

CELTIC SEA SOLE

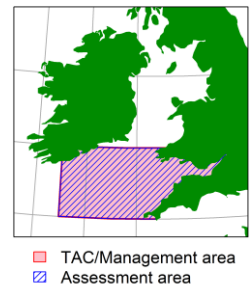
Divisions 7.f and 7.g



ADVICE FOR 2024

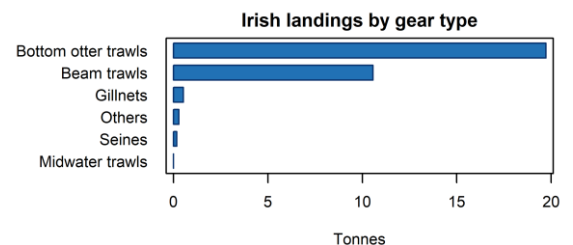
ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2024 should be no more than 1,267 t.

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



KEY POINTS

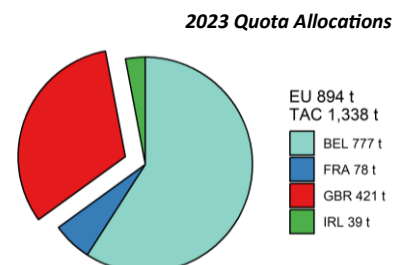
ICES Assessment Category	I (Quantitative Assessment)	
Management Plan	WWMAP (target)	
Advice Basis	ICES MSY approach	Catch=1,267 t
Ranges	F _{MSY} Range Lower	Catch=724 t
	F _{MSY}	Catch=1,267 t
	F _{MSY} Range Upper	Catch=2,121 t
Landing Obligation	From 2016	De minimis up to 3%*



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

MANAGEMENT IN 2023

- The stock and management units are both ICES Division 7.f and 7.g.
- The Irish quota is very restrictive; Ireland applies minimal quotas for sole during most months.



KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- Discarding is estimated to be 72 t in 2022 which accounts for 5% of overall catch, a slight increase from 4% last year.
- Irish landings of Celtic Sea sole are mainly taken as a minor bycatch in mixed fisheries targeting *Nephrops* and in mixed beam trawl fisheries off the south coast.