

Shellfish Dive Catch: Code of Conduct

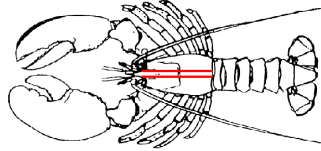


If you collect seafood whilst diving, please respect our code of conduct and help towards maintaining a rich and sustainable marine community in the **Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve** and surrounding seas.

Support Sustainability

- L Limit** – Limit your catch. *Act responsibly* by only taking enough for one meal, not enough to fill your freezer
- O Others** – *Be mindful* of others. If you see pots, buoys or fishermen do not disturb them.
- B Be Careful** – *Avoid harming* delicate plants and animals when you are diving or anchoring.
- S Size** – *Size does matter.* Are you aware of the legal minimum catch sizes (see overleaf)? Please only take animals well above the legal size limit.
- T Trade** – Did you know it is *illegal* to sell your catch unless you hold a commercial fishing licence?
- E Eggs** – It is illegal to take lobsters if they are carrying eggs or if they have a “V” notch in their tail; it is *sensible* to leave all breeding animals alone. Larger individuals produce more offspring, so leave any really big shellfish that you see.
- R Return** – *Please* do not just throw unwanted catch overboard. *Help us protect* shellfish by carefully returning them to where they were found.

This project has been funded by Project AWARE Foundation (International).

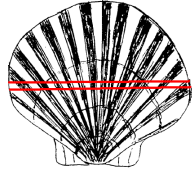


Lobster 87mm



Legal Minimum Catch Sizes

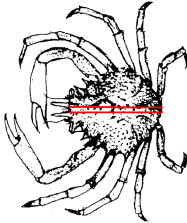
Revised from Southern
Sea Fisheries District
Committee (2007)



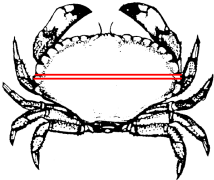
Scallop 100mm (110mm if you are east of 2°W)



All lines to scale



Spider crab 130mm*



Edible crab 140mm



* Minimum catch size for male spider crabs is 130mm; and for female spider crabs is 120mm