

**NWIFCA Meeting:
7th December 2023 10:30 a.m.**

**AGENDA
ITEM NO.
10**

**HEAD OF ENFORCEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT –
1ST AUGUST- 31ST OCTOBER**

Purpose: For information.

Recommendations:

1. **That the report is received**

Patch Summaries for the quarter are given in the table below:

Patch	Summary Points
Haverigg Point – Burghmarsh Point – IFCO Thinnesen, Thinnesen	<p>Shore patrols were undertaken throughout the North of the district during the quarter covering all known ports and hot spots between Port Carlisle and Haverigg Point. Please see appendices for patrols and statistics this quarter.</p> <p><u>TRAWLING</u> - activity was observed from local trawlers targeting prawns (nephrops) and bait fish (plaice and dogfish) from grounds southwest of St Bees 6 to 10, nautical miles offshore.</p> <p>Individual vessels were monitored at sea on VMS fishing inside the 6 nautical mile limit during the quarter, with some reports of prawns being caught on the odd occasion, between 20 - 60 stones per day in August and September. Some of the vessels from Maryport and Whitehaven are landing to local Co-operatives and direct to the public at both ports.</p> <p><u>POTTING</u> - activity on VMS over the quarter showed whelking vessels out of Whitehaven, Fleetwood and Maryport frequently seen, with vessels engaged in whelk potting inside as well as outside of the district.</p> <p>Vessels from Fleetwood were seen fishing off North Wales, 6 – 10 miles off the coast, west of Formby, south and north of IOM as well as 10 miles west of Whitehaven and Scottish waters in Solway firth.</p> <p>Some local vessels had been seen on VMS fishing on grounds inside of the NWIFCA 6-mile limit this year, with the majority of the fishing days being carried out outside of the district.</p> <p>Vessels targeting lobster and brown crab continued to fish pots. These vessels targeted areas north and south of Whitehaven, with mixed reports from fishers of quantities of lobsters and crab being caught.</p> <p>Creel pots for shrimps have been used, with mixed results.</p>

	<p>Eight sightings on VMS with lobster boats; 34 sightings on VMS with whelkers, most of which were outside of the district.</p> <p><u>ANGLING</u> - angling activity on beaches and piers was evident at all areas, but in smaller numbers from August to October. Catches varied from small dabs, whiting, plaice, dog fish and thorn backed rays, in mid and late October with some codlings showing signs of being caught in the dark hours, which is normal for the time of year leading into winter and the darker nights.</p> <p>This quarter during daylight hours, numerous anglers were seen on piers and beaches. However, most of the time officers were engaged with re-fitting North Western Protector, which severely curtailed the number of shore patrols this year.</p> <p><u>BEACH NETS</u> – no nets seen or reported on any beaches over the quarter.</p> <p><u>OTHER DUTIES</u> - Other duties undertaken was from VMS satellite surveillance work, where 93 vessels were monitored.</p> <p>Crewing on board North Western Protector working alongside of other crew members, in preparing engine room bays, cleaning and upgrading areas ready for engines being returned.</p> <p>Assisting officer in Barrow area.</p> <p>Protector Gamma was brought back to Whitehaven from Chorley after having two extra seats fitted as per her coding, and most of the other coding requirements have been carried out. At time of this report, the vessel has undertaken sea trials but is not yet back in service.</p> <p><u>ATV Patrol</u> – 1 ATV patrol were carried out around Nethertown and Braystones, this was mostly to familiarise and train the new recruits on quad bike operations.</p>
<p>Haverigg Point – Arnside – IFCO Dixon</p>	<p><u>Mussels</u></p> <p>During early August mussel gathering activity was at the usual level of up to 10 local based gatherers fulfilling small orders for relaying elsewhere in the country or for depuration locally. However, both sets of Spring tides during September saw an increase in activity, with up to 30 Byelaw 3 permit holders gathering in excess of 30 tonnes of size mussel per tide, to fulfil a large relaying order.</p> <p>Activity decreased to just 2 permit holders observed on occasions during October, fishing for a local depuration order.</p> <p>I continue to undertake mussel sampling from Foulney for the local Authority Environmental Health Department.</p> <p><u>Cockles</u></p>

I assisted Science Officers to survey areas of Flookburgh cockle bed in October. One Byelaw 3 permit holder was observed after they notified the IFCA of their prospecting request.

