing is not a threat to stocks	
Recreational fishing for shellfish not relevant to area	2	x		Recreational fishing not relevant to area	
Recreational fishing is currently undermanaged	1	x		Stricter enforcement measures for recreational fishermen	
Recreational vessels are working 20 to 30 pots	1		x		Recreational fishermen working 20 to 30 pots
Reports of rogue sales by recreational fishermen	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Reports of several boats around Newlyn fishing 70 to 80 pots with no shellfish entitlement and enforcement is required	1	x		Stricter enforcement measures for recreational fishermen	
	1		x		Several recreational boats working 20 to 30 pots
Some recreational fishing should be classified as commercial	1		x		Some recreational fishing should be classified as commercial
Suggests increased enforcement checks for recreational fishermen	1	x		Stricter enforcement measures for recreational fishermen	
There are no management or control measures for recreational fishermen	1	x		Stricter enforcement measures for recreational fishermen	
Would rather management effort is directed at larger vessels than recreational	1	x		Management effort should be directed at larger vessels than recreational	
Would rather management effort was directed into crab and lobster fishery than recreational	1	x		Management effort should be directed at crab and lobster fishery than recreational	

7.2.8 Other

Annex Table O: Themes for other and interpreted suggestions and concerns analysed by Cornwall IFCa from the 2023 Call for Evidence response data

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
A more effective measure for repeat offenders should be a temporary suspension of licence for 6 months which could be introduced instead of fines	1	x		Stricter prosecution required	
	1	x		Temporary suspension of licence for 6 months	
A positive is that more mature shellfish are being caught than 40 years ago	1	x		Current stock status increase in mature shellfish	
A possible increase to minimum landing size could be implemented based on findings	1	x		Increase minimum landing size for brown crab	
A restricted licence within 3 nm	1	x		Restricted licence within 3 nm	
Against government grants for pots	5		x		Government grants for gear
Against MMO grant for pots	2		x		Government grants for gear
Amount of gear on fishing grounds is a navigational hazard	1		x		Gear on ground navigational hazard

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
	1		x		Large amount of gear on ground
An improved data set on local stocks in order to establish correct management and monitor the impact is required	1	x		Updated stock assessment required	
Anglers give fish away for favours	1		x		Unregulated trade of fish
Angling boats moved inshore increasing effort	1		x		Increased angling boats inshore
Areas of concern which need to be addressed include the deficit of evidence relating to population status and the associated potential for the inappropriate application of the precautionary principle together with an apparent lack of effective stakeholder engagement	1	x		Updated stock assessment required	
	1		x		Inappropriate application of the precautionary principle
	1		x		Lack of effective stakeholder engagement
Aware of an increase in the number of pots on the ground	1		x		Large amount of gear on ground
Ban scalloping	1	x		Prohibition for scalloping	
Brown crab fishery is overexploited	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
Brown crab stock has collapsed	2		x		Brown crab overexploited
Brown crab stock has declined due to overfishing	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
Brown crab stocks declined to the point that it is no longer viable	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
	1		x		Fishery not economically viable
Brown crab stocks in slow decline	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
Brown crab stocks unsustainable	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
Catch limit for no shellfish entitlement should be reduced	1	x		Catch limit for no shellfish entitlement should be reduced	
Catching fewer lobsters in the last 18 months	1		x		Decrease in lobster catch
Catching half the lobster they would normally expect to catch	1		x		Decrease in lobster catch
Catching significant amounts of Common/ Mediterranean Octopus inshore which may create a future fishery	1		x		Increase in common octopus
Commercial fishermen are landing scrubbed, berried and v-notched lobsters which are not being detected	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
	1		x		Undetected illegal fishing
Conservation measures are needed for the lobster stock before it collapses	1	x		Management required for lobster stock	
Corporate boats have foreign crews	1		x		Use of non-UK Nationals as crew
Cornwall IFCA had lack of any prior stakeholder engagement, a low profile of release, constrained timetables and limited content during the recent call for stakeholder's thoughts on effort management	1		x		Lack of effective stakeholder engagement
Cornwall IFCA has had concerns about the increase in fishing effort for more than five years	1		x		Cornwall IFCA resource limitations for management
