

# WEST OF IRELAND PLAICE

## Divisions 7.b-c



### ADVICE FOR 2023

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, landings should be no more than 19 t in each of the years 2021, 2022, and 2023. ICES cannot quantify the corresponding total catches.

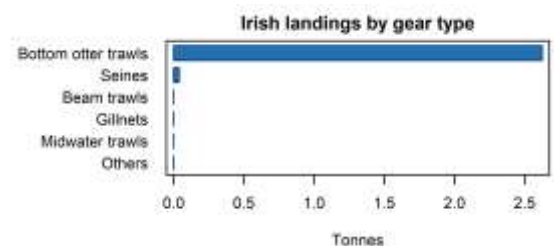


■ TAC/Management area  
■ Assessment area

### KEY POINTS

ICES Assessment Category	6 (Bycatch only)	
Management Plan	WVWMAP (bycatch)	
Advice Basis	ICES PA approach	Landings=19 t
Ranges	$F_{MSY}$ Range Lower	Not available
	$F_{MSY}$	Not available
	$F_{MSY}$ Range Upper	Not available
Landing Obligation	From 2019	High survivability exemption*

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

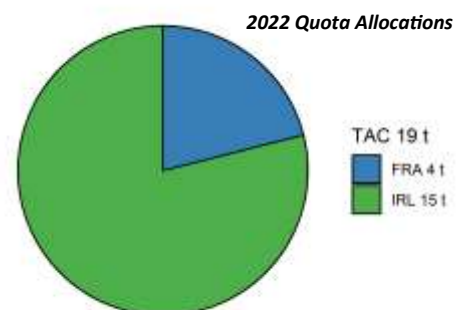


### MANAGEMENT IN 2022

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

### KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- The reduction in advice for 2021 to 2023 (~20%) is due to the application of the precautionary buffer.
- Historically, Irish landings of this stock are caught by otter trawlers, as a minor bycatch in a mixed fishery.
- Discarded plaice are considered to have a survivability of approximately 40%. An exemption to the Landing Obligation applies to beam trawls ( $\leq 221$  kW or  $\leq 24$  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) in ICES division 7.a to 7.k. There are no Irish beam trawls operating in this area. An exemption to the Landing Obligation also applies to Scottish seines in this area.



Further information on this stock can be found in the 2020 Stock Book.