I continue to undertake cockle samples from two sites near Flookburgh and one site at Newbiggin for the Local Authority.

Shrimping

Activity increased during the later part of the reporting period, due to increasing numbers of shrimp being caught, although reports suggested that the size of the shrimps were still much smaller than those being caught in other areas of the district. one shrimp tractor was observed occasionally in the Leven channel, and three tractors were observed operating occasionally from Flookburgh, which is still less effort than several years ago.

One recreational Shrimp push net fisherman reported that catches were improving in the Duddon estuary, although weed was becoming a problem.

Netting

Netting vessels were occasionally sighted in outer Morecambe Bay, East of Foulney mussel bed, and in the Leven channel near Newbiggin, with a maximum of seven licensed vessels observed one evening in September, moderate to low numbers of Bass were reported, and no reports were received or observed this year of large hauls of Bass which occasionally happened in recent years. Vessels were also observed targeting pot bait in the Leven channel area south of Aldingham.

No recreational netting vessels were observed during the quarter.

No Flue netting was observed during the quarter, reports suggested that no suitable deeper holding pools in the river channel were identified.

Two stake nets were observed in the Leven estuary permitted area, targeting Flatfish.

Potting

Inshore potting for lobster was at its peak during this quarter, with two Barrow based vessels regularly observed west of Walney Island, both vessels began to bring in their gear for the winter at the end of the reporting period. Lobster tended to be the target species due to the economic value, with edible crab making up a bycatch, some of which was sold locally.

One vessel potted for Whelks occasionally, and also assisted NWIFCA Science officers with a study into the species.

Three Barrow based vessels fish outside of the District for lobster, with two of these vessels also trialling potting for nephrops as well.

Long lines

	<p>Shore long lines continue to be a rare occurrence in the North Morecambe Bay area, since the Bass regulations came into force. Only two recreational long lines were observed, one in the Leven estuary and one in the Duddon estuary, these were both only fished for a short period of time, with Plaice and Bass being reported caught, but in compliance with the regulations.</p> <p><u>Angling</u></p> <p>Anglers were observed in the usual areas of Foulney, the coast road and Walney Island when the Bass were present during the quarter, although angler numbers seemed to be less than in previous years. The area in the Leven estuary north of the railway viaduct was not as busy as in previous years, although the viaduct area was busy at times on both sides of the estuary.</p> <p>One commercial angling vessel was observed regularly in the outer Morecambe Bay area during the early part of the reporting period.</p> <p>Angling from vessels continued to be popular although it seemed that this activity was also not as popular as in recent years, judging by the numbers of vessel trailers seen near the public slipway, and sightings while on patrol.</p> <p>Local angling competitions continued to be well attended.</p>
<p>Arnside – Lytham IFCO Graham & Edwards</p>	<p><u>Cockles</u></p> <p>All cockle beds within the patch continue to remain closed. There have been no signs of any activity at Pilling. A large amount of small cockle remains across the bed. Samples continue to be taken on a monthly basis for environmental health.</p> <p><u>Mussels</u></p> <p>No activity has been sighted on the Ribble Training Walls or Knott Spit. There is little incentive to travel to the area to gather mussels. Monthly sampling continues on a monthly basis at the Ribble and an increase in frequency has been requested over the summer months for Knott Spit and Sea Centre due to poor readings in previous years.</p> <p><u>Other Shellfish</u></p> <p>Occasional recreational winkle gathering has been spotted at Knott End. Infrequent recreational gathering of small amounts of otter clam has been sighted and inspected Lytham.</p> <p><u>Bass</u></p> <p>Commercial fishing continued through the quarter with landings at the Ribble and Knott End. Recreational anglers reported catches throughout the quarter. Heysham Bass Nursery area has seen a rise in signs of activity and will continue to be monitored and patrolled.</p>

