

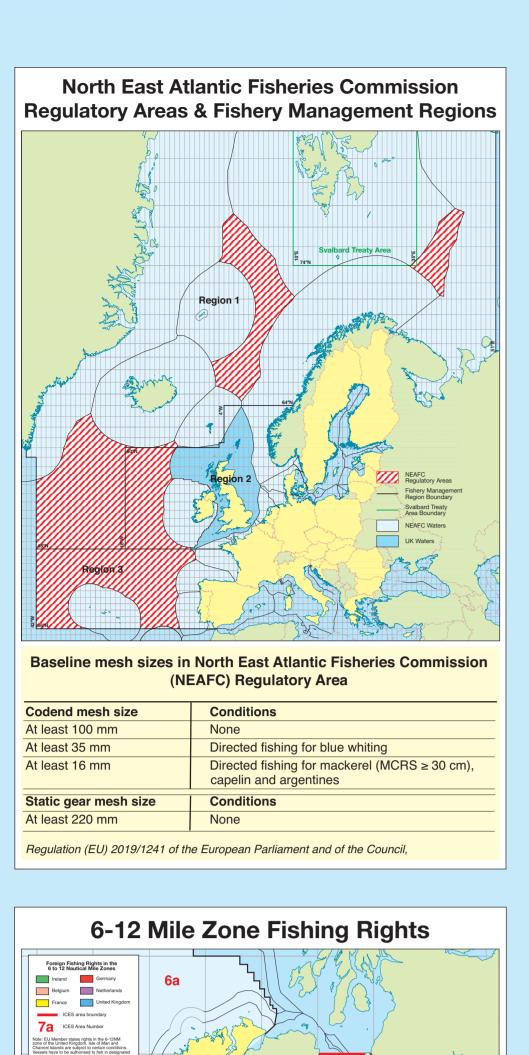
## Fisheries Management 2025

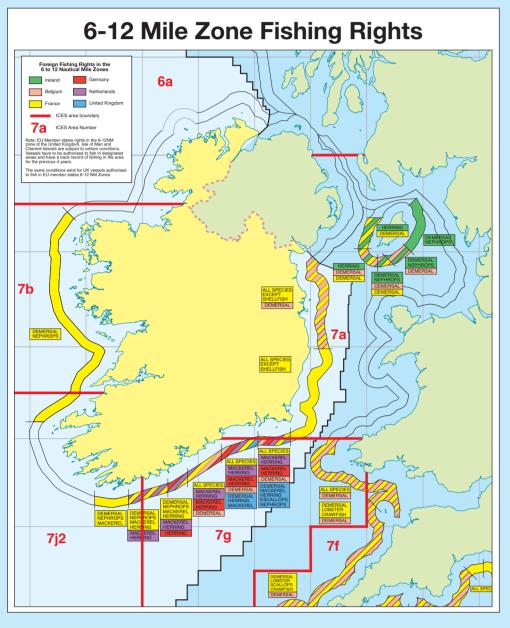
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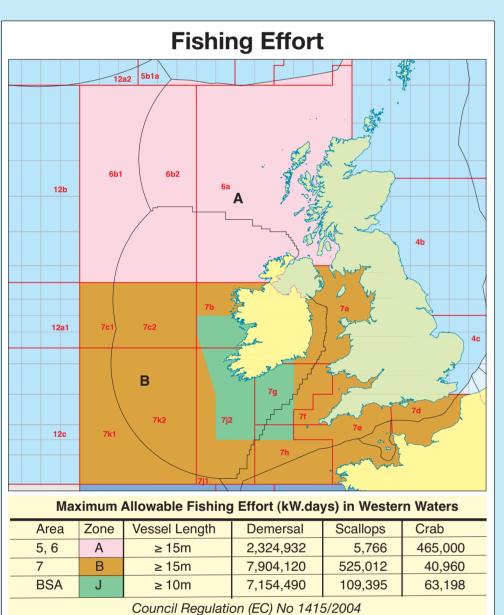
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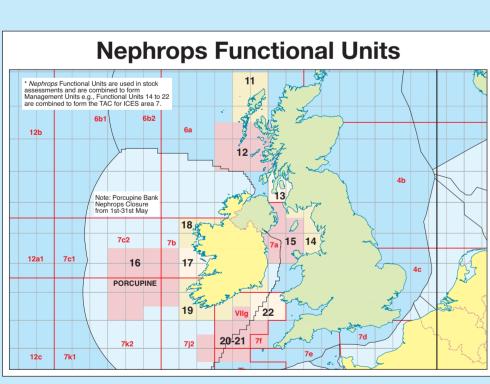
Minimum Conservation Reference Sizes (MCRS)

