

Formal Consultation: Whelk Permit Byelaw 2016 & Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018—Additional Permit Conditions and Eligibility Criteria

The deadline for responses is midday on 22nd February 2021.

What is being proposed?

Eastern IFCA are consulting with whelk and shrimp fishermen in our district on proposals for additional permit conditions and eligibility criteria for the Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018 and the Whelk Permit Byelaw 2016.

These proposals were developed through listening to responses provided by stakeholders during consultation in 2020. Information about the outcome of these consultations, including evidence of how your responses shape management decisions, can be found on our website or from the office on request. The proposed measures will be applied in addition to the existing measures for each byelaw

Whelk

A summary of the proposed additional measures for the Whelk Permit Byelaw 2016 can be found [here](#).

The existing measures for the Whelk Permit Byelaw 2016 can be found here:

- [Whelk Permit Byelaw 2016](#)

Shrimp

The Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018 requires people who fish shrimps for commercial purposes or from a registered fishing vessel using bottom towed gear within the District to obtain a shrimp permit. There are two categories of permits under this byelaw. The differences between these permits are explained in the additional documents below.

The additional permit conditions and eligibility criteria proposed in this consultation are only for Category One permits under the Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018. A summary of the proposed additional measures for Category One permits under the Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018 can be found [here](#).

The existing measures for the Category One and Category Two permits can be found here:

- [Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018 Category One Permits](#)
- [Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018 Category Two Permits](#)

Why is this management needed?

These proposed additional measures are the outcome of ongoing consultation with industry as part of the process of reviewing the Whelk Permit Byelaw 2016 and making the Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018.

The additional measures are required to enable better monitoring and to mitigate issues that have arisen in review and consultation, to provide effective management to support the sustainability of sites and stocks and the ongoing viability of industry.

How will this affect my activity?

Shrimp

If you will fish for shrimp under a Category One permit – i.e. within the Wash and North Norfolk Coast Special Area of Conservation – you will be required to submit weekly, rather than monthly, catch returns to Eastern IFCA. You will also be required to have experience (outlined in the summary) working within the Wash and North Norfolk Coast Special Area of Conservation (see chart below) to be eligible for a Category One permit.

Whelk

If you fish for whelk you will be required to separate and clearly label your whelk catch caught inside the district from your catch caught outside the district. You will be required to complete your catch returns in your logbook within 24 hrs of fishing to assist in the accuracy of the completion of the monthly catch return, and you will be prohibited from fishing, until the returns are submitted, if your catch returns are more than a month in arrears.

You also will be prohibited from fishing for 12 months if you are convicted of an offence or if you are issued with a Financial Administrative Penalty (FAP) for non-compliance. You will be ineligible for a Whelk Permit if, within 12 months of your application, you fail to comply with any provision of the Whelk Permit Byelaw 2016 and subsequently are issued with a FAP or convicted of an offence.

Eastern IFCA's enforcement policy ensures that enforcement in the first instance is via education and engagement and that prosecution in a court or issuing FAPs are options only considered when necessary.

What happens after the consultation closes?

After the consultation deadline when we have received all the questionnaires and written responses, the results will inform the finalised permit conditions and eligibility criteria for each byelaw to be presented to the Authority for final decision.

The Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018 is not yet in effect and is currently at the stage of formal Quality Assurance; it will subsequently be submitted to Defra for final sign-off, at which point it will come into effect.

Further information

The following documents are relevant to this consultation:

- [Current permit conditions for the Whelk Permit Byelaw 2016](#)
- [The Whelk Permit Byelaw 2016](#)
- [Summary of the proposed additional measures for the Whelk Permit Byelaw 2016](#)
- [Current version of the permit conditions for the Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018 \(Category One permits\)](#)
- [Summary of the proposed additional measures for the Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018](#)

These documents can be found by clicking the links or from the office on request.

The information you provide will be processed in accordance with our [privacy notice found here](#).

Making your comments

This consultation is to seek the views of whelk and shrimp fishermen in our district. Your input helps us to make informed management decisions.

The questionnaire for this consultation includes questions about the additional measures proposed for the Whelk Permit Byelaw 2016 and the Shrimp Permit Byelaw 2018. Please respond to the questions about the whelk or shrimp fishery (or both), as relevant to your activity.

[Click here to respond to the consultation by submitting a response to the questionnaire.](#)

We acknowledge that consultations can be time consuming to complete and we appreciate your continued engagement.

If you require a printed copy of the questionnaire, [please contact](#) the office and we will post you a physical copy.

If you would prefer instead to write your response to this consultation, please send your responses by **22nd February 2021** addressed to:

CEO, Eastern Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority, Unit 6 North Lynn Business Village, Bergen Way, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 2JG.

