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## Category A (10 metre and under) Licence: Conditions (91) Producer Organisations

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**WITHIN THIS LICENCE ANY REFERENCE TO AN EU REGULATION IS A REFERENCE TO THAT REGULATION AS IT FORMS PART OF UNITED KINGDOM DOMESTIC LAW BY VIRTUE OF SECTION 3 OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (WITHDRAWAL) ACT 2018 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCHEDULE 8 (1) OF THAT ACT.**

### **AUTHORITY/LIMITATIONS**

The authority granted by this licence, and limitations to that authority, are contained in the Schedule which forms part of this licence.

### **CONDITIONS**

This licence is subject to the following conditions:

#### **General**

1. The vessel to which this licence relates shall be registered as a fishing vessel under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995, or in the Channel Islands or Isle of Man.

2. The vessel shall not pair trawl with a vessel which does not hold a licence to fish granted by one of the Fisheries Ministers in the UK. The vessel shall not pair trawl with a vessel from another country without the prior approval of the UK competent authorities. For quota management purposes catches by the pair team shall be attributed to and counted against the quota of the vessel landing the fish.

3. The vessel to which this licence relates and which is, by virtue of any condition in this licence, required to complete and submit a fishing logbook, landing declaration and/or transshipment declaration, must do so for each fishing trip in accordance with:

a) Article 14 of Council Regulation (EC) 1224/2009, and Title III and Annex X of Commission Regulation (EU) 404/2011 for logbooks; and

b) Article 23 of Council Regulation (EC) 1224/2009, and Title III and Annex X of Commission Regulation (EU) 404/2011 for landing declarations; and

c) Article 21 of Council Regulation (EC) 1224/2009, and Title III and Annex X of Commission Regulation (EU) 404/2011 for EU transshipment declarations.

4.1. Masters of vessels who in the same trip, fish or transit in:

- a) ICES sub area IVc and VIId; **or**
- b) ICES divisions VIId and VIIe

must complete and submit a logbook and landing declaration in accordance with condition 3.

4.2. Vessels subject to condition 4.1 above must record the time, date and position of crossing the ICES boundary on each occasion in the logbook and record the quantities of all species on board at the time of crossing.

5.1(a) The vessel to which this licence relates shall not retain on board, land or trans-ship any sea fish of the descriptions set out in Part I of the annex to the schedule to this licence in the sea areas listed therein. Any sea fish so caught must be returned to the sea immediately.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph a), where any sea fish of the descriptions set out in Part I of the annex to the schedule to this licence is subject to the landing obligation in article 15 of Regulation (EU) 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, this licence shall not authorise fishing for any sea fish of those descriptions. Any such fish caught shall, in any event, be retained on board, landed and shall count against quota.

5.2(a) The vessel to which this licence relates shall not retain on board, land or trans-ship, fish taken in accordance with this licence in excess of the amounts specified in relation to each such species in the Schedule and at Part II of the Annex to the Schedule.

(b) Notwithstanding the provision of paragraph a), where any sea fish of the descriptions set out at Part II of the annex to the schedule of this licence is subject to the landing obligation in article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council it shall be retained on board, recorded, landed and shall be included in calculating the total amount of fish of that description landed by and attributed to the vessel for the relevant period.

6. The vessel to which this licence relates shall not trans-ship sea fish (except sea fish used as fresh bait) to or from a vessel of over 10 metres overall length unless the receiving vessel is licensed to receive trans-shipped fish.

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7. This licence and any variations granted by, or on behalf of, any of the fisheries licensing authorities, shall either:
- a) be carried on board the vessel to which it relates at all times and must be produced to a British Sea Fishery Officer or Marine Enforcement Officer on demand ; or
  - b) within 5 working days of a request by any British Sea Fishery Officer or Marine Enforcement Officer to the master, be presented during normal office hours to a Fishery Office or Marine Office nominated by the master at the time of the request.
8. Vessel owners must accurately complete landing declaration or form NEP1 (landings of nephrops by vessels 10 metres and under in overall length) in respect of all landings over 12kgs of nephrops and submit it on a weekly basis to the Fishery Office at which the vessel is administered.
9. The vessel to which this licence relates shall only carry on board, electrical generating equipment required for safe navigation and safe operation of the vessel. The vessel shall not carry on board nor deploy into the sea any electrical equipment, including electrical generators, cables, probes, grids or any other equipment capable of transmitting electrical currents to the seabed.
10. Where the vessel to which this licence relates is expressly permitted at section 3 to fish for shellfish, the vessel owner must accurately complete the relevant return in respect of all landings **including Nil returns** of lobsters and crabs (DAERA: form MSR1) and submit it by the 15<sup>th</sup> calendar day of the month immediately following the month to which the return refers, to the Fishery Office at which the vessel is administered.

