

# Guidance: Self-service marine licensing

*Updated:* Text updated

Self-service marine licensing replaces the previous fast-track marine licence process which required bespoke consideration by the MMO's case officers.

A self-service marine licence costs a fixed fee of £50.

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## Form: Cormorants: licence to kill or take them to prevent damage to fisheries

You need to nominate a 'site representative' at each site named in the management plan. The site representative completes the site appendix.

You need to nominate a 'primary contact' who:

- completes the licence application form and management plan
- provides a completed site appendix for each site
- oversees and manages the licence
- allocates the quota to each site (that is the maximum number of birds allowed to be shot under the licence)
- submits a report of action taken for each site and a summary report at the end of the licence period

You'll be sent a report form and summary report form with your licence document.

The primary contact and the site representatives are:

- the licensees
- all responsible for meeting the terms and conditions of the licence

The primary contact doesn't have to be one of the site representatives.

Licences are free. Allow up to 30 working days for a licensing decision to be made.

## Advice

The Angling Trust's [Fishery Management Advisers](#) provide advice and assistance with this licence.

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## [Notice: RH6 0HN, Horse Hill Developments Limited: Environmental permit draft decision advertisement](#)

The Environment Agency consult the public on certain applications for waste operations, mining waste operations, installations, water discharge and groundwater activities. In some cases they also consult on draft decisions for environmental permits. The arrangements are explained in their [Public Participation Statement](#)

These notices explain:

- the Environment Agency's proposed decision and the reasons and considerations on which they've based this
  - additional relevant information available since the application was advertised
  - any information or guidance provided by the Secretary of State relevant to the application
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## [Corporate report: Marches Mosses BogLIFE project](#)

*Updated:* Project leaflet and links to BogLIFE newsletters added.

In August 2016 the EU LIFE programme awarded Natural England a multi-million pound grant over 5 years to support the Marches Mosses BogLIFE project. The aim is to restore the Fenn's, Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem and Cadney Mosses Special Area of Conservation (SAC). The partnership includes Natural Resources Wales and the Shropshire Wildlife Trust. The project's also supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The project plans to create a healthier and larger habitat for Marches Mosses by storing rainfall on the existing bog where appropriate by:

- blocking ditches
- creating small bunds (low banks) to prevent runoff
- buying and restoring more peatland
- removing selected areas of scrub, trees and conifer plantations

To reduce the effects of air pollution on the bog the project will:

- test ways of managing its effects on bog vegetation, such as controlling dense areas of purple moor grass using different methods
- engage with local land managers and others to raise awareness of how air pollution affects the bog and explore ways to reduce its impact

The project will also:

- improve the bog's water quality
- clean up a former scrap-yard
- monitor the recovery of the bog
- share knowledge gained with managers of similar habitats in the UK and Europe
- establish a centre of excellence for volunteering and training
- raise awareness of the bog by engaging with a wide range of audiences such as local schools

## Background

Lowland raised bogs are one of the rarest wildlife habitats in the world. This habitat is very important for biodiversity and for its critical role in carbon storage. The aim is to reduce past damage from:

- plantation forestry
- scrub invasion
- peat extraction
- land drainage for agriculture and other uses
- invasive species
- air pollution

## Contact

Email: [robert.duff@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:robert.duff@naturalengland.org.uk)



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## [Press release: North East men fined for illegal fishing](#)

The Environment Agency is reminding anglers of the importance of having a rod licence after two men were fined for fishing illegally in separate offences.

They were caught during targeted patrols on the River Derwent in Gateshead by Environment Agency Fisheries Enforcement Officers

On 28 March this year, Kyle Taylor-Allen, 30, of The Crescent, Dunston, Gateshead, was found coarse fishing at Swalwell without a licence.

He was also fishing during the close season, which is prohibited, and using illegal bait.

He was fined a total of £770, ordered to pay costs of £127 and a victim surcharge of £30.

On 13 April this year, Peter Blackett, 53, of Waterbeach Place, Newcastle, was found fishing without a licence at Rowlands Gill.

He was also fishing during close season, using an illegal bait and he had taken and killed a fish while fishing without the landowner's permission, an

offence under the Theft Act.

The offences were all proved in absence at Gateshead Magistrates' Court on 3 July.

### **'It's vital anglers abide by the law'**

Fisheries Enforcement Officer David Shears said: "It's vital that anglers abide by the law to protect the future of the sport and the quality of our rivers and fisheries.

"We work closely with our partners at the police, angling clubs and the Angling Trust to identify where illegal fishing might be taking place.

"Our fisheries enforcement officers work hard to target those people flouting the law and we won't hesitate to take action.

"Illegal fishing can be more costly than you think and hopefully this will act as a deterrent for any angler thinking of cheating the system."

The close season started on 15 March and runs for three months, preventing fishing for coarse fish to give the fish a chance to breed.

All income from rod licence sales is used to fund Environment Agency work to protect and improve fish stocks and fisheries, including improving habitats for fish and facilities for anglers, tackling illegal fishing and working with partners to encourage people to give fishing a go.

Buying a rod licence is quick and easy – you can [buy one online on the gov.uk website](#)

The Environment Agency urges anyone to report illegal fishing by calling 0800 80 70 60.