



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

THREE RIVERS COCKLE FISHERY 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

issued pursuant to

The Cockle Fishing Management and Permitting (Specified Area) (Wales) Order 2024

THE WELSH MINISTERS GIVE NOTICE THAT, pursuant to The Cockle Fishing Management and Permitting (Specified Area) (Wales) Order 2024, the following cockle beds will open.

Llansteffan defined below (“Llansteffan cockle beds”) enables cockle gathering on a Single Tide on Wednesday, Thursday only (from 00:01 on each Wednesday morning to 23:59 on each Thursday night and with effect from 00:01 on the 7 August 2024 until 23:59 on the 31 December 2024.

Llanybri defined below (“Llanybri cockle beds”) enables cockle gathering on a Single Tide on Saturday & Sunday only (from 00:01 on each Saturday morning to 23:59 on each Sunday night) with effect from 00:01 on the 3 August 2024 until 23:59 on the 31 December 2024.

St Ishmael and Tanylan defined below (“St Ishmael and Tanylan cockle beds”) enables cockle gathering on a Single Tide on Wednesday & Thursday only (from 00:01 on each Wednesday morning to 23:59 on each Thursday night) with effect from 00:01 on the 7 August 2024 until 23:59 on the 31 December 2024.

Gwendraeth defined below (“Gwendraeth cockle beds”) enables cockle gathering on a Single Tide on Weekends only (from 00:01 on each Saturday morning to 23:59 on each Sunday night) with effect from 00:01 on the 3 August 2024 until 23:59 on the 31 December 2024.

Ferryside defined below (“Ferryside cockle beds”) enables cockle gathering on a Single Tide on Wednesday & Thursday only (from 00:01 on each Wednesday morning to 23:59 on each Thursday night) with effect from 00:01 on the 7 August 2024 until 23:59 on the 31 December 2024.

With effect from the 3 August there will be a daily catch limit of 300kgs until further notice.

PLEASE NOTE: All other cockle beds in the Three Rivers Estuary area defined below (“the Area”) remain closed to cockle gathering, with effect from 00:01 on the 1 May 2024 until 23:59 on the 30 April 2025, pursuant to The Cockle Fishing Management and Permitting (Specified Area) (Wales) Order 2024.

Llansteffan cockle beds

The Llansteffan cockle beds opened by this notice are within the estuary of the River Tywi enclosed by:

- i. A line drawn between Ginst Point (NG Ref. SN 332079) and Wharley Point (NG Ref. SN 340092) and then in a north east direction along the estuary to the south-easternmost corner of Llansteffan Castle.
- ii. A line drawn to mid-channel across the River Tywi, due east from the south-easternmost corner of Llansteffan Castle towards the opposite shore at Ferryside.
- iii. A line drawn to mid channel of the River Tywi, in a south east direction from Ginst Point (NG Ref. SN 332079) towards the opposite shore at Pen Tywyn Point (NG Ref. SN 357064).
- iv. A line drawn along the channel between the two mid-way points.

Llanybri cockle beds

The Llanybri cockle beds opened by this notice are within the estuary of the River Taf enclosed by:

- i. A line drawn between Laugharne Castle (NG Ref. SN 302108) and Black Scar (NG Ref. SN 311108).
- ii. A line drawn between Ginst Point (NG Ref. SN 332079) and Wharley Point (NG Ref. SN 340092).

St Ishmael and Tanylan cockle beds

The St Ishmael and Tanylan cockle beds opened by this notice are within the estuaries of the River Tywi and Gwendraeth enclosed by:

- i. A line drawn from Carmarthen Bay Holiday Park (NG Ref. SN 367073) in a south west direction along Pastoun Scar to Pen Tywyn Point (NG Ref. SN 357064) and then in a north west direction to mid channel of the River Tywi.
- ii. A line drawn from St Isfael Parish Church (NG Ref. SN 362084) west to a point mid channel opposite Wharley Point (NG Ref. SN 340092).
- iii. A line drawn along the channel between the two mid-way points.

