

**Category A (Island Vessels) Licence: Schedule (12)
Over 10m Vessels**

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

1. Subject to the limitations set out below and in the licence-type specific Annexe to this Schedule, and to any prohibition on fishing imposed by order under Section 5 of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967 (as amended) this licence hereby authorises the above-named vessel to fish for all species of sea fish (including shellfish) in British fishery limits excluding those waters lying within 12 miles of the baseline from which the breadth of the territorial sea adjacent to the Isle of Man and Channel Islands respectively is measured, but not extending beyond a line every point of which is equidistant from the nearest points of such baselines adjacent to the United Kingdom and France respectively

2. Subject to Paragraph 5.1, if the above-named vessel is 15 metres or over in overall length, this licence is also a special permit to fish in such part of the Biologically Sensitive Area, as defined in Article 6.1 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1954/2003 as falls within British fishery limits.

LIMITATIONS TO AUTHORITY

3.1 This licence may be revoked, suspended or varied at any time, by a notice communicated in accordance with The Sea Fishing (Licence and Notices) (England) Regulation 2012.

3.2 In accordance with regulation 3(3)(b) of The Sea Fishing (Licence and Notices) (England) Regulation 2012, notices will be published on the www.gov.uk website at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/fishing-vessel-licence-variations

The licence shall also cease to have effect if by virtue of an Order of the Court the licensee has been disqualified from holding a licence in respect of the vessel

4. This licence is invalid if any of the details at Sections 1 to 5 on pages 1 and 2 of the licence change.

SPECIES FOR WHICH YOU MAY NOT FISH:

5.1 Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2.1 of the conditions and in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No. 1954/2003, this licence does not authorise fishing by a vessel 15 metres or over in overall length in any fishery in any area of Western Waters for which the UK has no effort allocation or for which the effort allocation has been exhausted. The fisheries and areas for which the UK has and does not have effort allocations or for which the effort allocation has been exhausted are set out in the following table:

Western Waters area ¹	Fisheries for which effort allocations have been set		
	Demersal species excluding deep-sea species	Scallops ²	Edible and spider crabs
ICES Area Vb , VI	YES	YES	YES
ICES Area VII (excluding VIIId)	YES	YES	YES
VIIId	YES	YES	YES
ICES Area VIII	YES	NO	NO
Biologically Sensitive Area ³	YES	NO	YES

¹ This licence shall only authorise fishing subject to the effort allocations in this table insofar as those fishing areas defined as Western Waters fall within British fishery limits.

² Meaning king scallop (*Pecten maximus*) and queen scallop (*Aequipecten opercularis*)

³ Biologically Sensitive Area, defined as the relevant parts falling within British fishery limits of the area enclosed by the coast of Ireland, to the south of 53°30'N and to the west of 07° 00' W and straight lines sequentially joining the following geographical coordinates:

- a point on the coast of Ireland at latitude 53°30'N
- 53°30'N, 12°00'W
- 53°00'N, 12°00'W

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5.2.1 In addition to the general constraints on effort set out in paragraph 5.1 above, vessels of 15 metres or over in overall length fishing for scallops {including both king scallops (*Pecten maximus*) and queen scallops (*Aequipecten opercularis*)} in British fisheries limits of ICES Area VII (excluding VIIId.), are not authorised to be present in that Area in excess of the specified number of days during the specified period below:

Period	Number of days
00:01hrs 01 April 2022 – 23:59hrs 30 June 2022	65

“A day” shall be any calendar day (midnight to midnight UTC) or part thereof during which the vessel is present in ICES Area VII and absent from port. The specified number of days above is subject to any Scallop Effort Days Notice of Variation (as described in paragraph 5.2.2 below) issued to the individual licence holder in respect of the above named vessel.

Vessels that have exceeded their allocations for preceding periods will receive separate notification of any reductions that apply to their allocation of days for this period

5.2.2 A ‘Scallop Effort Days Notice of Variation’ is a notice which may be issued by the Marine Management Organisation to the individual licence holder of a vessel when that vessel exceeds the specified number of days in a specified period which may from time to time be set out in paragraph 5.2.1 above. The effect of a Scallop Effort Days Notice of Variation is to deduct from a particular period (as specified in the notice) a number of days equal to the number of days exceeded in the previous relevant period. The issuing of a Scallop Effort Days Notice of Variation may be in addition to or instead of any other appropriate enforcement action taken by the Marine Management Organisation.

