Eastern IFCA

The Wash Re-laying Fishery 2023

Consultation

**This consultation closes on Thursday 6 April 2023.**

This questionnaire is an opportunity for you to have your say on the potential opening of a mussel re-laying fishery on certain beds within The Wash.

Details of the proposed fishery are outlined in the consultation document enclosed with this questionnaire.

We are seeking to gather fisher’s thoughts on opening a re-laying mussel fishery. This will help us to decide whether a fishery should be opened and learn more about how it would be utilised if it were opened. Overall, this information will result in better informed decisions.

Your responses to this consultation are confidential. A summary of the responses may be produced, for example, to show how your responses inform decisions. This summary will not contain any personal information, information about specific activity, or be traceable back to individual responses.

The information you provide will be processed in accordance with our privacy notice found here: <https://www.eastern-ifca.gov.uk/consultations/>

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

**Section 1 – Your Details**

Please provide your details below. This will enable us to provide specific support if it is requested and to potentially contact you regarding your answers if we require further clarification.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Full name:** |  |
| **Operating Port:** |  |
| **Vessel name and PLN:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
|  |
| **Telephone (landline):** |  |
| **Mobile:** |  |
| **Email:** |  |

**Section 2 - Opening the fishery**

The stock and policies would allow for a seven-bed relaying fishery of 1,147 tonnes to be opened.

**Do you agree that a mussel re-laying fishery should be opened?** (*please tick*)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Yes** |  | **No** |  |

**If it were opened, would you participate?** (*please tick*)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Yes** |  | **No** |  |

**Do you agree with the proposed Total Allowable Catch (****1,147 tonnes)?** (*please tick*)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Yes** |  | **No** |  |

**Do you agree with the proposed division of the TAC of 1043 tonnes for dredge and 104 tonnes for hand-worked fisheries?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Yes** |  | **No** |  |

**Please use the box below to provide any alternative suggestions or comments regarding opening the fishery.**

**Section 3 – Beds included in the relaying fishery**

**Overview of proposed relaying mussel fishery beds**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Bed** | **Maximum** **Harvestable**  |
| Shellridge | 130 |
| Tofts | 28 |
| Herring Hill | 180 |
| Trial Bank | 292 |
| Back of the Wall | 507 |
| Skate Run | 196 |
| Blackshore | 106 |

**Do you agree with the proposed open beds above?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Yes** |  | **No** |  |

**Please use the box below to provide any alternative suggestions or comments on the proposed open beds.**

**Section 4 – When to open the fishery**

It is recommended that the fishery closes on the exhaustion of the TAC or on 31st August 2023; whichever is soonest.

**Please tick a preferred month to start the fishery.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Preference to start fishery**  |
| April |  |
| May |  |
| June |  |
| July |  |
| August |  |

**Please use the box below to provide any alternative suggestions or comments on the start month of the fishery.**

**Section 5 – General Management Measures**

**Please use the box below to set out any comments on the other proposed management measures for the mussel relaying fishery or Welland Wall mussel fishery**