

Brexit Adjustment Reserve

Brexit Pelagic Support Scheme

Scheme Description



EUROPEAN UNION

This measure is part-financed
by the European Maritime
and Fisheries Fund



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



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Document Control

Version	Main changes	Approver	Approval/Effective Date (Initials & Date)
1.0	Initial draft	Director Corporate Services	FH 31 st Oct 23
1.1	Updated point 6 under the Scheme Description to clarify crew compensation requirements	Director Corporate Services	FH 6 th Nov 23

Document Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide information regarding the scheme to those who might be interested in applying.

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Background

The EU/UK Trade and Co-Operation Agreement (hereafter, known as the TCA) represents a significant and permanent loss of quota. The Task Force recognised that the RSW Pelagic segment of the fleet has suffered the largest TCA related quota reductions for their main target species of mackerel. In the context of the need for adjustment and rebalancing in the longer term, it is considered that some short-term support to prepare for the changed situation is justified.

Scheme Objectives

The purpose of the scheme is to provide short-term aid for the years 2021-2022 to vessel owners in the RSW pelagic segment, Polyvalent Tier 1 and Tier 2 vessels with a pelagic entitlement. This aid is to compensate for their income loss related to the TCA-induced quota share reductions as a direct consequence of Brexit. This will provide the owners the financial means to overcome the first and immediate impact of the TCA, thereby enabling them to re-organise themselves and to adapt to the new situation.

Scheme Description

The scheme will operate in 2023 only.

The main elements of the scheme are as follows:

1. The scheme is restricted to all eligible vessels in the RSW pelagic segment as well as Polyvalent Tier 1 and Tier 2 vessels fishing for mackerel in 2021 and 2022.
2. While quota remains a national asset, its reduction represents lost fishing opportunities for those vessels operating in the pelagic sector.
3. The payments under the scheme represent the value of reduced fishing opportunities which resulted from the actual loss of mackerel quota in 2021 and 2022 as a result of the transfer of quota to the UK under the TCA agreement. The total amount of transferred quota amounts to 11,305 tonnes in 2021 and 13,190 tonnes in 2022. The loss of mackerel per vessel in 2021 and 2022 in monetary terms is equivalent to the loss of one month's fishing opportunities per annum.
4. The value of the payment is calculated on the average monthly turnover per vessel, less cost of fuel and provisions, over the period 2018-2020, compensating for one month per annum for 2021 and 2022.
5. Vessels availing of the Scheme must sign up to a scientific sampling programme to be administered by the Marine Institute. This sampling programme will require the collection of scientific data relating at the haul level sampling for all species, measuring for length and weight and optionally retaining biological samples for delivery to scientists ashore. Haul level information on the by-catch, including incidental by catches of sensitive species such as cetaceans will also be required. Combination of this data will provide valuable scientific information on stock distribution, migration behaviour, age data and by-catch.
6. Given that the crew of these vessels have experienced lost income as a result of reduced shares, beneficiaries must ensure that a **minimum** of 30% of the payment is distributed equally, according to their entitlement, amongst those who were crew members of the vessel since January 2021.
7. The applicant must submit the names of the crew members, a copy of their safety card(s), and any other documentation as required for governance of the Scheme. The payment must be made by electronic bank transfer to an account held in the name of

the crew member. Proof of payment must be retained by the applicant. BIM reserve the right to inspect such records at any reasonable time.

8. In accordance with the Commission non-paper “State aid in the fishery and aquaculture sector to mitigate the effects of the withdrawal of the UK from the European Union”, the amount of liquidity aid will be reduced by the amount of temporary cessation support **paid in respect of temporary cessation during the Pelagic Season** and the amount of incomes loss support **related to losses during the Pelagic Season and** received by operators either from the BAR or from other funds in the period between 1 January 2021 and the date of receiving the payment for the liquidity aid. In the case of temporary cessation, support provided directly to crew as part of these schemes will not be deducted from the liquidity aid payable to vessel owners.

Who is Eligible?

This scheme would support owners of vessels in the RSW pelagic segment, Polyvalent Tier 1 and Tier 2 vessels with an authorisation to fish for mackerel.

Ineligible beneficiaries include vessels not licensed in the RSW pelagic segment or polyvalent vessels without an authorisation to catch mackerel and all vessels in other fleet segments.

Amounts Granted

Scheme payments would be based on the equivalent average loss of revenue for one month’s fishing opportunity per vessel class per annum in 2021 and 2022, less variable costs of fuel and provisions reduced as arising from decreased fishing activity.

	No. of Vessels	Average Monthly Turnover Per Vessel Less Cost of Fuel and Provisions	Payment Per Vessel
RSW			
"10" Ratio	8	€592,000	€1,184,000
"7" Ratio	9	€414,000	€828,000
"5" Ratio	6	€350,000	€700,000
Tier Boats			
Tier 1	15	€99,000	€198,000
Tier 2	12	€59,000	€118,000

Selection Process

Step	Description	Carried Out By
Call for proposals	BIM will invite applications from eligible vessel owner(s) and companies.	BIM
Eligibility Check and evaluation	To ensure compliance and eligibility.	BIM
Payment	BIM will issue letters of offer to successful applicants and applicants will be required to formally accept the offer. Participants will be paid following verification of compliance with the T&Cs.	BIM

How to Apply

Apply online here <https://bim.flexigrant.com/startapplication.aspx?id=12097>.

Assistance with your application can be found in the document "Guidelines for Applicants" on the scheme page of www.bim.ie.