



Byelaw 30 - General Guidance Notes – fishing with pots and traps.

B30 applies to the sea area between Cemaes Head (Ceredigion) and the Point of Ayr (Flintshire).

These guidelines are intended to foster good relationships between fishermen and everyone who has an interest in using coastal areas. Sensible and practical usage of fishing gear reduces conflict, accidents, damage to property and probably the loss of your assets.

1. All marker buoys / floats that you use must carry your unique registration number (Byelaw 30). This helps us identify abandoned gear which we will be remove from the fishery.
2. Marker buoys/ floats must be visible at all states of the tide (Byelaw 11). Use only sufficient line for the depth of water where the pot is laid. Excessive lengths of line are a hazard to other boats, divers and persons swimming in the vicinity of potting activity.
3. Do not use floating line. Ideally use weighted shot rope. This reduces the risk of entanglement with other boats, divers and persons swimming in the vicinity of potting activities.
4. Ensure your pots carry sufficient weight to prevent them being moved by strong currents or severe weather. Lost pots continue to 'ghost' fish and are detrimental to the fishery.
5. Do not lay pots close to moorings, jetties, other pots or fishing gear. Entanglement can cause loss of gear.
6. Do not lay pots in navigational fairways, channels or harbour entrances. Entanglement in restrictive waterways can create hazardous situations. If you are unsure of these locations, consult your local Harbour Office.
7. Inspect pots / traps regularly. Remove them if unattended for over a week, and at the end of your fishing season.
8. **Remember** that Byelaw 30 allows you to fish up to a maximum of 5 pots, and you must not lift any other persons' pots. There is also a daily 'bag' limit, and minimum landing sizes. Also, you should comply with Byelaw 31, which prohibits the landing of mV-notched or mutilated lobsters. Information enclosed.

Please adhere to these guidelines and help us to manage sustainable shellfisheries. They provide a livelihood for commercial fishermen and much pleasure to those who fish as a hobby.

If you wish to know more about sea fishing, please contact us, and we will arrange for your local Fishery Officer to answer your questions.

Welsh Government, Fisheries Office, Suite 3, Cedar Court, Haven Head Business Park, Milford Haven, SA73 3LS.

Telephone: 03000 253500

Email: milfordhavenfisheriesoffice@gov.wales