(see note on landing obligation) and Conversion Factors for Irish Commercial Species









Regulation (EU) 2016/2094 of the European Parliament and of the Council discontinues the

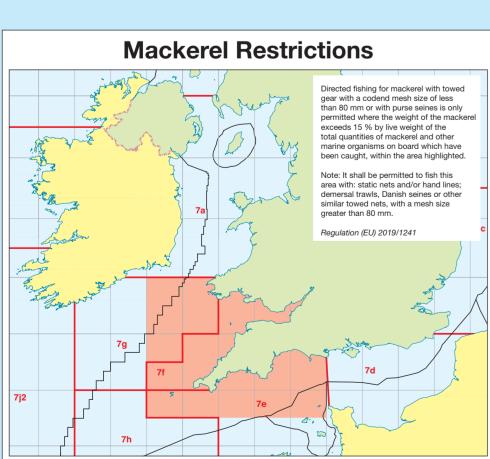
Regulation (EC) No 1342/2008). The fishing effort regime had become an obstacle to the

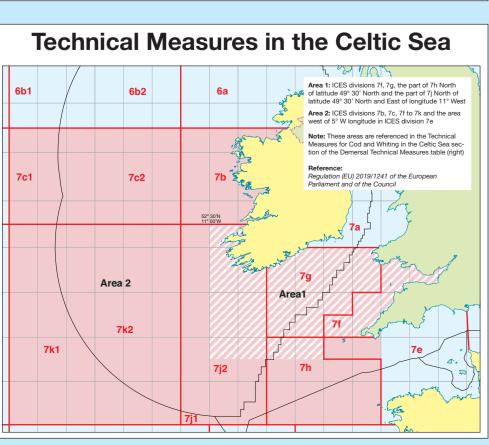
implementation of the landing obligation, as it hampers further adaptation of fishing patterns,

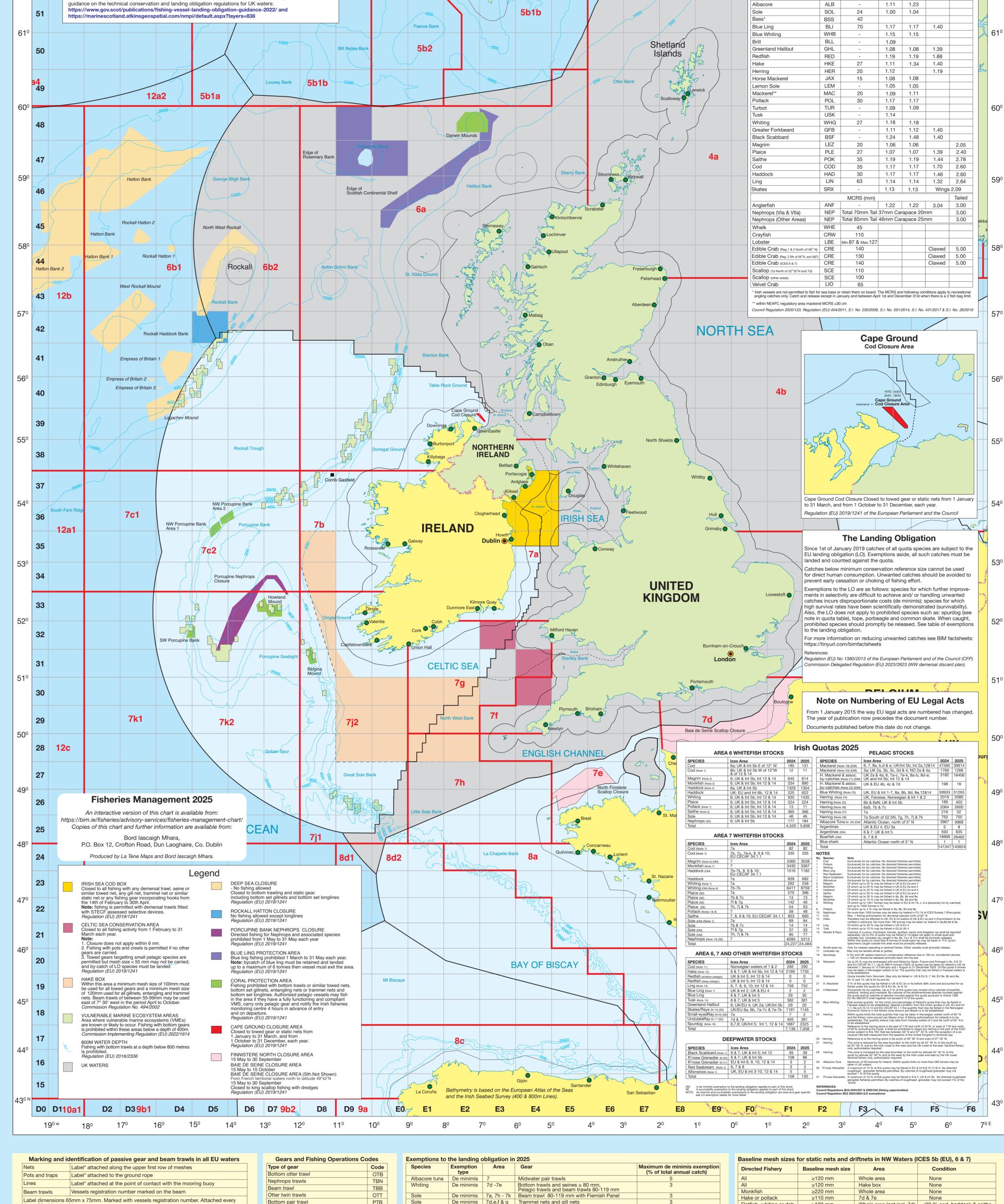
term plan for cod stocks in the Irish Sea (estab