Cornwall IFCA permit scheme needs to be modernised	1	x		Update Cornwall IFCA permit scheme	
Cornwall IFCA's stakeholder engagement represents a considerable area for improvement and raises a number of historical areas of concern amongst members of the fishing community of non-compliance with significant elements of Cornwall IFCA success criteria	1		x		Lack of effective stakeholder engagement
	1		x		Cornwall IFCA non-compliance with high level objectives
Crab fishing is seasonal	1	x		Crab fishing is seasonal	
Current management needs to be stricter, vessels should be detained	1	x		Stricter prosecution required	
	1	x		Detain offenders	
Data for last few years is incorrect as <10 m vessels could sell brown crab with no sales notes	1		x		MMO data maybe incorrect during Covid-19
Decision not to proceed with emergency byelaw caused crab processing business to close and employees to loose their jobs	1		x		Business closed due to lack of management
	1		x		Loss of employment due to lack of management
Decline in brown crab stocks	2		x		Brown crab overexploited
Decline in brown crab stocks due to increase in effort	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
	1		x		Increase in effort
Decline in stocks on the north coast	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
Easy to enforce a restricted licence within 3 nm	1	x		Restricted licence within 3 nm	
Easy to enforce closed areas	1	x		Closed areas	
Easy to monitor closed areas remotely	1	x		Closed areas	
Escape hatches do not reduce catch	1		x		Escape hatches do not reduce catch
Feels they are suffering the consequences of increased technology (iVMS, drones) and tighter regulations	1		x		Loss of earnings due to stricter management
Fines are not hard enough due to the amount the vessels earn	1	x		Stricter prosecution required	
	1	x		Increase fines for offenders	
Fisheries management needs to be enforceable	1	x		Management has to be enforceable	
Fishermen are dunking pots in hypochlorite to clean them at sea	1		x		Chemical use for cleaning gear at sea
Fishermen don't worry about losing gear due to government grants	1		x		Government grants for gear
Fishing grounds are covered in too many pots	3		x		Large amount of gear on ground
Fishing ground gets no rest	4		x		Fishing ground gets no rest
Fishing ground gets no rest currently	1		x		Fishing ground gets no rest
Fishing occurs all year round	2		x		Fishing occurs year round
Fleets of gear have increased in size	1		x		Increase in gear size
Good cock crab fishery during the winter	1	x		Good crab fishery in winter	
Government grants has caused an increase in effort	1		x		Government grants for gear
Government grants has caused increase in effort	3		x		Government grants for gear
Has not landed any brown crab for last two years	1		x		Brown crab overexploited

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
High level of effort for a low level of return	1		x		Fishery not economically viable
In favour of a maximum landing size	1	x		Implement maximum landing size	
In favour of a working group to develop evidence gathering and proposals for pot limitations, gear marking, limiting the types of pots, change maximum vessel size, closed periods and days at sea limits consisting of representatives of all stakeholders prior to its adoption. Once adopted a clear and evidenced programme of monitoring and feedback may also enable the fishery to respond effectively to any changes or influences	1	x		Proposed a working group	
In favour of any measures which will help maintain a sustainable crab stock	1	x		Management required	
In favour of increased management for angling boats	1	x		Management required for angling vessels	
In favour of limiting any new licences until the fishery has recovered to an acceptable level	1	x		Limit on new licences	
	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
In favour of management of crab stocks	1	x		Management required	
In favour of stronger enforcement measures for all fishermen (commercial or recreational)	1	x		Stricter prosecution required for commercial and recreational	
In favour of zoning like inshore potting agreement in Devon	1	x		Closed areas	
In support of v-notching lobsters	1	x		Supports v-notching lobsters	
In the current situation, it should be inferred that the social and economic importance of the fishery should be considered and that, under these circumstances, the minimum precautionary action that should be taken is to contain fishing mortality at the current level	1	x		At minimum, restrict fishery at current level	
Increase in effort targeting lobsters	1		x		Increase in effort targeting lobster
Increase in potting effort	2		x		Increase in effort
Increased management needed for non shellfish licenced boats	1	x		Increased management needed for non shellfish licenced boats	
Is unsure how ineffective the lobster hatchery is	1	x		Effectiveness of lobster hatchery not proven	
It is easy to cable tie an escape hatch	1		x		Loopholes to enforcement
It is important to build knowledge of other species predated on shellfish such as octopus and to understand the impact on shellfish stocks	1	x		Food web considerations for management	
