FISH, MOLLUSC AND CRUSTACEA MINIMUM SIZE EMERGENCY BYELAW 2019

KEIFCA made an Emergency Byelaw on 13 August to continue to retain minimum size enforceability on recreational fishing in our district. Click here for more information on why and how this byelaw was made.

MARINE PLANNING ‘YOU SAID, WE DID’ REPORT

The MMO have been conducting a series of workshops and consultations on draft policies covering the North West, North East, South West and South East marine plan areas.

To find out the results of these consultations go to https://marinedevelopments.blog.gov.uk/2019/09/03/marine-planning-you-said-we-did-report-published/ for more information.

VESSEL LENGTH AND TOWED FISHING GEAR ENGINE POWER BYELAW

Following consultation with stakeholders over the last 16 months, at their meeting on 16 September, KEIFCA Members will consider making a new byelaw to prohibit fishing with vessels over 14 metres in length within the district as well as prohibiting fishing with towed fishing gear, such as trawls and dredges, from vessels with an engine power exceeding 221 kW, and in the case of derated inboard engines, with an engine power exceeding 243 kW before being derated (exemptions will apply in certain cases).

This byelaw is intended to reduce the fishing effort capability which the use of larger vessels enables, as well as minimise the impact of bottom towed gear by limiting the weight and size of gear which can be used by fishing vessels. Click here for a copy of the report Members will consider.
KEIFCA Members will discuss the work undertaken by the IFCA in developing an understanding of the whelk fishery on their district, to include:

- An industry workshop to be held in October
- Prospect of a work based PhD who would work with the local industry as part of their research.

Click here for the full report for more details

**COMPLIANCE WITH KENT & ESSEX BYELAWS**

We have developed a number of stickers and information sheets that can be used by both commercial and recreational fishermen to check they are landing sizeable fish. If you would like one of these free stickers/information sheets then please ring us or email info@kentandessex-ifca.gov.uk and we will be pleased to send them to you.

If you see anything that concerns you regarding a fishing activity in our district then ring us on 01843 585310.

**MEDWAY NO TAKE ZONE**

The no-take zone in the River Medway covers 12.1 square kilometres (4.6 square miles) of saltmarsh and mudflat environments that are vitally important to a wide variety of fish

Click here for more information on the largest no-take zone in the UK.
If you sail or work in maritime industries, or near a harbour? If you see anything unusual about the location, time and how a vessel and crew are operating, call 101 and quote ‘Operation Kraken’.

Defra are seeking evidence to help develop a new approach for allocating any additional English fishing quota that may be secured during negotiations following Brexit.

- establishing a reserve of quota
- improving how the discard ban works in practise
- allocating fishing opportunities through a tendering or auctioning system
- how to redefine the "under 10 metre" category
- trialling an effort (days at sea) regime instead of a quota regime for inshore fisheries
- how to make sure coastal communities benefit from quota

For more information go to https://consult.defra.gov.uk/fisheries/fishing-quota-allocation-developing-a-new-approach/

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

FISHING QUOTA ALLOCATION POST BREXIT

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The next meeting of the Authority will take place on: Monday 16 September 2019

at Council Chamber, Gravesham Council Offices, Windmill St, Gravesend, Kent. DA12 1DD at 10am.

Among the items up for discussion are:

• Cockle Fishery update
• Native Oyster Permit Fishery update
• Annual Report 2018-2019

Please click here to see our website for the full agenda and reports.