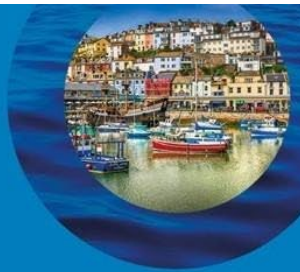




Marine
Management
Organisation

Consultation on proposals for a king scallop fishery closure in ICES area 7d and Lyme Bay of area 7e in 2025

18 November 2024 – 12
January 2025



...ambitious for our seas and coasts

Version control

Version	Authors	Comments
V0.1	Louise Price & Joel Brown	Draft
V0.1	Callum Williams	Review
V0.2	Louise Price, Alex Murphy & Joel Brown	Updates
V1.2	Callum Williams & Jess Duffill-Telsnig	Review
V1.3	Louise Price & Joel Brown	Updates
V1.4	Tim Dixon	Review

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Summary

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) is committed to ensuring fisheries are managed to a level where stocks are healthy and fished sustainably, environmental damage is minimised, and economic return is maximised whilst ensuring sustainable harvesting.

MMO is seeking views on proposals to protect the king scallop (*Pectens maximus*) stocks in UK waters of International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) area 7d and Lyme Bay area of ICES area 7e in summer of 2025.

The purpose of the consultation is to consider protection for stocks during the main spawning period for king scallops within areas 7d and 7e, with peak spawning typically in summer. Scientific evidence indicates that protection for stocks against fishing activity during the summer months is likely to deliver the most benefit.

In the past years a closure has been implemented in ICES area 7d and Lyme Bay area of ICES area 7e which focused on providing increased protection for spawning stock, facilitating juvenile recruitment and supporting future viability and sustainability of the stock.

The impacts of the 2024 closure for Area 7d and Lyme Bay area of 7e on other areas in 7e and beyond has been flagged by stakeholders as a concern, with increased effort being placed on alternative effort with poorer quality yields being landed due to effort displacement.

ICES area 7d

The most recent Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas) stock assessment published in 2024 indicates that in the Eastern Channel (27.7.d.N) the exploitation rate of king scallops has generally been at or below the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) target (2017 – 2022).

The 2023 stock assessment published in 2024 revised harvest rate estimates for 2021 and provided a new estimate for 2022, with the rate now below MSY. The latest assessment revised the harvest rate estimate from 24.1% (above MSY at 23.4%) in 2021 to 17.6% and suggested a continued trend below MSY in 2022 with a harvest rate of 16.3%.

Lyme Bay, ICES area 7e

The 2023 stock assessment published in 2024 indicates that The Lyme Bay area (27.7.e) continues to experience high levels of exploitation, consistently above the MSY target since 2017, and increasing since 2019 (Table 1).

Table 1: Harvest rate estimates for area 7e (Lyme Bay), with an MSY harvest rate of 24.4% which were calculated for the 2022 and 2023 stock assessment (published in 2023 and 2024). Figures for 2020 and previous years have not changed between stock assessments.

Year	2023 stock assessment Harvest rate (%)
2020	55.2
2021	70.4
2022	71.9

Other areas in ICES area 7e

Harvest rates of 7e offshore and 7e inshore (not including Lyme Bay) were relatively low compared with MSY of 24.2 (inshore) and 26.5% (offshore) in 2017–22, suggesting the area may be able to support additional effort, through a proposed seasonal closure would further the likelihood of this by protecting the stocks during the peak spawning period. Analysis of landings data has indicated a spatial change in fishing activity in 2023, with increased landings observed southwest of Cornwall. However, the harvest rate continued to remain below MSY (Table 4).

Other areas outside of ICES area 7

Monthly landings for areas outside of closures in 7d and 7e demonstrated an increase each year in 4a and 4b between the months of May and August (Figure 1). Sub areas 4c, 7f, 7g, and 7h were consistently below 100 tonnes per month, and while data was limited for 7a, peaks in landings could be seen during winter months November to February with a sharp decline leading into the summer each year.

The 2022 seasonal closure ran from 01 August to 30 September, the 2023 closure from 01 July to 30 September, and the 2024 closure from 15 May to 30 September.

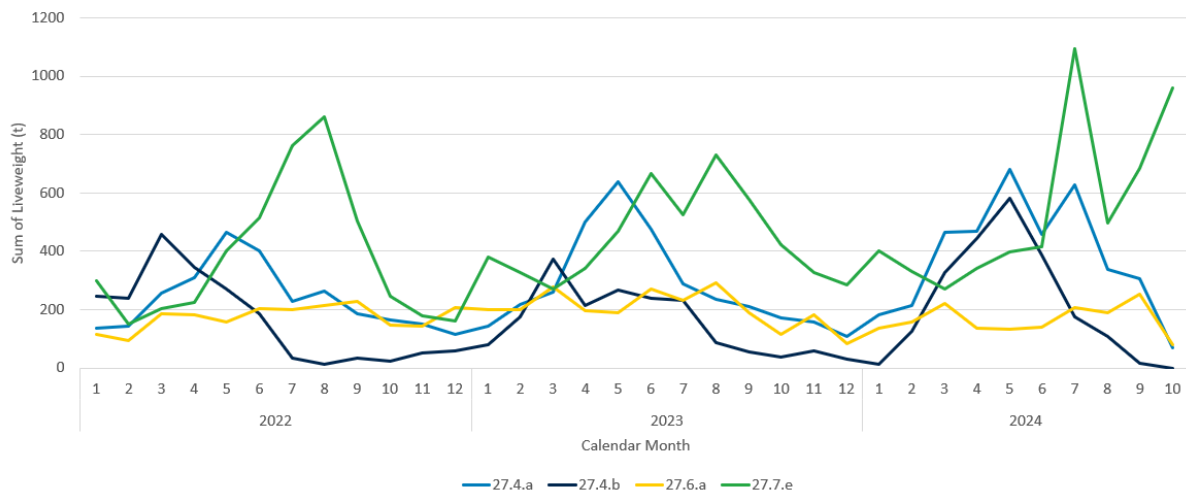


Figure 1: Total weight tonnes (t) of landings of king scallops by UK vessels in UK waters of ICES sub areas outside of 7d and 7e, by month, for 2022- September 2024. Sub areas 4c, 7f, 7g, and 7h were consistently below 100 tonnes per month

Scallop Industry Consultation Group Comment

Scallop Industry Consultation Group (SICG) stated that “Following the decision to extend the closure period in 2024, SICG provided feedback as to their concerns on the extension, highlighting that significant economic impacts were likely. This was in addition to the wider socio-economic risks associated with large-scale displacement of effort. MMO held a follow-up meeting with members of SICG on the 25 October, with the aim to gather SICGs views on the 2025 scallop dredge closure options for 7d and Lyme Bay area of 7e.

During this discussion SICG members described the significant financial impact that the 2024 closure period has had on the scallop sector. Effort was displaced on many other areas resulting in poorer yield and potential damage to stocks outside the closure area, and potential increased environmental impacts as displaced vessels fished for longer and in new areas to remain profitable. Furthermore, UK vessels lost access to appropriately sized roe on scallops, which is a key market for UK industry, previously not accounted for in the decision-making process. SICG members shared that the 2024 closure had a detrimental impact on the catching and processing sectors, bringing into question the economic viability of the sector as a whole, whilst introducing significant risk to jobs both at sea and in the supporting land-based infrastructure.