It is important to map spatial data using VMS and iVMS to understand current and historic effort	1	x		Use remote technology to provide baseline fishing activity information	
It is important to pilot different technological solutions for management (sensors on hauls, remote electronic monitoring and pot tags)	1	x		Use technological management measures	
	1	x		Use sensors on hauls, remote electronic monitoring and pot tags	
It will be difficult to enforce regulations using iVMS	1		x		Difficult to enforce using remote technology
It would be beneficial to look into quota	1	x		Implement quota	
Landing data alone is not enough to set new management	1	x		Sufficient evidence required for management measures	
Landing of berried hens (lobsters) is occurring	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Larger vessels are crewed by foreign nationals which decreases the economic gain from the shellfish caught in the District	1		x		Use of non-UK Nationals as crew
	1		x		Lack of local economic gain shellfish industry due to non-UK Nationals working as crew
Larger vessels are landing undersize lobster and brown crab	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Larger vessels are scrubbing lobsters	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
Larger vessels working long strings is an issue as can't see ends	2		x		Increase in gear size
	2		x		Gear on ground navigational hazard
Lobster landings have increased in recent years	1	x		Increase in lobster landings	
Lobster landings increased due to changes in pot design and increased effort	1		x		Increase in effort targeting lobster
	1		x		Increased in lobster landings due to pot type
Management should be based on quantifiable measures	1	x		Quantifiable measures for management	
Many fishermen rely on fishing as their sole income to survive	1		x		Loss of earnings due to stricter management
Market for spider crab has collapsed due to economic recession and lack of export market (Brexit)	1		x		Spider crab market collapsed
Massive increase in Common/ Mediterranean Octopus inshore	1		x		Increase in common octopus
Measures need to be enforceable remotely	1	x		Use remote technology for enforcement	
New legislation would require increased enforcement and monitoring	1		x		Resource requirement for Cornwall IFCA
No longer landing any brown crab	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
Not observing much brown crab, only caught two this season	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
Observed a reduction in brown crab from tangle nets over the last five to seven years	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
Observed a reduction in lobster over the last ten to twelve years	1		x		Lobster overexploited
Observed decline in brown crab over last ten years	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
Observed significant reduction in crab stock	1		x		Brown crab overexploited
Observed that the number of undersize lobsters is decreasing	1		x		Pre-recruit lobster stock decline
Observed that there is less lobster stock to migrate and replenish inshore grounds	1		x		Lobster overexploited
Observed virtually no lobster in nets this season	1		x		Lobster overexploited
Observes brown crab with both claws removed, thought to be done by gill netters who then land a box of claws	1		x		Landing of brown crab claws by netters
	1		x		Brown crab with both claws removed

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Observing fewer v-notched lobsters in pots compared to previous years	1		x		Decrease in V-notched lobsters
Possible for all vessels with a shellfish permit to have AIS	1	x		Remote technology for management	
Pot soak time has increased	1		x		Increase in soak time
Pots can be stacked with bait and can fish for five or six days	1		x		Increase in soak time
Pots should be hauled regularly to reduce mortality and damage to individuals	1		x		Increase in soak time
	1		x		Increase in gear size
	1		x		Damage to catch
Proposed a ban on landing crippled brown crab	1	x		Prohibition for landing crippled brown crab	
Proposed a maximum landing size for lobster	2	x		Implement maximum landing size for lobster	
Proposed developing markets for spider crab and Cornish king crab to reduce effort on any one species	1	x		Market improvement for spider crab	
Proposed escape hatches on all pots	4	x		Escape hatches on all pots	
Proposed implementing a TAC for brown crab to improve stock levels and promote recovery	1	x		Implement TAC for brown crab	
Proposed improving marketing for spider crabs	1	x		Market improvement for spider crab	
Proposed increasing the minimum landing size for cock by 10 mm and hen crabs by 5 mm	1	x		Increase minimum landing size for brown cock crab by 10 mm	
	1	x		Increase minimum landing size for brown hen crab by 5 mm	
Proposed increasing the minimum landing size for hen crabs	1	x		Increase minimum landing size for brown hen crab	
Proposed increasing the minimum landing size for lobsters by 2-3 mm	1	x		Increase minimum landing size for lobster by 2-3 mm	
Proposed increasing the minimum landing size of crawfish to 110 mm	1	x		Increase minimum landing size for crawfish to 110 mm	
Proposed increasing the minimum landing size of lobster to 92 mm	1	x		Increase minimum landing size for lobster by 2-3 mm	
