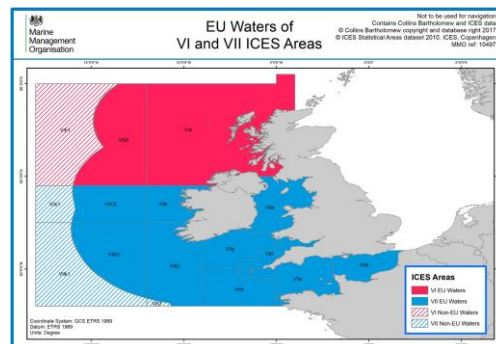




Fishing gear requirements and Landing Obligation exemptions 2019

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



Introduction

This document explains rules on which fishing gear you should be using in North Western Waters. It also summarises which Landing Obligation exemptions are available to you.

This guidance is for all sizes of fishing vessel (including those under 10 metres). It does not cover IFCA byelaws – please consult your local IFCA for further information.

General fishing gear rules:

- All mesh sizes given in this document are minimum sizes. You can choose to use a larger mesh than that stated.



Marine Management Organisation

- The baseline mesh size in this area is now a 120mm mesh **or** 220mm mesh when fishing for anglerfish
- The baseline mesh size in this area is now a 120mm codend and this must be used where catches exceed 20% of cod haddock and saithe combined.
- If you have a catch of less than 20% of cod, haddock and saithe combined, then you may use a mesh size below 120mm as specified below:

Gear selectivity requirements

All mesh sizes specified are the minimum.

Fishery	ICES Area	Mesh size
Pollack or Hake	VIIId, e	110mm mesh
Flatfish or non-TAC species	Whole area (excluding VIIId)	100mm mesh
Flatfish or non-TAC species	VIIId	90mm mesh
Whiting, dab and bass (subject to annual bass conservation measures)	Whole area (excluding VIIId)	100mm mesh
Whiting, dab and bass (subject to annual bass conservation measures)	VIIId	90mm mesh
Small pelagics	Whole area	50mm mesh



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Fishery	ICES Area	Mesh size
Red mullet	Whole area	50mm mesh

Landing Obligation exemptions

In the table below is a brief summary of exemptions from the Landing Obligation for these fisheries which allow you to discard fish. All quantities of fish discarded under the Landing Obligation must be recorded in your logbook, but will not come off your quota. We recommend that you also read the relevant [landing obligation guidance](#) for further information.

Fish Species you can Discard	ICES Area	Conditions (Type of Fishing Net)
Skates and Rays	VI and VII	Gill, Trammel and Drift Nets
Plaice	VIIId-g (inclusive)	Trammel Nets
Dover Sole	VIIId-g (inclusive)	Gill and Trammel Nets