

## Isles of Scilly IFCA Fishing Gear Permit Conditions (2026)

### Interpretations

In the following flexible Permit Conditions:

“The Authority” - means the Isles of Scilly Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority as defined in Articles 2 and 4 of the Isles of Scilly Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010 (SI 2012/2213);

“Berried edible crab” - means any edible crab carrying any spawn attached to the body or some other exterior part of the crab, or which is in such a condition as to show that at the time when it was taken it was carrying spawn so attached;

“Berried lobster” - means any lobster or spiny lobster which is carrying spawn attached to the tail or some other exterior part of the lobster, or which is in such a condition as to show that at the time it was taken it was carrying spawn so attached.

“Co-ordinate” - means a co-ordinate on the World Geodetic System 1984 datum (WGS84);

“Demersal mobile fishing gear” - means any towed fishing gear designed to be in contact with the seabed or any mobile fishing gear used in contact with the seabed;

“The District” - means the Isles of Scilly Inshore Fisheries and Conservation District as defined in Articles 2 and 3 of the Isles of Scilly Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010 (SI 2010/2213);

“Fishing” – means the searching for sea fisheries resources, shooting, setting, towing, hauling of a mobile fishing gear, and taking sea fisheries resources on board;

“Required information” – means;

- a) a report flag to indicate that the report is the result of the Authority’s permit condition and is not made under EU regulations;
- b) the most recent geographical position of the fishing vessel to 5 decimal places (in WGS84);
- c) date and time (in UTC) of the fixing of the most recent position;

- d) the instant speed and course of the vessel (equivalent to 0.1 knots and course expressed in degrees (true not magnetic) to 0.1 degree) at the time of the report;
- e) the unique serial number of transmitting device;
- f) a status code;
- g) a Geofence reference number
- h) any data derived from any form of tag or beacon appended to any fishing gear that may be required by the Authority
- i) any imagery captured by cameras located to monitor the use of a permitted vessel's fishing gears that may be required by the Authority

“Specified equipment” – means any electronic device reporting the required information to, and made available by, the UK VMS Hub or any other equipment that can be installed aboard a fishing vessel to remotely monitor its fishing activity.

“V notched lobster” - means a lobster or spiny lobster with an indentation in the shape of the letter “V” or resembling the shape of a “V” made in any one or more of the five flaps on the tail fan.

## Species

“edible crab” means a crab of the species *Cancer pagurus*

“lobster” means a lobster of the species *Homarus Gammarus*

“scallop” means a scallop of the species *Pecten maximus*

“spiny lobster” means a lobster of the species *Palinurus elephas*

## 1. Catch Restrictions

As provided by paragraph 21 (a) of the Isles of Scilly IFCA Fishing Gear Permit Byelaw (2021) the following Permit Conditions apply:

- 1.1. A permit holder or named representative is not authorised to fish under this permit if the permit holder or named representative has retained on board or has in their possession any catch that does not comply with any of the catch restrictions set out in paragraphs 1.2 to 1.3 inclusive.
- 1.2. A permit holder or named representative is not authorised under this Permit to remove from a fishery within the District:
  - a) any “V” notched or mutilated lobster
  - b) any berried lobster or berried edible crab
  - c) any part of an edible crab, lobster or spiny lobster which is detached

from the carapace of the crab or lobster

d) any edible crab, lobster or spiny lobster that has recently cast its shell

1.3. A permit holder or named representative is not authorised under this Permit to remove from a fishery within the District:

a) a male edible crab less than 160mm measured across the broadest part of the carapace

b) a scallop less than 100mm measured across the broadest part of the flat shell

c) a lobster less than 90mm measured as the length of the carapace, parallel to the midline, from the back of either eye socket to the distal edge of the shell

d) a spiny lobster less than 110mm measured as the length of the carapace from the tip of the rostrum to the midpoint of the distal edge of the carapace

1.3.1. all such species falling within the above prohibitions in paragraphs 1.2 and 1.3 must be returned immediately to the sea without further injury

