



## Quota Management Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date and Time	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2022 at 2.30pm
Location	National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty
Chair	Official from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)
Members in National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty	DAFM: 3 attendees
Members in Agriculture House	Irish South and West Fish Producer Organisation (ISWFPO): 1 member Irish Fish Processors and Exporters Association (IFPEA): 1 member and 1 observer Guest representative of Killybegs Fishermens Organisation (KFO): 1 member
Members via videoconference	DAFM: 3 attendees Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA): 1 attendee <b><u>Industry Representatives:</u></b> Co-ops Umbrella Group: 1 member and 1 observer Irish Fish Producers Organisation (IFPO): 1 member Irish South & East Fish Producer Organisation (ISEFPO): 1 member National Inshore Fisheries Forum (NIFF): 1 member

### 1. Conflict of Interest

The Conflict-of-Interest statement was read at the start of the meeting.

The Department advised the QMAC, following the examination of the current Conflict of Interest Policy and consultation with the Department's legal team, it is proposing to make some small amendments to the Conflict of Interest Policy. The Department advised it will circulate the updated policy to the QMAC for views and QMAC members will be given one week to submit their views. The views submitted will be brought to the attention of the Minister.

### 2. Items added to the Agenda

The ISWFPO requested that extra quota be made available for the vessel selected to carry out a Scientific program on the tagging of Cod in the Celtic Sea (Cod in area 7b-k). It was agreed to revisit the request when discussing the regime for COD in area 7b-k



### **3. Minutes of previous meeting**

The draft minutes from the May QMAC meeting were circulated to the QMAC members for comments before today's meeting. The Department advised it received one observation from the SFPA regarding the mackerel hook and line discussion at the May QMAC meeting minutes "*The SFPA noted that in the absence of a logsheet only landings from authorised vessels >10m would be assumed to be hook and line otherwise trawling would be assumed*". It was agreed this should be included in the May QMAC minutes.

The Department advised it would provide clarity in the May QMAC meeting minutes on the completed swap with France where Ireland received 250t of Nephrops in area 7 which also included the 250t could be fished in FU16 sub area 7 (NEP/\*07U16). The Department further advised that it would publish the meeting minutes on the Department website when it is publishing the July Fishery Management Notices.

### **4. Swaps**

**The Department advised that the following swaps had been completed since the last QMAC meeting and are included in today's figures.**

#### **Swap 1 – FRANCE**

<b><u>Ireland to France</u></b> - 10 t of SOL/7HJK - 80 t of SRX/67AKXD - 300 t of JAX/2A-14 - 30 t of COD/5BE6A - 5 t of PLE/7HJK. - 50 t of SRX/*07D - 15 t of RJU/7DE. - 2 t of SBR/678- - 60 t of POK/*2AC4C - 560 t of MAC/2CX14- - 15 t of GHL/2A-C46 - 50 t of RNG/5B67- - 30 t of BSF/56712-10 - 100 t of BOR/678-	<b><u>France to Ireland</u></b> - 80 t of ANF/56-14 - 250 t of NEP/*07U16 - 250t of NEP/07 - 300 t of HKE/571214 - 20 000kw days crab effort BSA
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#### **Swap 2 – FRANCE**

##### **FRA to IRL:**

70 t of HKE/571214

##### **IRL to FRA**

100 t of WHG/7X7A-C



### Swap 3 – FRANCE

#### FRA to IRL:

115 t of HAD/5BC6A

#### IRL to FRA

80 t of COD/1N2AB

11 t of RJE/7FG.

### Swap 4 – BELGIUM

#### BEL to IRL

20t ANF/56-14

15t ANF/07

40t HKE/571214

#### IRL to BEL

120,000 Kw Days Demersal BSA

50t WHG/7X7A34

### Swap 5 – UK

#### UK to IRL:

250t HKE/571214

#### IRL to UK

200t MAC/2CX14-

200t MAC/\*4A-UK

20t COD/5BE6A

### Swap 6 – NETHERLANDS

This is part of the end of year swap with the Netherlands.

<b>NLD to IRL:</b> 54t HKE/571214 (2021) 1.15t HAD/7X7A34 (2021) 16t ANF/07. (2021) 15.629t HER/6AS7BC (2021) 0.733t ARU/3A4-C (2022) <b>257.33 HER/4AB (2022)</b>	<b>IRL to NLD:</b> 796.007t BOR/678- (2021) 0.20t LIN/6X14 (2021) 0.15t POK/7/3411 (2021) 0.05t WHG/56-14(2021) 0.43t DGS/15X14 (2021) 0.15t COD/7X7AD34 (2021) 94,000kw Days Effort Area 7 (2021) 3.456t ARU/34A-C 1.181t POK/56-14 0.575t had/7X7A34 (2022) 8t ANF/07. (2022)
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The Department advised that it had received the outstanding balance of the herring 4ab from the Netherlands that was agreed in January. This swap is now complete.

