



## 2023 Celtic Sea Herring Sentinel Scientific Fishery Management (Scientific Fishery for data collection)

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine invites applications from the owners of Irish registered fishing vessels <17m Length overall.

Completed application forms should be sent by email to [fisheriesbooking@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesbooking@agriculture.gov.ie) or by post to Celtic Sea Herring Sentinel Scientific Fisheries Booking, Seafood Policy and Management Division, National Seafood Centre, Clogheen, Clonakilty, Co. Cork, P85 TX47, to arrive **no later than close of business on 19 October 2023.**

**If you do not receive a receipt of confirmation within 5 working days of sending this form, please email [fisheriesbooking@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fisheriesbooking@agriculture.gov.ie) or contact a member of the Quota Management team (in the Seafood Policy and Management Division) by phone on 023-8859500 before 26 October 2023.**

On application vessel owner must identify if they are applying as a single vessel or as part of an SFP approved pairing. If part of a pair, the owner must specify any partner vessels.

Where more than the required number of vessels in any of the categories express an interest in taking part in the sampling activity, the Minister will allow a lottery to take place in accordance with Detailed Lottery Arrangements for Celtic Sea Sentinel Herring (Scientific) Fishery set out at Appendix 1 below.

Detailed Management Arrangements and booking in forms are available on the Department website at: <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/seafood/seafoodpolicy/forms/>

### Detailed Management Arrangements

The fishery is opened to vessels <17m Length overall and will be confined to the “Dunmore Box” (ICES Sub-Area 7aS)

The 2023 fishery will be managed in two periods:

**Period 1:** The fishery will open at 00:01 hours on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 and end at 00:01 hours on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of December 2023.

**Period 2:** The fishery will open at 00:01 hours on Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2023 and end at 00:01 hours on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of December 2023.

**Available Quota 186t** of which 93t will be made available to each of the periods set out above.

93t to be allocated for each management period in the existing ratios breakdown as follows;

**Existing Categories:**    Category A: >38ft length overall – quota 51t – 4 vessels to receive 12.75  
                                  Category B: 30- 38ft length overall - quota 34t – 4 vessels to receive 8.5t  
                                  Category C: 0 - 30ft length overall - quota 8.5t – 4 vessels to receive 2.13t

**Any uncaught fish from the Main Fishery (should it be available) will be divided equally between both periods and made available pro rata across all categories.**

Where more than the required number of vessels express an interest in taking part in the sampling activity, the Minister to allow a lottery to take place in accordance with Detailed Lottery arrangements for Celtic Sea Herring (Scientific) Fishery in **Appendix 1** below.

Initially there will be 4 opportunities available in each of the 3 categories in each of the two management periods. This may be increased to 5 where a single vessel and two pairs are drawn.

Vessels will be chosen by lottery for period 1 and 2 after which a reserve list will be created.

**On application the vessel owner must identify if they are applying as a single vessel or as part of a pair. If part of a pair, the owner must specify any partner vessel.**

#### **Scientific Requirements: (Required by the Marine Institute)**

- Each landing should provide a 25kg sample of unsorted catch.
- The samples must be stored appropriately and clearly labelled with vessel name, date and fishing ground from which it was taken, e.g. Vessel A, DD/MM/YYYY, location, Vessel B, DD/MM/YYYY, location.
- Arrangements must be made by skipper to deliver the samples directly to the Marine Institute laboratories in Castletownbere or Dunmore East upon landing. Vessels to liaise with Fisheries Liaison Team Lead (Macdara Ó Cuaig 087 207 5988) to make appropriate arrangements for the delivery of samples to the Marine Institute.

**The Minister will review the continuation of the fishery in the event that there is a high portion in the catch below the Minimum Conservation Reference Size taking account of the advice of the Marine Institute.**

- Vessels must record the vessel length overall in meters when booking-in. A contact mobile phone number must also be recorded for each vessel when booking-in.

