

# CELTIC SEA AND WEST OF SCOTLAND

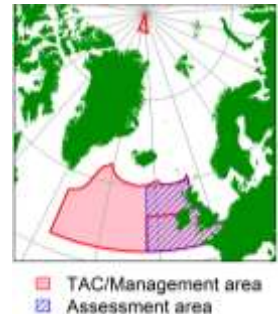
## POLLACK



### Sub-areas 6 and 7

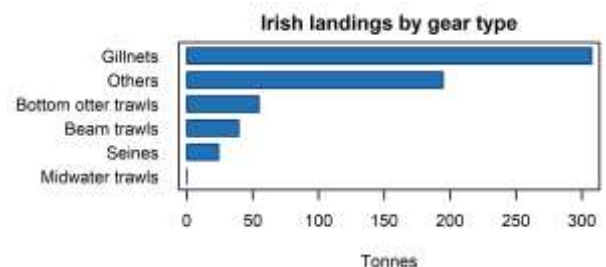
#### ADVICE FOR 2023

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, commercial catches in 2023 should be no more than 3,360 t.



#### KEY POINTS

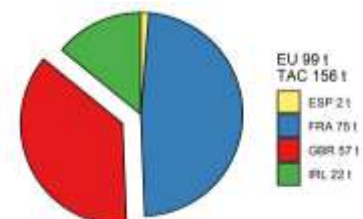
ICES Assessment Category	4 (Catch-based assessment)	
Management Plan	WVWMA (target)	
Advice Basis	ICES PA approach	Catch=3,360 t
Ranges	F <sub>MSY</sub> Range Lower	Not Available
	F <sub>MSY</sub>	Not Available
	F <sub>MSY</sub> Range Upper	Not Available
Landing Obligation	From 2017	No derogations or exemptions



#### MANAGEMENT 2022

- There are two TAC areas that cover pollack in this area. Ireland has quota for both. The first TAC area covers Divisions 5.b and Sub-areas 6, 12 and 14. The second TAC area covers Sub-area 7. Up to 2% of the latter TAC may be fished in Divisions 8.a,b,d,e.
- Low quota uptake by some countries means that the current TAC's are well above the reported landings.
- The 2021 quota uptake by Ireland in Sub-areas 5.b, 6, 12 and 14 was 112% (29 t compared to 26 t quota). The 2021 quota uptake by Ireland in Sub-area 7 was lower, with 62% of the quota utilised.

2022 Quota Allocations for Pollack in 5b, 6, 12, 14



#### KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- Fishing mortality is considered to be below possible MSY reference points.
- Irish landings of pollack are mainly taken by gillnets, however, in some years considerable by-catches of pollack are landed with hake, whiting and saithe by OTB fleets.
- Commercial landings may not reflect true pollack catches since recreational fisheries are thought to comprise a significant component of total catch. A recent study estimated that recreational catches are approximately 3,500 t per year from areas 6 and 7.
- Ireland is currently engaged in an EMFAF funded project aiming to improve data on Irish recreational fisheries.
- This stock is currently undergoing a benchmark to improve the evidence base and address concerns about the adequacy of the assessment.

2022 Quota Allocations for Pollack in 7