Whilst it is acknowledged that catches since the opening of the fishery in October have returned significant landings, this has not proved to be at the benefit of industry. With the increased abundance of scallops present and increased landings as fishers seek to make up lost revenue caused by the extended closure, the price for scallops has dropped, meaning that the lost earnings because of the extended closure will not be recouped. The financial impact is expected to run into future years as a result.

It is the view of SICG that a continuation of the existing closure is economically untenable, creating further harm and risk to jobs on land and at sea. It is accepted by SICG that some stock protection is necessary to allow for sustainable exploitation of the UKs sea fisheries resources, but a seasonal closure in the areas of 7d and 7e should be no longer than the 3 months.”

Additional considerations

In recent years, fishing activity ahead of and following the seasonal closure in area 7d has increased, in an effort by industry to try and mitigate some of the economic impact of the closure. Following the opening of the area 7d scallop fishery on 01 October this year, an abundance of scallops on the ground led to fishing effort in the area increasing with reported landings of 2368.7 tonnes in October 2024 compared to 721.7 tonnes of landings in October 2023. This has led to overdemand in the markets, price decreases and processors turning away product. This impact is being felt across sectors, particularly by sectors such as the under 15m scalloping fleet, and there are concerns around impacts this activity has had on the stock and the marine environment.

We are considering whether there are temporary measures that can be put in place to better manage fishing effort either side of a closure, whilst more permanent, long-term measures are introduced under the king scallop Fisheries Management Plan (FMP).

We would be interested in stakeholder views around how this could be achieved.

2025 Closure options

Scientific advice and landings data have been considered when deciding whether to introduce management measures to protect the king scallop spawning stock in 7d and 7e. MMO, wish to explore seasonal closures which will apply to EU and UK vessels. This consultation runs from 18 November 2024 to 12 January 2025.

The options proposed for a 7d king scallop dredge fishery closure are:

- 15 May to 30 September 2025
- 1 July to 30 September 2025
- No closure within 7d within any time period.

The options proposed for a 7e king scallop dredge fishery closure are:

- A closure of Lyme bay (ICES rectangles 30E6, 30E7, 29E6 and 29E7) aligning to the agreed closure length in ICES area 7d.
- No closure of Lyme bay within any time period.

Consultation questions

MMO would like to seek your views on:

- 1) A proposed closure prohibiting UK and EU scallop dredge fishing for vessels in UK waters of ICES area 7d, for the following time periods:
 - a) From 15 May to 30 September 2025
 - b) From 1 July to 30 September 2025
 - c) Retain extended closure period for Lyme Bay area of 7e, roll back closure period in 7d to shorter closure period
 - d) No closure within any time period

- 2) If you consider a closure an appropriate option, which vessel size should be included in the closure? Also, within which ICES areas would be most appropriate?
- 3) How would these proposed closures of ICES area 7d and Lyme Bay area of 7e to scallop dredging impact you and your business?
- 4) Do you consider your business to rely on scallop fishing all year round? If not, do you swap into another fishery for part of the year? If this is the case, which other fisheries, do you fish? and for what proportion of your fishing activity?
- 5) If you are a vessel owner/vessel agent or skipper: in which length group is your vessel; 10 m and under, 10.01 m – 12 m, 12.01 m – 15 m and the over 15 m fleet?
- 6) Would you consider any alternative areas to be of concern to displaced effort as a result of any proposed closure? I.E ICES rectangles other than those covered in the closure, or other areas such as the [mid-channel potting blocks](#).
- 7) Are there any temporary measures that should be considered whilst longer term management is implemented through the king scallop Fisheries Management Plan?
- 8) Do you have any other comments?

Please email your responses to sustainablefisheries@marinemanagement.org.uk or write to:

Fisheries Management
MMO Lancaster House
Hampshire Court
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 7YH

By midnight on 12 January 2025

In your response, please state whether you are replying on behalf of an organisation or as a member of the public and if you wish your response to remain confidential.

If you are replying on behalf of an organisation or organisations:

- Which organisation(s)?
- What is your name and position?
- What is your email address?

We may wish to contact you about your submission for further details. If you are happy for us to do this, please let us know in your submission, setting out the best method (e.g., email, telephone, post) and time to do this. We will not contact you after this call for evidence unless you provide permission.

The above options are those proposed at this time. Should another option arise during consultation that better meets the environmental, social and economic considerations, the MMO may chose that as the preferred option.

Next Steps

Once the consultation has closed, MMO will publish a summary of the responses and a decision on the scope of the proposed king scallop dredge fishery closure for 2025. MMO will detail when, where and which vessels will be affected. Any closure will be enacted by a licence variation.

Supporting information

Background to 7d and 7e king scallop closures

Prior to leaving the EU Common Fisheries Policy, closures to the king scallop fishery in all 7d waters were introduced annually to all vessels over 15 m, with each member state responsible for managing their fleet. As a result of a UK-France industry agreement the UK and French fishing authorities applied similar measures in their waters.

UK closures

Following the UK's exit from the EU, the UK-France industry agreement ceased. In 2021 and 2022 a similar call for evidence was undertaken by MMO, proposing a closure to all vessels. Based on the evidence received, and the need for UKFAs to introduce a balanced approach between stock protection and economic impacts, the king scallop dredge fishery was closed in UK waters of 7d from 16 August to 3 October in 2021, from 1 August to 30 September in 2022, and from 1 July to 30 September 2023. The closures applied to all UK and EU vessels in except the under 10 m fleet in UK waters.

The 10 m and under fleet were exempted after investigation into previous years landing data revealed that the risk to the fishery could be balanced with potential adverse economic impact that the closure would have on the smaller vessel fleet.

In 2023 the king scallop fishery was closed in Lyme Bay area of 7e (rectangles 29E6, 29E7, 30E6 and 30E7) in conjunction with the 7d closure from the 1 July to 30 September 2023. The closure applied to all UK and EU vessels in UK waters that were over 12 metres in length.

The 2024 king scallop fishery was closed from 15 May to 30 September 2024 in ICES division 7d to UK and EU vessels over 10 metres in length and in the Lyme Bay area of 7e (rectangles 29E6, 29E7, 30E6 and 30E7) to UK and EU vessels over 12 metres in length.

EU closures

In 2022 the EU administered a seasonal closure through a new Regulation¹ that closes EU 7d and parts of 7e to protect king scallop mature stocks during the spawning season. These closures were first implemented in 2023, prohibiting fishing for king scallop with dredges for all vessels, including UK, in EU waters and mirror previous closures introduced via French legislation:

- In 7d from 15 May – 30 September
- In the North Finistère area in 7e from 15 May – 30 September

¹ [EUR-Lex - 32022R1357 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

- In the Baie de Seine area in 7d from 15 May – 15 October

UK inshore closures and management measures

The inshore areas (0 – 6 nautical miles) are also subject to the Inshore Fisheries and Conversation Authorities (IFCA) regulation and control measures. Table 2 is a summary of the IFCA byelaws that restrict the scallop dredge fishery.

