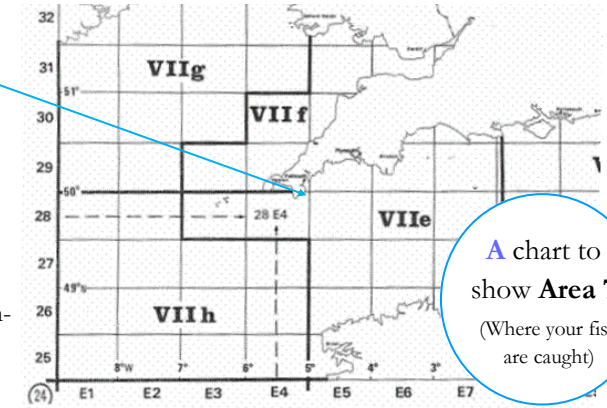


Quota Information 2018 Area 7 (Western Approaches)



Home for us



Quota Results for 2018 Area 7		
Species	Increase in Quota (%)	Decrease in Quota (%)
Cod	9 %	
Coley (Saithe)	Roll over	
Dover Sole e	2 %	
Dover Sole fg	9 %	
Dover Sole hjk	Roll over	
Haddock		11 %
Hake		7 %
Ling	Roll over	
Megrim Sole		10 %
Monk	Roll over	
Plaice de	3 %	
Plaice fg	48 %	
Plaice hjk	Roll over	
Pollack	No Change	

Wild Bass : a new package of measures were agreed by EU Fisheries Ministers for 2018 that builds on the measures introduced in 2017. The objective is clear and is to secure harvesting of Bass for the long term. The measures agreed will ensure the Bass caught and landed by our fisherman is done so at a sustainable level.

When discussing sustainability with our customers, they often say they don't know what to believe, what to tell their customers or where to get the correct information.

First of all, there are fish in the sea and the fisheries we buy from are managed sustainably and responsibly. Sound fisheries management ensures that there is a breeding biomass that is carefully protected. The EU has agreed a timetable which will ensure all stocks are fished at a sustainable level by 2020. This level is called the Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY), in lay-man's terms a level of fishing which is sustainable in terms of the stock and will continue to give high yields over the long term for fisherman. The quotas we are discussing are set in line with this MSY commitment. Independent scientists give advice on catch levels based on stock assessments and fishing at levels consistent with MSY. EU fisheries ministers then agree on the total allowable catches (TACs) for each stock for the year ahead. Ministers take into account other factors that effect fish stocks such as mixed fisheries considerations, reducing discards and social impacts when setting TACs. There are many factors that can effect fish stocks such as climate change, pollution or other environmental factors but be sure the Cornish fisherman are doing all they can to ensure sustainable and well managed fisheries are there to hand onto the next generation.

The Positives from the December Fisheries Council:

Cod (9% increase) The long established 'Trevose Closure' (a Cornish Fishing Industry initiated closure 1st Feb-31st March of over 3,500 square miles to protect spawning Cod aggregations) is probably making a contribution to the improving stock.

Sole (2-9% increase) A sole management plan has been in place in the English Channel, our beamers fishing responsibly using mesh size in excess of legal minimums to select out small soles. Other net configurations that have improved selectivity have led to sole stocks being fished at levels consistent with the MSY (the gold standard in EU fisheries management). This positive works equals quota increases.

Plaice (3-48% increase) a large proportion of the Plaice landed is taken in the Sole fishery, so has benefited from the measures above. Recent work done shows good Plaice survivability in many of our fisheries, so a large percentage of any unwanted plaice tend to go back alive contributing to improving the stocks.

The Negatives from the December Fisheries Council:

Megrim (10% decrease) Ironically this stock biomass is at an historic high being assessed at being at full reproductive capacity, however the advice consistent with achieving MSY within 1 year means a short term reduction in catches. The Cornish Fleet accepts and will respect this level of quota, but will want to see improvements reflected in higher quotas for the coming year.

Haddock (11% decrease) The Cornish Fleet has been working closely with scientists and DEFRA officials with a number of gear trials to improve selectivity. Stock levels are improving, but again the cut is deemed necessary to achieve the MSY.

Hake (7% decrease) The stock is at an historic high. Fishing pressure is below the MSY levels and recruitment since 2012 remains above average. In 2015 Cornish Hake received the Gold Stamp of sustainability with MSC accreditation. A small cut is designed to ensure the stock continues to be fished at a sustainable level.

We are spoilt in the South West with up to thirty five species of fish being landed daily by the Cornish Fleet into our local markets. **Many of these fish have no quota restrictions at all, these include Squid, Cuttlefish, Octopus, John Dory, Sardines, Lemon Soles, Gurnard, Turbot, Grey Mullet, Brill, Red Mullet** and many others. We have Monk, Ling, Pollack and Coley 'roll over' quotas from last year which suggest stock stability.

For over forty years we have been catching and selling fish and much has changed in his time; seasons of fish, volumes of fish and the consumers point of view. As your supplier it is our aim to form a relationship, where you are confident that we will supply you with the highest quality fish, sourced in the most responsible manor and at the best possible price.



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