	<p><u>Netting</u></p> <p>Fixed netting continues a small scale at Pilling. Netting activity has been sighted in Morecambe Bay, the Ribble and off the Lune.</p> <p><u>Angling</u></p> <p>Recreational Boat anglers have taken advantage of the good weather with sightings off Fleetwood, Halfmoon Bay, Fleetwood. The majority of shore anglers inspected were catch and release. Complaints were received about the quantity of weed caught off the north wall at Heysham with poor reports of catches in the area.</p> <p><u>Assisting in Other Areas</u></p> <p>Cover was provided for Foulney and Penfold sample collections. In addition, cover was provided for the closed tides at Southport at the end of October.</p> <p><u>Other</u></p> <p>IFCO Graham has completed his GVC drone practical exam and carried out the purchasing of the drones. Further work is scheduled over winter to implement documents and processes required to become operational with the drone. In addition, this quarter, IFCO Graham has overseen the transferal of IT from Lake District National Park Authority's servers to a cloud based system, this marks the end of the yearlong 365 transferal process. The publication of the pay review increased the demands for facility time as a Union Representative this quarter.</p> <p>Frequent issues with the aging quad bikes have frustrated operations this quarter. The two bikes have now been replaced under the new asset replacement strategy.</p> <p>IFCO Edwards has continued to progress the Authority's communications and has scheduled stakeholder engagement events up and down the district in November.</p>
<p>Dee- Southport – IFCO Brownrigg, Taylor</p>	<p>Throughout this quarter officers have been active throughout the Southern area. Both the north Wirral and Sefton coastlines have recorded a variety of fishing activities.</p> <p>Daily shore patrols, ATV work, and seaborne patrols along with survey work have all taken place. Byelaw 2 – North Wirral Foreshore Bivalve Molluscs continues to remain in place along the north Wirral coastline.</p> <p>On behalf of West Lancashire Borough Council and Merseyside Port Health Authority officers have continued to collect the monthly MSH sample collections. Finally, joint working enforcement patrols have also been carried out with Merseyside Police Rural Crime Unit.</p> <p><u>SPECIFIC</u></p> <p><u>HAND GATHERING BI VALVE</u></p>

The Penfold fishery on Southport was officially opened late October. At the opening of the fishery some eighty B3 permit holders were observed accessing and working the fishery. It is pleasing to say, gatherers have remained compliant to the requirements of the flexible permit scheme. Early observations during landings have recorded between one to two tons per day being fished.

As part of Byelaw 2, enforcement duties have continued to be undertaken along the north Wirral coastline enforcing the closure. Despite beach closure notices remaining in place highlighting this matter, shellfish offences continued to take place. Enforcement paperwork is now with the Head of Enforcement for review.

RECREATIONAL ROD ANGLING

SHORE

One hundred and forty inspections of shore and beach anglers have taken place during this quarter, with Kings Parade, New Brighton and the promenades of Liverpool and Wallasey have continued to remain active. In particular, the promenades of Seacombe and Magazine remain to be most popular. Plaice, sole, dogfish and bass have all been observed.

Catch recordings remain to be at a minimum due to a positive catch and release approach by anglers.

RECREATIONAL/COMMERCIAL BOAT ANGLING

Area officers have continued to inspect the many small recreational angling vessels and few commercial craft operating within the Liverpool Bay and river Mersey areas. During the inspections officers have recorded moderate catches of plaice, flounder and sole from the commercial netters who are particularly active within the Mersey area.

Officers were present to offer advice guidance at a recent small boat angling competition held by Wirral Small Boats Club. Officers observed some twenty-two small craft active in the area with anywhere from two to six rods being carried on any one vessel.

BAY PROTECTOR

Bay Protector, the area's fishery protection vessel has continued to remain active in the river Mersey, Liverpool Bay and Dee estuary areas undertaking boarding and closings on small recreational and charter craft fishing or moored within the area.

BAIT DIGGING

Bait digging remains to be active along both coastlines, the Mockbeggar Wharf area along the north Wirral coastline remains to be the most common area. 18 inspections have been undertaken with the 'pump' method being most used.

NETTING

Netting activity has continued to take place along both the north Wirral and Sefton coastlines. Four set nets continue to be routinely monitored off Taylor's Bank, Formby with a further two observed off Ainsdale/Birkdale sands.