Table 2: King scallop dredge fishery closures in 7d and 7e exacted through IFCA byelaws

IFCA	District extent 0-6nm	ICES areas	Management measures	Closure timings	Number of months of a complete district closure
Cornwall	Cornwall county, the River Tamar to Marsland Mouth	7e & 7f	Gear restrictions All year round, diurnal closure 19:00 – 07:00	In 4 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the district all year around	0
Devon and Severn	Marsland Mouth to Gloucester weir. River Tamar to Lyme Regis	7e & 7f	Gear restrictions. All year round, diurnal closure 19:00 – 07:00	1 July - 1 October	3
Southern	Lyme Regis to Chichester Harbour	7e & 7d	Gear restrictions. All year round, diurnal closure 19:00 – 07:00 (except the Solent, diurnal closure 06:00 – 18:00).	1 April - 1 October	0
Sussex	Chichester Harbour to Rye	7d	Gear restrictions	0 – 3 nm all year round. 3 – 6nm 1 June to 31 October	12 inside 3 nm 5 outside 3 nm
Kent and Essex	Rye to Harwich	7d & 4c	Gear restrictions	In former Sussex district 0 – 3 nm closed all year 3 – 6 nm 1 June to 31 October. In district MPAs	12- inside 3 nm 5- outside 3 nm

Stock assessment

For the last seven years (2017-2024) the Centre for environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas) have undertaken king scallop dredge surveys in the English Channel (northern parts of ICES area 7d and 7e) to assess the biomass available to the dredge fishery and whether current fishing levels are considered sustainable². Data collected in 2023/2024 is currently being processed and will be available in April 2025, therefore evidence provided below relates to the most recent stock assessment published in 2023² using data up to 2023.

ICES area 7d

² [Assessment of king scallop stock status for selected waters around the English coast 2021/2022 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

Cefas estimate a harvest rate of 23.4% of the population in a given year would be not exceed MSY for the 7d North stock unit. Results of the 2023 stock assessment which provides a revised harvest rate and MSY reference point for 2017-2022 indicate that most stock units in area 7d are estimated to have been exploited at or below the 23.4% harvest rate associated with MSY from 2017-2022, with the exception of 2018 (see table 4). In 2018 the MSY harvest rate was exceeded by more than double, however this was due to a low estimate of harvestable biomass rather than a large increase in landings.

Table 3: Harvest rate estimates for area 7d North.

Year	2023 stock assessment harvest rate (%)
2017	21.4
2018	53.1
2019	21.7
2020	20.2
2021	17.6
2022	16.3

2

ICES area 7e

In area 7e there is a contrast between high exploitation levels above MSY in the inshore area (Lyme Bay) and lower exploitation rates in the offshore area (Table 5). Cefas estimate a harvest rate MSY reference point of 24.4% for the Lyme Bay 7e stock unit. Analysis of the landings data in Lyme Bay 7e between 2017-2022 have indicated that the stock has been estimated to be continually exploited above the 24.4% MSY harvest rate, with exceptionally high levels of exploitation observed in years 2018, 2020, 2021 and 2022 (Table 6). However, despite such high levels of exploitation scientific advice suggests that the harvestable biomass is relatively stable, although there has been a continued general decline observed from 2017-2022.

The offshore stock in area 7e has much lower exploitation rates below MSY and maybe in a better position to support increased fishing activity. However, there remains some uncertainty around the exploitation status in 7e offshore.

Table 4 Harvest rate estimates for area 7e Lyme Bay and offshore, with an MSY harvest rate 24.4% and 26.5% respectively.

Year	Harvest Rate on Dredged Portion of Stock (%) Area 7e Lyme Bay	Harvest Rate on Dredged Portion of Stock (%) Area 7e offshore
2017	29.7	6.9
2018	92.1	15.2
2019	39.5	12.9
2020	55.2	7.6
2021	70.4	18.5
2022	71.9	15.5

Spawning in ICES area 7d and 7e

The main spawning period for ICES area 7d and 7e king scallops is between May and October, and individuals may be found in spawning condition throughout this

period. Peak spawning is typically summer, although spawning events occur from late spring through to October sometimes with multiple events within a year. The exact pattern of spawning in any one year will vary depending on environmental conditions but protecting stocks against fishing activity during the summer months is likely to deliver the greatest benefit.

The benefits of area closure in terms of stock protection are largely associated with reducing fishing pressure on stocks during the spawning season. This allows the stock to be left undisturbed as mature individuals spend energy on spawning, as well as increasing protection for juvenile scallops to grow to spawning size/ minimum landing size before encountering scallop gear.

A closure period that included the early summer months would also be beneficial for the reduction of environmental impacts from dredging; in particular, the removal of benthic organisms (hydrozoans and bryozoans) that scallop larvae use to settle on during metamorphosis.

Stock benefits from spawning closures would be expected to materialise as an increase in the average level of future recruitments. Even if a higher-than-average recruitment were observed for 2021, 2022 and 2023 it would be difficult to separate management benefits from natural variability for a single event.

King scallop landings in UK waters

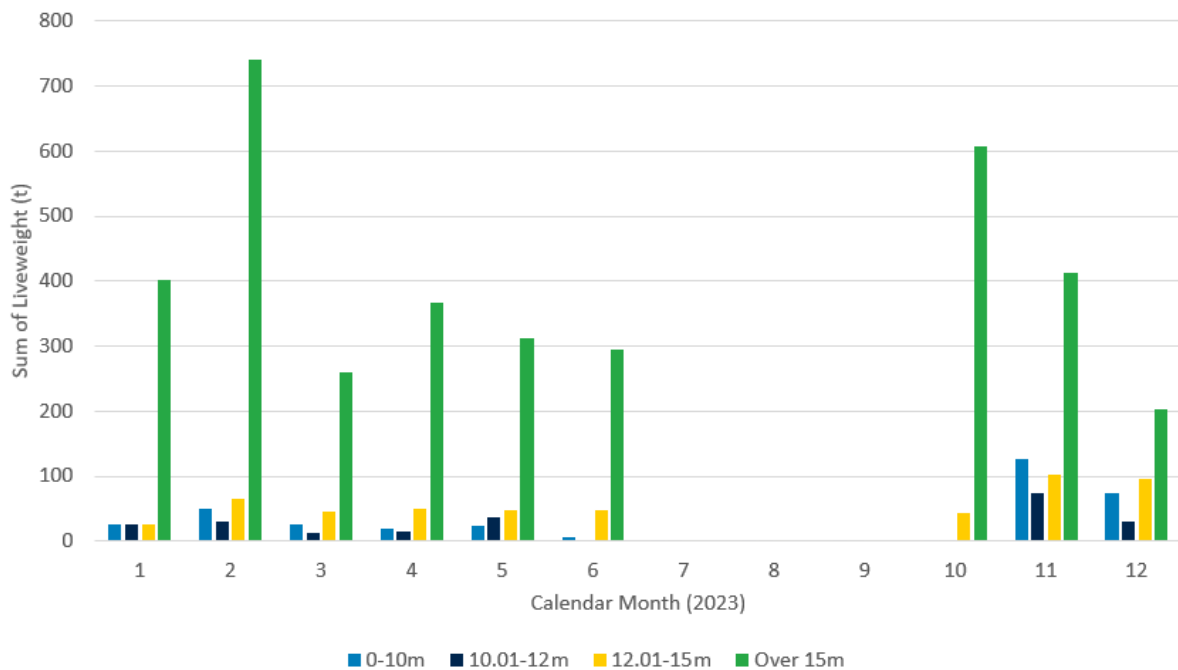
ICES area 7d

In 2023 area 7d saw an overall decline in landings of 15%. There was also a temporal change in fishing activity, with increased landings during January and February (Figure 2). The closure between July and September saw greatly reduced fishing effort for all vessel sizes.

In 2024 area 7d saw an overall decline in landings from 2023 by 40%. There was also a slight increase in the month of January but a decrease in February and slight increase in March and a decrease in April, May, June and July.