### Swap 7 -NETHERLANDS

#### NLD to IRL:

42.67 t HER/4AB

35 t HKE/571214

99.5 t ANF/07

99.5 t ANF/56-14

#### IRL to NLD:

128 t BOR/678-

150t JAX/4BC7D

3632 t MAR\_PEL\_IND



### Swap for discussion:

#### Swap 1 – UK

The Department had received an email correspondence from a company affiliated with a UK Producer Organisation in relation to a quota swap proposal.

<u>UK – IRE</u>		<u>IRE - UK</u>
1. 50 MT Monk	for	90 MT Mackerel
2. 50 MT HDK In B/K	for	70 MT Mackerel
3. 50 MT Hake	for	70 MT Mackerel

The company also advised that they are also interested in sole VIIIfg, sole VIIhjk, cod VIIbk, skates and rays VI/VII.

The Department advised the remaining mackerel quota available for swapping in 2022 is 491t. Industry discussed the ratios being offered and it was agreed that other swap proposals are more favourable to Ireland. The recommendation from Industry was not to support any of the swaps.

The Department will advise the UK contact who proposed the swaps.

#### Swap 2 – UK

The Department had been contacted by the UK Administration advising they have been contacted by one of their PO's seeking a swap for Celtic Sea cod (COD/7XAD34) and sole 7hjk (SOL/7HJK.). The UK Administration further advised the PO are looking for 10 tonnes or more on both stocks.

Based on the uptake figures show's an uptake of 64.82% and 122t remaining which includes the carry over amounts (70.95% with 92t remaining excluding carryover) for Celtic Sea cod (COD/7XAD34) an uptake of 38.69% with 53t remaining including carryover (39.60% and 51t remaining excluding carryover) for sole 7hjk (SOL/7HJK.)

Industry representatives discussed the proposal, and it was considered too early in the year to swap out this quota as Irish vessels need to be given the opportunity to catch the quota before swapping.

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It was recommended not to proceed with this swap at this time. The Department will advise the UK administration.

### **Swap 3 – UK**

#### **UK to Ireland**

150t Hake in Area 7  
150t Monk/ Anglerfish in area 7  
100t of Nephrops in area 7

#### **Ireland to Uk**

450 t of Mackerel 2CX14-  
450t Mackerel \*4A-UK  
20 t of Cod in 6 (5BE6A)



This swap was received from ISWFPO and the UK Administration have confirmed the figures to the Department.

The Department outlined that the proposed swapping out of 450 tonnes of Mackerel at this point in time is problematic. There is currently 491 tonnes of Mackerel remaining to facilitate demersal swaps for the remainder of the year. As agreed at the planning meeting mackerel would be set aside to facilitate the swapping in of more Crab Effort in the BSA if required later in the year. The exchange rate agreed in the French swap earlier this year was 110 tonnes of Mackerel for 20,000 kW days Crab Effort in the BSA.

The SFPA advised that uptake figures at today's QMAC meeting are correct where there is an uptake of 6.98% of Crab Effort in the BSA. The stand in representative of the KFO advised the new way of calculating crab effort, where days fishing is only recorded when a boat has 90% of the catch is crab. The stand-in representative of the KFO also advised that supply chain issues have resulted in less effort from previous years.

The NIFF advised activity in the fishery will start to pick up from now and to be cautious.

The Department cautioned that in previous years low catch rates had been recorded at this time of the year and then a big report of landings would be reported later in the summer. The Department supported by industry representatives advised that some mackerel should be held back for emergencies or if a swap for crab effort in the BSA is needed later in the year. It was agreed to re-negotiate the swap with an offer of 225t of Mackerel.

The Committee also discussed the if swapping out 20t of Cod in area 6 (5BE6A) was viable because it is a potential choke species if that fishery had to close early. Therefore, the recommendation was to offer 4t of cod in area 6.

The Coop stated following uptake figures at today's QMAC meeting another 100t of nephrops needs to be swapped in to ensure a two month fishery in FU16 sub area 7 (NEP/\*07U16).

ISWFPO stated if a good deal is done now, the Scottish PO may be open to swapping some nephrops in FU16 sub area 7 (NEP/\*07U16) later in the year.

It was agreed that we should offer 225t Mackerel and 4t Cod in area 6 and focus on getting Nephrops in area 7

The ISWFPO will revert to its contact in the Scottish PO to discuss an amended proposal based on the new quota amounts and try and get a swap

#### **Swap 4 -UK**

The Department has been contacted by the UK administration seeking a swap for Small eyed Ray 7fg (RJE/7FG) & Undulate ray 7de (RJU/7DE).  
Ireland has 1t of small eyed ray available and 10t undulate ray available.



