

# NORTH SEA, ROCKALL AND WEST OF SCOTLAND SAITHE

## Sub-areas 4 & 6 and Division 3.a

### ADVICE FOR 2023

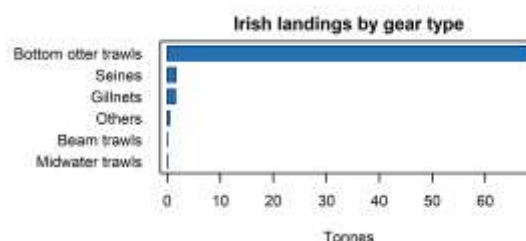
ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2023 should be no more than 58,912 t.

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



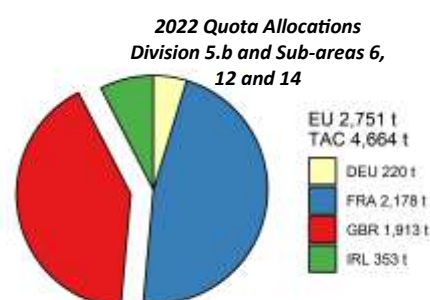
### KEY POINTS

ICES Assessment Category	I (Quantitative Assessment)	
Management Plan	NSMAP (target); Not agreed between EU, UK & Norway	
Advice Basis	ICES MSY approach	Catch=58,912 t
Ranges	F <sub>MSY</sub> Range Lower	Catch=37,777 t
	F <sub>MSY</sub>	Catch=61,507 t
	F <sub>MSY</sub> Range Upper	Not Applicable
Landing Obligation	From 2016	No derogations or exemptions



### MANAGEMENT IN 2022

- The assessment area includes two TAC areas; the first TAC area covers Divisions 2.a, 3.a, and Sub-area 4. The second TAC area covers Division 5.b and Sub-areas 6, 12 and 14.
- The advice for 2022 has been split into the two TAC areas based on a fixed percentage agreed by the management authorities (90.6% in Subarea 4 and Subdivision 3.a.20 and 9.4% in Subarea 6).
- Ireland only has a quota for the latter TAC area (5.b, 6, 12 and 14). The TAC for Divisions 5.b and Sub-areas 6, 12 and 14 was reduced in 2022 by 1,511 t.



### KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- Ireland has not taken its full quota in recent years. The 2021 quota uptake by Ireland in Sub-areas 5.b, 6, 12 and 14 was 20%.
- The advice for 2023 is 58,912 t; an increase of 9,298 t from the 2022 advice (+19%), due to a realised fishing mortality for 2021 that was lower than assumed and a forecasted increase in spawning stock biomass.
- The advised catch for 2023 is less than the F<sub>MSY</sub> scenario because the stock is below MSY B<sub>trigger</sub> and the ICES advice rule is applied (where the advised fishing mortality is scaled down by the ratio of stock size in 2023 divided by the biomass trigger level).