The increase in landings during January and March 2024 is driven by the UK fleet, with an increase in landings over 200 tonnes compared to 2023.

A (2023)



B (2024)

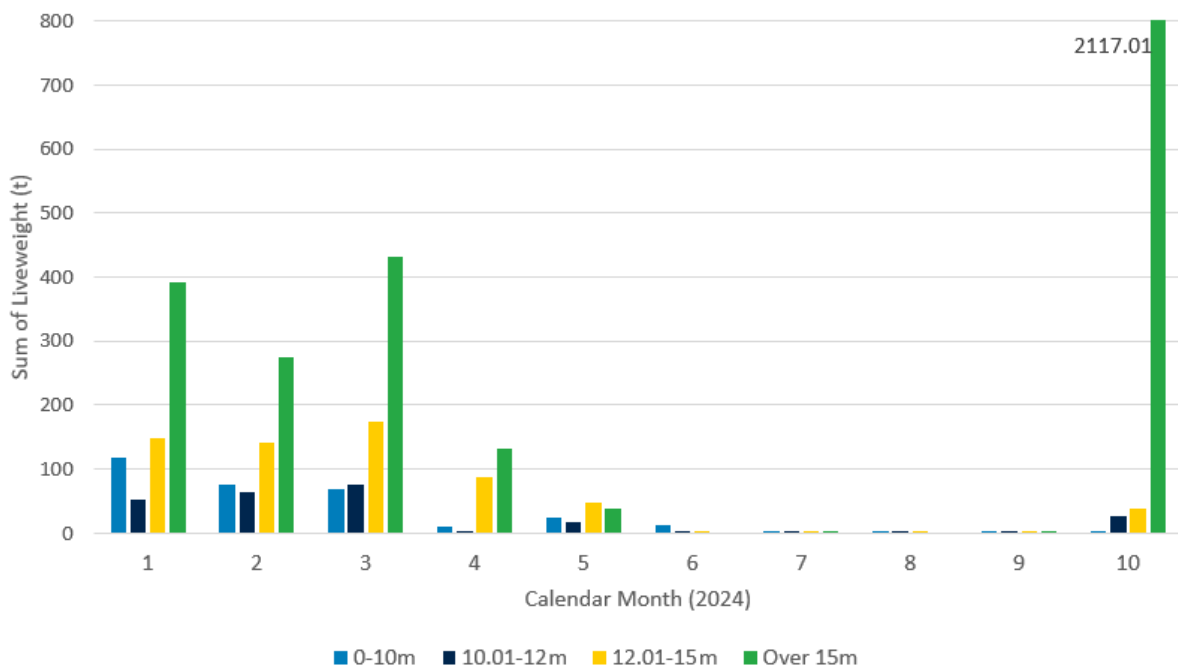


Figure 2: Total weight tonnes (t) of landings of king scallops by UK vessels in ICES area 7d (UK waters only) during 2023 (**Graph A**) and 2024 (**Graph B**) by month. The different colours display UK vessel length fleet sectors.

For both years the majority of landings were dominated by the over 15 meter vessels. During 2023 vessels under 12 meters reported the lowest landings. The largest reductions in landings by vessel fleet sector was seen in the 10 meter and under fleet, with landings just over 351 tonnes in 2023 and 312 tonnes in 2024. In both years the sector was exempt from the closure, although landed quantities in the summer months were very low, with 0.2 tonnes landed in the 2023 closure period and 35.8 tonnes landed in the 2024 closure period.

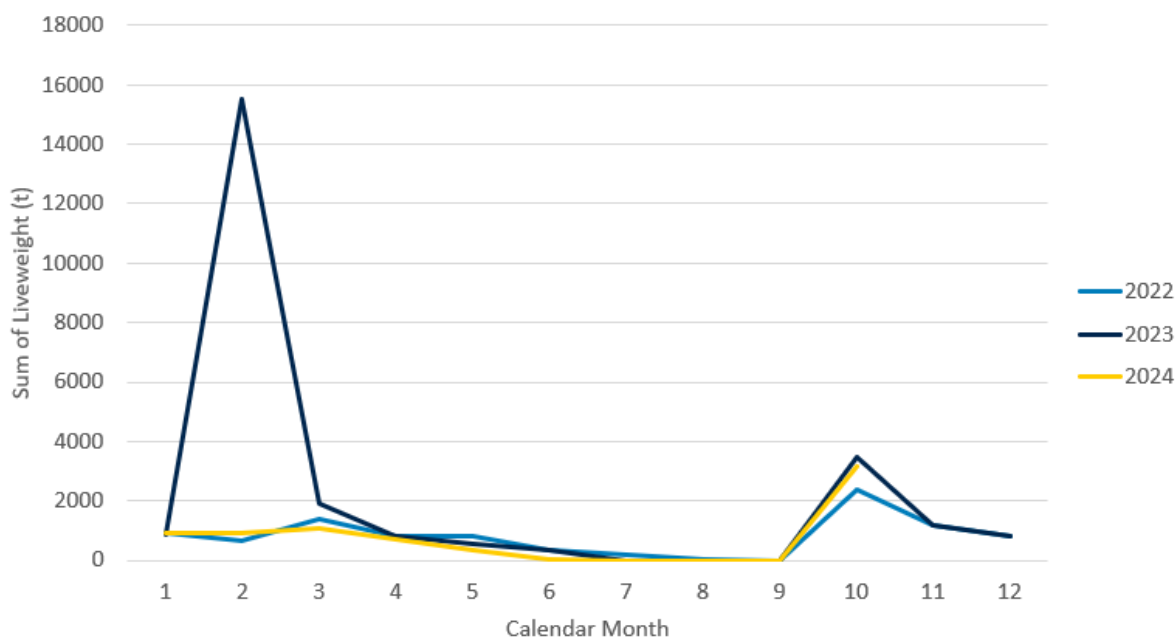


Figure 3: Total king scallop landings (t) in ICES area 7d from the UK and EU fleet in 2023 to 2024

Table 5: The number of UK vessels landing King Scallops using all gear types, in Lyme Bay (29e6, 29e7, 30e6, 30e7) and 7d (29e8, 29e9, 29f0, 30e8, 30e9, 30f0, 30f1) waters each year. 2024 data until 31 October.

Vessel Count	Lyme Bay			7d		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
0-10	52	63	38	61	58	37
10.01-12	21	15	14	9	6	7
12.01-15	28	27	21	11	11	10
15+	49	40	36	31	32	26

Table 6: Total landings of King Scallops for different vessel lengths using all gear types, in Lyme Bay (29e6, 29e7, 30e6, 30e7) and 7d (29e8, 29e9, 29f0, 30e8, 30e9, 30f0, 30f1) waters each year. 2024 data until 31 October.

Vessel Length	Lyme Bay			7d		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
0-10	211.88	210.14	133.88	442.70	351.46	315.99
10.01-12	515.03	463.12	515.03	305.66	224.06	231.68
12.01-15	601.19	817.50	365.38	618.89	525.57	632.45
15+	542.20	771.41	627.65	5587.42	4779.44	4496.41

The number of vessels working in 7d remained relatively stable during the first six months across 2023 and 2024 (see table 6). The 10 m and under English, Welsh and crown dependencies and over 15 m Scottish and EU vessels generally conducted the greatest number of trips.

ICES area 7e

Lyme Bay

Lyme Bay area of 7e (ICES rectangles 29E6, 29E7, 30E6 and 30E7) was closed to all vessels over 12m for dredging for king scallops from 1 July to 30 September in 2023, and 15 May to 30 September in 2024.