1.3.2. the measurement of the size of a marine organism will take place in accordance with the provisions set out in Annex 3 that accompanies that permit conditions

## **2. Gear Restrictions**

As provided by paragraph 21 (b) of the Isles of Scilly IFCA Fishing Gear Permit Byelaw (2021) the following Permit Conditions apply:

### **Scallop dredging**

2.1. A permit holder or named representative is not authorised to fish for scallops with a vessel within the District operating more than 6 dredges at any one time

2.2. A permit holder or named representative is not authorised to fish for scallop within the District using any dredge except:

a) one fitted with a spring-loaded tooth bar and;

b) the mouth does not exceed 85cm width overall and;

c) where rings are used in the construction of a retaining bag these shall not be less than 75mm measured across the inside diameter and;

d) where net is used in the construction of a retaining bag it shall have a minimum mesh size of 100mm and;

e) the size of the ring or net mesh of the retaining bag shall not be

obstructed or otherwise reduced

- f) between the hours of 07:00 and 19:00 (local time)

### **Otter trawl**

2.3. A permit holder or named representative is only authorised to use an otter trawl where:

- a) it is a single trawl fitted with a single cod-end
- b) there is one pair of otter boards

### **Specified Equipment**

2.4. A permit holder or named representative is not authorised to use a vessel within the District unless a fully functioning, remotely accessed electronic reporting device is installed on board the vessel and the required information is transmitted to, received and made available by, the UK VMS Hub at a minimum of a three minute interval except when a vessel is within a restricted access area as defined by the co-ordinates set out in attached Annex 1.

2.5. The Authority may require, as a condition of an issued permit, the installation of other equipment to enable the remote monitoring of a permitted vessel's activity whilst fishing in the district.

### **Specified Equipment – Failure of a Required Device**

2.6. If any required remotely accessible electronic reporting device installed pursuant to paragraph 2.4 or 2.5 has failed to transmit the required information, for whatever reason, the permitted vessel must;

- a) If at sea, immediately cease fishing and proceed to Isles of Scilly harbours and anchorages (co-ordinates detailed in Annex 1) or leave the district in a manner compliant with permit condition 3.1;
- b) If already in Isles of Scilly harbours and anchorages (defined by the co-ordinates set out in the attached Annex 1), remain there and not attempt to fish until any necessary repairs have been completed or leave the district, in a manner compliant with permit condition 3.1, to affect the repairs.

2.7. If as a result of a failure to transmit the required information and in compliance with paragraph 2.4, the vessel is in one of the areas defined by the coordinates set out in the attached Annex 1 or has left the District, the vessel is not authorised to sail in the District unless:

- a) the remotely accessed electronic reporting device has been repaired or replaced by the remotely accessed electronic reporting device manufacturer's approved engineer to meet the requirements specified in paragraph 2.4
  - b) An authorisation has been issued under paragraph 2.7.1
- 2.7.1. Where a vessel has returned to the area as defined by the co-ordinates set out in the attached Annex 1, a written permission may be issued by the Authority to proceed to another place outside of that area in order for a repair to the remotely accessed electronic reporting device to be effected.
- 2.7.2. Where a remotely accessed electronic reporting device has been repaired or replaced, the permit holder or named representative must provide a copy of the engineer's report to the Authority confirming that the equipment is fully operational before proceeding to sea or re-entering the District.

### **3. Spatial restrictions**

As provided by paragraph 19 of the Isles of Scilly IFCA Fishing Gear Permit Byelaw (2021) the following Permit Conditions apply:

- 3.1 No permit holder or named representative shall use any demersal, mobile fishing gear in the prohibited area as defined in Annex 2
- 3.2 No permit holder or named representative shall access the prohibited area as defined in Annex 2 unless the demersal mobile fishing gear is securely stowed inboard

### **Annex 1 (Restricted Access Areas)**

Co-ordinates used in this Annex are based on WGS 84 datum, where 'WGS 84' means the World Geodetic System, revised in 1984 and further revised in 2004.