### **Prohibition on fishing in Strangford Lough**

11.1 The vessel to which this licence relates is prohibited at all times from fishing in Strangford Lough, County Down, Northern Ireland, subject to the derogation in 11.3.

11.2 “Strangford Lough” means the area of sea to the northwest of an imaginary straight line drawn from Killard Point, County Down (54° 18.0’N and 5° 31.0’W) to Ballyquintin Point, County Down (54° 20.0’N and 5° 29.0’W).

11.3 By way of derogation from 11.1 the vessel to which this licence relates may deploy fishing gear within Strangford Lough if it holds, and complies with the conditions of, a valid

“Strangford Lough Fishery Licence”

Issued by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland).

### **UK Celtic Sea Technical Measures**

12.1 For the purposes of the conditions below, the Celtic Sea Protection Zone shall mean ICES divisions 7f, 7g, that part of ICES division 7h which is north of latitude 49° 30' N and that part of ICES division 7j which is north of latitude 49° 30' N and east of longitude 11° W.

12.2 Where the vessel fishes using bottom otter trawls or bottom seines (OTB, OTT, OTP, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBN, TBS, TB, TX) in those parts of British fishery limits which fall within the Celtic Sea Protection Zone it must use either:

- (a) a codend with minimum 120 mm mesh size;
- (b) a codend with minimum 110 mm mesh size and fitted with a square mesh panel with 120 mm minimum mesh size.

12.3 Where the vessel fishes using otter trawls or bottom seines in those parts of British fishery limits which fall within ICES divisions 7e-j other than those referred to in condition 12.2 above, it must use a codend with minimum 100 mm mesh size, and when fishing west of longitude 5° W it must also use a square mesh panel with minimum 100 mm mesh size.

12.4 Where the vessel fishes using otter trawls or bottom seines in ICES divisions 7e-j, it must use a codend that is constructed of a single twine of a maximum of 6 mm or a double twine of a maximum of 4 mm.

12.5 Where the vessel fishes using otter trawls or bottom seine in ICES divisions 7e-j, other than when targeting nephrops, it must not use or carry on board a strengthening bag<sup>1</sup>.

12.6 The obligation in condition 12.2 does not apply to a vessel which fishes using otter trawls or bottom seines in ICES division 7f within 12 nm of the baseline from which the breadth of the territorial sea adjacent to the United Kingdom is measured, which must instead use a codend with minimum 100 mm mesh size and square mesh panel with minimum 100 mm mesh size.

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12.7 The obligation in conditions 12.2 and 12.3 do not apply to a vessel whose catch comprises 30% or more of nephrops, which must instead use any one of the following four gear configurations in (a)–(d):

- (a) a codend of at least 80 mm mesh size fitted with a square mesh panel with no individual mesh of less than 300 mm (for vessels in excess of 12 metres in length) or a 200 mm square mesh panel (for vessels below 12 metres in length);
- (b) Seltra panel (consists of a top panel of square mesh with no individual mesh of less than 300 mm, placed in a four-panel box section, in the straight section of a codend; is at least 3 metres long; is positioned no more than 4 metres from the codline; is the full width of the top sheet of the box section of the trawl (selvedge to selvedge));
- (c) Nordmøre sorting grid (selectivity device which consists of a rigid grid with a maximum bar spacing of 35 mm and is fitted with a square mesh panel of 120 mm mesh size, positioned between 9 to 12 metres from the codline);
- (d) Netgrid device (a selectivity device consisting of a four-panel section inserted into a two-panel trawl with an inclined sheet of diamond mesh netting with a mesh size of at least 200 mm leading to an escape hole in the top of the trawl).