In 2023, 12-15m+ vessels responded to the closure by focussing effort in the months leading up to the closure and in the month of October after the closure ended. Landings were also particularly high in December for 15m+ vessels (figure 4).

In 2024, landings were highest at the beginning of the year with a steady decrease until the closure started in May. Total landings in the months immediately before the closure were lower than in 2023. Data for 2024 is currently only available until July (figure 5).

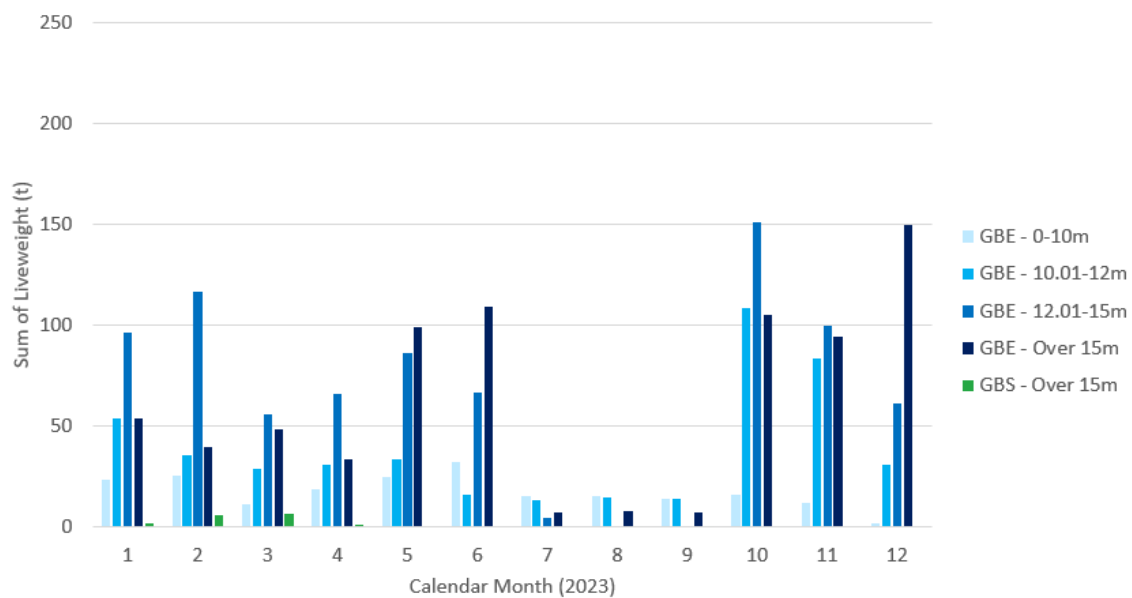


Figure 4: King scallop landings (t) in Lyme Bay area of 7e (ICES rectangles 29E6, 29E7, 30E6 and 30E7) during 2023.

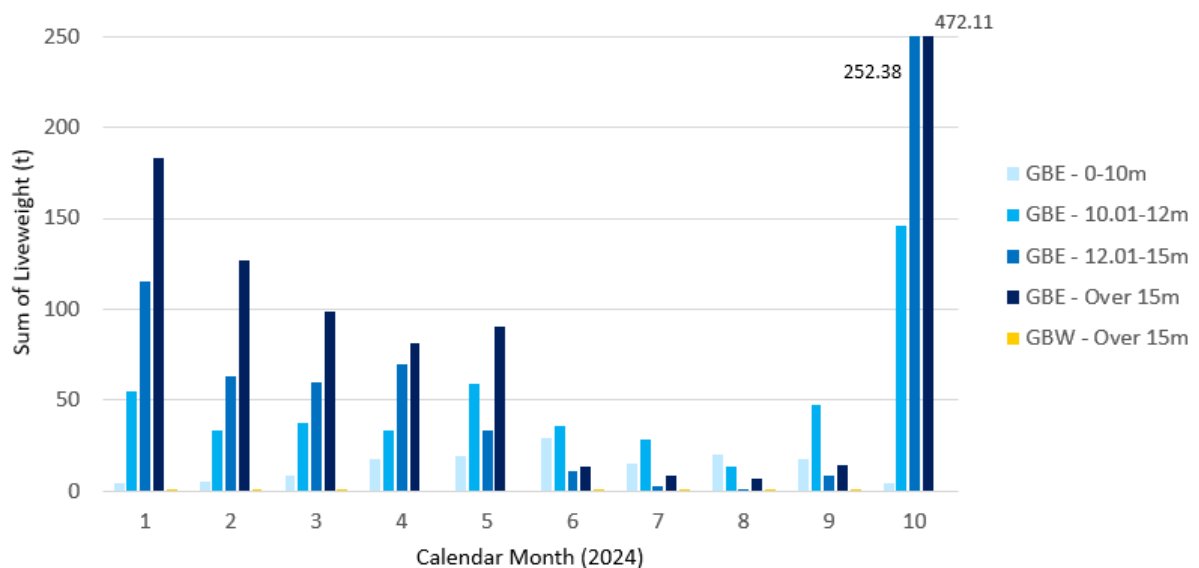


Figure 5: King scallop landings (t) in Lyme Bay area of 7e (ICES rectangles 29E6, 29E7, 30E6 and 30E7) during 2024.

ICES area 7e excluding Lyme Bay

King scallop landings in UK waters from UK and EU vessels in ICES area 7e excluding the Lyme Bay area during 2023 and 2024 had notable peaks from the UK over 15 m fleet from June to September in both years (see figures 6 & 7). The increased landings in the summer months were observed across all fleet sectors in both 2023 and 2024 (see figures 6 & 7). This trend of increased summer landings naturally occurs as 7e and the Channel Islands scallop fisheries produce high yields in the summer and offer good scallop fishing opportunities for all fleets. There is an overall reduction in landings in ICES area 7e which is also comparable to 7d (see figures 5 & 6).

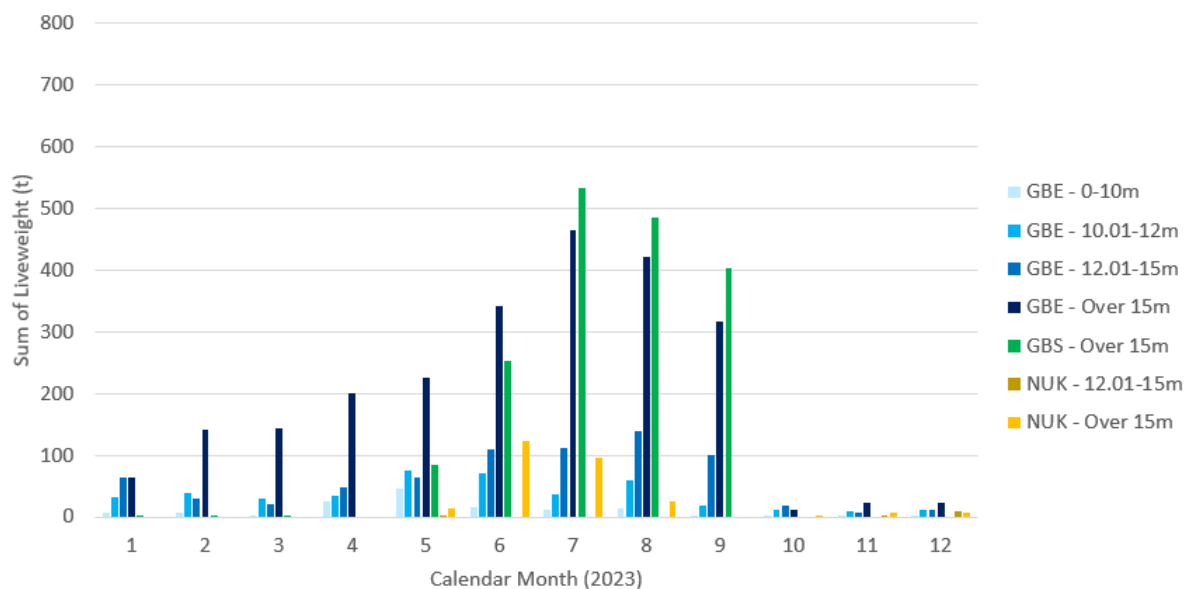


Figure 6: King scallop landings (t) in ICES area 7e excluding Lyme Bay (ICES rectangle 29E6, 29E7, 30E6 and 30E7) in 2023 by vessel sector and month

