

WEST OF SCOTLAND WHITING

Division 6.a



ADVICE FOR 2024

ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2024 should be no more than 3,879 t.

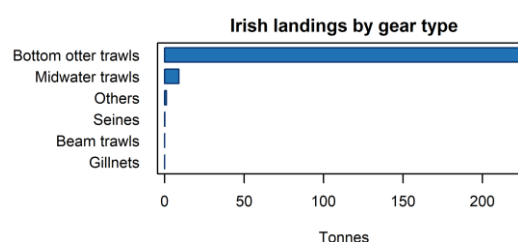
Management should be implemented at the stock level.



■ TAC/Management area
■ Assessment area

KEY POINTS

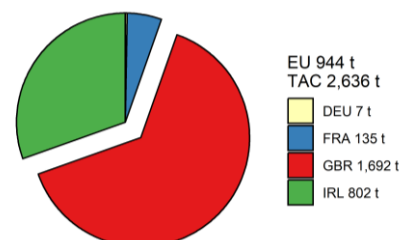
ICES Assessment Category	I (Quantitative assessment)	
Management Plan	WWMAP (by-catch)	
Advice Basis	ICES MSY approach	Catch=3,879t
Ranges	F_{MSY} lower	Catch=3,482 t
	F_{MSY}	Catch=3,879 t
	F_{MSY} upper	Catch=3,879 t
Landing Obligation	From 2019	No derogations or exemptions



MANAGEMENT IN 2023

- The assessment area is 6.a while the TAC management area covers ICES sub-area 6 and UK and international waters of 5.b and international waters 12 and 14.
- The 2023 TAC was set at 2,636 t (EU quota of 944 t, with an associated Irish quota of 802 t) exclusively for bycatches as no directed fisheries are allowed. This TAC is well below the ICES advice for 2023 of 4,155 t.

2023 Quota Allocations



KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- Irish landings of whiting to the west of Scotland are mainly taken as a minor bycatch in mixed fisheries and are mainly landed with haddock and megrim.
- The discard rate for this stock has declined significantly in recent years. In 2022, the discard rate was 16% in weight.