Industry recommended not to proceed with the swap at this time but will re-examine the proposal later in the year. The Department will revert back to the UK administration.

#### **Swap 5- France**

The Department advised this proposal was received by the ISEFPO and not the French administration.

The French PO is looking for Mackerel (MAC/2CX14-), Celtic Sea Cod (COD/7XAD34), Plaice area 7hjkj (PLE/7HJK) and Undulate Ray area 7 de (RJU/7DE).

France can offer Pollack area 7 (POL/07) and Monkfish area 7 (ANF/07) in return. They asked do we need Nephrops in area 7 and FU16 also.

Based on the uptake figures Ireland doesn't require the pollack and does not have any available quantities of the stock sought by the French PO. It was agreed not to pursue this swap at this time as there is low currency to swap out. The swap proposal may be re-examined at a later stage.

The ISEFPO will revert back to the French PO outlining Ireland's position.

#### **Other swap items discussed**

##### **Herring area 4ab (HER/4AB.)**

The Department request an update from the KFO regarding the payback of 350t Herring 4AB swap with Denmark. Ireland has 300t quota for 2022 received from the Netherlands (257.33 from swap 32 of 2021 and 42.67 from swap 8 of 2022). The stand in representative for the KFO advised that they were in contact with their counterpart in Denmark and hope to have an update soon and that they are hopefully an agreement can be reached.

##### **Norwegian Cod (COD/1N2AB)**

The Department request an update from the KFO regarding the potential swap of 18t of Saithe in area 1N2AB for the remain 20t of COD 1N2AB quota Ireland has in 2022 with France. The stand in representative for the KFO advised that they had no update but would follow up on the issue and contact the Department in due course.

The Department informed the QMAC that it received an email from the Commission advising that the overall EU quota for COD 1N2AB has nearly been reached.

#### **5. Tie up Scheme**

The Department advised that 41 over 55ft boats and 22 under 55ft boats have applied for the Tie-up Scheme. This would be taken into consideration when recommending quotas for July.

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The Department further advised it has been given formal written approval to extend the 2022 Brexit Voluntary Temporary Fishing Vessel Tie-up Scheme into November 2022. The Department further advised request was made for the month of November and approval was given for November.

The ISWFPO and Coops welcomed the extension of the BIM Tie-up scheme into November but called for a tie-up scheme in December. The Department advised there is a meeting between the Minister and industry representatives on the 6th July where industry representatives can bring it up for discussion.

### **Whitefish - Discussion on particular regimes**

#### **Cod in area 7b-k**

As advised by the ISWFPO representative at the beginning of the meeting, the ISWFPO representative had received a request from one of its members that extra quota be made available for the vessel selected to carry out a Scientific programme on the tagging of Cod in the Celtic Sea (Cod in area 7b-k). This was discussed. BIM, who carry out the administration for this programme, were contacted by the Department during the course of the QMAC meeting. The Department relayed to the QMAC that BIM have advised that there is no requirement for additional quota and the program was tendered on that basis.

All agreed to recommend 0.50/0.25

#### **Haddock in area 6b**

The figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 64.59% including carryover with 160 tonnes remaining including carryover amounts. The Co-operative representative advised that the main fishery is in June and July and there is normally a drop off in August/September. The Co-operative representative proposed the regime be reduced to 16/8 for July.

All agreed to recommend 16/8 for July

#### **Hake**

The Department advised it had received the transfer of 35 tonnes from Netherlands as part of an agreed swap. The figures at today's QMAC meeting, taking into account the 35t received, showed an uptake of 60.78% including carryover with 1,404 tonnes remaining for the year.

All agreed to recommend 20/10 for July

#### **Monk Area 6**

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The figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 44.13% including carryover with 408 tonnes remaining for the year.

All have recommended 7/3.50 for July

### **Nephrops Area 7**

The figures at today's QMAC meeting showed an uptake of 62.93% including carryover with 2,465 tonnes remaining for the year.

The Co-operative representative noted the high uptake of Nephrops in area 7 commenting the projected landings for June compared to May have increased by 10%. The Co-operative representative stated it expected less activity for June due to the tie up scheme, with projected landings for June at 1200 tonnes. It hopes with the tie up scheme activity will decrease in July, August and September as quota is required in area 7 to allow a fishery in FU16 sub area 7 (NEP/\*07U16) later this year.

The Co-operative representative said the reduction in quota in the TCA as a result of Brexit is also having an effect and from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 he doesn't expect there will be a carryover of nephrops to take into 2023 from 2022.

The Co-operative representative proposed that the regime for July would reduce to 18/9.

All agreed to recommended 18/9 for July.

### **Nephrops FU16**

All agreed to recommended that the fishery be closed for July.

### **Pollack in area 7**

All agreed to recommend the regime for over and under 55ft would remain the same for July.

All agreed to recommend 10/10 for July.