5.3.1 In addition to the general constraints on effort set out in paragraph 5.1 above, vessels of 15 metres or over in overall length fishing for Edible Crab (*Cancer pagurus*) and Spider Crabs (*Maja squinado*) in ICES Area VII, are not authorised to be present in that Area in excess of the specified number of days during the specified period below:

Period	Number of days
00:01hrs 1st January 2022 – 23:59hrs 31 December 2022	160

“A day” shall be any calendar day (midnight to midnight UTC) or part thereof during which the vessel is present in ICES Area VII and absent from port. The specified number of days above is subject to any Crab Effort Days Notice of Variation (as described in paragraph 5.3.2 below) issued to the individual licence holder in respect of the above named vessel.

Vessels that have exceeded their allocations for preceding periods will receive separate notification of any reductions that apply to their allocation of days for this period

5.3.2 A ‘Crab Effort Days Notice of Variation’ is a notice which may be issued by the Marine Management Organisation to the individual licence holder of a vessel when that vessel exceeds the specified number of days in a specified period which may from time to time be set out in paragraph 5.3.1 above. The effect of a Crab Effort Days Notice of Variation is to deduct from a particular period (as specified in the notice) a number of days equal to the number of days exceeded in the previous relevant period. The issuing of a Crab Effort Days Notice of Variation may be in addition to or instead of any other appropriate enforcement action taken by the Marine Management Organisation.

5.4 Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2.1 of the conditions, this licence does not authorise fishing for herring within the following sea areas:

- (a) in ICES Division VIIa, by any vessel whose overall length exceeds 24.4 metres, except those with a historic track record of fishing in that area for herring, or those in membership of a producer organisation managing a sectoral allocation for North Irish Sea herring.
- (b) in ICES Divisions VII e and f, by any vessel of 22 metres and over registered length.

5.5 This licence does not authorise fishing for queen scallops (*aequipecten opercularis*) in ICES area VIa and VIIa between 00:01 hours on 1st April 2022 and 23:59 hours on 30th June 2022.

6. Unless expressly permitted at section 3, this licence does not authorise the above named vessel to fish by the beam trawl

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- 51°00'N, 11°00'W
 - 49°30'N, 11°00'W
 - 49°30'N, 07°00'W
 - a point on the coast of Ireland at longitude 07°00'W
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method in ICES Division IIa or Sub Area IV, or to fish by the beam trawl method for anglerfish in ICES Sub Area VII, sole in ICES Division VIIa, sole or plaice in ICES Divisions VIIId-g or saithe in Sub Areas VII, VIII. For the purposes of this paragraph, "beam trawl" means, in relation to fishing for whitefish, a net which is kept open by a beam or frame and which is dragged along the seabed.

7. Unless expressly permitted at section 3, this licence does not authorise the above-named vessel to fish for scallops of the species *Pecten maximus* (King Scallops) by means of mechanical dredging gear towed by the vessel.

8.1 Unless expressly permitted at section 3, this licence does not authorise the above-named vessel to fish for shellfish. However, vessels not so authorised may retain on board and land:

- (a) up to 5 lobsters or crawfish per day, caught with pots or nets; and
- (b) up to 25 crabs per day, caught with pots or nets; or
- (c) any shellfish, excluding green crabs, taken as a permitted bycatch, when fishing for other species using towed gear, up to a maximum limit of 10% by weight, of the total catch.

8.2 For the purposes of this paragraph, 'shellfish' means lobsters (*Homarus gammarus*), crawfish (*Palinurus* spp.), edible crabs (*Cancer pagurus*), velvet crabs (*Liocarcinus puber*), spider crabs (*Maia squinado*) and green crabs (*Carcinus maenus*); and 'crabs' means the four species of crabs so specified.

PERMITTED BYCATCHES

9.1 This licence does not authorise fishing for mackerel and herring by the purse-seine method, or by freezer trawler. A freezer trawler or seine purser may however retain on board any herring and mackerel caught as a permitted bycatch when fishing for other species.

9.2 This licence does not authorise fishing for sword fish. However, a fishing vessel may retain on board any sword fish caught as a permitted bycatch when fishing for other species.

9.3 This licence does not authorise fishing for Albacore tuna. However, a fishing vessel may retain on board any Albacore tuna caught as a permitted bycatch when fishing for other species.