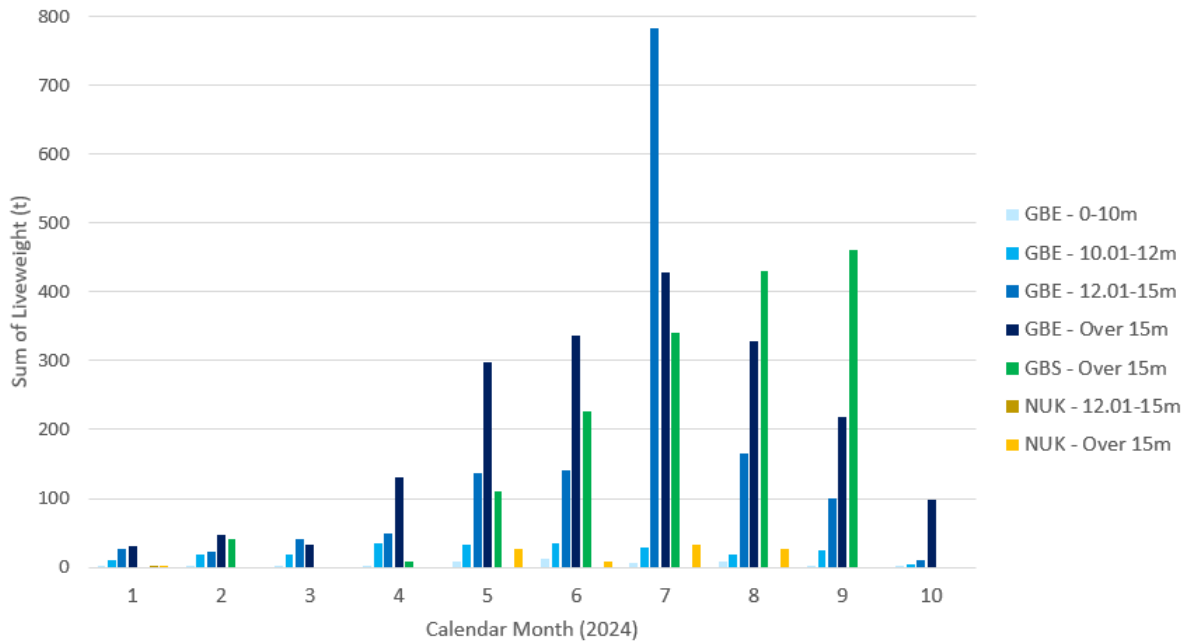


Figure 7: King scallop landings (t) in ICES area 7e excluding Lyme Bay (ICES rectangle 29E6, 29E7, 30E6 and 30E7) in 2024 by vessel sector and month. Data only available until July 2024.

Potential displacement

In 2023, the UK closure of 7d period covered 1 July to 30 September. An EU closure in 7d also occurred between 15 May and 30 September. Differing closure periods could result in displaced effort, and this was observed from EU 7d waters into UK 7d waters, resulting in an increase in king scallop landings by 15 metre and over vessels in 7d from 2022 – 2023 for the month of May.

The [2023 Call for Evidence](#) modelled a scenario for displacement during the suggested closure periods. The modelling was based on a worst-case scenario and suggested that 7d UK water would experience a 4.8% increase in effort from 7d EU and 7e would experience a 15% increase in effort from the closure 1 July – 30 September.

Data from the 2024 closure which ran from May 15 – 30 September showed a reduced total landing of scallops by UK vessels in the months of April and May 2024 before the closure, suggesting a reduction in potential temporal displacement in English waters from previous closures in 2002-2023.

In 2023, after the closure was introduced in June, all of the top 3 administrations landing of King Scallops (*Pecten maximus*) reduced total landings. English vessels fished primarily from 7e during closure months while Scottish vessels continue to target a mixture of areas. Isle of Man vessels continue to fish in 6a (figure 8).

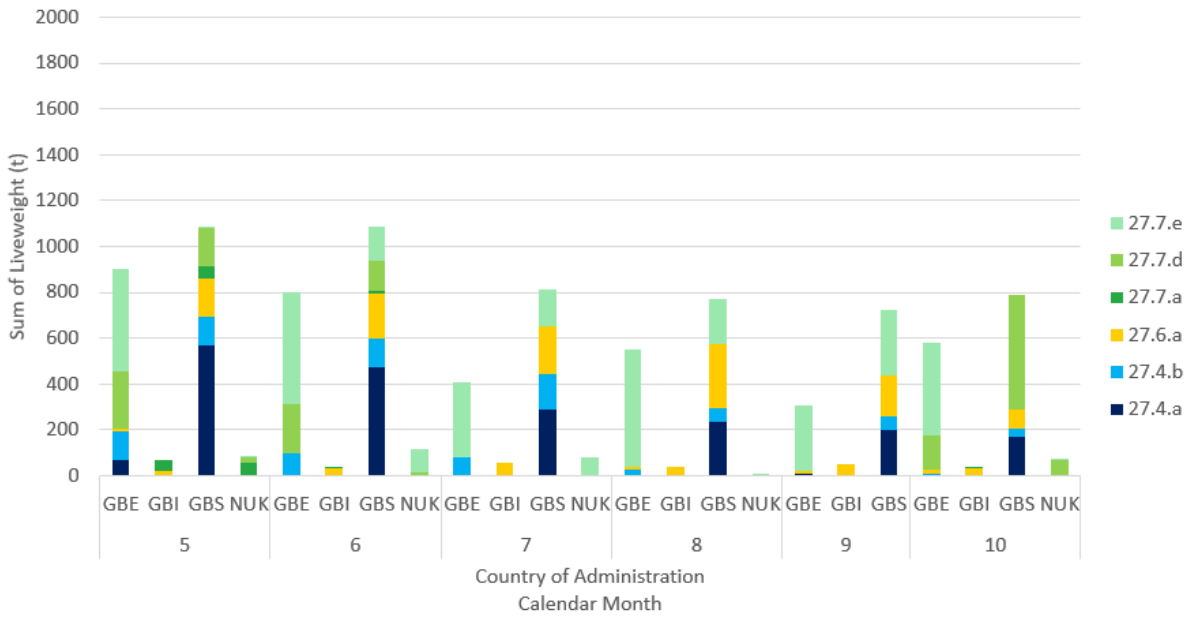


Figure 8a: Sum of liveweight (t) for each vessel administration landing King Scallops (*Pecten maximus*) from each ICES sub area during closure months in 2023 with one month either end.