Two set nets continue to be recorded east of Hilbre Island. During our inspections officers have found the nets to be compliant.

Beach seining and gill netters have continued to fish the low water tide line and beach area from Leasowe lighthouse to Gun site car park. During the inspection's plaice, sole, mackerel and ray were recorded. On inspection all nets and catches were found to be compliant.

SHRIMPING ACTIVITY

Tractor hauled beam trawler activity has continued to be active along the Sefton coastline area. Shrimp catches of 40-70kg being noted at £4 per kg.

Push netting has been active along both coastlines with small scale catches being recorded in the Gut channel, Southport, and the east Hoyle Bank area.

POTTING ACTIVITY

A limited number of pots have been inspected during marine patrols from Bay Protector, all pots have been compliant Byelaw 4.

General Update

North Western Protector

Officers have again this quarter been mainly busy with the vessel refit, where both main engines were refitted on the 4th September 2023, by diesel mechanics - Frazer Hogg and Neil Vaughan from Hogg Construction Limited. The engines were first started up again on the 15th September. The engines were run up to temperature and checked for oil/water leaks etc.

North Western Protector (NWP) was taken out of the water at the port of Workington on the 12th October for the 5 yearly out of water coding and inspection of both NWP and the daughter boat, Protector Charlie.

Work undertaken whilst NWP was at Workington, included:

- Officers stripped back the antifoul several layers on the vessels hulls in order to establish a solid base to repaint on.
- Two layers of metal base coat were then applied before antifouling the hulls.
- Sacrificial anodes were also fitted prior to the vessel going back in the water on 9th November.
- The Jet drive units were also serviced during this period. The external parts of the Jet Drives were removed in order to press out and fit new cutlass bearings; prop shaft bearings; nylon bushes and

through hull seals for control arms were also replaced. This work was carried out by Marine Jet Power engineer Lee Welling, with officers assisting.

- The forward, astern and steering hydraulic rams were also removed at the same time, and sent to be resealed at Yarl Hydraulics locally, as they were starting to weep out hydraulic oil.
- A number of hydraulic hoses were also replaced throughout the vessel as they were heavily corroded. The new hoses have stainless steel fittings to eliminate corrosion.
- The 5-tonne winch on the deck crane was removed and sent away for shot blasting and painting along with a new wire rope and hook to be fitted.
- A number of electrical jobs were also carried out during this period which included replacing the lighting in both engine and jet drive bays along with the generator room.
- Forward and aft flood lights were renewed along with the deck lights with much brighter LED units installed.

At the time of writing this report the main patrol boat is back in the water and berthed alongside at Whitehaven. We hope to have the engines fully commissioned within the next couple of days. MAN dealership (PME Group Plymouth) will carry out this work for warranty purposes.

Drone Procurement

The procurement of aerial assets to assist with enforcement across the district has long been a goal of the Authority's executive. Staff have recently completed the qualification required by the Civil Aviation Authority to pilot the drones known as the general visual line of sight certification.

The Authority has now received 2 drone assets to assist in carrying out our statutory functions for survey and compliance. The enforcement team have procured a DJI Matrice 30T (M30T). The DJI M30T is an enterprise grade drone that is designed to operate in tough conditions. It has an IP55 rating which means it is suitable for use in rain and in wet environments. It can fly in windspeeds of up to 15m/s (33mph) and temperatures between -20°C and 50°C.

It has a max speed of 23m/s (51mph) and a battery life of up to 41 minutes. A hot swappable twin battery system means that batteries can be changed with limited downtime. To ensure operational capacity is not limited by battery life multiple pairs of batteries have been purchased.

The M30T carries a fixed payload consisting of a zoom camera, a radiometric thermal camera and laser rangefinder. The zoom camera is powerful enough to read a number plate from over 200m and can track moving objects while providing accurate coordinates at distances up to 1.2km away. Still images can be taken at resolutions up to 8k and video can be taken in resolutions up to 4k. Dual controller support allows for one officer to concentrate on piloting the drone while another can operate the camera.



