



Quota Management Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date and Time	Friday 17 th November 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: 3 attendees Irish South & West Fish Producer's Organisation (ISWFPO): 1 member
Members via videoconference	DAFM: 3 attendees Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA): 2 attendees <u>Industry Representatives:</u> Co-ops Umbrella Group: 1 a and 1 guest Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation (KFO): 1 member Irish Fish Producers Organisation (IFPO): 1 member National Inshore Fisherman's Association (NIFA): 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 Irish Islands Marine Resource Organisation (IIMRO): Sent there apologies before the meeting.

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 October 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 the Department further advised that it would publish the meeting minutes on the Department website when it is publishing the October Fisheries Management Notices.

3. **Whitefish - Discussion on particular regimes**

The Department informed the committee that Article 15.9 of the CFP Regulation, which allows Member States to carry over, into the following year, up to 10% of their (unused) quota for stocks that are subject



to the landing obligation had been applied and that today's whitefish sheet had been updated accordingly.

Crab effort BSA

The Department advised the committee that the crab effort in the BSA was at 119.86% with an excess of 16,522kw days. The industry sought clarity from the SFPA regarding how the uptake kept changing and why the June figures have decreased. The SFPA advised that the issue may relate to the submission of late logsheets and that this is an ongoing issue and that the figures were correct and that they are currently examining the request for data received from industry and will circulate the information when it is available. Industry expressed concerns that the delay in the reporting is having an impact on the management of the fishery and that the issue needed to be addressed.

It is recommended to try secure a swap of between 24,000 and 26,000 kw days in order to re-open the fishery. The details of the swaps are outlined in the swaps note attached. Industry requested that the fishery is reopened as soon as the swap is secured.

The Department outlined the process of re opening the fishery, that a fishery management notice would be needed and advised that the fishery would be reopened as soon as possible after securing the relevant swap from French authorities.

Cod in Area VIb By-catch fishery

Due to the uptake being 87.23% it was felt that the current regime of 0.05/0.05 should remain for December in order to avoid a choke situation.

All agreed to recommend 0.05/0.05 for December.

Nephrops in area FU16

There was a recommendation to increase the regime from 16/8. There were discussions as to whether the fishery should be increased to 20/10 or 18/9. Final recommendation made was for 18/9 and it was decided that unused quota could be carried over to 2024.

All agreed to recommend 18/9 for December.

Haddock area 6b

The available data on the white fish sheets shows the remaining quota including contingency of 3t. Industry recommended reducing the regime down to the lowest amount of 50kg to keep the fishery open for December.

All agreed to recommend 0.05/0.05 for December.

Monk area 7

There was a request from industry to increase this regime from 15/7.5 to 18/9. It was supported by all as the uptake was 87.80%.

All agreed to recommend 18/9 for December.

Spur Dog

There was a discussion on should this regime be increased for December, but it was felt that the regime should stay the same as the uptake was low.

All agreed to recommend 30/30 for December.

Haddock area 7a.



Due to the uptake of 85.89% industry recommended an increase from 12/8/4 to 18/12/6.

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

Pollack area 6

Due to the uptake level of 88.34% and the reaming quota including contingency of 23t industry recommended to decrease the regime from 20/10 to 5/2.50.

All agreed to recommend 5/2.50 for December.

Greater Sliver Smelt

The Department advised that the vessels selected for the fishery has withdrawn from the fishery and that the quota is now available for swaps. Due to there being no vessel authorised to fish for this stock the Department advised that it would be need to changing the regime from open to closed and set a 0 catch limit.

The recommendation is 0/0 for December.

Skates and Rays

Due to the uptake level of 40.20% and a request from the IFPO, industry recommended to increase the regime from 36/18 to 40/20.

All agreed to recommend 40/20 for December.

Hook and Line Mackerel

It was recommended that the Department notify the industry when the uptake figure reaches 350t, with the fishery to be closed when the uptake reaches 380t.

All agreed to recommend 20t for December.

Under 18 Mackerel

All agreed to recommend 5t for December.

North West Herring Under 20m Non ring fence

All agreed to recommend 10t for less than 15 meters in length overall vessels and 0.50t for vessels greater than or equal to 15 meters in length overall and less than 20 metres in length overall for December.

4. Pelagic issues

Boarfish

The Department advised that on the basis of the application of Article 15.9 of the CFP regulation, 1664.78t of boarfish was made available to this fishery, revised catch limits were sent out on the 10th of November 2023.