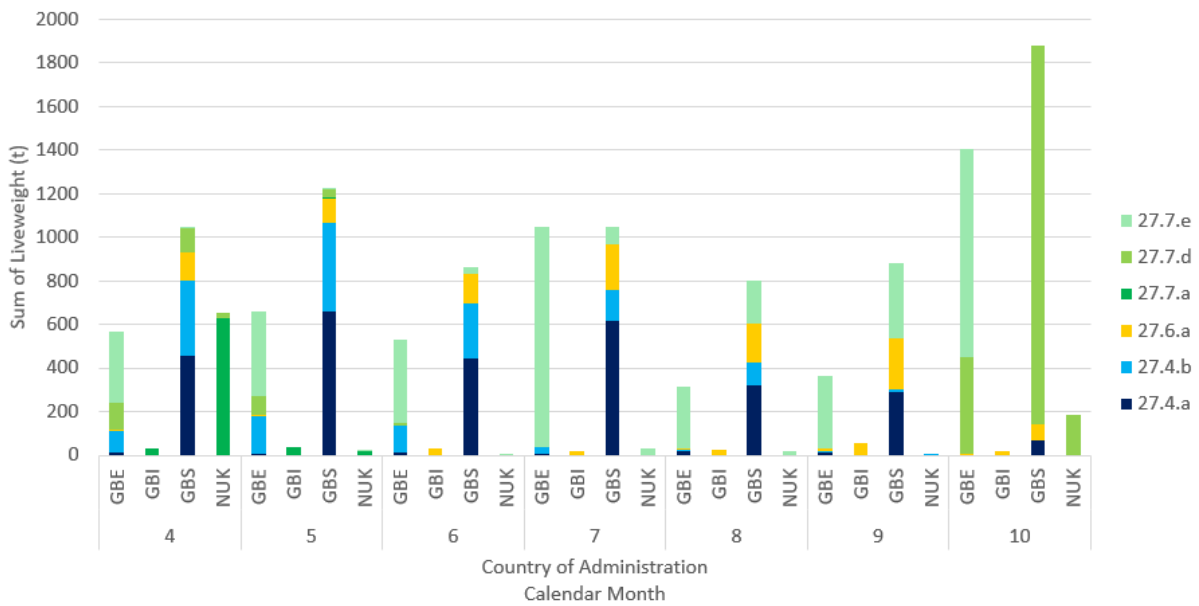


Figure 8b: Sum of liveweight (t) for each vessel administration landing King Scallops (*Pecten maximus*) from each ICES sub area during closure months in 2024 with one month either end.

Total landings from 7e increased during closure months each year, while 7a and 7d all decreased (figure 9). Area 6a demonstrated consistent landings across the years.

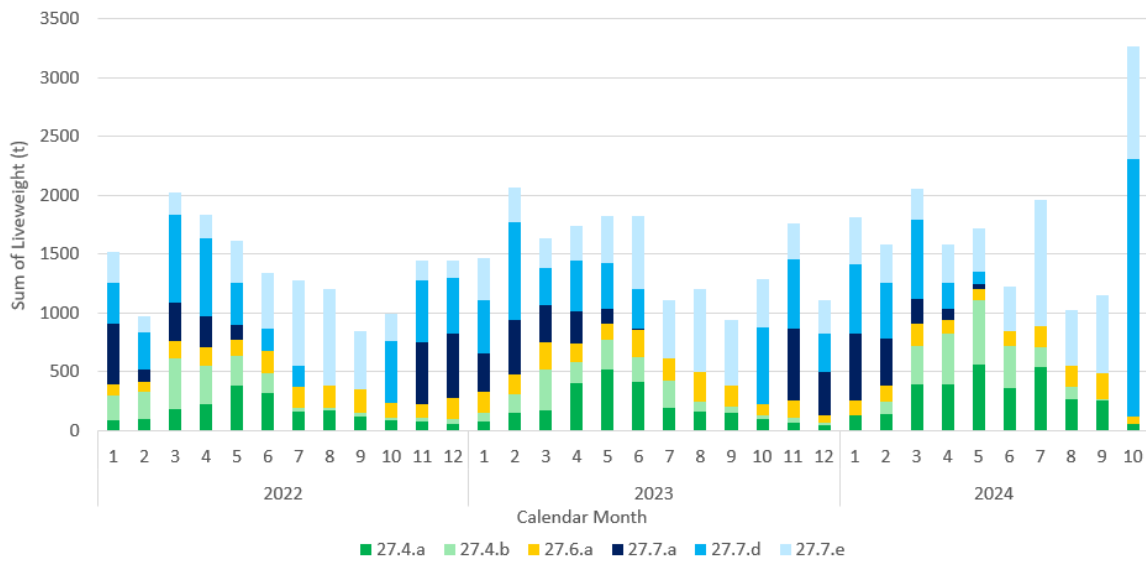


Figure 9: King scallop (*Pecten maximus*) monthly landings in tonnes from English Waters of ICES Area 7 for UK 10m+ vessels, from 2022 to July 2024.

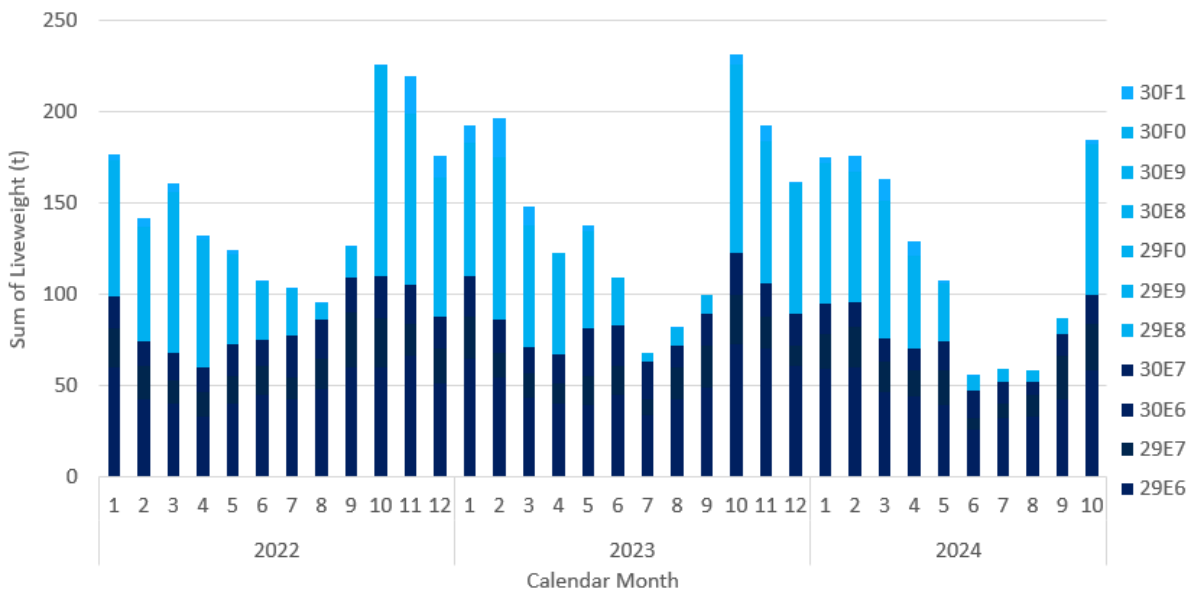


Figure 10: King scallop (*Pecten maximus*) monthly landings in tonnes for closure areas of Lyme Bay 7e (ICES rectangles 29E6, 29E7, 30E6 and 30E7) and closure areas of 7d (ICES rectangles 29E8, 29E9, 29F0, 30E8, 30E9, 30F0 and 30F1) for UK vessels.