Enforcement Drone DJI Matrice M30T

FMP Update

Fisheries management plans have been widely reported on by officers over the last 12 months as they are a requirement of the Fisheries Act 2020 which is the framework of how fisheries are managed as a coastal state outside of the EU Common Fisheries Policy. Fisheries policy authorities such as DEFRA and devolved administrations have been tasked to produce 43 FMPs and the first tranche of 6 front runner FMPs is nearly completed.

NWIFCA officers more recently were involved in the Association of IFCA's FMP review project which was run between Kent & Essex IFCA and the AIFCA to support and facilitate the FMP consultation process to engage IFCA members and provide a platform to share best practice and inform the national plans. The project focused on two plans, the crab & lobster FMP and the whelk FMP, both which have regional management measures and support a significant proportion of the inshore fleet.

A key part of the project was developing a bespoke website that could update anyone who wished on relevant FMP documents and information of fishing stocks. Using feedback from IFCA members around the coast in filmed interviews and questionnaire replies to inform a workshop, run by AIFCA and KEIFCA officers targeted reviewing evidence to draw together a national response. The workshop held in Poole last September was attended by over 40 stakeholders (Head of Enforcement on behalf of NWIFCA) and proved useful to DEFRA in reviewing the plans, highlighting regional differences and similarities to give a clear idea of the critical tasks/

DEFRA is currently preparing the next 5 FMPS for English waters for publishing at the end of 2024, including a range of partners and building on lessons learnt from the first tranche. NWIFCA officers are working with specific project teams and providing input into the Cackle FMP. Drafts will be provided to the committee as ready.

IFCAs around the country are working closely with DEFRA on how FMPs are going to be implemented as there will be numerous actions and management measures. There will need to be a clear prioritisation of actions for delivery and resourcing. DEFRA has made clear that the implementation needs to happen at speed, but the processes underpinning FMPS implementation needs to continue for the long-term future of fisheries management of which IFCAs are a significant part.

Recruitment

During this quarter NWIFCA have welcomed five new staff. Alex Schweizer, David Haile and Chris Taylor have joined the team in Whitehaven as IFCOs and Crew on North Western Protector as well as Leon Webber as IFCO/ Engineer for the patrol Vessel. Robin Love has joined IFCO Dixon in the Barrow area.

All staff have been following the NWIFCA induction package working through in house training in topics such as the legal system, fish ID and enforcement powers. This will provide a good background for attending the Competent Officer course in Torquay which is a National requirement for warranting.

Training

During the reporting period staff have completed conflict resolution training, this course is now being completed on an annual basis. Training in manual handling was completed across the organisation and most staff have completed fire warden training as recommended in a review of H&S. New staff have progressed through any statutory sea going certificates where required and ATV training course.

Training this quarter throughout the organisation included:

Conflict management and breakaway course – full day – 6 officers, refresher for 11 officers

Manual handling – 21 officers

ATV quad bike training – 3 officers

Trailer and towing courses – 5 officers

STCW – personal survival techniques – 5 officers

STCW – elementary first aid at sea – 5 officers

Drone training- 4 officers

Health & Safety

A standing agenda item at NIMEG is health & safety, where groups share with out prejudice learning and developments from incidents which have occurred. This September an incident caused a review of the access arrangements to the patrol vessel in Whitehaven and the move to a more suitable berth in the marina.

Vehicles suffered a manufacturer wide recall, and a vehicle had a chassis fail which is being rectified by the manufacturer.

More recently a service of roller shutters on lockups highlighted a significant failure at one premises a subsequent near miss has compounded the need for annual servicing.

Byelaw Update

MCRS

It is pleasing to finally report to the committee that the MCRS Byelaw has been signed and officers are beginning the process of communicating the implementation of the byelaw to stakeholders.

Netting Byelaw

HoE has continued drafting the Netting byelaw and flexible permit conditions anticipated for the implementation of the byelaw. IFCO Graham has drafted possible seasonal closures for estuarine areas as are currently in place to maintain the current situation of closures around rivers and estuaries in NWSFC Byelaw 26/27 and CSFC Byelaw 10, in addition potential areas of management in the Mersey and Dee. Legal advice on management of migratory species has been sort from legal advisor and will better inform the direction of the regulation with regards to interactions of protection of migratory species under current byelaws and IFCA's powers under the Marine Act.

