

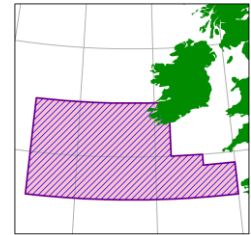
SOUTHWEST OF IRELAND SOLE

Divisions 7.h-k



ADVICE FOR 2024

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, catches in catches should be no more than 170 tonnes in each of the years 2024, 2025, and 2026.

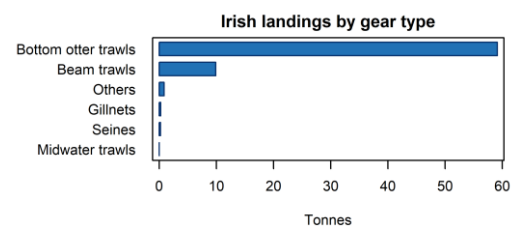


■ TAC/Management area
■ Assessment area

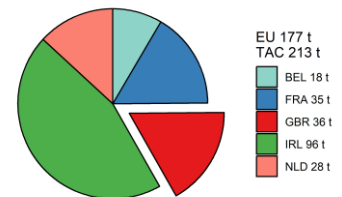
KEY POINTS

ICES Assessment Category	5 (Landings only assessment)	
Management Plan	WVWMAP (target)	
Advice Basis	ICES PA approach	Catch=170 t
Ranges	F _{MSY} Range Lower	Not available
	F _{MSY}	Not available
	F _{MSY} Range Upper	Not available
Landing Obligation	From 2019	De minimis up to 3%*

* Beam trawlers using mesh size 80-119mm with increased selectivity (EC 2020/2015)



2023 Quota Allocations



MANAGEMENT IN 2023

- The TAC and assessment area covers Division 7.h-k.
- Recent Irish landings have been below the quota.

KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- This stock was benchmarked in 2020 and the previous assessment which covered only 7.j was no longer considered an appropriate basis for management advice.
- The stock identity of sole in this area is currently under investigation by the Flanders fisheries institute (ILVO) using genetic techniques and samples provided by the Marine Institute.
- Sole are mainly taken in mixed otter trawl fisheries by Irish vessels off the southwest and are landed with anglerfish, megrim and gadoid species.
- Discarding is considered to be negligible.