



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Three Rivers Cockle Fishery 2010

PUBLIC NOTICE

COCKLE FISHERY MANAGEMENT

5th July 2010

The Taf, Tywi and Gwendraeth River estuaries (“the Three Rivers Estuary”) cockle fishery, which lies to the north of a line drawn eastwards from Ginst Pont (NG Ref. SN 332079) to Tywyn Point (NG Ref. SN 357064) and is shown on the attached map as Areas A, B and C, was temporarily closed (by Notice dated 5th July 2010, given under Byelaw 24¹ of the former South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee (“SWSFC”)) until Saturday 17th July 2010.

The Welsh Ministers **GIVE NOTICE THAT** the temporary closure of the part of the Three Rivers Estuary shown as Area A on the attached map (entitled “Three Rivers Cockle Fishery”) is suspended on **Thursday 8th July 2010** for that one day only, subject to the following **CONDITIONS** :

1. There is an overall (i.e. collective) total allowable catch of 200 tonnes of cockles during this suspension of the temporary closure;
2. The use of tractors, trailers, forklifts is prohibited within the Three Rivers Estuary;
3. Any vehicle used in connection with the cockle gathering activity within the Three Rivers Estuary –
 - a. must not travel over or come to rest upon any cockle bearing areas at any time;
 - b. must only travel over or come to rest upon firm sand;

¹ Byelaw 24 of the former South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee now has effect as if made by the Welsh Ministers in a statutory instrument by virtue of Article 13(1) of and Schedule 3 to the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (Commencement No. 1, Consequential, Transitional and Savings Provisions) (England and Wales) Order 2010 (S.I. 2010/630 (C. 42)).

- c. must gain access to Area A of the Three Rivers Estuary via a sharp left turn via B4312 into Water Lane which should be followed to the northern end of the Green and then onto the beach;
 - d. must not be operated in the intertidal areas before half an hour before sunrise and after half an hour before sunset; and
 - e. must be operated in accordance with any instructions issued by Welsh Assembly Government Fisheries Enforcement Officers, including whether or not that vehicle may have access onto the Three Rivers Estuary.
4. Any holes in the sand created by cockle gathering within the Three Rivers Estuary must be filled with sand and the non-cockle remnants of the gathering process.
 5. Any undersized cockles must, so far as possible, be returned to the place they were originally taken. Any undersized cockles must not be left in piles.
 6. All persons fishing for, taking (or attempting to fish for or take) or removing cockles from the Three Rivers Estuary must comply with any demands and instructions issued by the Welsh Assembly Government Fisheries Enforcement Officers.

Please Note:

An overall maximum of 200 tonnes of cockles is the most that may be taken off Area A of the Three Rivers Estuary during this suspension of the temporary closure. If it becomes apparent that that maximum is likely to be exceeded, the Welsh Assembly Government Fisheries Enforcement Officers will immediately re-close that Area to cockle gathering activities.

Any person who fishes for, takes (or attempts to fish or take) or removes cockles in reliance upon this notice must also comply with all other applicable legislation (in addition to the Conditions listed above) relevant to that activity in this location. This includes other former SWSFC byelaws (the text of which can be found at www.swsfc.org.uk).

Permit - Pursuant to SWSFC Byelaw 47, cockle gathering in areas that are open for fishing is by permit only and must be undertaken in accordance with any conditions attached to that permit.

Public gathering - Members of the public (i.e. a person without a permit) may exercise the public right to fish, which is limited to a catch which is for personal consumption only. SWSFC Byelaw 47(g) provides that such a person may only fish within that area on one occasion in each day and may only remove less 8 kg of cockles.

Prohibition of night gathering - Pursuant to SWSFC Byelaw 21 no person may fish for or take cockles between half an hour after sunset on any day and half an hour before sunrise on the following day.

Cockle minimum size - Pursuant to SWSFC Byelaw 13(c), no person may remove any cockle that will pass through the gauge of a riddle or like instrument used for the purpose of riddling, sorting or sifting cockles which has an aperture of 19mm square provided that it shall not be an offence under this Byelaw to remove cockles from a fishery in accordance with prior written authority.

Vehicular use - Pursuant to SWSFC Byelaw 48, no person may cause or permit a mechanically propelled vehicle to stand on or pass over any part of the Three Rivers Estuary without the prior written authority of the Welsh Ministers.

Further Public Notice(s) will be available from the SWSFC (www.swsfc.org.uk) website or at the address below. Individual letters to permit holders will only be sent at the sole discretion of Welsh Ministers

This Public Notice is given under the authority of the Minister for Rural Affairs, one of the Welsh Ministers, pursuant to SWSFC Byelaw 24.

5th July 2010

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