

# Sea Angling



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

## Respect

- Make sure you know what species you are allowed to take and the local minimum sizes and catch limits<sup>1</sup>. Always return undersized or unwanted fish with care.
- Consider the safety of those around you, by allowing plenty of room when casting (at least 20 metres).
- Take all of waste and old tackle home. Recycle fishing line using the **Anglers Line Recycling Scheme (ALRS)**<sup>2</sup> and consider supporting the **Angling Trust's Anglers Against Litter campaign**<sup>3</sup>.
- Abide by the **Scottish Outdoor Access Code**<sup>4</sup> (Scotland) or **The Countryside Code**<sup>5</sup> (England). These give invaluable guidance on how to respect those living, working or enjoying the coast and countryside.

## Protect

- Give space to wildlife. 40-50m is usually enough for birds, or 100m for seals. If birds or animals react to your presence by becoming watchful, moving or flying away or making repeated alarm calls, then you're too close.
- Avoid casting your line towards groups of feeding or rafting eider and other sea ducks.
- Consider using a biodegradable fishing line, to reduce the environmental impact of any accidental loss.
- Use fishing line of appropriate breaking strain, to avoid losing tackle.
- Consider using a single hook with a small barb (instead of a treble hook); this makes it much easier to release fish and causes minimal damage.
- 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 fish species. Recreational sea angling is a hobby enjoyed by many.



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1. For Northumberland/North Tyneside these are available at [www.nifca.gov.uk/byelaws](http://www.nifca.gov.uk/byelaws) and for Scotland at [www.gov.scot/publications/unlicensed-hobby-fishermen](http://www.gov.scot/publications/unlicensed-hobby-fishermen)
2. [www.anglers-nlrs.co.uk](http://www.anglers-nlrs.co.uk)
3. [anglingtrust.net/get-involved/anglers-against-litter](http://anglingtrust.net/get-involved/anglers-against-litter)
4. [www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot)
5. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code)