The Restricted Access Area means the areas numbered one to four each contained within a line drawn sequentially between the following points:

Area 1

A: 49° 57.760' N, 006° 21.889' W

B: 49° 57.760' N, 006° 19.798' W

C: 49° 56 190' N, 006° 19.798' W

D 49° 56 190' N, 006° 21.889' W

#### Area 2

A: 49° 58.225' N, 006° 18.881' W

B: 49° 58.225' N, 006° 18 264' W

C: 49° 56 932' N, 006° 16.264' W

D: 49° 56 932' N, 006° 18.881' W

#### Area 3

A: 49° 55.532' N, 006° 19.803' W

B 49° 55.532' N, 006° 18.178' W

C: 49° 54.082' N, 006° 18.178' W

D: 49° 54 082' N, 006° 19.803' W

#### Area 4

A: 49° 54.082' N, 006° 21.549' W

B: 49° 54.082' N, 006° 19.695' W

C: 49° 53.057' N, 006° 19.695' W

D: 49° 53.057' N, 006° 21.549' W



**Vertex locations**

**Area 1**  
 A: 49° 57.760' N, 006° 21.889' W  
 B: 49° 57.760' N, 006° 19.798' W  
 C: 49° 56.190' N, 006° 19.798' W  
 D: 49° 56.190' N, 006° 21.889' W

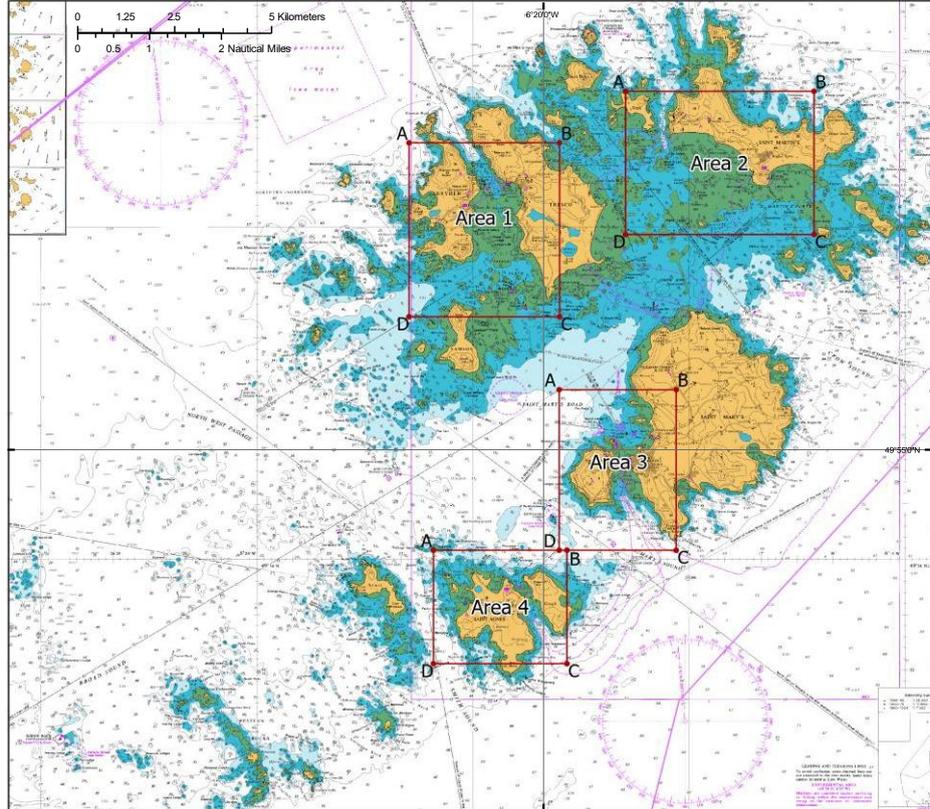
**Area 2**  
 A: 49° 58.225' N, 006° 18.881' W  
 B: 49° 58.225' N, 006° 16.264' W  
 C: 49° 56.932' N, 006° 16.264' W  
 D: 49° 56.932' N, 006° 18.881' W

