

NATIONAL CONTROL PROGRAMME FOR LANDING AND WEIGHING CONTROLS FOR HERRING, MACKEREL, HORSE MACKEREL & BLUE WHITING

IRELAND – JANUARY to DECEMBER 2017

IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATION 1224-2009, 404/2011 ART 107,
COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION 2012/807 & 2015/1944 AND SI
54/2016

INTRODUCTION

The Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) is the Competent Authority for the enforcement of Sea Fisheries Protection and Seafood Safety Legislation in the Republic of Ireland, the Irish EEZ and wherever Irish fishing vessels operate. This is done in partnership with the Naval Service and Air Corps. The SFPA's Headquarters is in Clonakilty Co. Cork and Sea Fisheries Protection Authority staff are based in each of the main Fishery Harbours throughout Ireland.

The National Control Programme for the control of landing and weighing of Herring, Mackerel, Horse Mackerel and Blue Whiting has been produced for the period January to December 2017 in accordance with Council Implementing Regulation 404 of 2011.

1. MEANS OF CONTROL

Human means

There are 6 Senior Port Officers and 58 Sea Fisheries Protection Officers that operate in the designated ports and surrounding areas as listed in paragraph 3. As part of their normal duties and subject to availability of resources they attend to landings of Herring, Mackerel, Horse Mackerel & Blue Whiting caught in the ICES subarea VI and VII landed in to these ports.

Technical means

There are 7 Naval Service patrol vessels and 2 Air Corps Maritime Patrol Aircraft that are deployed as required to monitor ICES subarea VI and VII

Financial means

There is no specific budget for Control of landing and weighing of Herring, Mackerel, Horse Mackerel & Blue Whiting. Expenditure on Control is taken from the National budget for all control activity.

2. ELECTRONIC RECORDING & REPORTING INFORMATION RELATING TO FISHING ACTIVITIES

Logbook checks

Information from paper logbooks is currently entered in the Integrated Fisheries Information System (IFIS) Database in SFPA Offices. The VMS information is transferred in real-time to the IFIS system and is automatically crosschecked against the logbook information for any discrepancies. With the Introduction of Elogbooks the logbook information is transferred electronically from Fishing Vessels greater than 15 metres to the ERS hub which is also part of the IFIS system

Compliance with prior notifications and designated ports

As part of their duties, Sea Fisheries Protection Officers (SFPO) check compliance with rules regarding pre notification requirements for landings in excess of 10 tonnes of Herring, Mackerel, Horse Mackerel and Blue Whiting in designated ports. SFPO's have real-time access to VMS in port offices to assist in these checks. All Inspections are recorded in the IFIS system. SFPO's also have online access to the Hail Message database.

3. DESIGNATION OF PORTS

Ireland has designated 10 ports for landings in excess of 10 tonnes of Herring, Mackerel, Horse Mackerel. Discharge of these species will only take place during the hours of 0800 until 2359 on the same date and only when authorised to do so by a SFPO. The ports are as follows:

Rathmullan, Co Donegal
Killybegs, Co. Donegal.
Rossaveal (Ros an Mhíl), Co. Galway.
An Daingean (Dingle), Co. Kerry.
Castletownbere, Co. Cork
Baltimore, Co. Cork
Port of Cork, Co. Cork.
Dunmore East, Co. Waterford.
Duncannon, Co Wexford (herring only)
Howth, Co. Dublin.

The designated ports for Blue Whiting are: Killybegs, Ros an Mhíl, Castletownbere, An Daingean and Rathmullan.

4. PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF RETURN DECLARATION (PNO)

European and National Legislation requires, that where applicable, a PNO (also known as “Hail” message) is sent to the Fisheries Monitoring Centre at least four hours before the estimated time of arrival at port and must contain at least the following information ;

- The external identification number and the name of the fishing vessel
- The name of the port of destination and the purpose of the call, such as landing, transshipment or access to services.
- The dates of the fishing trip and the relevant geographical areas in which the catches were taken
- The estimated date and time of arrival at port
- The quantities of each species recorded in the fishing log
- The quantities of each species to be landed or transhipped

For vessels fitted with Electronic Recording Systems (ERS), the PNO should be sent using these systems. Once received by the Irish Hub, an e-mail and Short Message Service (SMS) are automatically generated and forwarded to the Sea Fisheries Protection Officer’s (SFPO’s) associated with the intended port of landing.