In the coming weeks a meeting of members who volunteered to assist with the drafting of the byelaw will be convened and the process of informal consultation with stakeholders will take place. An updated draft will be presented to the next meeting of the TSB committee.

IVMS

The MMO has announced that it is beginning the roll-out of iVMS devices for vessels under 6 metres. Fishermen with a vessel under 6 metres can now order an approved device and are eligible for grant funding to cover the costs. The deadline to reclaim costs for the under-6 fleet is 18 December 2023. Claims can made as soon as a device has been paid for, as evidence of installation is no longer required to make a claim.

Requirements for iVMS are expected to come into force in April 2024. For further information, please see the MMO's announcement [here](#), and MMO guidance for fishermen [here](#).

Meetings

Head of Enforcement has continued to attend regular meetings of;

- National Inshore Marine Enforcement Group,
- AIFCA FMP Conference,

- National Training Group,
- Penfold Cockle Fishery Multi Agency Group
- NW Marine Area tasking and coordination group,
- Shellfish Association meetings,
- Fisheries Management Plan groups,
- NWIFCA TSB and Finance and HR sub-committees
- Chief Officer Group

Fishery Report

Penfold Cockle Fishery

The Penfold cockle fishery opened on the 30th of October after a prolonged period of planning by officers and other agencies surrounding the requirement to manage the site differently to previous years. This arose from concerns surrounding the use of heavy goods vehicles, parking and the ancillary operations of the fishery on the SSSI site where the fishery has taken place historically at Marshside, Southport.

A very specific recommendation was worded and approved by the August NWIFCA TSB meeting where the fishery could open on a limited total allowable catch, subject to HRA and appropriate management measures put in place.

Officers had significant discussions with the Penfold Multi agency group on the potential management of the fishery for this season. Various options were explored including use of different sites such as a park & ride car park, the old sand works and beach parking as well as potential for a boat access fishery. Permit holders were consulted with to develop discussions and seek ideas on the management of the fishery.

Eventually agreement with partners was reached where the byelaw 3 permit holders could access the fishery along the track running through the SSSI and nature reserve, but no other activities could take place. Confirmation was received from merchants and buyers that they had sites which could be used for parking and weighing of cockles away from the Marshside area. This did mean permit holders would need road legal quadbikes to transit along the road to the fishery as well the beach access permits from Sefton Council. Based on this agreement of management NWIFCA officers were able to submit the HRA to Natural England.

The HRA was received back from Natural England and the fishery opened under Byelaw 3 flexible permit conditions the following week. A TAC of 230 tons was stipulated and the fishery is open one tide per day, Monday to Friday. Officers are monitoring the TAC through inspection reports and analysis of byelaw 3 returns. One key point of the HRA was that the fishers would need to access the fishery along a strictly marked out zone to prevent damage to the salt marsh returning along the sides of the track through the SSSI. This was marked out by officers with cones and road pins prior to opening.

Partners did express concerns around the use of ATVs and other vehicles in the vicinity of the fishery. It was confirmed that this was beyond the remit of NWIFCA officer but that joint working would be the most effective way of communicating with fishers to ensure compliance with relevant highways and road traffic laws. To stop any congestion of fishery traffic turning off the main road the permit checkpoint was implemented along the track.

On the opening tide there was some confusion with regards to parking, but officers worked with the local constabulary to assist permit holders with local parking. Although not as designed in the management the

permit holders passed their cockles to merchants directly where they had parked due to the small numbers landed. Some concerns were raised from partners on fishers parking illegally, these were shared with the relevant partners with powers to enforce these issues.

The first week of the fishery numbers of attendees were around 25 per day with landings of around 100-200kg per day. This dropped into the second week with mid-teens of attendees landing 80-100kg per day. Since then, the fishery has seen an average of about 13 permit holders with around a total of 1000kg landed per day.