Proposed increasing the minimum landing size of male spider crab to 140/ 150 mm to allow 1 kg + size crab to be landed	1	x		Increase minimum landing size for male spider crab by 10-20 mm	
Proposed increasing the minimum landing size of male spider crab to reduce strain on markets and landing of small immature low value fish	1	x		Increase minimum landing size for spider crab	
Proposed increasing the minimum size limit of female lobsters to protect the breeding stock (and males if needed)	1	x		Increase minimum landing size for lobster	
Proposed increasing the minimum size of hen and cock crab	1	x		Increase minimum landing size for brown crab	
Proposed landing of brown crab claws should be stopped	1	x		Prohibition for landing brown crab claws	
Proposed landing of spider crab (especially large males) claws should be stopped	1	x		Prohibition for landing spider crab claws	
Proposed maximum landing size for lobsters to protect the breeding stock	1	x		Implement maximum landing size for female lobster	
Proposed minimum landing size limits should be uniform inside and outside the District	6	x		Minimum landing size limits should be uniform inside and outside District	
Proposed minimum size limits that are continually reviewed	1	x		Adaptive management	
Proposed soft brown crab not being landed	1	x		Prohibition for landing soft brown crab	
Proposed taking of white crab for whelk bait should be prohibited	1	x		Prohibition for taking white crab and whelk bait	
Proposed that a 2 step offence approach should be introduced for offences that are clearly intentional resulting in the loss of a permit	1	x		Stricter prosecution required	
	1	x		Step approach resulting in loss of permit	
Proposed that a 3 step offence approach should be introduced resulting in the loss of a permit	2	x		Stricter prosecution required	
	2	x		Step approach resulting in loss of permit	
Proposed the number of shellfish permits should be capped	1	x		Cap on the number of shellfish permits	
Proposed to restrict or ban non-UK personnel from working on vessels in the shellfish industry	1	x		Prohibition to use non-UK Nationals as crew	
Proposed to restrict or ban non-UK personnel from working within 3 nm	1	x		Prohibition to use non-UK Nationals as crew	
Proposed urgent management for soft shell crab with a focus on catchers and buyers	1	x		Prohibition for landing soft brown crab	
Proposed V-notching brown crabs (on pasty crimp)	1	x		Notching carapace of brown crab	
Reported that pot limits have included regional caps being placed on both effort (essentially pot-days) and overall landings (tones). Per vessel upper limits would then be placed on the number of pots that can be handled by individual vessels – probably allocated on the basis of a combination of the physical parameters of the vessel and the scale of operation of the business. For those potting vessels landing shellfish of a value exceeding a certain threshold figure a per vessel catch quota would also be applied – the intention being to focus this second-tier control on that part of the fleet landing the most crab. For each of these areas set an upper ceiling for pot numbers and landings set at no higher than the levels operating today. Where appropriate these levels could be sub-divided between inshore and offshore regimes	1	x		Implement quota	
Research should be done to ensure shellfish have sufficient breeding time before reaching minimum landing size	1	x		Evidence breeding to support minimum landing size	

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
Scallopers need more restriction from October to March as they are a threat to spawning crabs	1	x		Seasonal prohibition for scalloping to protect spawning crab	
Several important effort management methods were not included – such as minimum landing size, landing of soft crabs, landing undersize crabs, landing crab claws and VMS	1	x		Increase minimum landing size	
	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
	1	x		Prohibition for landing soft brown crab	
	1	x		Prohibition for landing crab claws	
	1	x		Remote technology for management	
Shellfish stocks are in decline	1		x		Shellfish overexploited
Some vessels might increase effort to stay viable to detriment of fishery	1		x		Increase in effort to stay economically viable
Spatial squeeze due to static gear	1		x		Large amount of gear on ground
	1		x		Spatial squeeze
Spider crab market used to be viable	1		x		Spider crab market collapsed
Suggests Cornwall IFCA should make sure they check vivier tanks when inspecting vessels	1	x		Cornwall IFCA to check vivier tanks during inspections	
Suggests educating fishermen of legislation regarding berried shellfish	1	x		Cornwall IFCA to raise awareness of berried shellfish legislation	
Suggests greater presence of enforcement officers on the quay	1	x		Greater presence of Cornwall IFCA officers on quays	
Suggests increased enforcement checks of current legislation	1	x		Increased enforcement checks by Cornwall IFCA	
Suggests that all violations needs to be stricter with all violations of regulations to protect shellfish prosecuted at all times	1	x		Stricter prosecution required	
Suggests that fines and punishments handed down by the courts should reflect the seriousness of breaches of regulations	1	x		Stricter prosecution required	