During the 2024 consultation there were concerns raised regarding the change of effort and fishing activity that would be caused by the closures. There were concerns that fishing effort would be forced westward along the south coast of Cornwall and around the Channel Islands.

Channel Islands

The main fishing grounds in the Channel Islands are ICES rectangle 28E6 and 28E7, it should be noted that the mid channel potting boxes occupy both rectangles, the mid channel potting boxes are a voluntary agreement to exclude bottom towed gear

from those areas in the summer months as the grounds have been identified as a favoured summer site for the female edible crabs.

The Channel Islands landings data has shown consistent landings from 2023 to 2024 and fundamentally underpins the downward landing trend of the entire 7e area.

A question was raised during the 2024 closure regarding undertaking a review of landings data from different EU zones to help contextualise the discussion on management of stocks (see figure 11).

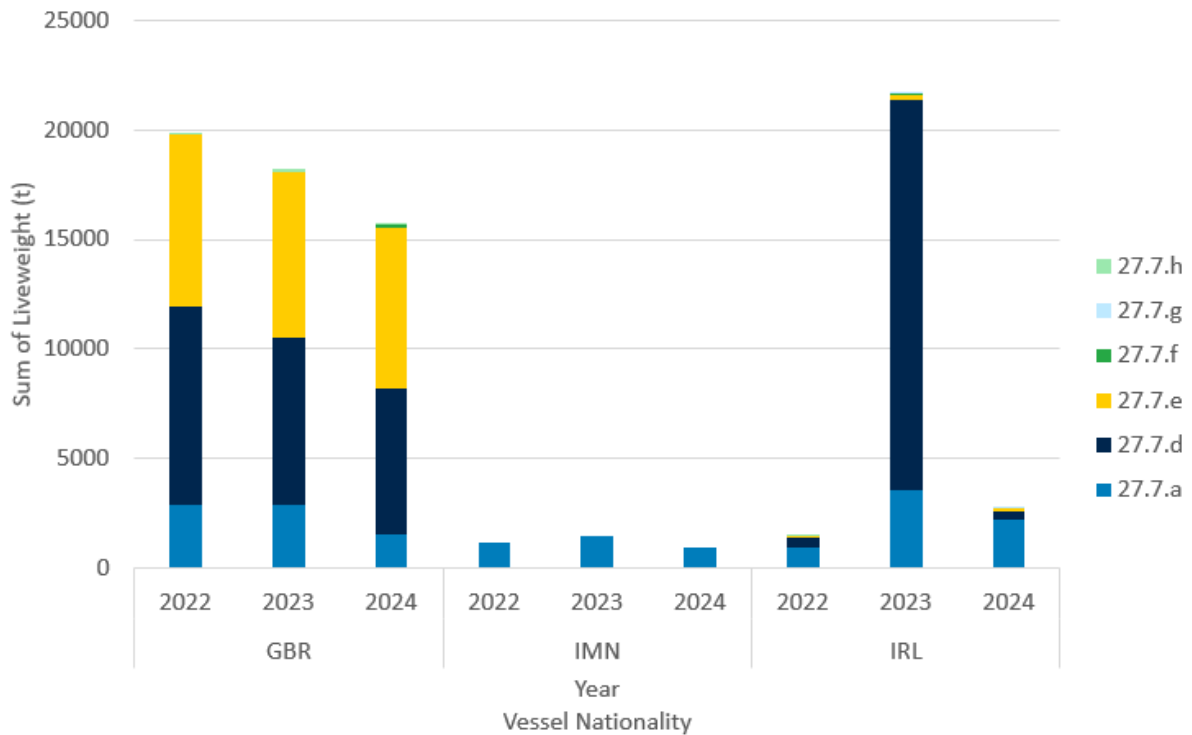
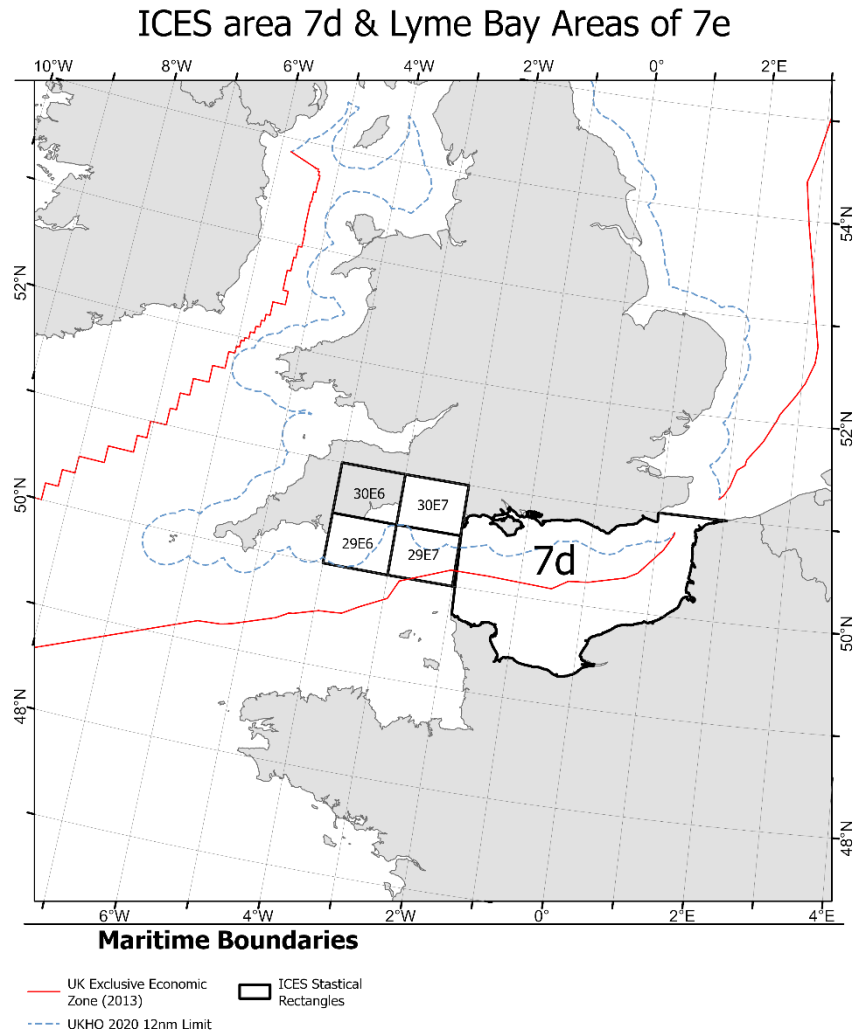


Figure 11: Total landings weight (t), of GBR, IMN and IRL vessels, all vessel sizes, 2022 - June 2024

In 2023 and 2024 the majority of scallops were caught in 27.7.e was by GBR. IMN in 27.7a in both 2023 and 2024 and IRL caught the majority of scallops in 27.7.d and 27.7.a.

Annex

Figure 12: Map of ICES area 7d and Lyme bay areas of 7e (defined in this context as sub-rectangles 30E6, 30E7, 29E6 and 29E7).



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Coordinate System: ETRS 1989 LAEA
Projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area

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