



Quota Management Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date and Time	Thursday 20 th July 2023 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: 2 attendees Irish South & West Fish Producer Organisation (ISWFPO): 1 member
Members via videoconference	DAFM: 5 attendees Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA): 2 attendees <u>Industry Representatives:</u> Co-ops Umbrella Group: 1 member and 1 observer Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation (KFO): 1 member and 1 observer 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 & Exporters Association (IFPEA): 1 member

1. **Conflict of Interest**

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

2. **Minutes of previous meeting**

The draft minutes from the June QMAC meeting were circulated to the QMAC members prior to today's meeting. The Department advised they received no observation from any QMAC members regarding the minutes prior to the meeting. The minutes were taken as read and will be published on the Department website when publishing the August Fishery Management Notices.

3. **Swaps**

The following swaps were agreed following the last QMAC meeting and have been included in the whitefish sheets.

Swap 1

DEU to IRL:
30t POK/1N2AB.

IRL to DEU:
30t COD/1N2AB.



Swap 2

FRA to IRL:

6t COD/5W6-14

IRL to FRA:

6t COD/5BE6A

Swap 3

BEL to IRL:

40t ANF/56-14

60t HKE/571214

50t ANF/07.

10t SOL/7FG.

IRL to BEL:

275,000kw days BSA Demersal

40t PLE/7FG.

10t SOL/07A

Swap 4

FRA to IRL:

130t HAD/7X7A34

20t ANF/56-14

50t HKE/571214

35t ANF/07

IRL to FRA:

100t SRX/67AKXD

150t WHG/7X7A-C

50t MAC/2CX14-

Swap 5

This swap was not included in the whitefish sheets as it hasn't been transferred by the Commission yet.

UK to IRL:

40t ANF/07.

IRL to UK:

100t LIN/*04C. (Use of area)

The KFO outlined concerns about the swaps that should be carried out at this stage of the year. It was felt that some stocks could be more valuable to Ireland later in the year and that Ireland should take a cautious approach to swaps for the moment.

The Department also reminded industry of the process regarding swaps – swap proposals should only come to the Department from the administrations of other Member States and the UK or the Irish industry representatives, (not POs of other Member States or UK POs).

List of swaps for discussion

Swap 1

The following swap was sent to the Department by the IS&WFPO.

UK to IRL:

52t HKE/571214

75t HAD/7X7A34

10t NEP/*07U16

IRL to UK:

40t MAC/2CX14-

110t WHG/7X7A-C

6t COD/7XAD34

Following discussions, it was agreed that Nephrops is not a priority stock for Ireland at this time and should look to increase the quantity of Haddock and Hake instead of the 10t of Nephrops. It was recommended to reduce the amount of Mackerel and Cod to 10t and 3t respectively and that the Whiting can be increased. The IS&WFPO will revert back to the UK PO to amend this swap proposal.



Swap 2

The following swap was sent to the Department by the IS&WFPO.

UK to IRL:

60t HKE/571214
60t HAD/7X7A34
30t HAD/07A.
10t NEP/*07U16
10t NEP/07.

IRL to UK:

60t POK/56-14
7t POK/*2AC4C
100t LIN/6X14
100t LIN/*04-C
5t COD/7XAD34
15t COD/5BE6A
30t MAC/2CX14-

The Department advised that there is 7t of POK/*2AC4C remaining for 2023. Following discussions on the quantities and stocks being offered, the recommendation was to amend the swap proposal. It was recommended to try get 90t of HAD/7X7AD34 instead of the 60t and the 30t HAD/07A offered and could remove the Nephrops. Due to the remaining mackerel available to swap (77t), it was recommended to reduce the quantity to 10t and also reduce COD/5BE6A to 5t. It was agreed that the quantity of Ling could be increased if necessary. The IS&WFPO will revert back to the UK PO with an amended swap proposal.

Swap 3

The UK administration contacted the Department with the following swap:

UK to IRL:

30t HKE/571214

IRL to UK:

2t COD/7XAD34
3t SOL/7HJK.

As the next round of swaps deadline is the 22nd of August it was recommended that this should be put on hold for the moment as there is a lot of interest in Sole 7HJK for swapping and it would be too early in the year to swap out large quantities.

Swap 4

The UK administration contacted the Department with the following swap:

UK to IRL:

10t HKE/571214

IRL to UK:

10t POK/56-14
7t POK/*2AC4C

As the 7t of POK/*2AC4C has been included in swap 2, it was recommended that it should be removed from this swap and increase the quantities of POK/56-14 to 14t. The Department will revert back to the UK administration with the amended swap.

Swap 5

The Spanish administration contacted the Department with the following swap:

ESP to IRL:

100t WHB/1X14

IRL to ESP:

10t SOL/7HJK.

It was agreed that Ireland does not require the Blue Whiting offered and it was recommended not to support this swap. The Department will inform Spanish administration.

Swap 6

The UK administration contacted the Department with the following swap:

UK to IRL:

60t HKE/571214

IRL to UK:

5t COD/7XAD34
5t SOL/7HJK.



As this swap is similar to swap 3 it was agreed to hold off on this swap for the moment. The Department will revert back to the UK administration.

