



Marine
Management
Organisation



Environment
Agency

REPORTING OF SUSPECTED FISHERIES OFFENCE(S) IN CORNWALL & DEVON

Which Authority is responsible for what?

In relation to fishing activities:

- The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) was established to make a significant contribution to sustainable development in the marine area and to promote the UK government's vision for clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas. Under both EU Legislation, such as the Common Fisheries Policy, and the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009; the MMO are responsible for all fishing activities from shore to 200 nautical miles (with some powers given to IFCAs for the shore up to 6 nm limit). This jurisdiction includes enforcement and compliance and licensing of fishing vessels and quota management.
- Cornwall Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) is responsible for sea fishing and environmental conservation out to the 6 mile limit and within rivers and estuaries up to the tidal limits. The Tamar is split with Devon & Severn IFCA mid river and out to the western end of the Plymouth Sound breakwater. The River Lynher is wholly within the Cornwall IFCA district. Management of fisheries is through its own suite of byelaws, together with some national Orders and EC Regulations in respect of mainly technical measures. It does not regulate for the fish species which are managed by the EA, or national fish quotas and fishing vessel licensing;
- Devon & Severn IFCA is responsible for sea fishing and environmental conservation out to the 6 mile limit and within rivers and estuaries up to the tidal limits. The Tamar is split with Cornwall IFCA mid river and out to the western end of the Plymouth Sound breakwater. The River Tavy is wholly within the Devon & Severn IFCA district. Management of fisheries is through its own suite of byelaws, together with some national Orders and EC Regulations in respect of mainly technical measures. It does not regulate for the fish species which are managed by the EA, or national fish quotas and fishing vessel licensing;
- The Environment Agency (EA) is responsible for conservation of salmonids, freshwater and migratory species within streams, rivers, estuaries and the sea out to the 6 mile limit. Management of fisheries is through its own suite of byelaws. It does not regulate for sea fish conservation;

Note: Officers of the above organisations may be warranted by another fisheries authority, giving them certain powers to intervene on behalf of that authority.

2. Who and how to contact?

If you should observe or hear of an illegal or suspicious event in relation to fishing activity in the rivers, estuaries, or in the sea off Devon or Cornwall, please report it to one of the fisheries authorities, as follows:

Cornwall IFCA (24hr)	01736 336842
Devon & Severn IFCA	01803 854648
	(out of office hours) 07515 050888
Environment Agency	(National hot-line number) 0800 80 70 60
Marine Management Organisation (Plymouth office)	01752 228 001
	(Brixham office) 01803 853 383
	(Newlyn office) 01736 362 805

3. What details to relay to a fisheries authority?

(Please always proceed with care when encountering any suspicious activity; under no circumstances should you put yourself or anyone around you in danger. Always contact the relevant authority to take the appropriate action.)

Where it is possible / known / relevant, please report the following:

- Place where event was seen and/or where evidence was taken;
- Date and time of event(s);
- Boat description, any name and registration letters/numbers;
- Outboard engine manufacturer and displayed engine power on cowling;
- Vehicles involved including make, model, colour, registration plate;
- Fishing equipment such as nets, pots, rods etc;
- Name, DoB and address of any person involved, if known;
- Fish or shellfish – species, if known, number of, or estimation of weight.

4. What else may be helpful?

- If may prove useful for evidence to be recorded or gathered in other ways, such as taking photographs or video. CCTV images may be relevant.

5. Your details

When telephoning or emailing, please provide:

- details of yourself, who you work for, how and when you may be contacted.
- the time and date of your report if it is by telephone to an answer-machine.

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