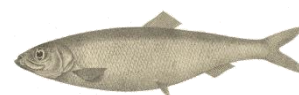


CELTIC SEA HERRING

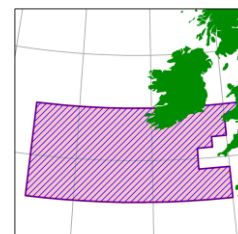


Divisions 7.a South of 52°30' North, 7.g–h, and 7.j–k (Irish Sea, Celtic Sea, and southwest of Ireland)

ADVICE FOR 2023

ICES advises that when the MSY approach and precautionary considerations are applied, there should be zero catch in 2023.

FEAS notes that further work is required to quantify the mixing between Celtic Sea and Irish Sea herring stocks in the Irish Sea.

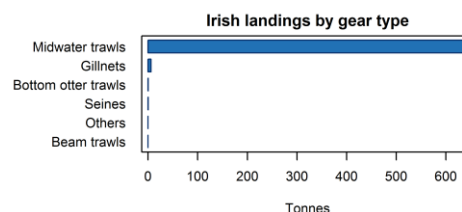


■ TAC/Management area
■ Assessment area

KEY POINTS

ICES Assessment Category	I (Quantitative Assessment)	
Management Plan	No	
Advice Basis	ICES MSY approach*	Catch=0 t
Ranges	F _{MSY} Range Lower	Not Appropriate
	F _{MSY}	0.26
	F _{MSY} Range Upper	Not Appropriate
Landing Obligation	From 2015	No derogations or exemptions

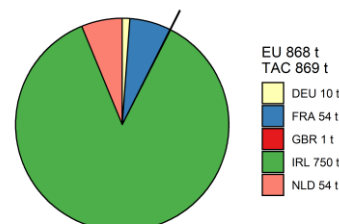
* Under the ICES MSY approach, when spawning stock biomass (SSB) is below B_{lim} and no catch scenario enables the stock to recover above B_{lim} in one year, the advised fishing mortality is 0.



MANAGEMENT IN 2022

- The Celtic Sea Herring Management Advisory Committee was established in 2005 to provide industry input to the management of the Irish Celtic Sea herring fishery.
- Council set a TAC of 869 t based on the catch level considered appropriate by ICES to allow the continued collection of samples. The Irish quota for 2022 is 750 t.
- Spawning Box B (see Appendix IV) will be closed as part of the triennial spawning box closures that are enshrined in EC legislation.
- The fishery in Division 7.aS is confined to vessels of <17 m LOA.
- The UK, Netherlands, France and Germany can fish for herring in the Irish territorial limits from 6–12 nm, however, in recent years they have not fished in this area.
- The Irish quota is allocated to individual vessels on a weekly basis in two pools, one for the main fishery and one for the sentinel fishery in Division 7.aS.
- The TAC is set by calendar year but the assessment is carried out for the period 1st April – 31st March.
- When less than 10 % of the total catches by live weight are below the minimum conservation reference size of 20 cm, the MCRS shall not apply.

2022 Quota Allocations



KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- There was very low uptake of the monitoring TAC in 2020. In 2021 uptake was higher (745 t) but the full monitoring TAC of 869 t was not taken.
- Recruitment has been below average since 2013. Due to the current low SSB the incoming recruitments for 2022 and 2023 are expected to be low.
- The SSB has been below B_{lim} since 2016. There are no catch scenarios that will rebuild the stock above B_{lim} by 2024.
- Once again, the addition of the latest year of data to the assessment revised the SSB downwards and the fishing mortality upwards.
- Genetic work on stock identification of the Irish Sea and Celtic Sea herring populations is on-going. Tools to identify fish from each population have been developed and are soon to be applied.



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Herring (*Clupea harengus*) in divisions 7.a South of 52°30'N, 7.g–h, and 7.j–k (Irish Sea, Celtic Sea, and southwest of Ireland)

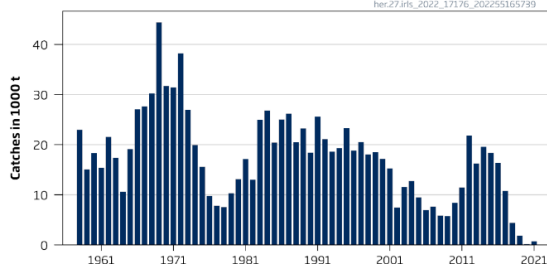
ICES advice on fishing opportunities

ICES advises that when the MSY approach and precautionary considerations are applied, there should be zero catch in 2023.

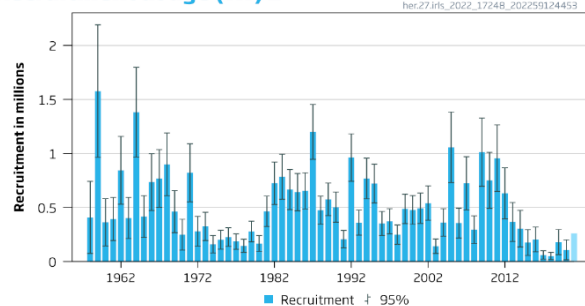
Stock development over time

Fishing pressure on the stock is below F_{MSY} , and spawning-stock size is below MSY $B_{trigger}$, B_{pa} , and B_{lim} .

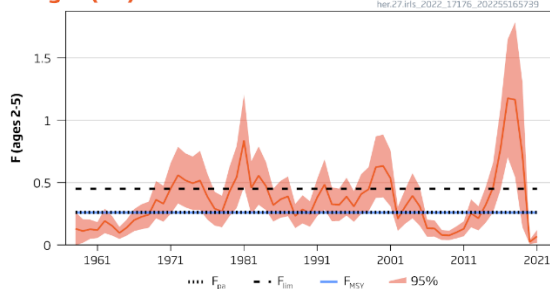
Catches



Recruitment at age (wr) 1



F at ages (wr) 2-5



SSB

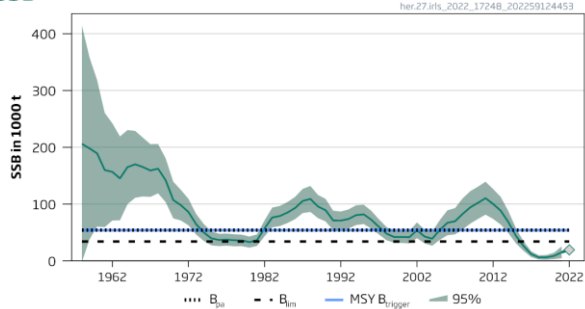


Figure 1

Herring in divisions 7.a South of 52°30'N, 7.g–h, and 7.j–k. Summary of the stock assessment. The assumed recruitment is in a lighter shade, and the forecast spawning-stock biomass (SSB) value is indicated with a grey diamond. (WR is winter ring).