9.4 Catches of skates and rays in the North Sea (IIa and IV) shall not comprise more than 25% per trip by live weight of the total catch retained onboard for all vessels 15m and over in overall length.

9.5 Notwithstanding any quota limitation detailed in Part II of the Annex to this Schedule, the vessel to which this licence relates, may not retain on board and land Cod and Whiting, caught in ICES Divisions Vb, VI, separately in the case of Cod (whereby 2% may not be exceeded separately in the ICES Divisions VIa; British fishery limits of Vb east of 12° 00' W and 0.5% may not be exceeded in the ICES division VIb; British Fishery Limits of Vb west of 12° 00' W) and 20% in the case of Whiting by live weight of the total catch retained on board the vessel during each fishing trip.

9.6 This licence does not authorise fishing for undulate ray (*Raja undulata*). However, between the hours of 00:01 on 1st January and 23:59 on 30th April; and 00:01 on 1st September and 23:59 on 31st December each calendar year a fishing vessel may retain on board and land any undulate ray caught in ICES area VIIId and VIIe as a bycatch when fishing for other species provided that the following conditions are met:

- (a) In VIIId only: No more than 100 kilogrammes of undulate ray in live weight may be retained on board or landed per fishing trip,
- (b) In VIIe only: No more than 100 kilogrammes of undulate ray in live weight may be retained on board or landed per fishing trip
- In Both VIIId and VIIe:
- (c) In cases where it is not subject to the landing obligation set out in article 15 of Regulation (EU) 1380/2013, no undulate ray which measures less than 78 centimetres when measured from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail shall be retained on board or landed,
- (d) In cases where it is not subject to the landing obligation set out in article 15 of Regulation (EU) 1380/2013, no undulate ray which measures more than 97 centimetres when measured from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail shall be retained on board or landed,
- (e) No undulate ray may be transhipped,
- (f) Undulate ray may only be retained on board or landed whole or gutted.

BY-CATCHES OF BLUEFIN TUNA (*THUNNUS THYNNUS*)

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10.1 The vessel is prohibited from targeting bluefin tuna.

10.2 Notwithstanding the provision in condition 10.1 above, incidental by-catches of bluefin tuna may be landed, subject to the conditions below.

10.3 Incidental by-catches may only be offered for sale when caught using one of the following gears:

- demersal trawls;
- pelagic trawls;
- seine nets;
- ring nets;
- fixed nets.

10.4 Any bluefin tuna below the minimum conservation reference size must not be retained on board and instead must be returned, where possible unharmed, to the sea.

10.5 The vessel is limited to a by-catch of one bluefin tuna per fishing trip which may, subject to these conditions, be retained on board, landed and sold.

10.6 Permitted by-catches of bluefin tuna may only be sold to authorised registered merchants, further guidance can be found at [bluefin tuna in the UK - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://bluefin.tuna.in.the.UK-GOV.UK(www.gov.uk)). A list of registered merchants can be found [here](#).

10.7 Where the vessel encounters by-catches of bluefin tuna in excess of one fish in a single trip, and where that fish is not able to be returned to the sea alive and unharmed, these fish must be retained on board, must be landed and must be made available for scientific research purposes or destroyed as directed by the MMO or the UK Fisheries Monitoring Centre (UKFMC).

10.8 Any catches of bluefin tuna retained on board may only be landed to a [UK designated port](#).

10.9 Any catches of bluefin tuna retained on board must be reported no less than four hours before the estimated time of landing. In circumstances where it is not possible to report no less than four hours before the estimated time of landing, the master must report as soon as reasonably practicable and may not land the catch until prior authorisation has been granted. Reports must be made as follows:

10.9.1 In the case of reporting between the hours of GMT 0800 hrs and 2000 hrs on Monday to Friday report to the MMO Single Liaison Office (UKSLO) on 0330 041 6585 or ukiuslo@marinemanagement.org.uk

10.9.2 In the case of reporting between GMT 2000 hrs and 0800 hrs or at any time on Saturdays and Sundays report to the UKFMC on 0131 244 2286 or UKFMC@gov.scot

10.10 Landing reports in accordance with condition 10.9 above must include the following catch details:

- weight of each individual bluefin tuna retained onboard;
- total weight of bluefin tuna retained on board;
- number of individual bluefin tuna;
- the vessels identification details (including: name, PLN, IMO number - where applicable);
- the intended port of landing;
- the estimated time of landing;
- the identity of the intended merchant if a commercial sale of a single bluefin tuna is intended;
- an email address for which the vessel or its owners can receive an electronic bluefin tuna catch document.

