

**NORTH EASTERN INSHORE FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009 (c.23)
XXVIII SHELLFISH PERMIT BYELAW 2022**

Formal Consultation Form

Name:

Affiliated vessel/organisation:

Email address:

1. Which of the following best describes your interest in the Shellfish Permit Byelaw? **(Required)**

Select only one item:

- Commercial sea fishing
- Recreational sea fishing
- Hand gathering
- Processing
- Science/Research
- Supplier/Retailer
- Marine Industry Sector
- Other (if other please specify) –

Commercial Pot Fishery

2. What are your views on the current state of the pot fishery for Crab and Lobster in the NEIFCA district?

- 3.
- a. Do you agree there is a need for effort limitation via restricting pot numbers? *(If no, please provide comment)*

- b. Do you agree with the proposed setting of the maximum number of pots at 1000? *(Please provide comment)*
4. If the proposed byelaw is confirmed the Authority intends to implement some form of gear tagging system to enable the accurate identification of compliant fishing gear at sea and to support effective enforcement. Have you any thoughts on how such a scheme should be implemented?
- Tag every pot
 - Tag first, middle and end pot in a fleet
 - Tag the second and second to last pot in a fleet
 - Attach tags to the leading ropes
 - Other (if other please specify) –
5. Under the Shellfish Permit Byelaw it is proposed that Category One Permits (Commercial Shellfish permits will be capped at current number (234 permits) to maintain existing levels of activity. Do you agree with the capping of Category One Permits? *Please provide comment*
6. It is proposed that the transfer of Category One permits will be allowed onto replacement vessels where: a vessel is lost or replaced, the ownership of the vessel transfers within the same family or to an existing share holder in the vessel or the major share holding of the replacement vessel remains unchanged. Do you agree with this approach?

7. Under the Shellfish Permit Byelaw it is proposed that a permit fee will be introduced for a Category One Permit that is linked to the respective pot allocation ranging from £50 (0-250 pots) to £350 (751-1000 pots). Do you support the introduction of charging for Category One Permits?

Recreational Pot Fishery

8. What are your views on the current state of recreational fishing for Crab and Lobster in the NEIFCA district?
9. Although no changes are proposed to existing daily catch limits, under the new Shellfish Permit Byelaw, a Category Two Permit Holder (recreational) will be restricted to working not more than 5 pots. What are your thoughts on the proposed reduction in total number of pots from 10 to 5?
10. Under the Shellfish Permit Byelaw an annual permit fee of £10 will be introduced for a Category Two permit to cover administrative costs. What are your thoughts on this proposed new charge?
11. An extension has been made to the number of species covered by the Shellfish Permit Byelaw to include nephrops (prawns), European green (shore) crab, mussel, winkle, razor clam, scallop and surf clam. Do you have any comments on the addition of these species?

General

12. The new Shellfish Permit Byelaw will enable NEIFCA to change management provisions, if required, in the future, subject to consultation, through the variation of conditions attached to the permit

Do you view the adoption of this flexible byelaw model as positive or negative change?

13. Please use this space to provide any further comments or questions in relation to the Shellfish Permit Byelaw: