



Quota Management Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date and Time	Thursday 15 th December 2022 at 11.00am
Location	National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty
Chair	Official from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)
Members in National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty	DAFM: 4 attendees Irish South and West Fish Producer Organisation (ISWFPO): 1 member
Members via videoconference	DAFM: 3 attendees Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA): 1 attendee <u>Industry Representatives:</u> Irish Fish Producers Organisation (IFPO): 1 member National Inshore Fisheries Forum (NIFF): 1 member Irish South & East Fish Producer Organisation (ISEFPO): 1 member Irish Fish Processors and Exporters Association (IFPEA): 1 member Killybegs Fishermens Organisation (KFO): 1 member
Apologies	Irish Islands Marine Resource Organisation (IIMRO)

1. Conflict of Interest

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

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The draft minutes from the November QMAC meeting were circulated to the QMAC members for comments before today's meeting. The Department advised they received no observation from any QMAC members regarding the minutes prior to the meeting. The Department further advised that it would publish the meeting minutes on the Department website when it is publishing the January Fishery Management Notices.



3. Swaps

The Department advised that the following swaps had been completed since the last QMAC meeting and the figures were included in the white fish sheets.

Swap 1 – Belgium

BEL to IRL

50t HKE/571214 (2023)

IRL to BEL

50t SRX/67AKXD

Swap 2 – UK

UK to IRL

25t NEP/07. (2022)

25t NEP/*07U16 (2022)

50t NEP/07. (2023)

IRL to UK

45t POK/56-14

45t POK/*2AC4C

30t ANF/56-14

5t ANF/*2AC4C

5t COD/5BE6A

1t COD/5W6-14

1t SOL/7FG.

Swap 3 – UK

UK to IRL

50t HAD/5BC6A

IRL to UK

50t POK/56-14

Swap for discussion:

None

Other swap items discussed:

Crab effort BSA

It was agreed at the November QMAC meeting to review the crab uptake figures at the December QMAC. There is 110t of mackerel in order to swap in 20,000k/w days if needed based on the ratio from the previous swap this year.

The SFPA advised that the uptake level for November was low, and that the final figure will be close to Ireland's quota or be exceeded slightly. The SFPA will provide an update to the Department with up dated landing figures next week. The SFPA advised that they will contact the port officers to upload any outstanding paper log sheets. The industry advised they will contact vessel owners to ensure that the paper log sheets will be close off with the port officers.

The Department advised that when the final end of year figures with be provided by the SFPA in January a swap will be persuaded if required.

Next round for UK swaps

The Department advised the final round to swap with the UK is the 17th of January.



4. Whitefish - Discussion on particular regimes

The Department advised that the EU-UK negotiations is complete and the agreed Written Record is expected to be signed by Council by the 20th of December.

On the basis the regimes are set based on Ireland's full years quota for each of the stocks. The quotas have not yet been set down at EU level and an estimate of the likely quotas was used.

Monkfish in area 6

Provisional full year quota figures show a 20% decrease in Ireland's quota. Ireland 2023 quota is expected to be 342t for 2023. Following discussion, it was recommended that the regime for January be 12/6.

All agreed to support 12/6 for January.

Plaice area 7 F and G

The Department advised the Committee that it has had discussions with Belgium regarding the commitment to swapping the Hague quota of plaice for monk in 2023, as in the previous way. There was discussion if another stock could be swapped in instead of monk. Industry representative to continue discussions with their Belgium counterparts exploring other opportunities.

All agreed to support 0.50/0.25 for January.

Nephrops FU16

All agreed to recommend closing the fishery for January.

Pollack Area 7

There was a request that the regime be the same for over and under 55ft vessels for January.

All agreed to recommend 5/5 for January.

Greater Sliver Smelt Area 5, 6 and 7

There was discussion on the 2022 fishery where two vessels were authorised in May 2022. Industry representatives advised the vessels authorised did not have a chance to persecute the fishery as authorisations were issued too late. There was a request that authorisations would issue early in 2023. A number of industry representatives advised the Department that their members expressed an interest in this fishery in 2023. The Department outlined the procedure involved opening the fishery and advised it could take up to six weeks before a fishery could be opened. The Department will write to industry representatives seeking their recommendations of management arrangements for the 2023 fishery.

All agreed to recommend closing the fishery for January.



Spur Dogfish

This is a new targeted fishery for 2023 and is subject to the landing obligation where the fish can no longer be discarded. The Department advised caution in how the fishery is managed as the last time Ireland had a spurdog fishery was 2010 and it is possible that the market for spurdog, in the short-term, might be limited. The Department gave an overview of the fish characterises and market issues. It also advised that there would be a by catch in mixed whitefish fisheries. The Department advised the Ministers intention to write to BIM to request that BIM identify and explore market and processing opportunities and how to optimise the return for the fishery. The Department expressed the views of the Minister to have it primarily for the inshore fleet as in the past, it has mainly been an inshore fishery.