For vessels not fitted with ERS the PNO should be sent by telephone, fax or email to the Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC). These messages are documented and the messages are then sent by e-mail and SMS to the SFPO’s associated with the intended port of landing.

The FMC Operator crosschecks the PNO details against the vessel’s Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) position to collaborate VMS accuracy where applicable. Furthermore the operator also confirms, where applicable, the reported ICES Zone against actual operating area.

As part of systematic checks SFPO’s compare the PNO details against the Fishing Log and as part of Inspections of vessels SFPO’s compare the PNO details against the Fishing Log and the actual quantities onboard.

5. LANDINGS CONTROL

Sea Fisheries Protection Officers are rostered as required to carry out fisheries control Inspections as required. Inspections are carried out in accordance with a comprehensive SOP on Pelagic landings. Inspections will include weighing of the fish, road tankers and monitoring weighing systems in pelagic processing plants. All Inspections are recorded electronically in the IFIS database.

By way of derogation from Art 79 (1) of Commission Implementing Regulation No 404/2011, these pelagic species may be weighed after transport to a destination within

Ireland subject to Control Plan being in place and approved by Commission or to a destination in another Member State subject to a Common Control Programme being in place and approved by Commission.

If the fish is being transported either within a port area or outside a port area the transporter will be required to provide a transport document as outlined in Art 68 (5) of Commission Implementing Regulation No 404/2011.

Transport inspections if applicable are carried out during the course of vessel Inspections. Separate Transport Inspections are also conducted when required at ports of landing and in other appropriate locations. Transport documents are inspected during the course of routine landing inspections. The SFPA has also carried out transport inspections in cooperation with other MS. A separate Standing Operating Procedure has been adopted in order to inform Inspectors on the procedure.

The inspection benchmarks are set out in paragraph 7.

6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES

(a) Inspection Procedures. The Sea Fisheries Protection Authority has produced a comprehensive Protocol for Inspectors for Pelagic landings. The Naval Service are tasked with carrying out Sea Inspections and has Inspection protocols in place as per the Naval Service Fishery Protection Manual, Boarding Officers Guide and Naval Directives on Fishing.

(b) Communications with the Competent Authorities of Other Member States. The Competent Authority with responsibility for the National Control Programme in respect to the landing and weighing of Herring, Mackerel, Horse Mackerel & Blue Whiting in Ireland is the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority. As established under other control regimes contact is initially on an FMC to FMC basis for operational enquiries without reach contact facilities thereafter to the appropriate shore based staff and Sea Fisheries Protection Authority management.

(c) SFPA Sea Fisheries Protection Officers and Naval personnel are fully trained and qualified to the specification required to act as Community Inspectors when involved in either joint operations bi-laterally with another Member state or as part of a planned JDP programme under the auspices of the EFCA.

7. SPECIFIC INSPECTION BENCHMARKS

(a) Level of inspection in ports

Based on fishing patterns/landings and in order to achieve the benchmark figures as laid out in the Art 107 of Commission Implementing Regulation 404/2011 for the 12 month period January to December 2017, Ireland proposes to carryout Inspections as follows subject to the availability of Resources:

A total of 651 individual landings of pelagic species in excess of 10 tonnes caught in ICES Areas VI and VII were made in to the designated ports in 2016. These landings were made by Irish, Norwegian, UK and Danish vessels. The number of landings by port office area is indicated in the Table below. As per article 107 of Commission Implementing Regulation 404/2011 at least 7.5% of all quantities landed must also be subject to a full inspection along with 5% of all landings. A total of 127793 tonnes of Mackerel, herring, blue whiting and horse mackerel were landed in 2016, therefore based on 2016 landings a minimum of 114453.6 tonnes of pelagic species must be subject to a full inspection in 2017.

| Port Office Area | No. of Landings in 2017 |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| CLONAKILTY | 47 |
| CASTLETOWNBERE | 41 |
| DUNMORE EAST | 70 |
| DINGLE | 17 |
| HOWTH | 33 |
| KILLYBEGS | 430 |
| ROS A MHIL | 16 |
| Total | 654 |

A detailed Inspection Benchmark for Each Area is attached at Annex 1.

