

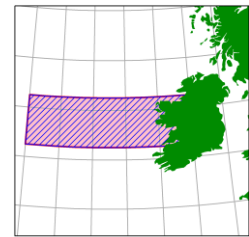
WEST OF IRELAND SOLE

Divisions 7.b and 7.c



ADVICE FOR 2024

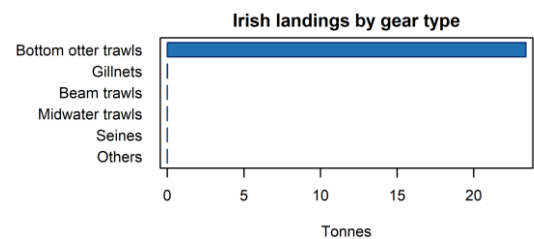
ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, catches should be no more than 15 t in each of the years 2024, 2025 and 2026.



■ TAC/Management area
▨ Assessment area

KEY POINTS

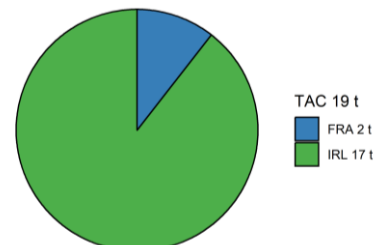
ICES Assessment Category	6 (Bycatch only assessment)	
Management Plan	WWMAP (bycatch)	
Advice Basis	ICES PA approach	Catch=15 t
Ranges	F _{MSY} Range Lower	Not Appropriate (bycatch)
	F _{MSY}	Not Appropriate (bycatch)
	F _{MSY} Range Upper	Not Appropriate (bycatch)
Landing Obligation	From 2019	No derogations or exemptions



MANAGEMENT IN 2023

- The stock and management units are both ICES Divisions 7.b and 7.c.
- The recent landings have been below the TAC.

2023 Quota Allocations



KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- Irish landings of West of Ireland sole are mainly taken as a bycatch in mixed fisheries targeting *Nephrops* and the other bottom trawl fisheries that occur in relatively shallow water (less than 200m) of area 7.b.
- Catches are too low to support the collection of the necessary information for an assessment of the stock status. ICES applies a 20% reduction to the previous advice for this stock because there is no new information to evaluate stock status.
- Discarding is considered to be negligible.