

SOUTHERN IFCA WHEELHOUSE CARD

Closed Areas – see full byelaws for coordinates and maps of closed areas

Bottom Towed Fishing Gear Byelaw – defined closed areas throughout the District.

Hand Gathering – seagrass beds throughout the District (all year/seasonal)

Fixed Nets – Defined areas throughout District - Closed 1st April – 30th September
– Lyme Bay within 1nm of shore - Closed 1st May – 31st July

Trawling – within 1 nautical mile of Chesil Beach – Closed 1st May to 31st August

Stake or Stop Nets – use is restricted in Langstone Harbour

Closed Seasons

Oysters (Native) - throughout District – Closed 1st March to 31st October

Periwinkles - throughout District – Closed 15th May to 15th September

Cockles - throughout District – Closed 1st February to 30th April

Prawns (Poole Harbour) – Closed 1st January to 31st July

Bass Regulations

Commercial – It is prohibited to retain bass in February and March. During January and from 1st April - end of December commercial vessels (subject to authorisation) may fish for, retain, tranship, relocate or land Bass within the following limits:

Demersal trawls and seines - unavoidable bycatch not exceeding 380kg per month and 5% of the weight of total catches per trip

Hooks and lines - not exceeding 5.7 tonnes per vessel per year

Fixed gillnets - by-catches not exceeding 1.4 tonnes per vessel per year

Recreational – Between 1st March – 30th November, two Bass of at least 42cm may be retained per person, per day. Catch and Release ONLY outside of this period.

Bass Nursery Areas

Fishing for bass or the use of sand-eels as bait from a boat is prohibited:

All year at Fawley Power Station and The Fleet, and

Between 30th April – 1st Nov in Chichester Harbour, Langstone Harbour, Portsmouth Harbour, S'oton Water, Poole Harbour.

Commercial Fishing

Any vessel fishing **commercially** in the District must be registered with the Authority.

The **maximum size of vessels** allowed to fish commercially in the Southern IFCA District is 12 metres overall length.

T: 01202 721373 E: enquiries@southern-ifca.gov.uk www.southern-ifca.gov.uk

Scan QR code to view our Byelaws



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Shellfish Restrictions – see left - Closed areas and seasons apply in addition to regulations below.

Solent Dredge Permit Byelaw - A Solent Dredge Permit is required to use a dredge in the Solent.

Poole Harbour Dredge Permit Byelaw – A Poole Harbour Dredge Permit is required to use, retain on board, store or transport a dredge in Poole Harbour.

Scallop Fishing – a maximum of 12 dredges may be towed at any time. Dredges must be fitted with a spring-loaded tooth bar. Mouth of dredge must not exceed 85cm width. No more than 2 tow bars may be used. Length of tow bar shall not exceed 5.18m. No person shall fish for/take any scallop **before 0700 and after 1900 (in the Solent prohibited timings are before 0600 and after 1800).**

Fishing for Oysters, Mussels and Clams – by handpicking or dredging only

Redeposit of Shellfish – shellfish taken in contravention of a byelaw, must be deposited as near as possible to where it was taken, without injury.

Electric Current – No person shall take or kill any sea fish by the discharge of electric current.

Foul Hooking – No person shall use any instrument or device for the purpose of foul hooking (posterior to eyes) any mullet or bass.

Berried Lobsters – No person shall remove any berried lobster or any lobster with a notch cut in its tail or a mutilated tail.

NOTE: Information on this card is provided to assist fishers and should not be used as a definitive statement of current regulation. Please contact us or see <https://www.southern-ifca.gov.uk/all-regulations> for further information on Southern IFCA byelaws.

Revised January 2022.

MINIMUM SIZES cm

Bass	42.0
* Black Seabream	23.0
* Brill	30.0
* Clam (American Hard-Shell)	6.3
Clam (Manila)	3.5
Clam (Warty Venus)	4.0
Clam (Grooved Carpetshell)	4.0
Clam (Surf)	2.5
Cockle (gauge size)	2.38
Cod	35.0
Crab (Edible)	14.0
Crab (Spider) Female	12.0
Crab (Spider) Male	13.0
Crab (Velvet)	6.5
* Conger Eel	58.0
* Crawfish	11.0
* Dab	23.0
Sole (<i>Solea spp.</i>)	24.0
* Flounder	27.0
* Grey Thick-Lipped Mullet	42.0
* Grey Thin-Lipped Mullet	42.0
* Golden Grey Mullet	36.0
Haddock	30.0
Horse Mackerel (Scad)	15.0
* Lemon Sole	25.0
Lobster (Carapace length)	8.7
Mackerel	20.0
Megrim	20.0
Mussel	5.0
Oyster (gauge size)	7.0
Plaice	27.0
Pollack	30.0
Queen Scallop	4.0
Razor Clam (<i>Ensis spp.</i>)	10.0
* Red Mullet	15.0
Scallop (ICES area VIId)	11.0
Scallop (ICES area VIle)	10.0
* Skate or ray (Whole)	40.0
* Skate or ray (Wing)	20.0
* Turbot	30.0
Whelk	4.5
Whiting	27.0
* Witch	28.0
* Wrasse (Ballan)	18.0
* Wrasse (Corkwing)	14.0
* Wrasse (Goldsinny)	12.0
* Wrasse (Rock Cook)	12.0

* applies only when caught in the Southern IFC District.

MINIMUM SIZES AND MEASUREMENT OF SPECIES