**Area 3**  
 A: 49° 55.532' N, 006° 19.803' W  
 B: 49° 55.532' N, 006° 18.178' W  
 C: 49° 54.082' N, 006° 18.178' W  
 D: 49° 54.082' N, 006° 19.803' W

**Area 4**  
 A: 49° 54.082' N, 006° 21.549' W  
 B: 49° 54.082' N, 006° 19.695' W  
 C: 49° 53.057' N, 006° 19.695' W  
 D: 49° 53.057' N, 006° 21.549' W

**Data sources**  
 A C © C C  
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Not to be used for navigation.  
 Reference: WGS84  
 Projection: World Mercator  
 Scale: 1:105,000



## Annex 2 (The Prohibited Area)

### Definitions of “Prohibited Area”

Co-ordinates used in this Annex are based on WGS 84 datum, where ‘WGS 84’ means the World Geodetic System, revised in 1984 and further revised in 2004.

The Prohibited Area means the area contained within a line drawn sequentially between the following points:

Point A ( $50^{\circ} 0.229' N$ ,  $006^{\circ} 28.544' W$ ) to

Point B ( $50^{\circ} 0.221' N$ ,  $006^{\circ} 14.033' W$ ) to

Point C ( $50^{\circ} 2.907'$ ,  $006^{\circ} 9.346' W$ ) and then

following the boundary of the District based on 1983 baselines to Point D ( $50^{\circ} 0.506'$ ,  $006^{\circ} 6.202' W$ ) to

Point E ( $49^{\circ} 58.717'$ ,  $006^{\circ} 10.640' W$ ) to

Point F ( $49^{\circ} 53.443'$ ,  $006^{\circ} 9.531' W$ ) to

Point G ( $49^{\circ} 50.270'$ ,  $006^{\circ} 13.535' W$ ) to

Point H ( $49^{\circ} 50.873'$ ,  $006^{\circ} 28.303' W$ ) and then back to Point A