	1	x		Prosecution to reflect seriousness of offence	
Suggests that repeat offenders should be discouraged by escalating fines and punishments	1	x		Stricter prosecution required	
	1	x		Increase prosecution for repeat offenders	
Supports the work of the lobster hatchery and perhaps this should be promoted or funded by the relevant authorities	1	x		Promote/ Fund lobster hatchery	
	1	x		Supports work of lobster hatchery	
Technological creep has extended the fishing season	1		x		Technological creep extended fishing season
The average weight of lobster has reduced over the last few years	1		x		Lobster overexploited
The establishment of a regional working group of inshore and offshore fishermen, fisheries managers, and fisheries scientists would be beneficial	1	x		Proposed a working group	
The fishery may be regarded as data deficient as it lacks the longevity or quality of the research required for evidence-based, sustainable management which fails to address the significant distrust or concerns associated with many stakeholders	1	x		Sufficient evidence required for management measures	
	1		x		Distrust between Cornwall IFCA and stakeholders
	1		x		Fishery may be data deficient
The issue is the number of pots	1		x		Large amount of gear on ground
The lack of effective engagement and limited representation of fishing interest on the Cornwall IFCA fisheries committee has been a substantial barrier to the common aims of effective and sustainable management	1		x		Lack of effective stakeholder engagement
	1		x		Limited representation of fishing interest on the Cornwall IFCA committee
The lack of effective management data and the associated high level of uncertainty does raise the potential for the justified application of the precautionary principle. However, the fisheries community is not equitably represented within the Cornwall IFCA fisheries committee which raises the potential for an inappropriate interpretation and application of the precautionary principle	1		x		Lack of effective stakeholder engagement
	1		x		Limited representation of fishing interest on the Cornwall IFCA committee
	1		x		Inappropriate application of the precautionary principle
The level of resource that has been devoted to research towards the concerns associated with the Cornish crustacean fishery has been severely limited	1		x		Lack of research of the crustacean fishery by Cornwall IFCA
The lobster hatchery does not have capacity to restock the fishery and shouldn't be relied upon to do this	1	x		Lobster Hatchery does not have capacity to restock the fishery	
The number of pots hauled per day stated in the Cornwall IFCA permit return statistics are not a true reflection of the actual fishing effort that is happening	1		x		Cornwall IFCA permit return statistics are not a true reflection of the actual fishing effort
The numbers of Common/ Mediterranean Octopus are having an impact on shellfish stocks	1		x		Increase in common octopus
Theft of lobsters from pots occurring	1		x		Occurrence of illegal fishing
There are issues with parlour pots preventing shellfish from escaping	1		x		Parlour pots do not have escape hatches
There are short periods of reasonable fishing and then it declines	1		x		Short periods of reasonable fishing and then it declines
There has been a drop in catches to the point that the fishery is no longer viable for small inshore vessels	1		x		Shellfish overexploited
	1		x		Fishery not economically viable for small vessels
There has been an increase in static gear within 6 nm preventing other fishermen using bottom towed gear in certain fishing grounds	1		x		Static gear preventing bottom towed gear vessels
	1		x		Spatial squeeze
	1		x		Large amount of gear on ground
There has been an increase in the amount of gear	1		x		Large amount of gear on ground

Themes	Count	Suggestions	Concerns	Suggestions grouped	Concerns grouped
There is a considerable level of distrust that exists between Cornwall IFCA and representatives of the fishing community	1		x		Distrust between Cornwall IFCA and stakeholders
There is an increase in effort on the West Cornwall and Isles of Scilly 6 nm limit	1		x		Increase in effort
There is not enough enforcement by Cornwall IFCA	1		x		Not enough enforcement checks by Cornwall IFCA
There is not enough regular enforcement by Cornwall IFCA at sea	1		x		Not enough enforcement checks by Cornwall IFCA
There is too much gear on the ground	2		x		Large amount of gear on ground
Understanding local differences around the coast must be considered (different ports and coves)	1	x		Differences around the coast needs to be considered	
Up to date population assessments have not been undertaken despite published concerns regarding overexploitation	1	x		Updated stock assessment required	
Uses single pots which they believe are sustainable	1	x		Single pots are sustainable	
Vessels turn AIS off when they leave port	1		x		Vessels turn off AIS
Vivier crabbers impacting other fisheries negatively (handline and angling)	1		x		Vivier crabbers impacting handlining and angling
Wonders if the old pots under the last grant scheme were disposed of and enforced correctly	1		x		Government grants for gear