11. This licence does not authorise fishing for tuna by the drift net method.

FISHING RESTRICTIONS FOR BASS

12.1 This licence does not authorise fishing for, retaining on board, relocating, transshipping or landing European seabass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) in ICES divisions 4b and 4c, and in ICES subarea 7.

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12.2 Condition 12.1 above does not apply in ICES divisions 4b, 4c, 7d, 7e, 7f and 7h and in waters within the territorial sea of the United Kingdom in ICES divisions 7a and 7g between 00:00 on 1st January and 23:59 on 31st January and between 00:00 on 1st April and 23:59 on 31st December to a vessel using demersal trawls⁴ or seines⁵.

12.3 Condition 12.1 above does not apply in ICES divisions 4b, 4c, 7d, 7e, 7f and 7h and in waters within the territorial sea of the United Kingdom in ICES divisions 7a and 7g between 00:00 on 1st January and 23:59 on 31st January and between 00:00 on 1st April and 23:59 on 31st December to a vessel which had been authorised in writing by the Marine Management Organisation to fish with a permitted gear.

12.4 For the purposes of conditions 12.1 and 12.2, a permitted gear means one of the following gear types:

- a. hooks and lines⁶,
- b. fixed gillnets⁷.

12.5 For vessels using demersal trawls and seines the vessel may only retain on board:

- a. unavoidable by-catches of sea bass that do not exceed 5% of the weight of the total catches of marine organisms on board during any single fishing trip, and
- b. no more than 760 kilogrammes of sea bass in any two consecutive months.

12.6 For vessels which have been authorised to fish using hooks and lines, the vessel may only retain on board or land sea bass which does not exceed in total 5.95 tonnes per calendar year.

12.7 For vessels which have been authorised to fish using fixed gillnets, the vessel may only retain on board bycatches of sea bass not exceeding 1.5 tonnes per calendar year.

12.8 A vessel authorised to fish for sea bass using more than one of the gear types set out in condition 12.2 and 12.3 may not retain on board sea bass if more than one of the gear types is present on board the vessel during any single fishing trip.

12.9 A vessel fishing with gear specified in condition 12.2 and/ or authorised to fish using one or more of the gear types set out in condition 12.4 and which uses more than one of those gear types in a single calendar month will be required to adhere to the lowest of the relevant catch limits set out in conditions 12.5, 12.6, and 12.7 above which apply to the gear types that the vessel has used.

FARNE DEEPS FISHING RESTRICTIONS

13.1 Subject to the exemptions below, vessels deploying demersal trawls and seines (with the exception of beam trawls) are prohibited from fishing in the Farne Deeps.

13.2 The prohibition in condition 13.1 shall not apply to vessels with an engine power of 350 kw or less deploying a single-rig demersal trawl or seine within 12 nautical miles of the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured and:

- a. of which the mesh size of the cod-end and any extension piece is 90 mm or greater and is constructed wholly or in part of a single twine having a thickness of 5mm or less and of which the foot rope (as would be viewed from above whilst the gear is deployed) is comprised of a single curved line only, or
- b. of which the mesh size of the cod-end and any extension piece is 100mm or greater and is constructed wholly or in part of a multiple twine of which no twine is of a thickness greater than 5 mm and of which the foot rope (as would be viewed from above whilst the gear is deployed) is comprised of a single curved line only and which is deployed only between 00:00hrs on 15th May and 23:59 hrs on 15th September, or
- c. of which the mesh size of the cod-end and any extension piece is 120 mm or greater and is constructed wholly or in part of a multiple twine of which no twine is of a thickness greater than 5 mm and of which the foot rope (as would be viewed from above whilst the gear is deployed) is comprised of a single curved line only.

13.3 The prohibition in condition 13.1 shall not apply to vessels deploying single-rig or twin-rig demersal trawls or seines outside 12 nautical miles of the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured and:

⁴ All types of demersal trawls (OTB, OTT, PTB, TBB, TBN, TBS and TB).

⁵ All types of seines (SSC, SDN, SPR, SV, SB and SX).

⁶ All long lines or pole and line or rod and line fisheries (LHP, LHM, LLD, LL, LTL, LX and LLS).