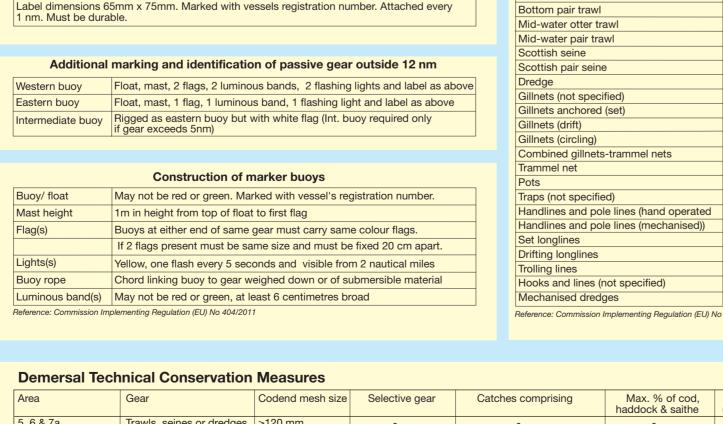
shing effort regime in the long-

such as the choice of area and gear









7b, 7c, 7e west of 5°W & 7f-7k | Bottom trawls/seines | 100mm codend

As of 1st of January 2021 EU vessels fishing in UK waters will require a vessel licence issued by the UK authorities

the above licence you may not fish In UK waters and you will need to apply for such a licence through the Depart-

ment of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/99c1c-access-to-uk-waters/). While every effort is made to interpret and incorporate changes to EU technical measures here, vessel owners or operators fishing in UK waters are advised to regularly check the UK Marine Management Organisation website for

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Reference: Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 404/2011								Reference: Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 404/2011			
Demersal Tech	nical C	onservation	Mea	asures							
Area	Gear		Code	Sodend mesh size Sel		ective gear	Catch	es comprising	Max. % of cod, haddock & saithe	Max. % of hake (ICES 5,6 & 7b-k)	
5, 6 & 7a	Trawls, s	eines or dredges	≥120	20 mm -		-	-		-	-	
7b-7k (note 1)	Trawls, s	eines or dredges	≥100	mm	-		-		-	-	
7b-7k (note 1)	Bottom t	rawl	≥80 r		120 mm SMP		Hake, megrim & monk		20	20	
7b-7k (note 1)	Otter trav	wl	≥80 r		80 mm SMP			on-quota species	20	20	
7a,7b, 7d-7j (note 1)	Beam tra	ıwl	≥80 r			m panel (note2)	Sole		20	5	
7b-7c, 7f-7k (note 1)	Bottom t		≥80 r		120 mi	m SMP		mackerel & NQS	20	20	
7d and 7e (note 1)	Bottom t	rawl	≥80 r			-		mackerel & NQS	20	20	
5, 6 & 7 (note 1)	, 6 & 7 (note 1) All gears		≥40 r	0 mm		-	Squid		20 -		
Technical measures to	ake preced	dence in the areas	outlin	ed below							
Area		Gear	Mesh size			Selective gear	Catcl	nes comprising	Max. % of cod, haddock & saithe	Max. % of hake (ICES 5,6 & 7b-k)	
7a		Bottom trawls/se ≥ 12M	eines 120mm			-	> 10 % skates 8	haddock, cod and R rays	-	-	
7f, 7g, & parts of: 7h-j (note 3)		Bottom trawls/se	eines	es 100mm codend		160 mm SMP	See No	ote 4	-	-	
7f, 7g, & parts of: 7h-j (note 3)		Bottom trawls/se	eines	ines 100mm T90 co		-	See No	te 4	-	-	
f, 7g, & parts of: 7h-j (note 3) Bottom trawls/se		eines	110mm codend		120 mm SMP	See No	ite 4	-	-		
7f, 7g, & parts of: 7h-	parts of: 7h-j (note 3) Bottom trawls/se		eines	120mm codend		-	See No	te 4	-	-	
7f, 7g, & parts of: 7h-j (note 3) Bottom trawls/se		eines	100mm code	nd	100 mm SMP	>55 % monk 8	whiting or hake, k megrim combined	-	-		
7f. 7g. & parts of: 7h-i (note 3) Botto		Bottom trawls/se	eines	100mm T90 d	codend	_	>55 %	whiting or hake.	_	-	

