

SOUTHWEST OF IRELAND PLAICE

Divisions 7.h-k



ADVICE FOR 2023

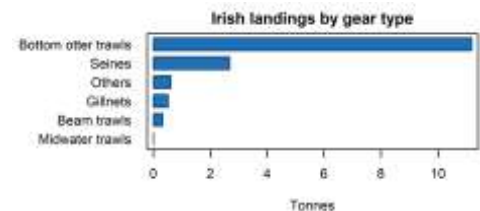
ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches should be no more than 132 t in each of the years 2023 and 2024.



■ TAC/Management area
■ Assessment area

KEY POINTS

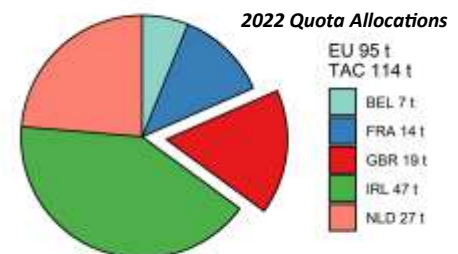
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|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ICES Assessment Category | 3 (Trend Based Assessment) | |
| Management Plan | WWMAP (bycatch) | |
| Advice Basis | ICES MSY approach | Catch=132 t |
| Ranges | F_{MSY} Range Lower | Not Applicable |
| | F_{MSY} | Not Available |
| | F_{MSY} Range Upper | Not Applicable |
| Landing Obligation | From 2019 | High survivability exemption* |



* Described below under Key Stock Considerations, details in (EC 2020/2015).

MANAGEMENT IN 2022

- The TAC and assessment area covers 7.h-k and the TAC is exclusively for by-catch.
- The Irish quota has not been restrictive since 2014.



KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- The stock was benchmarked in 2021, and advice is now produced using a trends based assessment using a new combined survey index.
- The fishing pressure is below its F_{MSY} proxy reference point and the stock size is above the MSY $B_{trigger}$ proxy.
- Irish landings of this stock are caught as a minor bycatch in a mixed fishery and are mainly landed with megrim, anglerfish, haddock and whiting.
- As a result of the documented high survivability of discarded plaice, a high survivability exemption is currently-in place. This exemption applies to beam trawls ($\leq 221kW$ or $\leq 24m$) within 12nm of the coast, and towing for less than 90 minutes; and beam trawls ($>221kW$) using flip-up rope or benthic release panel (EC 2020/2015). This is unlikely to affect Irish fisheries as there are few Irish beam trawls operating in this area. An exemption to the Landing Obligation also applies to Scottish seines in this area.