**Draft proposal on towed gear area - update 2**

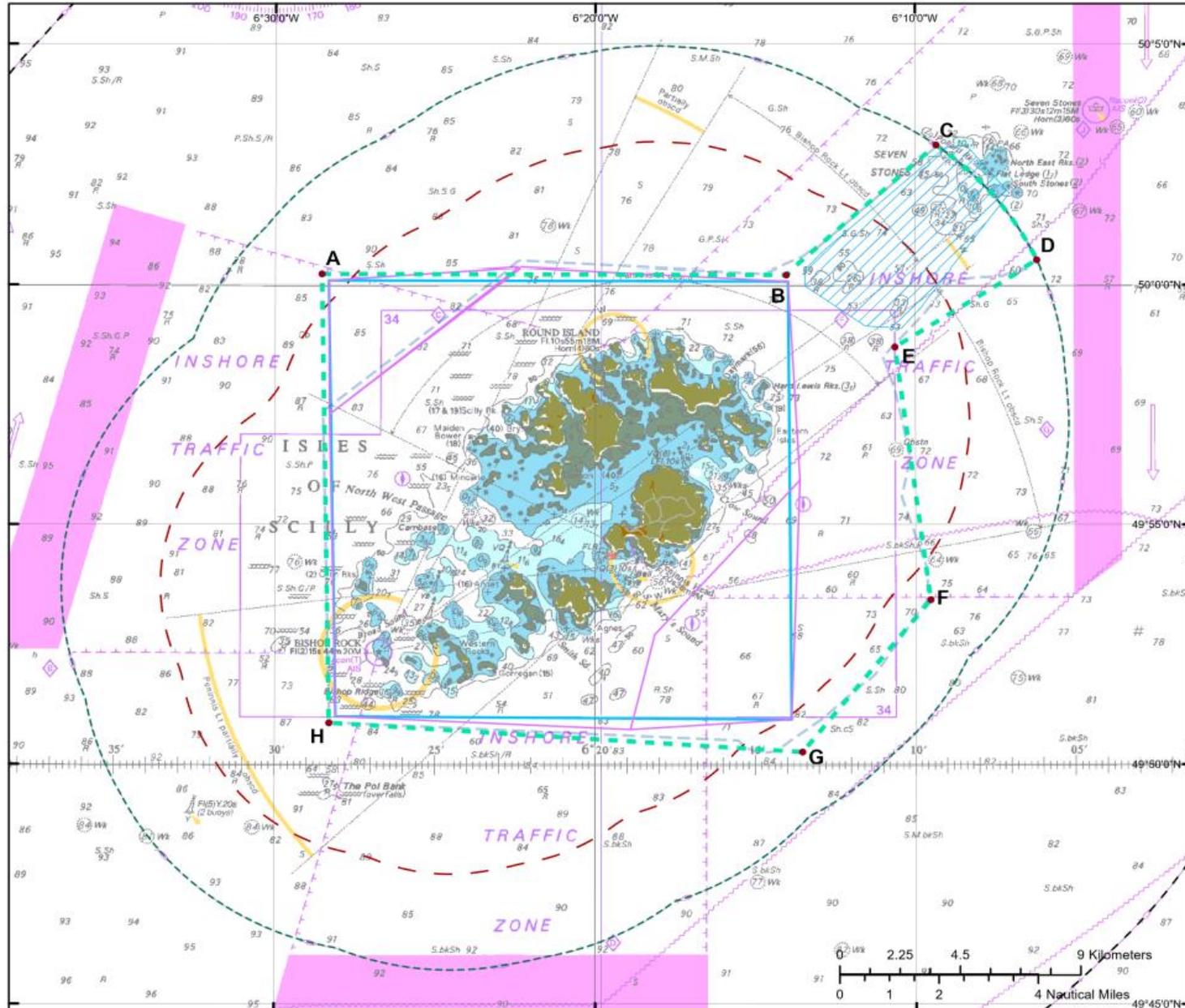
**Vertex locations**

- A: 50° 0.239' N, 6° 28.544' W
- B: 50° 0.221' N, 6° 14.033' W
- C: 50° 2.907' N, 6° 9.346' W
- D: 50° 0.506' N, 6° 6.202' W
- E: 49° 58.717' N, 6° 10.640' W
- F: 49° 53.443' N, 6° 9.531' W
- G: 49° 50.270' N, 6° 13.535' W
- H: 49° 50.873' N, 6° 28.303' W

- Updated proposal
- Original proposal
- Bristows to the Stones MCZ
- Isles of Scilly Complex SAC
- IFCA boundary/6nm limit
- 12nm limit
- 4nm from baselines

**Data sources**  
 Admiralty Charts © Crown Copyright, 2021. All rights reserved. Contains public sector information, licensed under the Open Government Licence v2.0 (UKHO); OS data © Crown copyright and database right (2020); data © OpenStreetMap contributors. 4nm limit derived from 6nm limit.

Not to be used for navigation.  
 Reference: ETRS89  
 Projection: UTM Zone 29N  
 Scale: 1:194,653



### **Annex 3 Measurement of marine organisms**

Edible crab should be measured across the widest point of the carapace (upper shell), perpendicular to the midline.

Spider crab should be measured as the length of the carapace (upper shell), along the mid line, from the edge of the shell between the two rostrums to the back end

Lobster should be measured along the length of the carapace (upper shell), parallel to the midline from the back of either eye socket to the 'distal edge' where it joins on to the tail

Crawfish should be measured along the length of the carapace (upper shell) from the tip of the rostrum to the mid-point of the 'distal edge' where it joins on to the tail.

A scallop should be measured across the broadest part of the flat shell.

