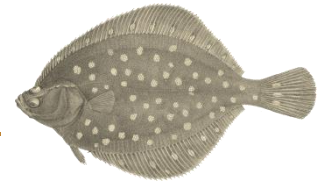


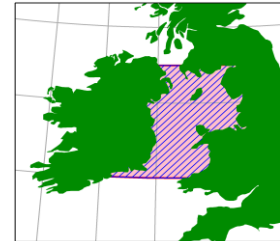
IRISH SEA PLAICE

Division 7.a



ADVICE FOR 2024

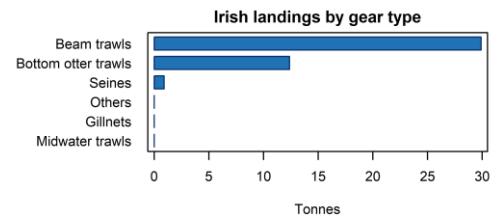
ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied catches in 2024 should be no more than 1,902 t.



■ TAC/Management area
■ Assessment area

KEY POINTS

ICES Assessment Category	I (Quantitative Assessment)	
Management Plan	WWMAP (bycatch)	
Advice Basis	ICES MSY approach	Catch = 1,902 t
Ranges	F_{MSY} Range Lower	Not Applicable (bycatch)
	F_{MSY}	Catch = 1,902 t
	F_{MSY} Range Upper	Not Applicable (bycatch)
Landing Obligation	From 2019	High survivability exemption*



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

MANAGEMENT IN 2023

- The TAC and the assessment area are the same.

KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- The stock size peaked in 2016 and due to poor recruitment has declined since and is now just above MSY $B_{trigger}$ with fishing mortality below F_{MSY} since 2008.
- Irish landings of this stock are caught as a minor bycatch in a mixed fishery and are mainly landed with *Nephrops* and haddock.
- Landings from Irish fleets have decreased in recent years from 315 t in 2018 to 43 t in 2022, well below the quota.
- Discards are high with 73% (by weight) of the catch being discarded in 2022.
- Discards of plaice are considered to have a survivability of about 40%. Under the Landing Obligation Irish Sea plaice have a high survivability exemption. This exemption applies to beam trawls (≤ 221 kW or ≤ 24 m) within 12 nm 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).

