



**Date:**

Dear Consultee

## **Consultation on the Introduction of the Sea Fishing (Enforcement) Regulations 2018**

**Start Date:** 19 March 2018

**End Date:** 18 April 2018

### **Summary**

Defra are seeking your views on the introduction of the Sea Fishing (Enforcement) Regulations 2018.

The proposed regulation has three purposes: it will reinstate enforcement powers to Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officers (IFCOs) relating to EU technical and other conservation measures that were removed inadvertently in 2015; it will extend IFCO powers so they can directly enforce other EU fisheries conservation measures such as new rules for bass and existing rules for blue fin tuna and marking of gear; and it will automatically update to reflect minor technical textual changes in EU legislation by means of 'ambulatory references'. However, if the EU legislation changes significantly, the proposed Regulations will be amended through the usual parliamentary processes.

### **Consultation Period**

These regulations directly impact and apply to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs) who are responsible for the enforcement of EU legislation with no expected impacts on any other sectors as a result of their introduction.

As MMO and the IFCAs have been involved in the formulation of these regulations from the beginning, the consultation period will be 4 weeks. However, in the interests of

legislative transparency and openness, Defra welcomes comments on this legislation from all stakeholders.

## **Responses**

To submit your consultation response, please complete the consultation questionnaire provided online with the consultation document at:

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/marine-management/intro-of-seafishing-enforcement-regs-2018>

This is our preferred method as it is the fastest and most cost-effective way for us to collate and analyse responses. Alternatively, if you prefer not to respond to the online consultation, you can respond by writing to:

Control & Enforcement and IUU Team  
Defra  
Area 8B, 9 Millbank  
c/o Nobel House, 17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR

Please send us your response by 17:00 on 18 April 2018

## **Confidentiality and Data Protection**

A summary of responses to this consultation will be published on the Government website at: [www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra). The summary will include a list of organisations that responded but not personal names, addresses or other contact details.

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be made available to the public on request, in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs). Defra may also publish the responses to the FOIA/EIR requests on [www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra).

If you want information, including personal information such as your name, that you provide to be treated as confidential, please explain clearly in writing when you provide your response to the consultation why you need to keep these details confidential. If we receive a request for the information under the FOIA or the EIRs we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot guarantee that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998. An

automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as a confidentiality request.

Defra will share the information you provide in response to the consultation, including any personal data, with a third party or contracted external analysts for the purposes of response analysis and provision of a report.

Defra is the data controller in respect of any personal data that you provide, and Defra's Personal Information Charter, which gives details of your rights in respect of the handling of your personal data, can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs/about/personal-information-charter>.

This consultation is being conducted in line with the "Consultation Principles" as set out in the Better Regulation Executive guidance which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance>.

If you have any comments or concerns about the consultation process, please address them to:

Defra Consultation Co-ordinator  
Area 8A, 9 Millbank  
c/o Nobel House, 17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR

or email: [consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Thank you in advance for taking the time to consider and respond to this consultation and we welcome your views and comments.

Yours sincerely

Emma Boyd  
Control & Enforcement and IUU Team  
Domestic Fisheries and Reform  
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs