

CELTIC SEA PLAICE

Divisions 7.f and 7.g



ADVICE FOR 2023

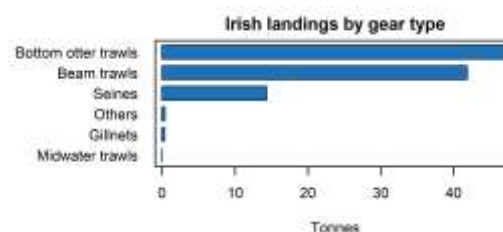
ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches should be no more than 402 tonnes in each of the years 2023 and 2024.



■ TAC/Management area
■ Assessment area

KEY POINTS

ICES Assessment Category	3 (Survey-Based Assessment)	
Management Plan	WWMAP (bycatch)	
Advice Basis	ICES PA approach	Catch=402 t
Ranges	F_{MSY} proxy Range Lower	Not Applicable
	F_{MSY} proxy	Not Available
	F_{MSY} proxy Range Upper	Not Applicable
Landing Obligation	From 2019	High survivability exemption*

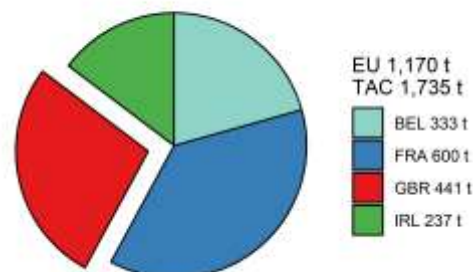


* Described below under Key Stock Considerations, details in (EC 2020/2015).

MANAGEMENT IN 2022

- The TAC and the assessment area are the same.
- The 2021 TAC was 1,735 t with an Irish quota of 237 t. This TAC has not been restrictive in recent years.

2022 Quota Allocations



KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- Currently fishing pressure is well above F_{msy} proxy and SSB has fallen below $MSY B_{trigger}$ proxy
- Irish landings of Celtic Sea plaice are taken as a minor bycatch in mixed fisheries and are mainly landed with whiting and other gadoids, megrim and anglerfish.
- Discards have increased in recent years, with 38% of the catch discarded (average 2019-2021). The majority of discards for this stock are from beam trawlers. Discards of plaice from Irish otter trawls operating in this area range in size between 20-30cm (MCRS 27cm).
- Discards of plaice are considered to have a survivability of about 40%. Under the Landing Obligation Celtic Sea plaice have a high survivability exemption. This exemption applies to otter trawls; trammel nets; Scottish seines; and beam trawls (≤ 221 kW or ≤ 24 m) within 12nm of the coast, and towing for less than 90 minutes; and beam trawls (> 221 kW) using flip-up rope or benthic release panel (EC 2020/2015).