Or by email to: mail@eastern-ifca.gov.uk

The office is closed because of the COVID-19 crisis, but Officers remain at work based at home. Should you need to contact us please use the email or mobile number provided below:

Phone: (during office hours) 07385 769305

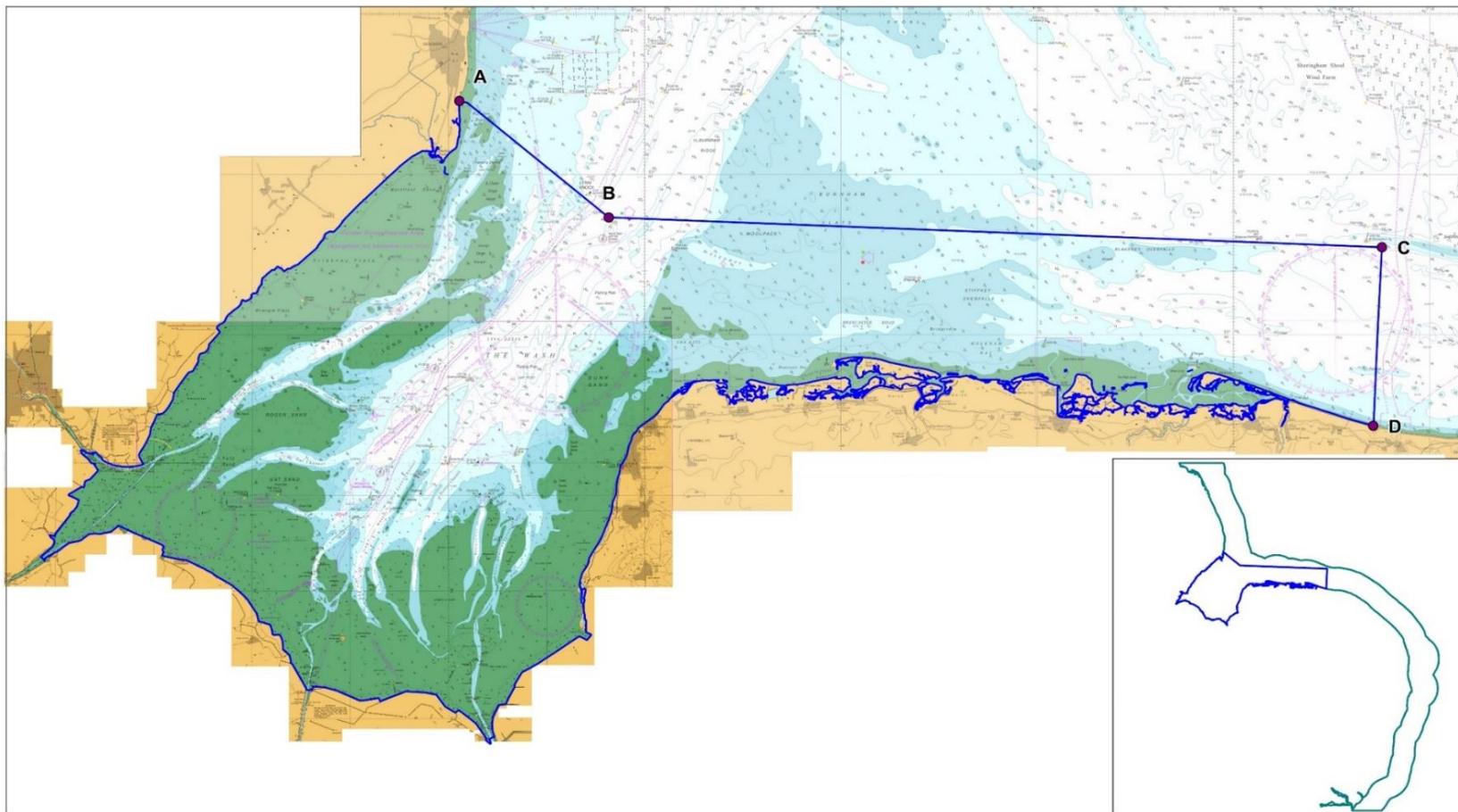
Email: mail@eastern-ifca.gov.uk

Additional Document 1. Differences between a Category One and a Category Two permit to fish for shrimp.

	Category One Permit	Category Two Permit
Location	Required to fish for shrimp inside The Wash and North Norfolk Coast Special Area of Conservation (see chart for boundaries)	Required to fish for shrimp in the Eastern IFCA District, outside of the Wash and North Norfolk Coast Special Area of Conservation (see chart for boundaries)
Permit Conditions	Flexible permit conditions for Category One permits can be found at: www.eastern-ifca.gov.uk/consultations PLUS the additional measures proposed in this consultation (questionnaire and information provided in previous correspondence and available from the officer or our website at the link above)	Flexible permit conditions for Category Two permits can be found at: www.eastern-ifca.gov.uk/consultations
Fee	£100	No Fee
Permit Year	Permits will be valid from the date of issue and will expire at 23:59 on the following 31st July	Permits will be valid from the date of issue and will expire at 23:59 on the following 31st July
Catch Returns	The holder of a shrimp permit must have on board shrimp return forms which will be provided by the Authority. Shrimp return forms must be completed with such information as is required by the Authority up to the day that fishing takes place. Return forms relating to the previous month must be submitted to the Authority no later than the 10th day of each month or at a frequency set out in the flexible permit conditions.	The holder of a shrimp permit must have on board shrimp return forms which will be provided by the Authority. Shrimp return forms must be completed with such information as is required by the Authority up to the day that fishing takes place. Return forms relating to the previous month must be submitted to the Authority no later than the 10th day of each month or at a frequency set out in the flexible permit conditions.

	<p>There are proposed amendments to the permit conditions on catch returns in this consultation. (questionnaire and information provided in previous correspondence and available from the officer or our website at the link above)</p>	
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Additional Document 2: The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC Boundary



The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC

- Eastern IFCA - district boundary
- The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC boundary
- Co-ordinate points

Not to be used for navigation – for illustrative purposes only

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