(b) Level of Inspection of Marketing

Ireland does not require pelagic species landed to be sold through an Auction Hall. Accordingly the amount sold in Auction Halls is minimal.

(c) Level of Inspection at Sea

Ireland has not set a specific target for the number of seagoing patrols and Inspections at Sea in relation to the pelagic fishery in ICES subarea VI and VII. Seagoing Patrols and Sea Inspections are carried out on a regular basis and as required depending on the level of activity in the area based on risk management of this fishery. This includes activities such as collecting data and information, analysing and assessing risk, prescribing and taking action and regular monitoring and review of this process and its outcomes. This risk management process will be based on international, community, or national sources and strategies.

(d) Level of aerial surveillance

Ireland has not set a specific target for the number of aerial patrols in ICES subarea VI and VII. Aerial Patrols are carried out on a regular basis and as required depending on the level of activity in the area based on risk management of this fishery. This includes activities such as collecting data and information, analysing and assessing risk, prescribing and taking action and regular monitoring and review of this process and its outcomes. This risk management process will be based on international, community, or national sources and strategies.

(e) Official Controls

Art 60 of CIR 1224-2009 requires weighing on landing. In cases where no permit has been provided for weighing after transport in accordance with CIR Art 61 the fishery will be subject to a program of official controls to verify operator compliance with these provisions, and ensure accuracy of weighing. The program will be risk-based and in accordance with the criteria established in Annex XIX(19) of Regulation (EU) No 404 of 2011. The inspection program will include but not be limited to:

- Landing Inspections.
 - o Weighing in the presence of SFPA
 - o Sample weighing by SFPA
 - o Inspection of weighing records
 - o Validation of calibration, and approval of weighing systems
- Transport inspections
 - o Transport document validation
 - o Species verification and sample weighing
- Inspections after transport at auctions/buyers/processors
- Desk top analysis and documentary cross-checks of
 - o Prior-notification, log sheets, landing declarations, sales notes and any other relevant documentation

Annex 1 – Detailed Port Inspection Benchmark

Based on the Historical landings in excess of 10 tonnes of pelagic species in each Port Office area, the requirements will be mainly focussed on the main designated landing ports. The below table refers to the inspection benchmark for 2017 where a full inspection will be conducted.

- Killybegs Port Area
- An Daingean Port Area
- Castletownbere Port Area
- Clonakilty Port Area
- Ros a Mhíl Port Area
- Dunmore East Port Area
- Howth Port Area

| Port Office Area | No. of Landings in excess of 10 Tonne In 2016 | Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| CLONAKILTY | 47 | 2 |
| CASTLETOWNBERE | 41 | 2 |
| DUNMORE EAST | 70 | 3 |
| AN DAINGEAN (DINGLE) | 17 | 1 |
| ROS A MHIL | 33 | 2 |
| KILLYBEGS | 430 | 22 |
| HOWTH | 16 | 1 |
| Total (To Achieve 5%) | 654 | 33 |

The following are specific landing and weighing control measures for each of the Port areas where landings took place in excess of 10 tonnes of pelagic species. These tables indicate the figure to achieve the 5% benchmark of pelagic full inspections in excess of 10 tonnes.

