



## **Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority**

### **COCKLE FISHING GEAR EMERGENCY BYELAW**

The Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority, in exercise of its powers under Sections 155 and 157 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, hereby make the following byelaw.

#### **Interpretation**

1. In this byelaw-

'Authority' means the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority as defined in Articles 2 and 4 of the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010 (SI 2010 No 2190);

'District' means the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority District as defined in Articles 2 and 3 of the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010 (SI 2010 No 2190);

'Dredge' means a suction dredge, batch dredge, scoop or similar device, which is designed for taking cockles from the sea bed

'Registered fishing vessel' means a fishing boat registered in accordance with Part II of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 and the regulations made under that Act and in respect of which a fishing licence issued by an appropriate national authority is held.

#### **Prohibition**

2. A person must not fish for or harvest cockles using any gear type other than a dredge deployed directly from a registered fishing vessel.

#### **Operation of existing Authority byelaws**

3. The provisions of this byelaw are in addition to the provisions of all other Authority byelaws.

## **Entry into Force**

4. This byelaw has effect from 18<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and will remain in force (unless revoked or extended) until 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

Signed by the Clerk of the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority



Peter Sass  
Clerk

Date 18 September 2014

### **Explanatory Note**

(This note is not part of the byelaw)

This byelaw prohibits the use of any gear type other than a dredge deployed from a vessel, used when water covers the seabed, to fish for cockles within the KEIFCA District.

The purpose of this byelaw is to;

1. to ensure that public safety is not compromised by individuals venturing onto dangerous intertidal mud and sand banks
2. reduce the biosecurity risk of low water intertidal activities within the KEIFCA District
3. to protect features of the Marine Protected Areas within the KEIFCA District from damage by an activity which has not undergone a Habitats Regulations Assessment

This emergency byelaw will be kept under review by Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority and will be either replaced with a permanent byelaw, extended by 6 months, revoked, or expire.