Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Fisheries Management Notice No. 63 of 2026

(November Mackerel Under 18 metre Fishery Quota Management Notice)

I, Timmy Dooley, Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, in exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 12 of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (No. 8 of 2006) and the Agriculture, Food and the Marine (Delegation of Ministerial Functions) (No. 2) Order 2025 (S.I. No. 368 of 2025), hereby issue the following Notice:

1.1 This Notice is the November Mackerel Under 18 metre Fishery Quota Management Notice 2026 (Fisheries Management Notice No. 63 of 2026).

1.2 This Notice comes into force on 01 November 2026 and ceases to have effect on 01 December 2026.

2. In this Notice:

"CECAF" means the Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic Fisheries;

"ICES" means the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea;

"Union waters" means European Union waters. Where this term is used in conjunction with an ICES or CECAF sub-area or division listed in Schedule 1, it means that only the European Union waters of that sub-area or division are included;

"length" means, in relation to a sea-fishing boat, the overall length of the boat, or the distance from the forepart of the stem of the boat to the aft side of the head of the sternpost of the boat or to the foreside of the rudder stock;

"mackerel authorisation" means an authorisation to fish for mackerel (*Scomber scombrus)* granted under section 13 of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006;

"Catch retention and landing restrictions" means the total quantity, in tonnes live weight, of that species of fish in column (1) a quantity of which, greater than that specified in

column (3), may not be retained onboard or landed by an Irish sea-fishing boat, dependant on the particular vessel's length and/or fishing method during November 2026;

"fishing area" means waters falling within the ICES sub-areas and divisions listed in Schedule 1 as defined in Annex III to Regulation (EC) No. 218/2009[1] of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009, as amended.

3. During November 2026, a person on board an Irish sea-fishing boat less than 18 metres in length overall to which a Tier 2 mackerel authorisation has not been granted, fishing for mackerel by means other than hooks and lines in a fishing area listed in column (2) of Schedule (1), shall not have, or retain on board or land (or cause or permit another person to have or retain on board or land), a quantity of mackerel that is greater than the quantity specified in column (3) if the fish was caught in that fishing area either on a single occasion or when combined with previous landings by that boat of that species of fish caught in the specified area in November 2026.

Schedule 1 Catch retention and landing restrictions in relation to an Irish sea-fishing boat less than 18 metres in length in respect of which a Tier 2 mackerel authorisation is not extant		
Species of fish (1)	**Fishing area (2)**	**Limit for boats less than 18 metres in length (3)**
MACKEREL (*Scomber scombrus*)	6, 7, 8a, 8b, 8d and 8e; United Kingdom and international waters of 5b; international waters of 2a, 12 and 14 (MAC/2CX14-)	2 tonnes

[1] O.J. L 87, 31.3.2009, pp. 70-108

4. ADVANCE NOTICE OF LANDINGS

The master of an Irish sea-fishing boat or his agent shall give not less than 1 hour notification of his intention to enter port for quantities of mackerel over 250kg.

For landings in a port in the Republic of Ireland notification should be made to the IRISH FISHERIES MONITORING CENTRE by telephone (T) 00 353 21 4378752, by e-mail fmcireland@defenceforces.ie, or for landings outside Ireland to the Competent Authorities of the Member State in which the landing is to be made. Furthermore, for landings in third countries, notifications should be made to the competent authorities of that third country in which the landing is to be made.

The notification shall include:

- the name of the boat;
- the designated port of landing;
- the estimated time of arrival in the designated port;
- the intended time of landing the catch;
- the quantities in kilograms live weight of all species retained on board;
- the management area where the catch was taken;
- contact details.

Fishing boats with fully functioning ERS should submit these requirements via PNO.

GIVEN under my hand,

26 October 2026 at 16:00 hours

Timmy Dooley,

Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the instrument and does not purport to be a legal interpretation)

This Notice sets restrictions on the catching, retaining on board, or landing of mackerel by under 18 metre boats without a Tier 2 Mackerel Authorisation, fishing for Mackerel by means other than hooks and lines during November 2026.

(FMN 2026/63)