

# Questionnaire – Formal Consultation

## Wash Mussel Biosecurity Measures

**This consultation closes at midday on Wednesday 20 August 2025**



We are seeking the views of Mussel fishermen about the biosecurity measures put into place on 20 May 2025 restricting the sale of mussels for the purposes of being relayed outside of the Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC. In particular, we are focused on:

- Any loss of business or income
- Other impacts such as damage to business relationships

This questionnaire is intended for you to have your say on management measures and to inform an impact assessment on the matter.

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 respond to our consultation.

Please email completed questionnaires to [mail@eastern-ifca.gov.uk](mailto:mail@eastern-ifca.gov.uk). Alternatively, physical copies may be sent to the address below. You are welcome to provide a written response instead of filling out a questionnaire, also to the address below.

The CEO  
Eastern IFCA  
Unit 6 North Lynn Business Village  
Bergen Way  
King's Lynn  
Norfolk  
PE30 2JG

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## Section 1. Your Details

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

Full name:

Operating port:

Vessel name(s) and PLN:

Address:

Telephone (landline):

Mobile:

Email:

## Section 2: Fishery Engagement

Have you participated in any Wash mussel fishery in the last five years? Please provide details

Have you participated in the 2025 Wash mussel fishery?

Have you ever sold Wash mussels for the purposes of relaying outside of the Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC? If so, what was the value of these mussels?

## Section 3: Impact of Restrictions

The following restrictions have been put into place:

- it is prohibited to re-lay or sell for the purpose of re-laying any mussels caught from The Wash outside of the Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC without prior authorization from the Authority, and;
- that such authorisation may be given to relay mussels outside of the Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC if the person wishing to do so can show that all reasonable steps and all due diligence will be taken to avoid releasing any INNS. Further that such authorisation may only be given if the relevant IFCA (where the mussel are being re-laid into), Natural England, The Fish Health Inspectorate and the Non-Native Species Secretariate has provided written advice / approval to the Authority.

Are you aware of opportunities to sell Wash mussels for the purposes of relaying outside of the Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC? If so, please provide details.

Does the prohibition on selling mussels for relaying outside of the Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC have a financial impact on you? If so, what would you estimate the lost revenue for this year to be?

Do you believe the market for mussels has alternative opportunities to allow for mussel stocks to be sold?

Have these restrictions had any other impact on you or your business, including non-financial or reputational impacts?

## Section 6: Other comments

Please use the space below to provide any other feedback you would like us to know or believe we should be aware of.