References: Commission Regulation (EC) No 494/2002 (hake); Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of EU Parliament & Council (Tech.Meas.); Commission delegated regulation (EU) 2023/2623 (Western waters demersal discard plan);

Species	Exemption type	Area	Gear	Maximum de minimis exemptio (% of total annual catch)
Albacore tuna	De minimis	7	Midwater pair trawls	5
Whiting	De minimis	7d -7e	Bottom trawls and seines ≥ 80 mm, Pelagic trawls and beam trawls 80-119 mm	3
Sole	De minimis	7a, 7h - 7k	Beam trawl 80-119 mm with Flemish Panel	3
Sole	De minimis	7d,e,f & g	Trammel nets and gill nets	3
Haddock	De minimis	7b,c & 7e-k	Bottom trawls and seines ≥ 100 mm with catches comprising ≤30% Nephrops	5
Haddock	De minimis	7b,c & 7e-k	Vessels using ≥ 80 mm, with catches comprising more than 30% Nephrops	5
Haddock	De minimis	7b,c & 7e-k	Beam trawls ≥ 80 mm with Flemish Panel	5
Megrim <sup>1</sup>	De minimis	7	Beam Trawls 80-119mm & Bottom trawls**	4
Horse mackerel	De minimis	6 & 7b-k	DMF 2 using bottom trawls, seines & beam trawls	3
Mackerel	De minimis	6 & 7b-k	DMF 2 using bottom trawls, seines & beam trawls	3
Boarfish	De minimis	7b,7c,7f-7k	Bottom trawls	0.5
Argentine	De minimis	EU 5b & 6	Bottom trawls ≥ 100 mm	0.6
Species	Exemption	Area	Gear	Discard Release Notes
Nephrops	Survivability	6 & 7	Pots, creels or traps	immediately whole & where caugh
Nephrops	Survivability	7	Bottom trawls 70-99mm with HSG* or ≥100mm	immediately whole & where caug
Nephrops	Survivability	6a (<12nm)	Bottom trawls 80-110 mm	immediately whole & where caugh
Skates & rays	Survivability	6 & 7	All gears	Released immediately
Plaice	Survivability	7d -7k	Seines (SSC)	Released immediately
Plaice	Survivability	7d -7g	Trammel nets and otter trawls	Released immediately
Plaice	Survivability	7a -7g	Beam Trawls with flip up rope or benthic release panel (vessels > 221kW)	Released immediately
Plaice	Survivability	7a-7g	Beam Trawls (vessels ≤221 kW or ≤24 m) inside 12 nm, tows ≤ 90 minutes	Released immediately
Pot Caught Sp.	Survivability	EU 5b; 6 & 7	Pots, creels and traps	Released immediately
1 Applies ony to me	grim <mcrs (20c<="" td=""><td>m), <sup>2</sup> Demersal M</td><td>lixed Fisheries</td><td></td></mcrs>	m), <sup>2</sup> Demersal M	lixed Fisheries	
	ecific highly select to 99mm in 7f. 7c		lixed Fisheries ohrops in table below 5°N & 7j East of 11°W - catches must comprise > 55% whiting o	or anglerfish, hake & megrim combined;