12.8 The obligation in condition 12.2 does not apply to a vessel whose catch comprises more than 55% anglerfish, hake and megrim combined, which must use a codend with minimum 100 mm mesh size and square mesh panel with minimum 100 mm mesh size.

12.9 The obligation in condition 12.2 does not apply to a vessel which fishes solely in ICES division 7f to the east of longitude 5° W, and whose combined amount of cod, haddock and saithe does not exceed 10%, which may instead use a codend with minimum 80 mm mesh size and a square mesh panel with minimum 120 mm mesh size.

12.10 The obligation in condition 12.2, condition 12.3 or condition 12.6 does not apply to a vessel which fishes west of longitude 5° W in ICES divisions 7e, or in ICES division 7f within 12 nm of the baseline from which the breadth of the territorial sea adjacent to the United Kingdom is measured, provided that the vessel instead uses a 100 mm single twine codend with maximum 5 mm twine thickness, derogating from the twine thickness requirements in 12.4.

12.11 By way of derogation to points 12.2, 12.3 and 12.6 – 12.10 above, vessels of 12 m or less and an engine power of 221 kW or less fishing within 12 nm of the United Kingdom in ICES area 7e east of 5° W, may fish in accordance Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on the conservation of fisheries resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures.

12.12 Square mesh panels as referred to in this condition shall be placed into the top panel of the codend. The rearmost edge of the square mesh panel, which is the part closest to the codline, shall be no more than 9 metres from the codline.

### **Single Area Licencing**

13.1 Where the vessel deploys beam trawls within that part of British Fishery Limits which falls within ICES area 7e east of 5 degrees west ('the relevant area'), it may not fish in any other ICES area within British Fishery Limits during the same voyage. For any voyage where beam trawls are deployed in the relevant area the vessel must depart from and return to (and only to) a UK port.

13.2 The vessel shall be exempt from the provisions in condition 13.1 provided the following requirements are met;

(a) The master, owner or (where appropriate) the charterer vessel contacts the UKFMC at least 4 hours and no more than 8 hours prior to entry into the area in the relevant area and, if requested, facilitates an inspection of the vessel at a position and time provided by the MMO FMC Operations team, prior to commencing fishing operations; and,

(b) the master, owner or (where appropriate) the charterer vessel contacts the UKFMC at least 4 hours and no more than 8 hours before leaving the relevant area and, if requested, facilitates an inspection of the vessel at a position and time provided by the MMO FMC Operations team, before leaving the relevant area.

13.3 The notification at 13.2(a) shall contain the following information:

Subject heading: NOTIFICATION OF ENTRY INTO SOLE RECOVERY ZONE RELEVANT AREA

The name, external identification, and international radio call sign of the vessel;

The name of the master of the vessel;

Date/time/location of intended entry into the area and the intended commencement of fishing activity in the relevant area in the following format:

in respect of the position of entry, the approximate latitude and longitude of the position at which the vessel will enter the area, and

in respect of intended fishing grounds, the ICES statistical rectangles in which fishing operations will be commenced.

The total quantity of sole retained on board in kilograms live weight.

13.4 The notification at 13.2(b) shall contain the following information:

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Subject heading: NOTIFICATION OF EXIT FROM  
SOLE RECOVERY ZONE RELEVANT AREA

The name, external identification, and international radio call sign of the vessel;

The expected date/time/location of exiting the relevant area.

The total quantity of sole retained on board in kilograms live weight.

13.5 If, at the point the vessel enters the area the quantity of sole retained on board is different to the quantity reported in accordance with condition 13.3 above then the master, owner or (where appropriate) the charterer of the vessel must immediately, and before commencing fishing operations, notify the UKFMC of the quantity of sole retained on board.

13.6 The vessel may not be present in the relevant area whilst carrying beam trawls on board other than in accordance with condition 13.1 and 13.2 or when transiting at a speed of greater than six knots (except in the case of force majeure or adverse conditions) or when in port. Beam trawls carried on board the vessel must be properly lashed and stowed in such a way that it may not be used readily and to avoid any doubt of its deployment in the water.

