

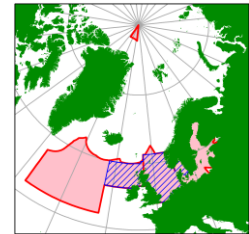
# NORTH SEA, ROCKALL AND WEST OF SCOTLAND SAITHE

## Sub-areas 4 & 6 and Division 3.a

### ADVICE FOR 2024

ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2024 should be no more than 73,815 t.

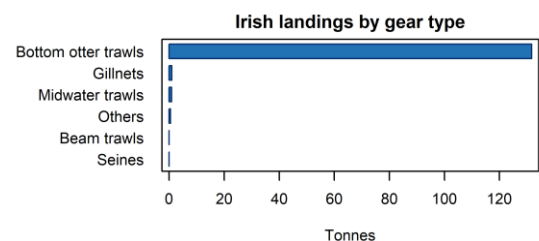
ICES notes the existence of a precautionary management plan, developed and adopted by one of the relevant management authorities for this stock.



■ TAC/Management area  
■ Assessment area

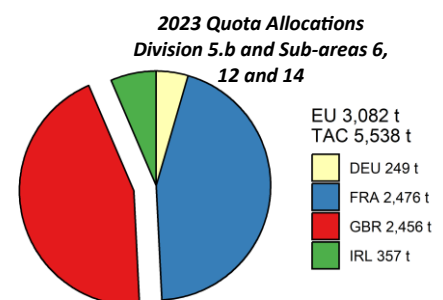
### KEY POINTS

ICES Assessment Category	I (Quantitative Assessment)	
Management Plan	NSMAP (target); Not agreed between EU, UK & Norway	
Advice Basis	ICES MSY approach	Catch=73,815 t
Ranges	F <sub>MSY</sub> Range Lower	Catch=45,431 t
	F <sub>MSY</sub>	Catch=73,815 t
	F <sub>MSY</sub> Range Upper	Catch=105,944 t
Landing Obligation	From 2016	No derogations or exemptions



### MANAGEMENT IN 2023

- The assessment area includes two TAC areas; the first TAC area covers Divisions 2.a, 3.a, and Sub-area 4. The second TAC area covers Sub-areas 6; United Kingdom and international waters of 5.b, 12 and 14.
- Up to 30 % of the Sub-areas 6 TAC may be fished in United Kingdom and Union waters of 2a and 4. Up to 15 % of the Sub-area 4 TAC may be fished in United Kingdom, Union and international waters of 6a north of 58°30'N.
- The advice for 2023 has been split into the two TAC areas based on a fixed percentage agreed by the management authorities (90.6% in Subarea 4 and Subdivision 3.a.20 and 9.4% in Subarea 6).
- Ireland only has a quota for the latter TAC area (5.b, 6, 12 and 14). The TAC for Divisions 5.b and Sub-areas 6, 12 and 14 was increased in 2023 by 874 t.



### KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- The advice for 2024 is 73,815 t; an increase of 14,903 t from the 2023 advice (+25%), due to a realised fishing mortality for 2022 that was lower than assumed and an upward revision of the stock size.
- Ireland has not taken its full quota in recent years. The 2022 quota uptake by Ireland in Sub-areas 5.b, 6, 12 and 14 was 38%.