



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE CHICHESTER HARBOUR OYSTER FISHERY

### Closure of the Chichester Harbour Oyster Fishery for the season beginning 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022

The Sussex IFCA Oyster Permit Byelaw establishes a permit-based system for the commercial exploitation of native oyster stocks by dredging. The Byelaw provides responsive adaptive management for oyster fisheries and aims to support the development of sustainable fisheries through permit conditions.

Under the conditions of the byelaw, and the flexible conditions within it, the oyster fishery will not be open for the season starting the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022. The density of the oyster stock within Emsworth and Thorney Channels are below the threshold density at which we would normally close the fishery. Therefore, Sussex IFCA cannot consider opening the fishery.

The Fishbourne and Bosham channels are a closed area for brood stock and habitat protection.

Sussex IFCA continues to work with all stakeholders on the long-term sustainability of the native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) population in Chichester Harbour.

If you would like more information then please contact us at;

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