



FACT SHEET

SUSSEX IFCA MINIMUM SIZE

(FISH, CRUSTACEA AND MOLLUSC) BYELAW 2021

A new Minimum Size (Fish, Crustacea and Mollusc) Byelaw 2021 for Sussex IFCA has been approved by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

The byelaw applies to commercial licensed fishers, recreational fishers, transporters, merchants and retailers in the fishing industry.

The byelaw introduces measures intended to increase the sustainability of fish and shellfish populations within the Sussex IFCA district, by prohibiting the removal from the fishery, retention on board, transshipping, landing, transport, storage, sale, display or offering for sale named fish and shellfish species below defined minimum sizes. The measures seek to enable more animals to reach sexual maturity, and therefore contribute to the spawning stock and juvenile recruitment.

The species in the byelaw are broken down into two schedules; 1a and 1b. The minimum size for those species listed in schedule 1a and 1b (except for named mollusc and crustacean species) are applied only when caught from within the Sussex IFCA district. In general, these sizes are more restrictive than for fisheries outside of the district. You can see the Sussex IFCA district limits here: www.sussex-ifca.gov.uk/about-us



Scan for
regulations and
byelaw guidance

 01273 454407

 www.sussex-ifca.gov.uk

FURTHER INFORMATION

Sussex IFCA Minimum Size (Fish, Crustacea and Mollusc) Byelaw 2021

YOUR CATCH

The byelaw means that, if possible, you should try to avoid catching undersize fish. If you catch an undersize fish, then you must return it immediately to the sea even if it is dead. You can significantly increase the likelihood of undersize fish surviving through careful handling and the use of barbless or circle hooks. Diagrams are provided in the byelaw to demonstrate each method of measurement for various species.

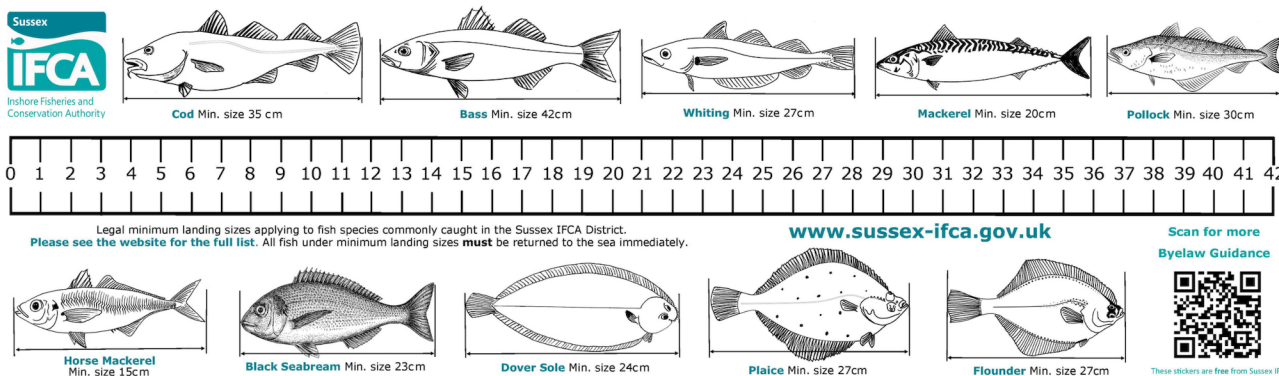
- Fish, crustacea and molluscs for which a size is specified in both schedules must only be retained whole and may only be landed whole. Mutilation, decapitation, removal of the tail and filleting are not allowed.
- The only exemption: Thornback, blonde and spotted ray wings can be landed (minimum size applies) providing the skin has not been removed.

LIVE BAIT

The following species may be used below the sizes specified in the schedules as live bait to fish for predatory fish.

- Anchovy
- Herring
- Horse Mackerel
- Mackerel
- Sardine
- Whiting

The below Measuring Guidance Sticker has been created to assist with the implementation of the Minimum Size Byelaw as an aid when recreationally fishing for common species within the district.



Scan for regulations and byelaw guidance

Image of the minimum size sticker is for illustrative purposes only. Stickers are available from Sussex IFCA free of charge

01273 454407



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