Gwendraeth cockle beds

The Gwendraeth cockle beds opened by this notice are within the estuary of the River Gwendraeth enclosed by:

- i. A line drawn from Carmarthen Bay Holiday Park (NG Ref. SN 367073) in a south west direction along Pastoun Scar to Pen Tywyn Point (NG Ref. SN 357064) and
- ii. A line drawn across every river or stream flowing into the Gwendraeth estuary, along the seaward side of the bridges carrying the railway between Carmarthen Bay Holiday Park and RAF Pembrey Sands.

Ferryside cockle bed

The Ferryside cockle bed opened by this notice is within the estuary of the River Tywi enclosed by:

- i. A line drawn from mid-channel across the River Tywi, due east from the south-easternmost corner of Llansteffan Castle to the opposite shore at Ferryside and
- ii. A line drawn from mid channel between Wharley Point (NG Ref. SN 340092) to Saint Isfael Parish Church (NG Ref. SN 362084) and
- iii. A line drawn along the channel between the two mid-way points.

The Area

The area known as Three Rivers Estuary, which consists of all tidal waters within the District of the former SWSFC which are enclosed by a line drawn from Ginst Point (NG Ref. SN 332079) to Pen Tywyn Point (NG Ref. SN 357064). Tidal waters are those limits as defined by the former SWSFC:

- i. A line drawn across the River Taf, between Laugharne Castle and Black Scar.
- ii. A line drawn across the River Tywi, true east from the south-easternmost corner of Llansteffan Castle to the opposite shore.
- iii. A line drawn across every river or stream flowing into the Gwendraeth estuary, along the seaward side of the bridges carrying the railway between Carmarthen Bay Holiday Park and RAF Pembrey Sands.

This Notice is given under authority of the Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, one of the Welsh Ministers.

Date of notice: 16 July 2024

Notes:

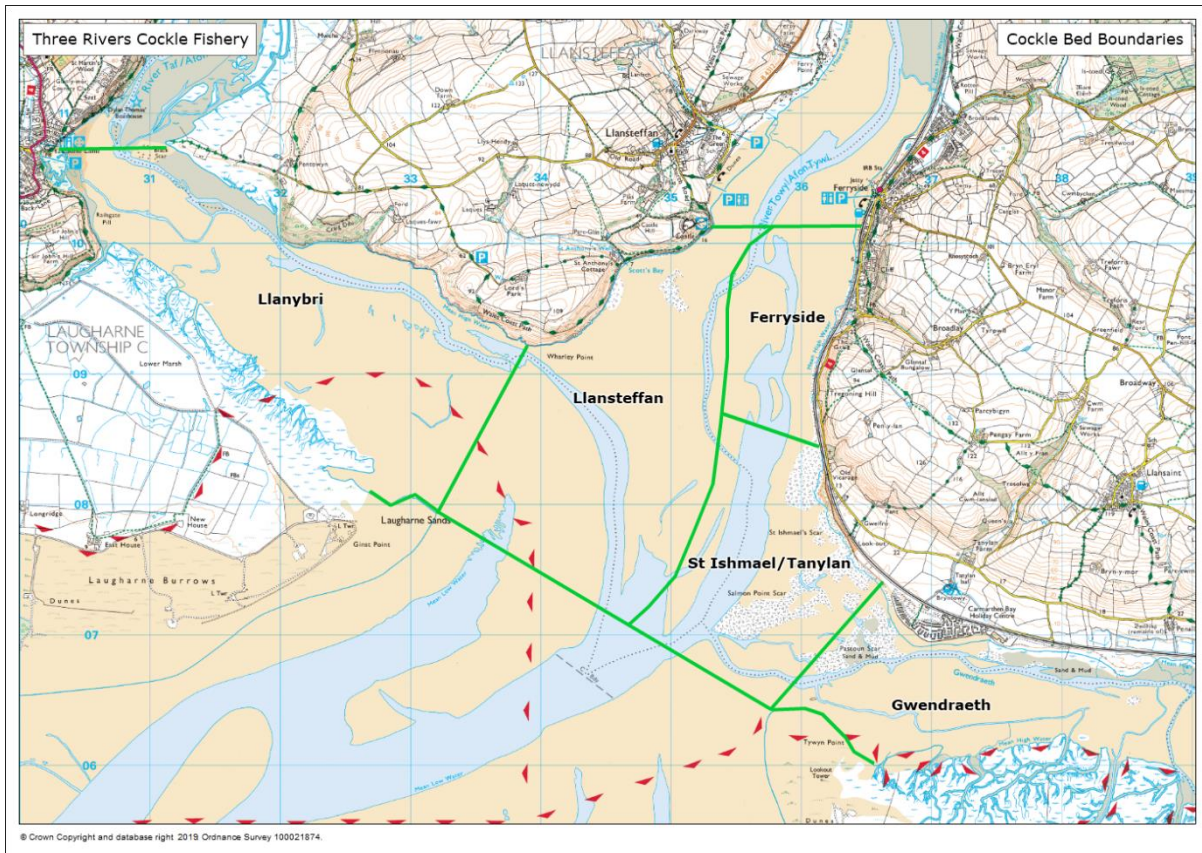
1. Other legislation. At Llansteffan, St Ishmael/Tanylan, Llanybri, Ferryside and Gwendraeth cockle beds, any person who fishes for, removes, takes (or attempts to fish or take) or disturb cockles in reliance upon this Notice must also comply with all other applicable legislation relevant to that activity in this location.
2. Three Rivers Estuary otherwise remains closed. All other cockle beds in the Three Rivers Estuary area remain closed to cockle gathering (until 23:59 on the 30 April 2025). The beds have been temporarily closed for the purpose of protecting and assisting with the development of mainly immature or undersized cockles.
3. Permits. Without prejudice to the generality of Note 1, anyone wishing to fish for, take or remove cockles from the Llansteffan, St Ishmael/Tanylan, Llanybri, Ferryside and Gwendraeth cockle beds must hold a permit issued pursuant to The Cockle Fishing Management and Permitting (Specified Area) (Wales) Order 2024,

