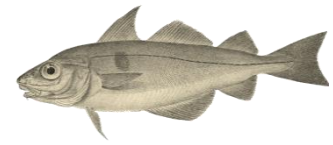


WEST OF SCOTLAND, NORTH SEA AND SKAGERRAK HADDOCK

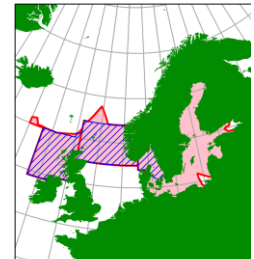


Division 6.a, Sub-area 4 and Sub-division 20

ADVICE FOR 2023

ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, total catches in 2023 should be no more than 137,058 t.

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

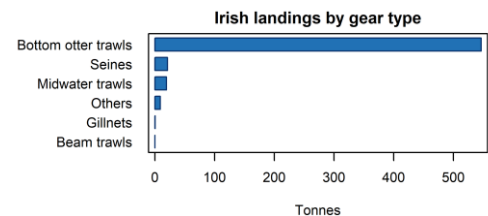


■ TAC/Management area
■ Assessment area

KEY POINTS

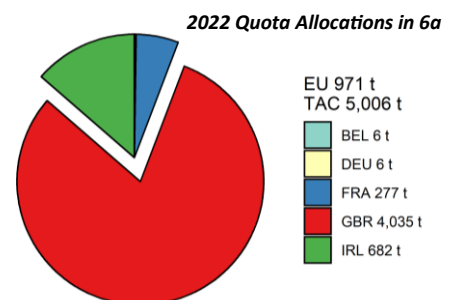
ICES Assessment Category	I (Quantitative Assessment)	
Management Plan	NSMAP (target); Not agreed between EU, UK & Norway	
Advice Basis	ICES MSY approach	Catch=137,058 t
Ranges	F _{MSY} Range Lower	Catch=109,157 t
	F _{MSY}	Catch=137,058 t
	F _{MSY} Range Upper	Catch=137,058 t
Landing Obligation	From 2016	Below MCRS <i>De minimis</i> up to 3%*

* Maximum of annual catch by bottom trawls with mesh size up to 119 mm and requiring reporting (EU 2020/2015).



MANAGEMENT IN 2022

- ICES advice was split across three TAC areas. The Irish quota is from the TAC covering 6a and United Kingdom and international waters of 5b. The 2022 TAC was set at 5,006 t with an Irish quota of 682 t.
- From 2015 to 2019 the Irish fleet caught its full quota, this was not the case in 2020 or 2021.



KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- Most of the Irish landings of haddock in Division 6.a come from trips that target haddock. The remainder are taken from a more mixed fishery and are mainly landed with megrim, anglerfish and other gadoid species.
- The TAC for this stock is linked to the North Sea and is negotiated as part of an EU, UK and Norway agreement.
- Advice has increased notably for the last three years owing to incoming recruitment in 2019 and 2020 that were above the preceding low levels since the early 2000s. Irregular strong recruitment events have been a feature of the stock dynamics in the past, resulting in a saw tooth SSB time profile. Decreased fishing pressure has also contributed to an increase in the stock size.