Foulney

As can be seen in the data below the Foulney fishery was an important resource for permit holders in the late summer, with over 30 permit holders fishing on spring tides. With up to a 70 tons of mussels being removed per day (two tides), this activity was very limited to this intensity for a few sets of big spring tides and clearly demonstrated what an important resource the mussel bed is.

Due to the high level of activity not seen for circa 10 years there were some complaints from local residents which officers responded to, and the local fishery officer communicated to permit holders to be respectful of the area and limit disturbance to local residents.

Byelaw 3 Reporting

Byelaw 3 Returns – 1st August – 31st October 2023		Cockles	Mussels	
		Penfold/Southport	Foulney	Ribble Training Walls
Amount Removed (kg)	Aug-23	0	217794	100
	Sep-23	0	184765	0
	Oct-23	2829	21569	0
Attendance	Aug-23	0	174	1
	Sep-23	0	165	0
	Oct-23	25	32	0
Hours	Aug-23	0	574	4
	Sep-23	0	641.5	0
	Oct-23	112	107	0
No. Inspected Fishing	Aug-23	0	40	0
	Sep-23	0	49	0
	Oct-23	0	0	0
No. MLS Inspections	Aug-23	0	34	0
	Sep-23	0	47	0
	Oct-23	0	0	0
Days Covered by IFCO's	Aug-23	0	23	1
	Sep-23	0	18	0
	Oct-23	2	11	0

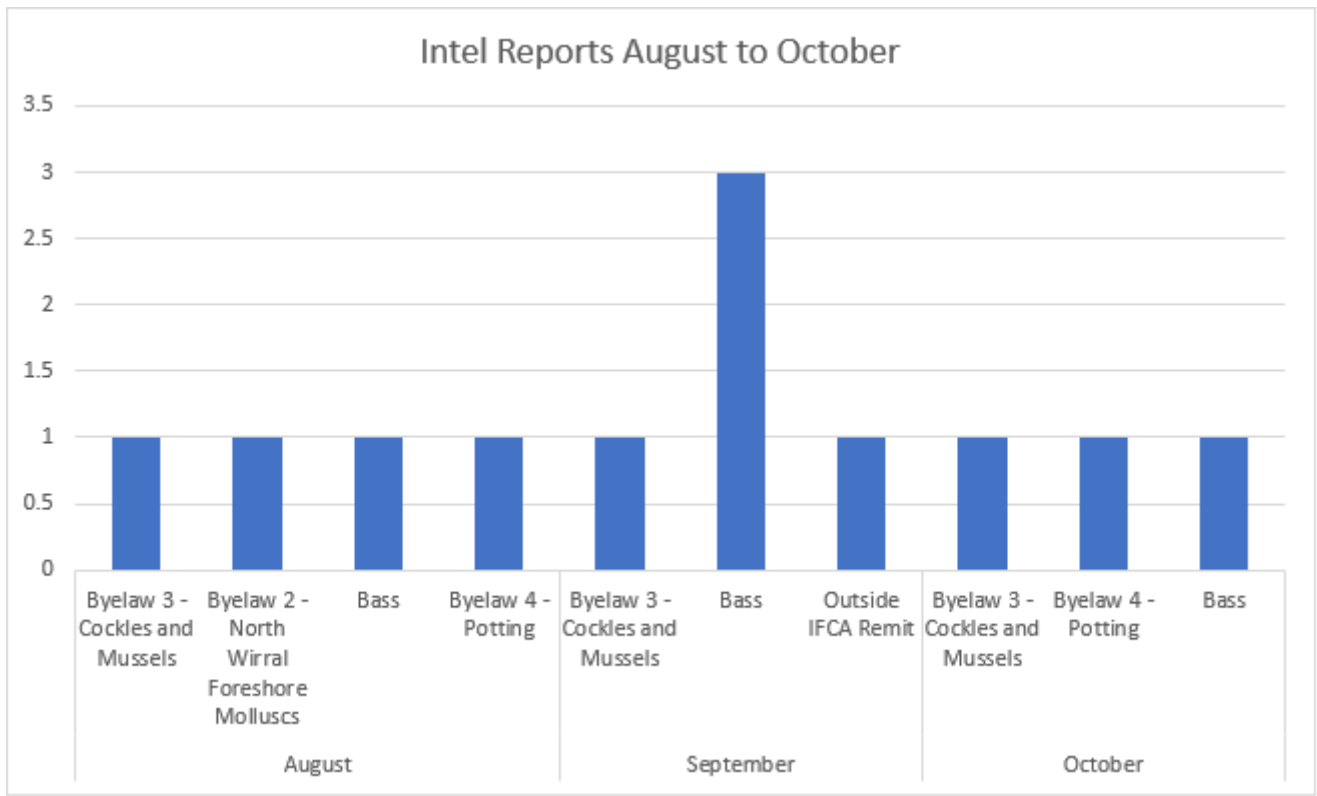
Sanctions, Infringements and Court Activity

