

# [Illegal fishing clampdown in Lincolnshire](#)

Press release

16 anglers were served notices for fishing offences in Lincolnshire during a multi-agency clampdown on illegal fishing.



The [Environment Agency's](#) fisheries enforcement teams, [police wildlife crime](#) officers, and voluntary bailiffs from the [Angling Trust](#) together made 118 spot checks on anglers.

The Environment Agency led the clampdown on 25 July 2021 to ensure anglers were properly licensed and following fishing rules. Meticulous intel-led planning ensured the patrols at locations across the county were effective.

James Hooker, the Environment Agency's fisheries team leader for Lincolnshire, said:

It's great we can work with our partners on enforcement and deliver a stark message: follow the rules or pay up.

We want to make it clear offenders can expect to be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £2,500.

As well as breaking the law, illegal fishing risks spreading invasive species and diseases.

Fishing legally is inexpensive, [fishing licence prices](#) start at £6 and young people aged up to 16 can fish for free.

The Environment Agency's fisheries service is [funded by fishing licence income](#). This income helps to deliver a wide range of services, all designed to protect, enhance and improve fisheries for people, the environment and angling.

You can buy a rod licence:

- Online(<https://www.gov.uk/fishing-licences/buy-a-fishing-licence>)
- At a [Post Office](#)
- Or by calling the Environment Agency on 0344 800 5386.

[Further information is available on GOV.UK.](#)

If you suspect illegal fishing, environmental crime, or see wildlife in distress, please report it to our 24-hour incident hotline on 0800 80 70 60 or to [Crimestoppers](#) on 0800 555 111.

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