### **Marine Mammal Bycatch Reporting Requirements**

14.1 Where the vessel undertakes fishing activities the result of which causes or contributes to the mortality of or injury to any species of marine mammal, or where such species are taken as bycatch (regardless of whether such catches are retained on board) the master, owner, charterer, as appropriate, of the vessel to which this licence relates must complete and submit to the Marine Management Organisation a marine mammal injury reporting form in accordance with the guidance provided at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/marine-mammal-bycatch-reporting-requirements> no later than 48 hours after the vessel returns to port.

14.2 For the purposes of this licence condition, the term “marine mammal” means any mammal which (a) is morphologically adapted to the marine environment including sea otters and members of the orders Cetacea (whales, dolphins, and porpoises), Pinnipedia, (walrus, seals and sea lions) and Sirenia (dugongs and manatees), or (b) primarily inhabits the marine environment (such as the polar bear); and includes any part of any such marine mammal, including but not limited to its raw, dressed, or dyed fur or skin.

### **Mourne Shore Herring**

15.1 The vessel to which this licence relates is prohibited from fishing for herring in the waters in that part of the Irish Sea (ICES Sea Area VIIa) bounded by the following co-ordinates:

- the east coast of Northern Ireland at latitude 54° 15'N
- latitude 54° 15'N, longitude 05° 50'W
- latitude 53° 50'N, longitude 05° 50'W
- the east coast of Ireland at latitude 53° 50'N.

from 00.01 hours on 21 September to 23.59 hours on 31 December.

15.2 By way of derogation from 15.1 the vessel may deploy drift nets within the restricted area if it holds, and complies with the conditions of, a valid Mourne Shore Herring Fishery licence, as issued by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland).

### **Marine Directorate Scotland– Seasonal Closures**

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16.1 The following seasonal closure areas issued by the Scottish Government (Marine Directorate) apply:

Closure number	Coordinates and description (the closed area is the area of waters bounded by sequentially joining the geographical coordinates)	Closed between
Seasonal closure 1	<b>Long Hole</b> 59° 07.35'N, 0° 31.04'W 59° 03.60'N, 0° 22.25'W 58° 59.35'N, 0° 17.85'W 58° 56.00'N, 0° 11.01'W 58° 56.60'N, 0° 08.85'W 58° 59.86'N, 0° 15.65'W 59° 03.50'N, 0° 20.00'W 59° 08.15'N, 0° 29.07'W	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 23:59 31 <sup>st</sup> March
Seasonal closure 2	<b>Coral Edge</b> 58° 51.70'N, 03° 26.70'E 58° 40.66'N, 03° 34.60'E 58° 24.00'N, 03° 12.40'E 58° 24.00'N, 02° 55.00'E 58° 35.65'N, 02° 56.30'E	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> December – 23:59 28 <sup>th</sup> February
Seasonal Closure 3	<b>Papa Bank</b> 59° 56'N, 03° 08'W 59° 56'N, 02° 45'W 59° 35'N, 03° 15'W 59° 35'N, 03° 35'W	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 23:59 15 <sup>th</sup> March
Seasonal Closure 4	<b>North West Sule</b> 59° 22.130'N, 4° 52.000'W 59° 13.000'N, 4° 52.000'W 59° 13.000'N, 5° 28.000'W 59° 16.850'N, 5° 28.000'W	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> February – 23:59 31 <sup>st</sup> March
Seasonal Closure 5	<b>Stanhope Ground</b> 60° 25N - 001° 45E 60° 25N - 002° 00E 60° 10N - 002° 00E 60° 10N - 001° 45E	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 23:59 30 <sup>th</sup> April
Seasonal Closure 6	<b>Foula Deeps A</b> 60° 17.5'N, 01° 45'W 60° 11.0'N, 01° 45'W 60° 11.0'N, 02° 10'W 60° 20.0'N, 02° 00'W 60° 20.0'N, 01° 50'W	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> November – 23:59 31 <sup>st</sup> December
Seasonal Closure 7	<b>Foula Deeps B.</b> All gear types excluding pelagic gears (purse seine and trawl) 60° 21.0'N - 02° 05'W 60° 22.0'N - 02° 27'W 60° 06.0'N - 02° 27'W 60° 06.0'N - 02° 05'W	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 23:59 15 March
Seasonal Closure 8	<b>Egersund Bank</b> 58° 07.40'N, 04° 33.0'E 57° 53.00'N, 05° 12.0'E 57° 40.00'N, 05° 10.9'E 57° 57.90'N, 04° 31.9'E	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> December – 23:59 31 <sup>st</sup> March
Seasonal Closure 9	<b>East of Fair Isle</b> 59° 40'N - 01° 23'W	