- Vessels must indicate in advance their pairing arrangements. The Department will provide separate authorisations to each of the vessels in the pairing arrangement. It is then the responsibility of the vessel owner, as a condition of the authorisation, to seek the written approval of the SFPA to engage in pair fishing as set out in the authorisation. **Pairing arrangements must remain unchanged for the duration of the fishery, save for exceptional circumstances.** All pairing arrangements will require the approval of the SFPA prior to engaging in pair fishing. Any changes to pairing arrangements will be subject to advance notification and approval by the SFPA.
- Vessels partaking in the fishery will be required by authorisation to individually, actively engage in fishing operations for Celtic Sea Herring by towing of a pelagic trawl or pelagic seine whilst targeting Celtic Sea Herring.
- Vessels that book into the autumn 2023 Sentinel trawl fishery are **precluded** from fishing for **Whitefish, Shellfish, North West Herring and Irish Sea Herring** in the same week as Celtic Sea Herring i.e. 00:01am on Sunday to 00:01am on Friday except where such landings are required under the Landing Obligation Regulation for certain designated vessels to land all catches of the species specified. However, vessels will be permitted to transit with ‘pots’ on board for the purposes of recovery of fishing gear. Prior notice to SFPA office in Dunmore East by e-mail to [pnodunmore@sfpa.ie](mailto:pnodunmore@sfpa.ie) is required. No catches of shellfish are permitted to be kept on board by authorised vessels during the fishing period.
- The weekly “fishing period” means the five consecutive days commencing at 00:01am hours on Sunday of each week and expiring at 00:01am hours on the following Friday. Vessels booked into the fishery cannot leave port until the start of the fishing period unless authorised to do so.
- The authorised boat shall not fish for, retain on board or land herring during the period beginning at 00:01am hours on any Friday and ending at 24:00 hours on the following Saturday. A Sea-Fisheries protection officer may vary this period after consultation, but a total period of 48 hours per week of non-fishing activity must remain in place.
- Vessels receiving an authorisation in the Sentinel fishery will be authorised to land herring, (landings of less than 10 tonnes) in the ports of Helvick, Duncannon and Passage East. All landings over 10 tonnes must be made in the designated port of Dunmore East.

#### **Times of Landings Monday to Friday**

- No pelagic landings permitted in the port of Dunmore East between 00:01 hours and 08:00 hours daily. Landings of herring will, in the case of a working day, within the meaning of the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997 (No. 20 of 1997), be authorised only between 08:00 hours and 24:00 hours.  
No pelagic landings permitted in the ports of Helvick, Duncannon and Passage East between 22:01 hours and 8:30 hours daily. Landings of Herring will be in the case of the working day, be authorised only between 08.30 hours and 22:00 hours.

#### **Times of Landing Saturday/Sunday/Public Holiday**

- Landings of herring in the designated port of Dunmore East will, in the case of a Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday, within the meaning of the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997 (No. 20 of 1997), be authorised in accordance with prescribed landing times for pelagic fisheries between 8:00 hours and 18:00 hours only.  
Landings of herring in the case of a Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday in the ports of Helvick, Duncannon and Passage East will, be authorised between 10:00 hours and 18:00 hours only.
- The authorised boat shall not land herring unless a Sea-Fisheries protection officer, upon receipt of notice, approves the landing of herring. Any approval to land herring will be conditional on the master of the vessel providing a Sea-Fisheries protection officer with a written declaration detailing the name and address of the buyer or agent to or through whom the fish has been sold and each of the receiving premises to which the fish being landed is to be transported and the species and quantity in kilograms being transported in each case.
- Vessels booking in to the 2023 Autumn Celtic Sea Sentinel Herring fishery will be required by authorisation to hail all landings of Herring to Sea Fisheries Protection Authority. For landings in a port in the Republic of Ireland Notification should be made by emailing [pnodunmore@sfpai.ie](mailto:pnodunmore@sfpai.ie) or for landings outside Ireland to the Competent Authorities of the Member State in which the landing is to be made. Furthermore, for landings in third countries, notifications should be made to the competent authorities of that third country in which the landing is to be made.
- Fish sales to the UK including Northern Ireland require to be weighed before transport. In the event that the SFPa wishes to conduct a full inspection prior to transport your vessel may be directed to Dunmore East to use publicly owned and operated weigh facilities, even if the landing is less than 10 tonnes.
- All landings of herring must be weighed upon landing prior to transport on approved weigh systems unless the receiving premises has a permit from the SFPa to weigh after transport.
- It will be a requirement of **all vessels** (including vessels under 10 meters) participating in this fishery to complete an official EU logbook while participating in the fishery. Log sheet submissions can be made to the Dunmore East SFPa office or via the log sheet boxes in Duncannon and Helvick. EU logbooks will be available for collection in advance of the opening of the fishery, at the Dunmore East SFPa office. This EU logbook requirement will also apply to all vessels of under 10m (Length overall) booking-in which are participating in the Sentinel fishery. A non-return of a landing declaration by any vessel at the end of any weekly fishing period will automatically entail a declaration of non-participation during the respective fishing period.
- **Under the landing obligation all catches of quota species must be landed** (*Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013*).

