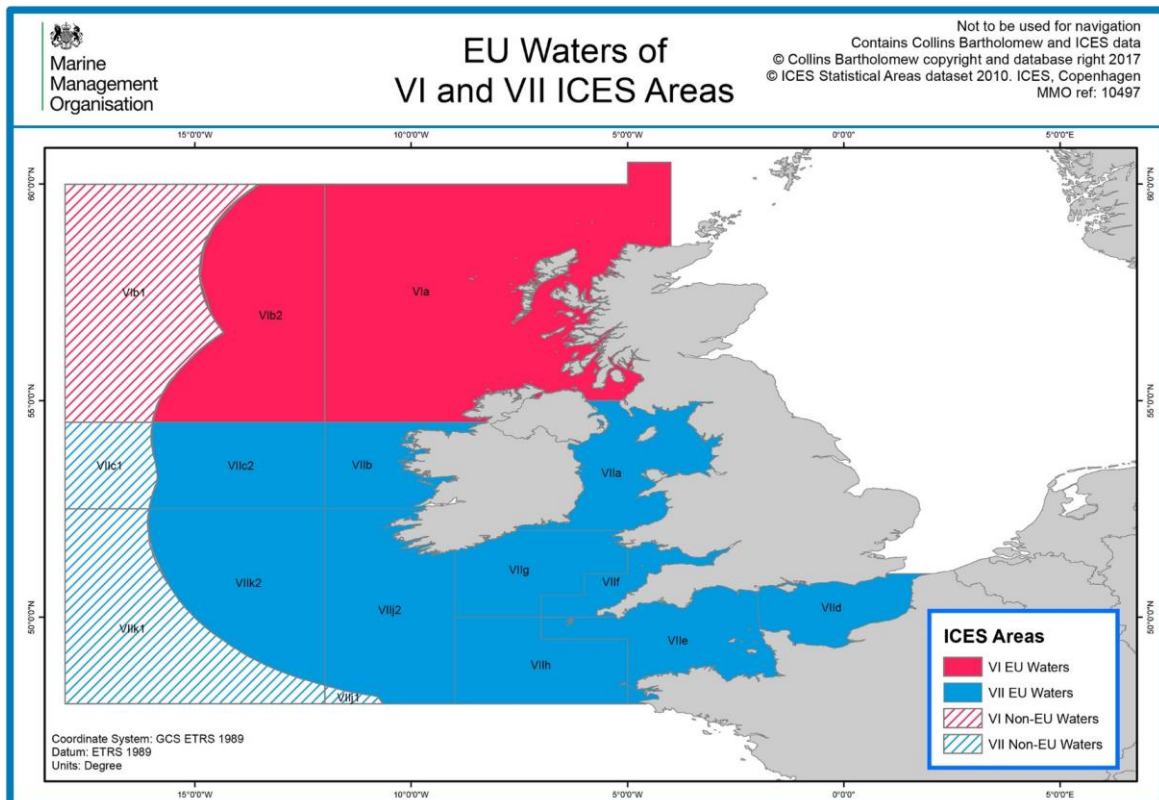




# Landing Obligation Guidance 2019

**Applicable to Fishing with Gill, Trammel and Drift Nets  
in North Western Waters**





# Marine Management Organisation



Department of  
**Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs**  
[www.daera-ni.gov.uk](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)

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## Introduction

This document needs to be read in conjunction with the Landing Obligation overview guidance document which explains the general rules. This document provides guidance on the exemptions specific to North Western Waters.

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                     | VI and VII          | Gill, Trammel and Drift Nets            |
| Plaice (PLE)                        | VIIId-g (inclusive) | Trammel Nets                            |

## 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 *De minimis* exemptions may be withdrawn where discard levels are too high.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)                    | VIIId-g (inclusive) | Gill and Trammel Nets                   |