

**Environment, Marine & Fisheries  
Group**  
Marine & Fisheries Division



Department of  
**Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn  
**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil  
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department o'  
**Fairmin, Environment  
an' Kintra Matthers**

[www.daera-ni.gov.uk](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)

Your reference: **Wrasse - N.I**

Our reference: **DAERA/26-217**

██████████ via  
██████████ [@googlemail.com](mailto:██████████@googlemail.com)

Marine & Fisheries Division  
Sea Fisheries Policy & Grants  
Rathkeltair House  
Market Street  
Downpatrick  
BT30 6AJ

Email: [seafisheries@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:seafisheries@daera-ni.gov.uk)

Date: 23 April 2026

Dear ██████████

### **Environmental Information Regulations 2004**

With regard to your request for information received by the Department on 25 March 2026 which sought the following information on **Wrasse – N.I.**

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds the information you requested, which is attached at **Annex A**.

If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

If you are unhappy with the manner in which your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review by the Department.

If you wish to do so, please contact The Review Section either by e-mailing [daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk) or by post at The Department of

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If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.



Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Data Protection & Information Management Branch, Floor 2, Jubilee House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE, SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review of the Department's decision.

Yours sincerely,



**Sea Fisheries Policy Branch**

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## Annex A Information requested

1. Any stock assessments, population baseline data, or scientific surveys held by the Department relating to wrasse species (including Ballan, Corkwing, Goldsinny, Rock Cook and Cuckoo wrasse).

***DAERA does not hold any species-specific stock assessments, population baselines, or dedicated scientific surveys for wrasse species in Northern Ireland waters (Ballan, Corkwing, Goldsinny, Rock Cook or Cuckoo wrasse).***

2. Any Appropriate Assessments, environmental impact assessments, or other ecological evaluations carried out in relation to the removal of wrasse from reef habitats in Northern Ireland.

***The department does not have this information.***

3. Any records held relating to the geographic catch locations of wrasse exported from Northern Ireland (e.g. ICES rectangles, landing locations, or fisheries districts).

***Between 2015 and 2025, wrasse landings were declared at Northern Ireland ports from ICES sub-rectangles 36E4, 37E4, 38E4, 39E3, and 39E4.***

4. Details of any species-specific management measures currently in place for wrasse fisheries, including catch limits, quotas, size restrictions, seasonal closures, or licensing conditions.

***No management measures (legislation or otherwise) currently exist for fishing for wrasse in Northern Ireland.***

***The Department is introducing a licence condition for a closed season and a minimum conservation reference size.***

5. Any records held relating to mortality, welfare monitoring, or survival rates of wrasse during capture, holding, or transport prior to export.

***As part of animal health approvals, the operator is required to hold mortality records, which are checked by DAERA's Fish Health Inspectorate on export certification inspection.***

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