Celtic Sea Sentinel

The Department has issued authorisations for Period 1 of the fishery and will be in contact with the vessels taking part in Period 2 of the fishery next week.

Hook and Line Mackerel



The Department outlined that the current management arrangements for the 2023 fishery will expire on the 31st of December and new management arrangement arrangements would need to be approved by the Minister prior to the opening of the 2024 fishery.

Pelagic Fisheries 2024

The Department informed the committee that there will be email sent in the coming weeks for recommendations for the management of the 2024 fisheries. The main fisheries will be Boarfish, Horse Mackerel and Mackerel and Atlanto Scandian Herring. The Department advised it would be January 2024 before a lottery could take place for the Atlanto Scandian Herring Fishery.

5. Swaps

Swap proposal for discussion

UK swap

UK to IRL:
150t NEP/07.

IRL to UK:
200t LIN/6x14
1t COD/5BE6A

This swap was proposed by ISWFPO. The 150t of Nephrops is compiled of 100t balance from previous swap agreed and 50t for the 200t of ling and 1t of cod. The Department advised that the next round of swaps with the UK is the 5th of December. All supported the swap and the department will add it to the list going to the commission on the 5th of December.

Other swap issues

Blue Marlin

The Department advised that Ireland has an uptake of 1.25t of Blue Marlin BUM/ATLANT and no quota in this area. The Blue Marlin was a by catch of the Albacore Tuna fishery. The Department informed the committee that according to Fides, France is the only member state that has available quota. It was recommended that the Department will contact France enquiring what stock they would require for the 1.25t of Blue Marlin.

Crab effort BAS

The Department advised that the following amended swap proposal was sent to France.

FRA to IRL: IRL to FRA:

24,000kw days Crab effort BSA 65 t of MAC/2CX14- 15t of JAX/2A-14 1t of SOL/7HJK

Prior to the QMAC meeting the French administration refused the amended swap proposal but advised that they could try facilitate the previous version of the swap of:

FRA to IRL: IRL to FRA:

14,000kw days Crab effort BSA 35 t of MAC/2CX14- 15t of JAX/2A-14 1t of SOL/7HJK



Based on the figures on the whitefish sheets the uptake is 119.86% and the quota has been exceeded by 16,522kw days. Industry supported the swap for 14,000kw day and recommended the Department to try secure a second swap of 10,000 to 12,000kw days. Based on the information received from France that to obtain the extra 10,000kw days it would require 55t of mackerel. Industry recommended offering 55t of mackerel for 12,000kw days and if France won't accept the swap offer 55t for 10,000kw days. It was also discussed if France require the mackerel as 2024 quota instead of 2023 quota it was recommended to support the request. The Department will contact the French administration with both swap proposals.

6. Quota Balancing

Demersal Quota Balancing

The Department advised that Final Quota Balancing Statements for the September Demersal Fishery have issued.

Pelagic Quota Balancing

Provisional quota balancing statements have issued for the 2023 Celtic Sea Herring Main Fishery Period 1, 2 and 3. The Department also advised there is no balancing adjustment necessary for vessels authorised in the 2023 Albacore Tuna Fishery following receipt of quality approved trip data from the SFP. Therefore quota balancing for the 2023 Albacore Tuna Fishery is now complete.

Order of deduction in the recoupment of Quota Balancing Adjustments

There was a discussion on adding Boarfish (BOR/All Areas) to the "order" of deduction" in the recoupment of balancing adjustments in respect of unauthorised landings of pelagic stock in a particular area where it is unlikely that the vessel will receive a catch limit for that particular pelagic stock within the calendar year or following year.

Industry representatives agreed to recommend a revised order of deduction for recouping balancing adjustments where a vessel is unlikely to receive a catch limit of that particular stock within the calendar year or the following year.

1. Herring (either North-West Herring (HER/6AS7BC), Irish Sea Herring (HER/07A/MM) or Atlanto-Scandian Herring (HER/1/2-))
2. Blue Whiting (WHB/1X14)
3. Boarfish (BOR/All Areas)
4. Mackerel (MAC/2CX14)

AOB

There was a request for the following two items to be added to the December QMAC meeting agenda:

- 2 month regime for all Nephrops stocks
- Opening the FU16 Nephrops fishery in January

There was a request also for the Greater Sliver Smelt draw for the fishery to be held early in 2024.

The next Quota Management meeting is scheduled for Monday 11th of December at 2pm.

An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Sea Fisheries Policy & Management Division

17 November 2023

