

# Beachy Head East & West MCZ Hand Gathering Guidance

## Hand Gathering (Restrictions and Permitting) Byelaw 2021



### Prohibitions:

Within the Management Area formed of Beachy Head West Marine Conservation Zone and Beachy Head East Marine Conservation Zone west of Holywell, including part of the Cuckmere Estuary within Seaford to Beachy Head Site of Special Scientific Interest, no marine organism aggregation devices, such as crab tiles, may be used. An indicative map is provided in Figure 1 below. Full coordinates of the Management Area are available at the Sussex IFCA website:

[www.sussex-ifca.gov.uk/regulations](http://www.sussex-ifca.gov.uk/regulations)

Hand Gathering is prohibited within the Beachy Head West Marine Conservation Educational Areas.\*

None of the specified species below may be removed from Beachy Head West MCZ in connection with any commercial purpose.\*

Hand gathering may only be by non-mechanical methods.

Polluting chemicals, materials and substances must not be deposited when hand gathering.

A person must not knowingly remove, harm, kill or destroy eel grass (*Zostera* species) or intertidal kelp species (*Laminaria digitata* and *Sacchorina latissimi*).

A person must not remove marine organisms from the intertidal shore within the District other than the specified species listed below, sandeels and stranded dead fish of any species.

### Species and limits:

Any person must not remove more than:

- 2 lobsters (*Homarus gammarus*)
- 5 edible crabs (*Cancer pagurus*)
- 20 crabs in total of any species other than *Cancer pagurus*
- 1 kilogramme of mollusc shellfish (total prohibition on piddock (*Pholadidae*), native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) and blue mussel (*Mytilus edulis*))
- 1 kilogramme of prawns or shrimps
- 1 kilogramme of marine worms (*Annelida*)
- 2 kilogrammes of intertidal seaweed (macro algae)
- 0.5 kilogrammes of glasswort (*Salicornia* sp.)
- 0.5 kilogrammes of sea-blite (*Suaeda* sp.)

### Important Notices:

Hand gatherers should familiarise themselves with the Sussex IFCA Hand Gathering Byelaw and associated guidance documents, available on the [Sussex IFCA website](http://www.sussex-ifca.gov.uk).

Persons that wish to hand gather sea fisheries resources are responsible for gaining the permission of the landowner, or any party who has rights over that land.

Persons that wish to gather sea fisheries resources are responsible for identifying whether there are any pre-existing prohibitions or restrictions on such activities.

Bivalve shellfish, if gathered under a permit issued under the Hand Gathering Byelaw 2021, may only be gathered from designated shellfish beds classified A or B by the Food Standards Agency. Further information is available from the [FSA website](#).

\* Marine Protected Areas Byelaw 2017.

**Figure 1. Beachy Head East & West MCZ Management Area (Management Area 5)**

