

Recreational Potting



Sea anglers can help collect data on the economic and social importance of their hobby through the Sea Angling Diary app: www.seaangling.org

Respect

- Abide by the [Scottish Outdoor Access Code](#)¹ (Scotland) or [The Countryside Code](#)² (England). These give invaluable guidance on how to respect those living, working or enjoying the coast and countryside.
- Make sure you know what species you are allowed to take the local minimum sizes, catch limits³ and other restrictions⁴.
- If you are catching lobster or crab using a pot or creel between the Tyne and the Scottish border be aware of the requirement for a [NIFCA permit](#)⁵ and associated restrictions on pot numbers and daily catch limits.



Protect

- Give space to wildlife such as coastal birds and seals. 40-50m is usually enough for birds, or 100m for seals. If birds or animals react to your presence by becoming watchful, moving or fly away or making repeated alarm calls, then you're too close.
- Always return undersized or unwanted shellfish with care.
- Keep to footpaths, pathways or tracks when travelling to your mark, to avoid damaging sensitive habitats such as saltmarsh.

Enjoy

The waters of the Berwickshire, Northumberland and North Tyneside coast are home to a rich and diverse marine life, including a wide variety of commercial and recreational crustacea species. Recreational fishing with creels and pots is a hobby enjoyed by many.

1. www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot
2. www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code
3. For Northumberland/North Tyneside these are available at www.nifca.gov.uk/byelaws and for Scotland at www.gov.scot/publications/unlicensed-hobby-fishermen
4. Addition restrictions including prohibitions on the landing of v-notched lobster, mutilated, berried or soft-bodied crabs and lobster see [The Lobsters and Crawfish \(Prohibition of Fishing and Landing\) Order 2000](#) and the [2017 Amendment](#) and [The Lobsters and Crawfish \(Prohibition of Fishing and Landing\) \(Scotland\) Order 1999](#)
5. www.nifca.gov.uk/about/faqs