⁷ All fixed gillnets and traps (GTR, GNS, FYK, FPN and FIX)

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- a. of which the mesh size of the cod-end and any extension piece is 90 mm or greater in respect of single rigged vessels and is constructed wholly or in part of a single twine of 5 mm or less, or
- b. of which the mesh size of the cod-end and any extension piece is 100mm or greater and is constructed wholly or in part of a multiple twine of which no twine is of a thickness greater than 5 mm and which is deployed only between 00:00hrs on 15th May and 23:59 hrs on 15th September, or
- c. of which the mesh size of the cod-end and any extension piece is 95 mm or greater in respect of twin rigged vessels, and is constructed wholly or in part of a single twine of 5 mm or less, or
- d. of which the mesh size of the cod-end and any extension piece is 120 mm or greater and is constructed wholly or in part of a multiple twine of which no twine is of a thickness greater than 5 mm.

13.4 Vessels fishing in accordance with the prohibitions in 13.2 and 13.3 above are not permitted to deploy demersal trawls or seines with more than one cod-end per rig.

13.5 For the purposes of the prohibitions above “Farne Deeps” shall consist of all waters within the following ICES statistical rectangles:

- 38E8,
- 38E9,
- 39E8,
- 39E9,
- 40E8,
- 40E9.

SOUTH DEVON INSHORE FISHING GROUNDS

14.1 Subject to the exceptions set out in sub-paragraph 14.3 below, no trawling or dredging shall take place in the areas and zones covered by the crabbing chart titled “South Devon Trawling and Crabbing Chart” operational from 1st January each year.

14.2 No fishing boat shall carry a scallop dredge or beam trawl in any part of the specified areas or zones unless every part of any dredge or beam trawl is totally inboard the boat.

14.3 Trawling or dredging may take place as follows:

- a) anywhere by vessels fishing with pelagic trawls;
- b) in those areas and zones on the chart in which trawling is permitted and during those periods specified in the schedule accompanying the chart;
- c) in the area between Berry Head and Mewstone, east of the River Dart, enclosed by straight lines sequentially joining the following geographical co-ordinates:

50°20.30’N, 003°32.10’W
50°19.50’N, 003°30.20’W
50°20.40’N, 003°27.85’W
50°24.00’N, 003°28.95’W

by vessels using trawl nets, provided such vessels have an engine power of no more than 100kW, or by vessels using scallop dredges, provided such vessels have an engine power of no more than 100kW and use no more than two tow bars, and that any tow bar used does not exceed 2.6m in total length, and that there are no more than three dredges attached to each tow bar; and

d) in the area seaward of a line drawn from Splat Point to Limebury Point to the southern limit of a line drawn from Bolt Head to Garra Sands, and in the area landward of a line drawn from Greystone Ledge to Gregory Rocks, by vessels fishing for sandeels, with trawl or seine nets of a mesh size less than 16mm provided such vessels have an engine power of no more than 100kW.

14.4 Copies of the crabbing chart and the full list of co-ordinates and seasonal restrictions are available from any Marine Management Organisation office and on the MMO website. This information is also held at the offices of the Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA), the South Western Fish Producer Organisation Limited and the South Devon and Channel Shell Fishermen’s Association.

MULL BOX

15.1 The vessel to which this licence relates is prohibited, at all times, from fishing with a trawl or dredge (including a suction dredge) in that area off the Treshnish Isles, being the area of waters bounded by the following coordinates:

56° 37.460’N 006° 19.830’W
56° 35.620’N 006° 24.500’W

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56° 28.850'N 006° 34.330'W
56° 28.680'N 006° 28.170'W⁸

15.2 Should the vessel be present in the area during this period all fishing gear which may be used for catching scallops must be lashed and stowed in accordance with Article 47 of Council Regulation (EC) 1224/2009.

CATCH RESTRICTIONS AND QUOTA LIMITATIONS

16. The Authority of this licence is subject to the quota limitations as set out in Part II of the Annexe to this Schedule. All quantitative limitations are in live weight and relate to the maximum amount that may be caught and retained on board, landed or trans-shipped per calendar month unless otherwise stated. Where weekly catch limits are set, a “week” means 00:01 hours on any Sunday until 23:59 hours on the following Saturday. The quota limitations set out in Part II of the Annexe to this Schedule apply concurrently with, and not in addition to, any other quota limitations for the time being in force which have been imposed by any licence issued by a UK fisheries administration authorising the vessel to fish in waters outside British fishery limits.

