

SOUTHWEST OF IRELAND SOLE

Divisions 7.h-k



ADVICE FOR 2023

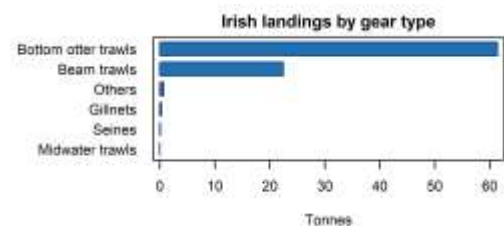
ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, catches in 2023 should be no more than 213 t.



KEY POINTS

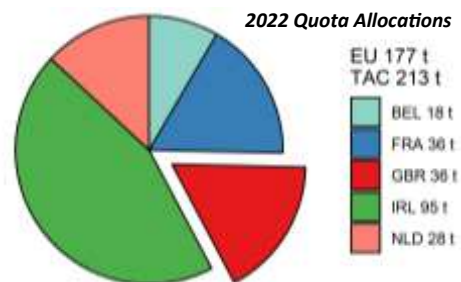
ICES Assessment Category	5 (Landings only assessment)	
Management Plan	WVWMAP (target)	
Advice Basis	ICES PA approach	Catch=213 t
Ranges	F _{MSY} Range Lower	Not available
	F _{MSY}	Not available
	F _{MSY} Range Upper	Not available
Landing Obligation	From 2019	De minimis up to 3%*

* Beam trawlers using mesh size 80-119mm with increased selectivity (EC 2020/2015)



MANAGEMENT IN 2022

- The TAC and assessment area covers Division 7.h-k.
- Recent Irish landings have been below the quota.



KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- This stock was benchmarked in 2020 and the previous assessment which covered only 7.j was no longer considered an appropriate basis for management advice.
- The stock identity of sole in this area is currently under investigation by the Flanders fisheries institute (ILVO) using genetic techniques and samples provided by the Marine Institute.
- Sole are mainly taken in mixed otter trawl fisheries by Irish vessels off the southwest and are landed with anglerfish, megrim and gadoid species.
- Discarding is considered to be negligible.