Swap 7

The IS&EFPO advised that a French PO had contacted them looking for Plaice in area 7HJK and Sole 7HJK and could offer Hake, Haddock in area 7b-k or Monk in area 7 in return. They also inquired if Ireland had any Horse Mackerel in area 7d available. The Department advised that there is 3t remaining of the Horse Mackerel. It was recommended to be careful with swapping any amount of Sole in 7HJK for the moment. The IS&EFPO will look at the figures and revert back to the French PO.

Other swaps for discussion

The KFO advised that they are in discussions with a French PO regarding a swap of 200t of Norwegian Cod area 1N2AB and 20-30t of Mackerel for significant amounts of Haddock and Hake. The KFO hopes to have a proposal sent to the Department before the next QMAC meeting.

Whitefish - Discussion on particular regimes

Cod in Area 6b

Although a swap for 6 tonnes was secured after the last QMAC meeting, due to the uptake being 86% it was felt that the current regime of 0.05/0.05 should remain for August in order to avoid a choke situation.

All agreed to recommend 0.05/0.05 for August.

Haddock area 6a

The remaining quota of Haddock in area 6a is 269t with projected landings of 87t for July. For this reason, it was recommended to reduce the regime for August.

All agreed to recommend 16/8 for August.

Haddock area 7b-k

Following discussions, it was agreed that the regime for August could be increased from 9/6/3 to 12/8/4, however as the uptake is at 64%, this stock will need to be monitored.

All agreed to recommend 12/8/4 for August.

Haddock area 7a.

Due to the uptake of 51.89% industry recommended an increase from 15/10/5 to 18/12/6.

All agreed to recommend 18/12/6 for August.

Hake

Due to the increased quotas from swaps completed from the last meeting it was recommended to increase the regime.

All agreed to recommend 18/9 for August.



Monk area 6

It was agreed to increase this regime following a request, as the uptake was at 55%.

All agreed to recommend 10/5 for August.

Nephrops in area 7

The uptake figure is currently at 70% with 2,022t remaining, of which 1,083t is included for Nephrops in FU16 of sub area 7. Following a discussion on the comparison of last year's run rate to this year, it was recommended to reduce the regime.

All agreed to recommend 20/10 for August.

Pollack area 6

Due to the uptake level of 28.45%, industry recommended to increase the regime from 1/0.50 to 1.50/0.75.

All agreed to recommend 1.50/0.75 for August.

Pollack area 7

Due to the uptake level of 47.16%, industry recommended to increase the regime from 12/12 to 15/15.

All agreed to recommend 15/15 for August.

Spur Dog

The IS&WFPO advised that no meeting has been held yet but have contacted BIM to discuss dates for a meeting, and stated they will contact BIM again to request an update on the work carried out so far on market opportunities. Industry expressed concerns in relation to the size of fish allowed to catch due to landing obligations and current market prices for smaller sized fish. The IFPEA advised that in order to develop a market there would need to be a consistent supply, which is the main issue here rather than size. They stated that building up the market again could take two to three years. It was recommended the regime could be increased for August.

All agreed to recommend 20/20 for August.

Hook and Line mackerel

Following discussions, it was recommended that the regime remain the same for August. It was recommended that the Department notify the industry when the uptake figure reaches 340t, with the fishery to be closed when the uptake reaches 370t.

All agreed to recommend 10t for August.

Under 18 Mackerel

All agreed to recommend 3t for August.



Pelagic issues

Albacore Tuna

The Department advised that the 2023 Fishery opened on the 23rd of June. The SFPA advised on Monday 17th July that 20 vessels are currently prosecuting the fishery in the Bay of Biscay. 757t of the available 3,257t had been recorded as caught.

Irish Sea Herring

The Department advised that a submission in relation to management arrangements has been prepared for the Minister.

Celtic Sea Herring Main

The Department advised booking in for the 2023 fishery has been advertised with a closing date of the 31st of July. A lottery to select vessels to participate in the 2023 fishery will be held on the 8th of August. The fishery will open on the 20th of August.

Blue whiting

As supported by Industry, the Department advised it will seek to close the 2023 Blue Whiting fishery by Fisheries Management Notice with effect from 01 August 2023. The Department will start to quota balance the fishery once the fishery is closed.

Atlanto Scandian Herring

As a swap of Saithe in Norwegian waters of 1 and 2 was secured, the Department advised they will issue revised authorisations to allow access to Norwegian waters in time for vessels to plan for the autumn fishery. The Department plans on issuing the authorisations next week and requested that a further swap of Saithe in Norwegian waters of 1 and 2 should try to be secured.

Following the request from the Industry and discussion at the May and June QMAC meetings, the Department advised that a letter has been drafted for the Commission in relation to Ireland's ability to secure quota of Saithe and Haddock in Norwegian waters, in order to prosecute the Atlanto Scandian Herring and Arctic Cod fisheries. The letter was discussed and will seek a quota exchange mechanism similar to the existing article (9.2) of the Council Regulation (EU) 2023/194. This was supported by industry and the letter will issue shortly.

Quota Balancing

Demersal Quota Balancing

The Department advised that Final Quota Balancing Statements have issued for May Fishery.

Annual Quota Balancing Report.

The Department circulated the Annual Quota Balancing report prior to today's meeting and advised that it would be published on the Department website.



AOB

The KFO requested that small eyed ray be added to the whitefish sheet in order to aid discussion on swaps. The Department will add the stock to next month's whitefish sheets.

The next Quota Management meeting is scheduled for the Friday 18th August at 11am.

Sea Fisheries Policy & Management Division