PAIR TRAWLING

17. When the vessel pair fishes with another vessel, the quantities of sea fish attributable to each vessel will be the quantities on board and landed by that vessel.

OTHER PROVISIONS

18. The vessel to which this licence relates may fish for, land and retain on board the additional quantities of mackerel caught in ICES area VIII d using handline gears set out in the annexe to this licence only if it has been authorised in writing by the MMO.

OUTER HEBRIDES INSHORE FISHERIES PILOT

19.1 From 00:00 on 5th November 2020 until 4th October 2022, the vessel to which this licence relates may not fish using creels⁹ within the “Outer Hebrides Pilot Project Area”; save for where a letter of derogation (“**Letter of Derogation**”) has been granted to the licence holder of the vessel by the Scottish Ministers and subject always to condition 19.2. The **Outer Hebrides Pilot Project Area** is the geographical area which forms part of the Scottish marine region for the Outer Hebrides¹⁰, bounded in the north by a line at 58°N heading due east from the Isle of Lewis near Sidhean Geodh’ a’ Chudaig; bounded on the south by a line at 56° 43.870' N; and bounded on the west by the Barra Head (Berneray) to Harris Protected Area¹¹ and shown outlined on [this map](#) (but which map is demonstrative only).

19.2 Where a Letter of Derogation is granted in terms of condition 19.1, above, the following conditions shall apply:

- a. The maximum number of creels which may be set on the seabed at any one time by the vessel in the Outer Hebrides Pilot Project Area shall be limited in accordance with the overall length of the said vessel as follows:

Overall length of vessel	Maximum number of creels
<8 metres	800
8 -10 metres	1,200
>10 -12 metres	1,500
>12 metres	1,800

- b. The soak time of each individual creel set on the seabed from the vessel in the Outer Hebrides Pilot Project Area, shall be limited to a maximum of 3 weeks from time the said creel is set on the seabed;
- c. Marine Scotland may, at their discretion, require remote electronic monitoring (“**REM**”) equipment to be installed in the vessel; and

The Letter of Derogation granted in terms of condition 19.1 must be retained aboard the vessel at all times to be made available for inspection on request by a British Sea Fishery Officer¹².

NORTH SEA COD AVOIDANCE PLAN

⁸ All co-ordinates are on WGS84 datum and are accurate at a scale of 1:10,000.

⁹ All references to “creel(s)” in conditions 19.1 and 19.2 have the meaning given in article 2 of the Marking of Creels (Scotland) Order 2020, SSI 2020 No 168.

¹⁰ The Scottish Marine Regions Order 2015, SSI 2015 No. 193

¹¹ The Inshore Fishing (Prohibition of Fishing and Fishing Methods) (Outer Hebrides) Order 2017, SSI 2017 No. 48

¹² “British Sea Fishery Officer” has the meaning given by section 7 of the Sea Fisheries Act 1968 (c.77).

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20. The vessel to which this licence relates whilst using mobile gear must use a minimum mesh size of 120mm in Scottish waters of sea area IV, bar activity in mud areas/nephrops areas. There are eight defined mud/nephrops areas within sea area IV which are exempt on the basis that mud areas are primarily nephrops grounds. In these areas it is permitted to use gear less than 120mm. Vessels using gear that is not designed to come into contact with the bottom, and are fishing for herring, mackerel, horse mackerel, sprats or blue whiting, or targeting sandeel, Norway pout or Northern prawn are derogated from the above compulsory measures. These areas are detailed in the attached webpage: [UK National North Sea Cod Avoidance Plan - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot/UK-National-North-Sea-Cod-Avoidance-Plan)

ROCKALL (AREA VIB) – ALL CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AREAS

21. All vessels transiting such areas must maintain a transit speed of six knots or more (except in the case of force majeure or adverse conditions). Any vessel falling below six knots in a restricted area must make contact with the UKFMC immediately, detailing i) why they are in a restricted area below six knots ii) how long they intend to be there and estimated time of departure.

RED ROCKS AND LONGAY MPA, INNER SOUND

22.1 A fishing vessel must not be present in the Area defined in SSI 131/2021 other than when travelling at a speed of greater than six knots (except in the case of force majeure or adverse weather conditions or fishing for pelagic species with trawl or encircling nets).

22.2 In the case of either of the above contact must immediately be made with the UKFMC and details given of the vessels intentions.

Details and documentation in respect of this restriction can be found at: <https://www.gov.scot/policies/marine-environment/marine-protected-areas/>.