- **Landing(s) of Celtic Sea Herring in excess of permitted catch limits will be subject to quota balancing in accordance with the Minister's policy of 31 July 2020 regarding Quota Balancing for Pelagic Stocks.**
- It is proposed to write (via email) to all Producer Organisations, Industry representatives, and those on our regular mailing list for such fisheries seeking nominations of eligible vessels and advertising the application process.
- A notice will be placed on the Department's website at the following link:  
  
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/seafood/seafoodpolicy/forms/>
- Additional requirements by the SFPA for the effective control of the fishery will be provided by the SFPA.

For information on the collection, processing and sharing of data for quota management, including quota balancing, please see the most up-to-date version of our data protection statement at:  
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/seafood/seafoodpolicy/forms/>

## Appendix 1

### Detailed Lottery Arrangements for 2023 Celtic Sea Herring Sentinel Scientific Fishery

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine proposes to hold a draw for Irish registered fishing vessels <17m Length overall to select vessels to operate in the 2023 Celtic Sea Herring Sentinel (Scientific) Data Collection Fishery.

**Venue: Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Clogheen, Clonakilty, Co. Cork, P85 TX47**

**Date: 27 October 2023**

**Time: 11.00am**

- On application vessel owners identify if they are applying as a single vessel or as part of a pair, if part of a pair the owner must specify any partner vessel.
- By completing, signing, and dating the booking-in form, applicants, including partner vessels confirm their willingness to be entered in an open draw to receive an authorisation for the fishery.
- For the draw, each individual vessel will be entered once in the draw and each pair will be entered once. as a pair.

- If insufficient number of vessels book in in any of the categories, the vessels booked in will receive the vessel quota available for that category of vessel in each of the management periods. The remaining quota will be divided pro rata across all categories (so, for example, if only 2 vessels book in in Category C, each vessel would receive 2t with the remaining quota in that category being spread across all 3 categories).
- Fishing opportunities per category, per management period will be filled in the order of vessels drawn in the lottery (so, for example, if all four places for Category A vessels in Management Period 1 are taken, the next Category A vessel drawn (whether individually or part of a pair) will be allocated a place in Management Period 2). If an individual vessel or pair of vessels are drawn, and all opportunities in the relevant category for that individual vessel or either of the vessels in the pair across both management periods are no longer available, that vessel/pair of vessels will be placed on the reserve list. The lottery will continue while there are vessels available in the draw to fill the available opportunities. If there are insufficient vessels to take up the opportunities in any category, the remaining opportunities will be filled from the first vessels in that category in order drawn (so, for example, if all opportunities are taken in Categories A & C but there are two opportunities remaining for Category B vessels in Management Period 2, these may be filled by the first two Category B vessels drawn overall (provided these two vessels are not paired with a vessel in Category A or C).
- A reserve list will be created.
- After the lottery has been held, if the Department is notified that a vessel or vessels within a pair does not wish or cannot avail of the fishing opportunity before or after being authorised, then only the uncaught quota of the vessel not availing of the opportunity is taken back into the national quota. This quota will then be to the next vessel or pair on the reserve list.
- One industry representative from each Producer Organisation, NIFF and IFPEA will be invited to attend.
- An independent observer will also be invited to oversee proceedings.
- Authorisations to be made available following the lottery.

Sea Fisheries Policy and Management Division  
04 October 2023

For information on the collection, processing and sharing of data for quota management, including quota balancing, please see the most up-to-date version of our data protection statement at <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/seafood/seafoodpolicy/forms/>