5,6 and 7 ≥16 mm Small pelagic species (note 1) 20  5,6 and 8 < 16 mm Sandeel 20  References: Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council  Note 1: Small pelagic species means species such as mackerel, herring, horse mackerel, anchovy, sardine, blue whitin argentines, sprat, and boarfish.  Guidance on the construction of codends*  Area ICES 5 & 6 ICES 7b-7k & 8a,b,c  Maximum twine Thickness Single 8 mm or double 5 mm Single 6 mm or double 5 mm  Maximum codend circumference 90-119 mm mesh size 100 open meshes round  **Maximum codend circumference 70-89 mm mesh size 120 open meshes round  **codend can be made up of one or more panels and includes the lengthening/ extension piece in of the codend sensu stricto.  References: Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council; Commission Regulation (EC) No 494/2002; Commission Regulation (EC) No 2056/2001  Notes to Demersal Technical Conservation Measures		ICES sub-area	Mesh size	Catches comprising	Max. % of cod, haddock and saith		
References: Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council  Note 1: Small pelagic species means species such as mackerel, herring, horse mackerel, anchovy, sardine, blue whitin argentines, sprat, and boarfish.  Guidance on the construction of codends*  Area ICES 5 & 6 ICES 7b–7k & 8a,b,c  Maximum twine Thickness Single 8 mm or double 5 mm Single 6 mm or double 5 mm double 4 mm  Maximum codend circumference 90-119 mm mesh size 100 open meshes round  Maximum codend circumference 120 open meshes round  *codend can be made up of one or more panels and includes the lengthening/ extension piece in of the codend sensu stricto.  References: Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council; Commission Regulation (EC) No 494/2002; Commission Regulation (EC) No 2056/2001		5,6 and 7	≥16 mm	Small pelagic species (note	1) 20		
Note 1: Small pelagic species means species such as mackerel, herring, horse mackerel, anchovy, sardine, blue whitin argentines, sprat, and boarfish.  Guidance on the construction of codends*  Area ICES 5 & 6 ICES 7b–7k & 8a,b,c  Maximum twine Thickness Single 8 mm or double 5 mm Single 6 mm or double 5 mm  Maximum codend circumference 90-119 mm mesh size 100 open meshes round  Maximum codend circumference 120 open meshes round  **Codend can be made up of one or more panels and includes the lengthening/ extension piece in of the codend sensu stricto.  *References: Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council; Commission Regulation (EC) No 494/2002; Commission Regulation (EC) No 2056/2001		5,6 and 8	< 16 mm	Sandeel	20		
Area  ICES 5 & 6  Maximum twine Thickness  Single 8 mm or double 5 mm  Maximum codend circumference 90-119 mm mesh size  Maximum codend circumference 100 open meshes round  Maximum codend circumference 70-89 mm mesh size  120 open meshes round  *codend can be made up of one or more panels and includes the lengthening/ extension piece in of the codend sensu stricto.  References: Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council; Commission Regulation (EC) No 494/2002; Commission Regulation (EC) No 2056/2001		Small pelagic species me		s mackerel, herring, horse mackerel,	anchovy, sardine, blue whiting,		
Area  ICES 5 & 6  Maximum twine Thickness  Single 8 mm or double 5 mm  Maximum codend circumference 90-119 mm mesh size  100 open meshes round  Maximum codend circumference 70-89 mm mesh size  120 open meshes round  130 open meshes round  140 open meshes round  150 open meshes round  160 open meshes round  170 open meshes round  170 open meshes round  180 open meshes round			_				
Maximum twine Thickness  Single 8 mm or double 5 mm  Maximum codend circumference 90-119 mm mesh size  100 open meshes round  120 open meshes round	(	Guidance on t	the constr	uction of codends*			
Maximum codend circumference 90-119 mm mesh size  Maximum codend circumference 70-89 mm mesh size  120 open meshes round		Area		ICES 5 & 6	ICES 7b-7k & 8a,b,d,		
90-119 mm mesh size  Maximum codend circumference 70-89 mm mesh size  120 open meshes round		Maximum twine Th	nickness	Single 8 mm or double 5 mm	Single 6 mm or double 4 mm		
70-89 mm mesh size  codend can be made up of one or more panels and includes the lengthening/ extension piece in of the codend sensu stricto.  References: Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council;  Commission Regulation (EC) No 494/2002; Commission Regulation (EC) No 2056/2001				100 open meshes round			
of the codend sensu stricto. References: Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council; Commission Regulation (EC) No 494/2002; Commission Regulation (EC) No 2056/2001	ľ			120 open meshes r	ound		
Notes to Demersal Technical Conservation Measures	F	of the codend sensu s References: Regulation (El	stricto. U) 2019/1241 of the	European Parliament and of the Cou	ncil;		
Notes to Demersal Technical Conservation Measures							
	ľ	Notes to Deme	rsal Techni	cal Conservation Me	easures		
	l	Note 1: Technical measur	es in the Celtic Sea	supercede these mesh size/ selective	e gear combinations within t		