There was a discussion on the markets for spur dogfish with industry representatives stating they would engage with BIM is exploring market opportunities and advised of strong markets in the UK and Germany and France. Some industry representatives also suggested taht the fishery should be for all vessels as bigger vessels have also caught the fish offshore.

There was discussion on getting the high survivability exemption with industry representatives expressing the view it should be fast tracked. The Department outline the procedure to seek the high survivability exemption or a de-minimis provision and advised it would be later in the year before it could be attained. The Department will include the request in the Ministers letter to BIM. The Department also advised that there will be a conservation provision that will require that large breeding spurdog over 100cm should be avoided and if caught must be landed but cannot be used for human consumption. The Department will advise industry of this requirement when circulating the Fisher Management Notices. It will not be given legal effect until an SI is introduced in respect of the TAC and quota Regulation. The Department will include the request in the Ministers letter to BIM.

It was recommended to set a small regime to by-catch of the fish in January.

All agreed to recommend 0.25/0.25 for January.

Whiting in area 7b-k

There was discussion on the state of the stock with the Department offering caution on the state of the stock in the Celtic Sea. Industry representatives advised that the change in technical measures has reduced catches but are optimistic the fishery will improve in the long run.

All agreed to recommend 30/15 for January.

Hook and Line Mackerel

There was a very short discussion on this fishery and the NIFF considered that there will not be any fishery during January as the fish are not available. While the proposal was for a 5 tonne allocation, this is not workable as the management arrangements are not in place. On this basis it is recommended that there is zero quota for January.



Under 18 Mackerel

All agreed to recommend 2t for January.

Pelagic Issues

North West Herring

The Department advised the Committee the Minister is currently examining the request for a review of the North West Herring policy. The Minister must satisfy himself that there is satisfactory evidence of changed circumstances to justify a policy review. If the Minister so decides, the review would be comprised of a detailed paper setting out the pertinent issues. This paper would be made available under public consultation.

The Minister would consider all submissions made under this public consultation to inform his decision on the policy.

The Department advised the fishery will not open until the Minister has made a decision.

2023 Atlantio Scandian Herring Polyvalent fishery

The Department advised that booking in for polyvalent vessels closed on 13 December with 7 pairs booked in for the 2023 fishery. A lottery to select a pair of pelagic vessels to participate in the fishery will be held on 22 December 2022.

2023 Boarfish

The Department advised the Committee authorisations and quota notifications for the 2023 fishery will issue as soon as the Minister makes a decision on the 2023 management arrangements.

2023 Mackerel

The Department advised the Committee authorisations and quota notifications for the 2023 Mackerel Fisheries will issue as soon as the Minister makes a decision on the management arrangements. There was a discussion on if there was a need for a contingency of 1,500t given the cut to the 2023 quota and that the 2022 Mackerel RSW and Mackerel Tier 1 and Tier 2 fisheries is expected to be fully quota balanced by the third week in January.

The Department advised it has begun quota balancing the 2022 Mackerel Tier 1 & 2 Fishery which closed on the 30/11/2022. Provisional quota balancing statements will issue in due course. The 2022 Mackerel RSW Fishery is due to close on 20th December. The Department will commence quota balancing the fishery once the fishing period has ended.

The Department further advised the contingency set aside for 2023 can be reviewed when allocating 100% allocations plus any balancing adjustments.

There was a discussion on the swapping in of Herring in area 4AB to cover by-catches in the Mackerel fishery. Department advised the mackerel policy allows for 100t to be taken off the top



of the mackerel quota as currency to secure a Herring 4AB swap in 2023. The Department further advised vessel that catch more than 5% by-catch of herring in area 4AB will be subject to quota balancing with balancing adjustment recouped from another stock.

Access to UK Waters 2023

The Department advised following the update at the November QMAC meeting, the Commission have advised that all applications have been transmitted to the UK Administration for them to issue UK Licences.

When the Department receives notification from the Commission that UK licences have been issued directly to relevant vessels, the Department will then proceed to generating and issuing an Access Authorisation to each vessel. In order to fish in the UK EEZ, a vessel must hold a UK licence and an Authorisation covering access. Access Authorisations can only be issued to vessels that are fully licensed and registered.

As soon as the Department receive an update from the Commission, the Department will proceed with generating access authorisations for 2023 and issuing them to all relevant licence holders

AOB

None

The next Quota Management meeting is scheduled for the 16th of January at 2.30pm

Sea Fisheries Policy & Management Division

15 December 2022