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Closure number	Coordinates and description (the closed area is the area of waters bounded by sequentially joining the geographical coordinates)	Closed between
	59° 40'N - 01° 13'W 59° 30'N - 01° 20'W 59° 00'N - 01° 20'W 59° 00'N - 01° 40'W 59° 10'N - 01° 40'W 59° 10'N - 01° 28'W 59° 30'N - 01° 28'W 59° 40'N - 01° 23'W	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 23:59 15 <sup>th</sup> March
Seasonal Closure 10	<b>West Bank</b> 57° 15'N, 05° 01'E 56° 56'N, 05° 00'E 56° 56'N, 06° 20'E 57° 15'N, 06° 20'E	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 23:59 15 <sup>th</sup> March
Seasonal Closure 11	<b>Revet</b> 57° 28.43'N, 08° 05.66'E 57° 27.44'N, 08° 07.20'E 57° 51.77'N, 09° 26.33'E 57° 52.88'N, 09° 25.00'E	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 23:59 15 <sup>th</sup> March
Seasonal Closure 12	<b>Rabarberen</b> 57° 47.00'N, 11° 04.00'E 57° 43.00'N, 11° 04.00'E 57° 43.00'N, 11° 09.00'E 57° 47.00'N, 11° 09.00'E	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 23:59 15 <sup>th</sup> March
Seasonal Closure 13	<b>Krogbund</b> 56° 56.0'N, 6° 25.0'E 56° 47.0'N, 6° 25.0'E 56° 47.0'N, 6° 55.0'E 56° 56.0'N, 6° 55.0'E	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 23:59 31 <sup>st</sup> March
Seasonal Closure 14	<b>Lille Fiskerbanke</b> 56° 50.0'N, 6° 08.0'E 56° 50.0'N, 5° 52.0'E 56° 38.0'N, 5° 52.0'E 56° 38.0'N, 6° 08.0'E	00:00 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 23:59 31 <sup>st</sup> March

16.2 It is the responsibility of the master to ascertain, before going to sea, which areas have been closed by other fisheries administrations.

### Minimum Size for European Lobster in English Waters

17.1 In English waters west of 2° 56.78' W and south of 52° 0' N, the minimum conservation reference size for European lobster (*Homarus gammarus*) shall be 90 mm.

17.2 In the rest of English waters, west of 2° 56.78' W and north of 52° 0' N, as well as east of 2° 56.78' W, the minimum conservation reference size for European lobster (*Homarus gammarus*) shall be 88 mm.

17.3 All European lobsters shall be measured as the length of the carapace, parallel to the midline, from the back of either eye socket to the distal edge of the carapace (as per Regulation (EU) 2019/1214, Annex IV).

17.4 This licence condition will commence at 00.01hrs on 01 March 2026.

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### **Prohibition from fishing in the Firth of Clyde**

18.1 All UK licenced fishing vessels are prohibited from fishing in the Firth of Clyde (all species - sea and shell fish) unless they have landed any recorded quantity of sea or shell fish from that area on at least one occasion between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2025.

Firth of Clyde being the area enclosed to the landward side of coordinates:

- 55° 00.000' north latitude and 005° 10.120' west longitude,
- 55° 00.000' north latitude and 005° 21.000' west longitude,
- 55° 17.962' north latitude and 005° 47.914' west longitude.
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18.2 Where a vessel is operating under the authority of the Scottish Ministers for the purpose of scientific investigation, an exemption may be granted by the Scottish Ministers.

### **REVOCATION**

19. Any licence in respect of the areas and species covered by this licence, previously issued in respect of the above named vessel, is hereby revoked.