

### **Solent Dredge Permit Byelaw: What you need to know**

Under the proposed Byelaw it will be prohibited to use a dredge by means of a vessel within the Solent unless authorised by a permit.

- To fish for bivalves (with the exception of oysters) you will be required to have a **Category A Permit**. This will cost £215.
- To fish for oysters you will be required to have a **Category B Permit**. This will cost £215.
- A daily curfew between **18:00 and 06:00** will apply across the Solent (to include the Harbours and Southampton Water).
- There is a requirement for all permit holders to submit **catch returns**.
- Flexible permit conditions can be attached to the permits, further details can be found in the [Management Intentions Document](#).

### **Flexible Permit Conditions: What you need to know**

At the time of Byelaw implementation, the following permit conditions will be introduced:

- **Seasonal:** Prohibition on the use of a dredge in Southampton Water, Portsmouth Harbour and Langstone Harbour between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 31<sup>st</sup> October each year (*Category A permit only*);
- **Retention of bivalves:** A restriction on the retention of bivalves other than those permitted under the permit;
- The introduction of a **minimum bar spacing** for box dredges: 18mm and cross piece strengthening bar: 40mm (*Category A permit only*)
- **Harvesting measures:** detailing the harvesting of Bivalve Management Areas (*Category B permit only*). (See the [Management Intentions Document](#) for further details)

### **Supporting Documents: What you need to know**

Clarification of **eligibility** to apply for permits is provided in the [Access Policy](#), in particular the **introductory criteria** (at the point of Byelaw Implementation), the **annual access** requirements and **New Entrant's** Criteria.

Clarity of the Authority's future **management intentions**, with regard to the potential **scope of the flexible permit conditions** and the **management toolbox** which could be used in the delivery of management, as well as threshold **guidelines** for the implementation of management strategies can be found here in the [Management Intention Document](#). This document also discusses the **cost** of permits and the considerations for restricting the **number** of permits.

*Upon implementation of this Permit Byelaw the Solent Dredge Byelaw will be revoked. The Scallop Dredge Byelaw will be amended to align the daily curfew. **Please note that all other applicable legislation will still apply.***

### **What happens now?**

Any person wishing to object to the confirmation of the Solent Dredge Permit Byelaw must send a statement of objection in writing to: Marine Conservation and Enforcement Team, Marine Management Organisation, Lancaster House, Hampshire Court, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE4 7YH (or [IFCAByelaws@marinemanagement.org.uk](mailto:IFCAByelaws@marinemanagement.org.uk)) by **28<sup>th</sup> February 2019** as well as a copy of to the CEO at Southern IFCA, 64 Ashley Road, Poole, Dorset BH14 9BN (or [enquiries@southern-ifca.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@southern-ifca.gov.uk)).