Sanctions	Comments
Verbal	3
Advisory Letters	4
Official Warning Letters	15
FAPS	0
Permit suspension	0
B3 Penalty points	15
Prosecutions Pending	1
Prosecutions	0

During the reporting period of this quarter 38 sanctions were applied under the NWIFCA compliance and Enforcement strategy. Many of the administrative sanctions were issued as part of a continued compliance drive for failure to submit Byelaw 3 returns. Byelaw 3 returns are crucial to allowing officers to make effective management decisions to the benefit of stakeholders. Under the new byelaw and due to an escalation of sanctions for repeated offending penalty points were applied as per the process set out in paragraphs 35-38. Permit holders can receive four points in three years for official warning letters, financial administrative penalties or prosecution, after which their permit will be suspended for 12 months.

Other minor offences detected by IFCOs were resolved with the issuing of Official Warning Letters. Verbal warnings were issued for non-compliance with Byelaw 2 on the North Wirral foreshore. There was no detection of removal of stock from the fishery with offenders being detected during gathering, equipment was seized in the majority of offences.

Intelligence Reporting



Officers continue to conduct risk based and intel led patrols across the District, taskings are based upon seasonal, operation and priority areas allowing the strategic deployment of resources where required.

Shore Based Activity Report

Number of:	Haverigg Point – Burgh Marsh Point	Haverigg Point – Arnside	Arnside – Knott End	River Wyre – River Alt	Mersey, Wirral and Dee
Shore patrols by all NWIFCA officers*	47	52	15		118
ATV patrols	3	14	14		12
ATV patrol hrs	4.5	20.81	18.5		21
ATV kms covered	45	166	96		308
Inspections under taken	256	140	9		248

*undertaken either by vehicle or on foot without using ATV

Annex A

Vessel	No of patrol (days)	Patrol time (hrs)	Distance patrolled (nm)	Boarding's	Closings	Sightings	Inspections (inc. gear inspections)
Bay Protector	3	10	132	5	5	24	15
Protector Gamma	2	3.92	28	SEA TRIALS ONLY – for coding purposes			
Totals for the quarter	5	13.92	160	5	5	24	15

Annex B

Patrol Date	Patrol Time	Distance (nm)	Area Covered	Risk/ Purpose	Sectors Covered	No. Boarding	No. Closings	No. Sightings	No. Inspections
<u>Bay Protector</u>									
16.08.23	3.5	50	Liverpool Marina, River Mersey and Crosby Channel	Potting, recreational and charter activities	Mersey Estuary SPA	5	5	10	15 pots inspected
23.08.23	3.5	51	River Mersey & Liverpool Bay areas	Recreational angling, potting and netting activities	Mersey Estuary SPA	0	0	6	0
13.09.23	3.0	31	Liverpool Marina & River Mersey	Recreational angling, potting and netting activities	Mersey Estuary SPA	0	0	8	0
3	10	132				5	5	24	15

Patrol Date	Patrol Time	Distance (nm)	Area Covered	Risk/ Purpose	Sectors Covered	No. Boarding	No. Closings	No. Sightings	No. Inspections
<u>Protector Gamma</u>									
08.08.23	1.92	14	Whitehaven, Parton, Siddick	SEA TRIALS ONLY – for coding purposes					

09.08.23	2.00	14	Whitehaven to Braystones						
2	3.92	28				0	0	0	0