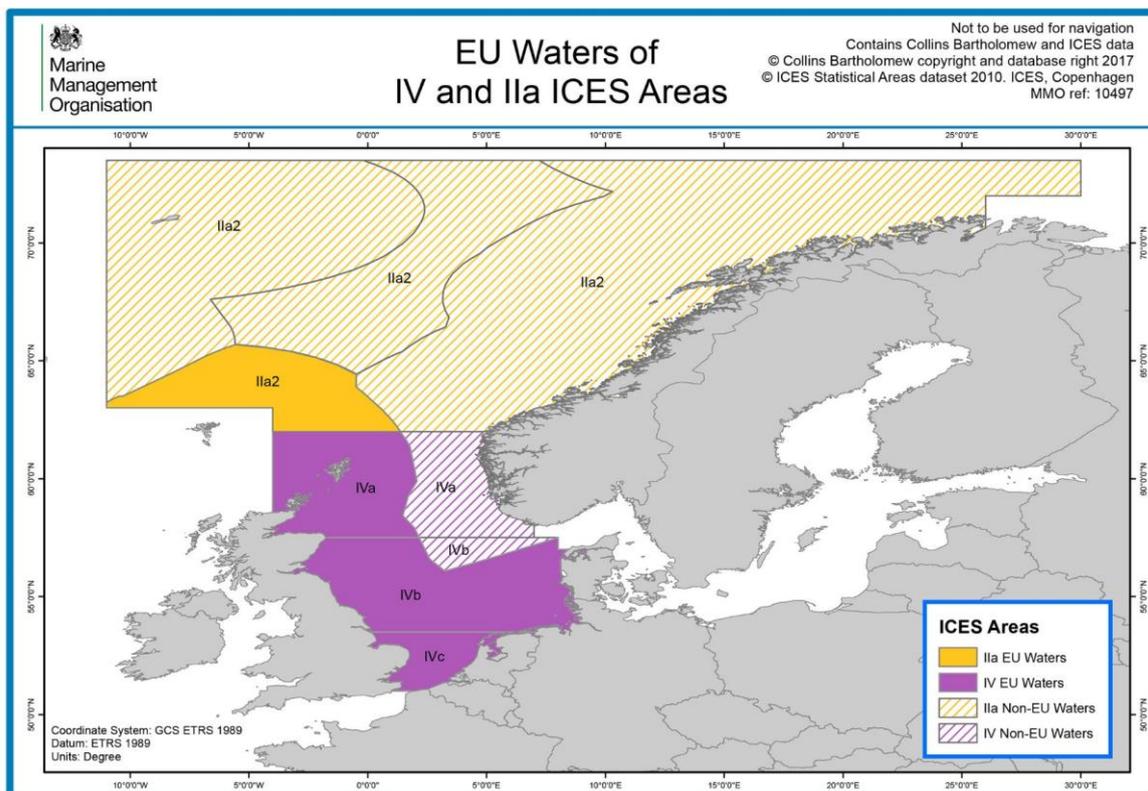




# Landing Obligation Guidance 2019

Applicable to Gill Net, Trammel Net and Drift Net  
Fishing in the North Sea





## Introduction

This document needs to be read in conjunction with the Landing Obligation overview guidance document which explains the general rules. This document explains rules specific to Gill Net, Trammel Net and Drift Net Fishing in the North Sea in ICES Areas IIa and IV, but does not include Norwegian waters. Norwegian discard rules must be followed if fishing in Norwegian waters.

Please consult your local fisheries administration office for further information.

You must ensure that the following rules are complied with:

1. All catches of quota species must be kept on board, landed and counted against quota, except where the exemptions listed below apply.
2. All catches and discards must be recorded in your logbook.
3. Any fish returned to the sea under the exemptions described below must be kept in good condition in order to maximise their survival chances. This includes keeping them wet, handling them carefully and releasing them promptly.

## Survival Exemptions

These exemptions allow you to discard fish under certain conditions based on the likelihood of a fish being able to survive being caught and returned to the sea.

You are permitted to discard certain species of fish provided you comply with the conditions specified in the table below:

<b>Fish Species you can Discard</b>	<b>ICES Area</b>	<b>Conditions (Type of Fishing Net)</b>
Skates and Rays	IIa and IV	Gill, Trammel and Drift Nets
Plaice (PLE)	IV	Gill and Trammel Nets



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## ***De minimis* Exemptions**

The *De minimis* exemption allows a small percentage of the total catch of certain species to be discarded because it is difficult to completely avoid unwanted catches.

It is important that discards are recorded in your logbook. *De minimis* exemptions may be withdrawn where discard levels are too high.

The following species can be discarded under *De minimis* rules subject to conditions:

<b>Fish Species you can Discard</b>	<b>ICES Area</b>	<b>Conditions (Type of Fishing Net)</b>
Dover Sole (SOL)	Ila and IV	Gill, Trammel and Drift Nets