and that activity must be undertaken in accordance with any conditions attached to that permit.

4. Daylight hours. Also, without prejudice to the generality of no person shall fish for or take cockles in this area between half an hour after sunset on any day and half an hour before sunrise on the following day.
5. Single Tide. Only the Low Water nearest to Midday (Local Time) should be fished. If doubt exist as to which Low Water is appropriate, then the first Low Water of the day should be selected to minimise the risk to gatherers associated with vessels returning from the cockle beds under the hours of darkness.
6. Initial Catch Limits: There is currently an initial catch limit of 176 tonnes of cockles available on the Llansteffan cockle beds, 178 tonnes of cockles available at the St Ishmael & Tanylan cockle beds, 148 tonnes of cockle available on Ferryside cockle bed, 203 tonnes available on Llanybri cockle bed and 129 tonnes of cockles available on the Gwendraeth cockle bed. Once that initial catch limit has been reached, the fishery will be closed. This is necessary in order to comply with the Welsh Minister's environmental obligations.
7. Weekend gathering only. Due to the proximity of live firing ranges the Llanybri and Gwendraeth cockle beds (set out in this Notice) will only be available on Weekends (when live firing activity is least likely) during the period of this notice.
8. No vehicles of any sort to be used. Vehicle Usage within the Three Rivers Estuary (of the former SWSFC) provides that no person may cause or permit any mechanically propelled vehicle to stand on or pass over any part of the Three Rivers Estuary (for our purposes) without the prior written authority of the Welsh Ministers.
9. Boat only removal of taken cockle. The area of water covering the Three Rivers Estuary is defined as "at sea". A vessel involved in any manner with regard to the transportation of personnel, equipment or cargo for cockling in the area will be operating commercially. Any vessel operating for commercial purposes, must comply with relevant United Kingdom Merchant Shipping Legislation. Further information on this legislation can be sought from the MCA website,

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/maritime-and-coastguard-agency>

Map showing the River Tywi, River Taf and River Gwendraeth. It shows the boundaries depicting the cockle beds: Ferryside, Gwendraeth, Llanybri, Llansteffan and St Ishmael / Tanylan.



FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information can be obtained by contacting:

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