### **Mackerel Hook and Line**

The figures at today's meeting showed an uptake of 31.08%. The SFPA advised there was very little activity this month. The NIFF advised that boats were not out this month due to the bad weather.

All agreed to recommend 3t for July.

### **Under 18 Mackerel**

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The figures at today's meeting showed an uptake of 30.26%.

All agreed to recommend 2t for July

### **Pelagic Issues**

#### **2022 Albacore Tuna Fishery**

The Department advised 34 vessels in the A Fishery and 4 vessels in the B Fishery have been authorised to fish in the 2022 Albacore Tuna Fishery. In accordance with the management arrangements, prior to receiving an authorisation for the fishery each vessel must be verified by the SFPA that it has the appropriate gear on board. Prior to the vessel leaving port to commence fishing, the vessel will need to contact the local Port Office to arrange for inspection". The 2022 fishery will open on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June.

#### **Mackerel Hook and Line Fishery**

The Department advised 35 vessels to date have been issued authorisations to fish in the Mackerel Hook and Line Fishery.

#### **2022 Celtic Sea Herring Fishery**

The Department advised the Celtic Sea Herring Management Advisory Committee held a meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June and the Department is waiting on recommendations for the management of the fishery. The available quota is 615t.

The IFPO requested that if there is a lottery to select vessels, that it be held as early as possible due to the cost of fuel.

The ISWFPO advised the Celtic Sea Herring Management Advisory Committee tried to have a meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> June but there were not enough numbers for a quorum. Another meeting has been fixed for tomorrow 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

#### **2022 Irish Sea Herring Fishery**

The Department asked the QMAC to forward their proposal for the management of the 2022 Irish Sea Herring Fishery. The available quota is 823t.

The ISWFPO queried about the UK requirement for track record to fish for herring in the waters around the Isle of Man (6-12 NM). The Department advised that in 2021 vessels sought this access but did not have the requisite track record to satisfy the UK requirements.

The IS&EFPO queried about swapping out the quota for this fishery. The Department advised that information regarding the fish on the ground should be obtained as this could feed into the recommendations for the management of the fishery this year.

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## 2022 Blue Whiting Fishery

As supported at the May QMAC meeting, the Department advised 2022 Blue Whiting Fishery will close from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022. The Department will start to quota balance the fishery once the fishery is closed and the final landing data is available.

## Quota Balancing

### Quota Balancing 2021 Report

The Department presented 2021 Quota Balancing for Demersal and Pelagic Stocks Report which was circulated to the QMAC before the May QMAC meeting and is now published on the Department's website.

### Pairings in Pelagic Fisheries

The Department provided clarity on queries raised by the ISWFPO at the April QMAC meeting.

In relation to the ISWFPO's query regarding vessels booking in for a fishery as a pair, should the paired vessels be then considered as being in an approved pairing arrangement for the fishery if selected in the lottery?

The Department advised that the identification of partner vessels on the Department's booking-in application form and the entry of vessels as a pair in the draw is to facilitate the allocation of quota taking account of pair fishing in the pelagic fisheries. Each vessel is authorised individually for the fishery in question. The Department further advised it is then a separate issue for the owner of the vessel to seek the SFPA's approval to engage in pair fishing. It is the responsibility of the owner of the vessel to notify the SFPA of his/her intention to engage in pair fishing and approval for pair fishing must be received in writing from the SFPA before fishing commences. This is set down as one of the conditions of the authorisation.

Regarding the ISWFPO's other query whether vessels authorised as a pair following a lottery, who subsequently didn't fish as a pair or fished with other authorised vessels creating a new pairing arrangement should be permitted and if new rules were needed to clarify this matter. The Department advised that if the Department is notified that a vessel or vessels within the pairing arrangement does not wish to or cannot avail of the fishing opportunity after being authorised, then the uncaught quota is taken back into the national quota and allocated to the next vessel(s) on the reserve list.

If the other (i.e. the remaining) vessel or vessels wishes to engage in pair fishing with another vessel or vessels that are also authorised in the fishery, as per the authorisation, the pairing arrangement must be approved by the SFPA prior to engaging in pair fishing. The Department stated respect has to be given to the legal situation and catch limits given out may not be removed because of the actions of a third party. The Department said there is no provision for anyone to transfer quota from boat to boat and clearly this would be a breach of national policy.

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There was discussion between the Department and the ISWFPO on the procedure of selecting vessels in a lottery and the subsequent approval of pairing arrangements by the SFPA. The Department advised that, depending on the fishery, management arrangements may only allow boats to book in for a fishery as a pair.

The Department will examine the information it sends out in terms of management arrangements for fisheries to ensure the rules are clearly set down.

#### **AOB**

**The next Quota Management meeting is scheduled for the 19 July at 2.30pm**

**Sea Fisheries Policy & Management Division**

**21 June 2022**



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