

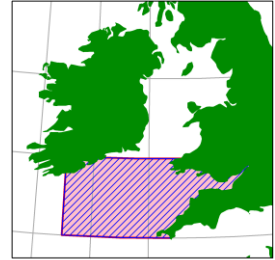
CELTIC SEA PLAICE

Divisions 7.f and 7.g



ADVICE FOR 2024

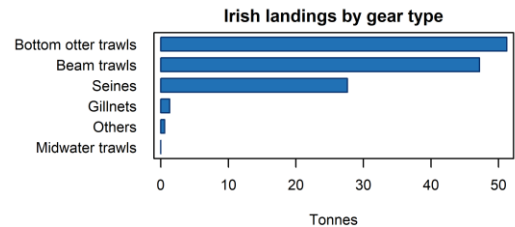
ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches should be no more than 402 tonnes in each of the years 2023 and 2024.



■ TAC/Management area
■ Assessment area

KEY POINTS

ICES Assessment Category	3 (Trend based assessment)	
Management Plan	WWMAP (bycatch)	
Advice Basis	ICES MSY 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*



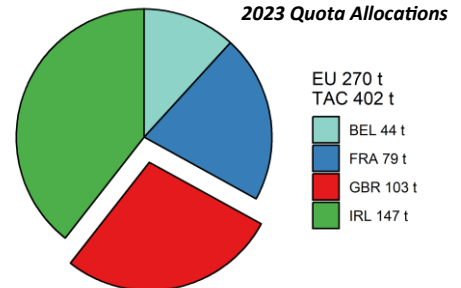
* Described below under Key Stock Considerations, details in (EC 2020/2015).

MANAGEMENT IN 2023

- The TAC and the assessment area are the same.
- Recent landings have been below the TAC.

KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- Currently fishing pressure is above the $F_{MSY\ proxy}$ and the stock-size index is 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 ($\leq 221\text{ kW}$ or $\leq 24\text{ m}$) within 12nm of the coast, and towing for less than 90 minutes; and beam trawls ($> 221\text{ kW}$) using flip-rope or benthic release panel (EC 2020/2015).



Further information on this stock can be found in the 2022 Stock Book.