Specific Pelagic Control Plan for Dunmore East Port Area

Landings generally occur in conjunction with the pelagic season mainly Jan to March and Sept to Dec each year landings in this area mainly by local Irish vessels.

| Port | No. of Landings 2016 In excess of 10 tonne | Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Dunmore East | 66 | 3 |
| Duncannon | 4 | 0 |
| Total (To achieve 5%) | 70 | 3 |

Specific Pelagic Control Plan for Killybegs Port Area

Landings of pelagic species in to the Killybegs area occur from Jan – March and Sept – Dec landings are made mainly by Norwegian, UK, Danish and Irish vessels.

| Port | No. of Landings 2016 In excess of 10 tonne | Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Killybegs | 430 | 22 |
| Rathmullen | 0 | 0 |
| Greencastle | 0 | 0 |
| Total (To achieve 5%) | 430 | 22 |

Specific Pelagic Control Plan for Clonakilty Port Area

Landings of Pelagic take place from Jan – March and Sept – Dec mainly by Irish vessels. The Clonakilty port area only has two designated ports for landing and weighing of pelagic species with is covered by staff based in the Clonakilty and Mahon offices.

| Port | No. of Landings 2016 In excess of 10 tonne | Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Ringaskiddy | 47 | 2 |
| Total (To achieve 5%) | 47 | 2 |

Specific Pelagic Control Plan for Castletownbere Port Area

Landings of Pelagic species in to the Castletownbere area occur seasonally from Jan – Mar and Sept - Dec. It tends to be mainly Irish vessels landing these species in to the Castletownbere area.

| Port | No. of Landings 2016 In excess of 10 tonne | Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Castletownbere | 29 | 1 |
| Baltimore | 12 | 1 |
| Total (To achieve 5%) | 41 | 2 |

Specific Pelagic Control Plan for An Daingean (Dingle) Port Area

Landings of Pelagic species take place seasonally from Jan – Mar and Sept – Dec mainly by Irish vessels.

| Port | No. of Landings 2016 In excess of 10 tonne | Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| An Daingean (Dingle) | 17 | 1 |
| Total (To achieve 5%) | 17 | 1 |

Specific Pelagic Control Plan for Ros A Mhíl Port Area

Pelagic landings again occur seasonally from Jan – Mar and Sept – Dec and tend mainly to be Local Irish vessels.

| Port | No. of Landings 2016 In excess of 10 tonne | Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Ros A Mhíl | 16 | 1 |
| Total (To achieve 5%) | 16 | 1 |

Inspection by weight

The following are specific landing and weighing control measures for each of the Port areas where landings took place in excess of 10 tonnes of pelagic species. These tables indicate the figure to achieve the 7.5% inspection benchmark of the quantities of all pelagic species landed in excess of 10 tonnes in to the following ports.

Dunmore East Port Area

| Port | Quantities of Herring, Mackerel, Blue whiting or Horse Mackerel landed 2016 | 7.5% Pelagic Quantities Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|--------------|---|---|
| Dunmore East | 2323t | 174t |
| Duncannon | 50t | 4t |

Killybegs Port Area

| Port | Quantities of Herring, Mackerel, Blue Whiting or Horse Mackerel landed 2016 | 7.5% Pelagic Quantities Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|-----------|---|---|
| Killybegs | 113849t | 8539t |

Clonakilty Port Area

| Port | Quantities of Herring, Mackerel, Blue Whiting or Horse Mackerel | 7.5% Pelagic Quantities Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|------|---|---|
| | | |

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| | landed 2016 | |
| Port of Cork | 3382t | 253.7t |

Castletownbere Port Area

| Port | Quantities of Herring, Mackerel, Blue Whiting or Horse Mackerel landed 2016 | 7.5% Pelagic Quantities Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| Castletownbere | 2753t | 206.5t |
| Baltimore | 1014t | 76t |

Dingle Port Area

| Port | Quantities of Herring, Mackerel, Blue Whiting or Horse Mackerel landed 2016 | 7.5% Pelagic Quantities Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|---------------|--|--|
| Dingle | 1337t | 100.3t |

Ros A Mhíl Port Area

| Port | Quantities of Herring, Mackerel, Blue Whiting or Horse Mackerel landed 2016 | 7.5% Pelagic Quantities Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Ros A Mhíl | 115t | 8.6t |

Howth Port Area

| Port | Quantities of Herring, Mackerel, Blue Whiting or Horse Mackerel landed 2016 | 7.5% Pelagic Quantities Inspection Benchmark for 2017 |
|--------------|--|--|
| Howth | 2137t | 160t |