Note 3: 7f, 7g, 7h North of 49.5°N latitude and 7j North of 49.5°N latitude & East of 11°W longitude

Note 4: Vessels fishing with bottom trawls whose catches before dicards consist of at least 20 % of haddock by weight shall use a fishing gear constructed with a minimum of one metre spacing between the fishing line and ground gear. Member States may exempt vessels from this provision provided catches before discards consist of less than 1.5 % cod and are subject to at least 20 % observer coverage.

Note 5: Does not apply to vessels whose catches comprise less than < 1.5 % cod (subject to STECF assessment)

Area	Mesh size	Selective gear	Min.% of Nephrops	Max. % cod, haddock & saithe	Max. %
5, 6 & 7 (except in areas below)	≥80 mm (note 1)	120 mm SMP or	-	20	20
		sorting grid (note 2)			
5b & 6a East of 12°W	< 100 mm	300 mm SMP (note 4)	-	20	20
5b & 6a East of 12°W	100-119 mm	160 mm SMP	30	20	-
7a (note 2)	70-99 mm (note 1)	300 mm SMP (note 4)	30	20	-
7a (note 2)	70-99 mm (note 1)	SELTRA	30	20	-
7a (note 2)	70-99 mm (note 1)	Sorting grid	30	20	-
7a (note 2)	70-99 mm (note 1)	CEFAS net grid	30	20	-
7a (note 2)	70-99 mm (note 1)	Flip-flap trawl	30	20	-
Celtic Sea protection zone (note 2, 5)	≥80 mm	300 mm SMP (note 4)	30	20	20
Celtic Sea protection zone (note 2, 5)	≥80mm	SELTRA	30	20	20
Celtic Sea protection zone (note 2, 5)	≥80mm	Sorting grid	30	20	20
Celtic Sea protection zone (note 2, 5)	100mm	100 mm SMP	30	-	-
Celtic Sea protection zone (note 2, 5)	100mm T90 (upper); ≥80 mm (lower)	Dual codend	30	20	20
Hake box	100 mm	100 mm SMP (note 6)	-	-	-

Flatfish, whiting or dab

Flatfish, whiting or dab

Small pelagic species

>100 mm

≥90 mm

Directed Mesh size Gear type Depth range Max. deployed

Reference: Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of EU Parliament & Council (Technical Measures); Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/967 (Signal and Implementation Characteristics)

≥ 100 mm | Bottom set gillnet | 200–600 m

Reference: Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of EU Parliament & Council (Technical Measures):

in ICES divisions 5b, 6a, 6b, 7b, 7c, 7h, 7j and 7k\*

Monkfish ≥ 220 mm Entangling net 200–600 m

Whole area (not incl. 7d)

25 km

100 km

Bottom-set gillnet and entangling nets

Reference: Commission regulation (EC) No 494/2002 (hake); Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of EU Parliament & Council (Technical Measures);

\* In the rest of ICES division 7 it is prohibited to deploy any bottom set gillnet, entangling net or trammel net where

Fisheries in which the use of acoustic deterrent devices (pingers) is mandatory:

Restrictions on the use of static nets at depth between 200 and 600 m

<20 % cod. haddock & saithe

≤20 % cod, haddock & saithe

≤20 % cod, haddock & saithe,

driftnets no more than 2.5 km

total deployed length of

Note 2: In order to comply with the conditions of the Nephrops survivability exemption for ICES subarea 7 highly selective gears must be used: see selective measures for 7a and the Celtic Sea Protection Zone (this table). Note 3: Hake recovery measure: applies to mesh sizes < 100 mm in 5,6,7b,7c & 7g-7k only Note 4: 200 mm SMP (2 m long) if vessel < 12 m and/ or ≤ 200 kW. Note 5: This zone comprises: 7f, 7g, 7h North of 49.5°N latitude and 7j North of 49.5°N latitude & East of 11°W longitude Note 6: 100 mm SMP applies only where hake box overlaps Celtic Sea protection zone



monk & megrim combined



PTM

SSC

SPR

DRB

**GNS** 

GND

GNC

GTN

FPO

FIX

LHP

LLD

LTL