

STATES OF JERSEY



DRAFT SEA FISHERIES (INSHORE WATERS) (AMENDMENT) (JERSEY) REGULATIONS 201-

**Lodged au Greffe on 16th May 2016
by the Minister for the Environment**

STATES GREFFE



Jersey

DRAFT SEA FISHERIES (INSHORE WATERS) (AMENDMENT) (JERSEY) REGULATIONS 201-

REPORT

These draft Regulations are part of a package of measures to protect bass stocks. Fishing on the beach using a line set with hooks, or trots, is a well-established and common practice during the winter months. Bass is the key target species for the majority of fishers. Currently there is no limit on the amount of hooks that an individual can set, and the activity is predominantly undertaken in a recreational capacity. Whilst it is acknowledged that a small number of individuals have historically pursued this activity commercially, it is the view of the Minister that commercialisation is not appropriate given the state of the resource and the potential impact on the stock. Scientific data looking at stock structure shows that a high number of small bass are present in these nearshore coastal waters, indicating the importance of these habitats as a nursery area. The aim of this amendment is twofold. Primarily it is for protection of the stock, particularly juveniles, but in addition it is a measure to reduce possible discards in light of the bag limits that are also part of the package of measures to protect bass.

After lengthy consultation, the maximum number of hooks has been set at 50 hooks per person. This will allow individuals to continue to pursue the activity in a recreational capacity in an appropriate and sustainable way.

The amendment also changes the current requirement to mark any fishing lines with name and address contact details. This change facilitates the communication between officers and fishermen, should it be required.

Financial and manpower implications

As a single amendment there are no financial or manpower implications. However, as part of the package of measures for the protection of bass stocks, the amendments to existing Regulations and the new Regulations together create a requirement for a significant amount of new regulation, enforcement and administrative capacity within the Marine Resources Section of the Department of the Environment. Consequently, the compliance workload associated with the introduction of these measures will require either additional staff or diversion of existing resources from other projects in the short to medium term.

Explanatory Note

These Regulations add a further restriction to the use of fishing lines, limiting the maximum number of hooks on any ground line set on the beach at any one time by the owner to 50. The existing requirements for ground lines to be indelibly marked with the owners name and address are changed to require contact details to be indelibly marked.



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Made [date to be inserted]
Coming into force [date to be inserted]

THE STATES, in pursuance of Articles 2, 5 and 29 of the Sea Fisheries (Jersey) Law 1994¹, have made the following Regulations –

1 Regulation 3 amended

In Regulation 3 of the Sea Fisheries (Inshore Waters) (Jersey) Regulations 1998² –

- (a) in paragraphs (c) and (d) for the words “name and address” there shall be substituted the words “contact details”;
- (b) after paragraph (e) there shall be inserted the following paragraph –
 - “(ea) any ground line on a beach if the maximum number of hooks set on the beach at any one time by the owner exceeds 50;”.

2 Citation and commencement

These Regulations may be cited as the Sea Fisheries (Inshore Waters) (Amendment) (Jersey) Regulations 201- and shall come into force 7 days after they are made.

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- ¹ *chapter 14.825*
² *chapter 14.825.40*