

## North RIFF Actions Points for NIFF following their meeting on the 11.08.2020

### 1. SE RIFF Recreational Potting

The North RIFF can't support the proposal but will help if required to gather information on the extent of the issue in the relevant areas.

The North RIFF propose that a letter to the SFPA from the NIFF asking for a meeting to discuss the issues and see how these could be rectified. See draft sample letter below.

### 2. Crab claw proposal from NIFF

The decision to accept the proposal was unanimously agreed with.

### 3. Updating Fishing Profile

Proposal from North Riff to the NIFF regarding updating the fishing profile nationally in conjunction with the RIFF, BIM and Marine institute.

#### Draft sample letter to SFPA

Dear Dr Steele

I am writing to you on behalf of the Northern regional fisheries forum (Nriff). As you are aware represent under 12-meter vessels in county Donegal.

We have ongoing problems in our area with people using the recreational pot fishery as an excuse to set lobster/crab pots far in excess of the permitted number and taking and retaining both legal and under/oversize lobster and v-notched fish. In other instances, we have reports of divers raiding legally set pots and when challenged onshore by fishermen they claim their catch to have come from their recreational pots. We also have reports of people fishing far in excess of the 6 pots allowed.

When asked if people have reported the illegal activities to the SFPA they say they very rarely get a response or feel that any meaningful action is taken in response to their claims. Even with the introduction of the SFPA's inshore patrol vessels in recent years the problems still persist.

Is it possible to arrange a meeting with yourself and your colleagues to see if there are procedures that could be put in place to help with the policing/enforcement of the regulations or possibly finding ways that the regulations could be altered in ways that would make it easier for the rules to be applied.

Kind regards

John Menarry (Chairman Nriff)