

IS&EFPO LTD

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12th January 2021.

Dear Committee Members

I am writing to you on behalf of the members of the Irish South and East Fish Producers Organisation, whom because of our location have taken a direct negative impact from the Brexit trade deal between the EU and the UK. The loss of demersal and shellfish quota for area VII in which our fleet operate the most, equates to €10.85m per annum more than quarter of the earnings for the whole fleet per annum in this area.

Below is a table showing the reductions in quotas and relevant earnings as a result of this deal.

	ICES AREA	QUOTA 2020	QUOTA Post BREXIT	Difference	Overall % Change	Price per tonne	Cost of Brexit	% of the total value of Brexit transfer
Cod	7a	170	129	-41	-24%	€3,297	-€135,782	0.3%
Cod	7b, 7c, 7e-k, 8, 9 10	461	418	-43	-9%	€3,297	-€141,510	0.3%
Megrim	7	3,101	2,842	-259	-8%	€3,192	-€828,068	2.0%
Anglerfish	7	2,675	2,499	-176	-7%	€4,852	-€853,994	2.1%
Haddock	7b-k, 8, 9 10	2,413	2,140	-273	-11%	€2,047	-€558,940	1.3%
Haddock	7a	1,366	1,153	-213	-16%	€2,047	-€435,403	1.0%
Whiting	7a	415	259	-156	-38%	€1,453	-€226,592	0.5%
Whiting	7b-k	4,072	4,214	142	3%	€1,453	€206,911	-0.5%
Plaice	7a	1,442	1,242	-200	-14%	€1,965	-€393,062	0.9%
Plaice	7b 7c	63	67	4	6%	€1,965	€7,074	0.0%
Plaice	7f 7g	255	250	-5	-2%	€1,965	-€9,353	0.0%
Plaice	7h, 7j 7k	30	28	-2	-7%	€1,965	-€3,996	0.0%
Pollack	7	929	844	-85	-9%	€2,523	-€214,676	0.5%
Saithe	7, 8, 9 10Nor S 62° N	1,491	1,492	1	0%	€1,569	€1,354	0.0%
Common sole	7a	77	77	0	0%	€9,190	-€2,716	0.0%
Common sole	7b 7c	36	36	0	-1%	€9,190	-€1,838	0.0%
Common sole	7f 7g	52	47	-5	-10%	€9,190	-€49,814	0.1%

Common sole	7h, 7j 7k	148	148	0	0%	€9,190	€0	0.0%
Norway lobster	7	6,201	5,352	-849	-14%	€8,500	-€7,213,307	17.4%
Norway Lobster	Functional Unit 16							0.0%
Totals		25,397	23,236	-2,161	-9%	Average €4150	-€10,853,711	26%

This table shows the cost of Brexit for demersal and shellfish quota in area VII with VIIA being particularly hard hit. It is also incredible that Ireland now only have a 1% share of the Irish sea herring and the UK has walked away with 99% of this valuable fishery.

At all times prior to Brexit the fishing industry was assured and particularly during any reform of the CFP that our legal share [known as relative stability] was our legal share enshrined in European law and could not under any consideration be changed. I am asking you now has the status of relative stability changed as our legal share has been traded away as a gift to the UK in the final hours of the Brexit deal.

Minus 14% on 2020 quotas

Minus 8% Whitefish

Minus 13% shellfish

Minus 15% pelagic

This amounts to a massive €41,555,998 or more of revenue taken from the Irish fishing fleet every year for ever more. This has been gifted to the UK based on the argument put forward by the UK of zonal attachment of the coastal state. Ireland is also a country with zonal attachment to these waters of the North East Atlantic, but this seems to have been given no credence in the way our fish has been gifted to the UK in exchange for a brexit deal. With the commission now disposed to discussing zonal attachment to fishing areas perhaps Ireland has a case of its own to fight here and look for our rightful share of the fish that swim ,spawn and feed in the waters around our island.

The loses due to Brexit will ensure a large portion of the Irish fishing fleet will be unviable for the future and these figures do not include the negative effects of these losses on all fishing related ancillary industries. These losses are unsustainable for the Irish fishing industry as a whole and we implore our government and our European commission to return our legal share of the catch including the Hague preferences which we believe are part of our legal share and fulfil the promises made to us at the outset of the Brexit process, that Free Trade after Brexit would be linked to access and quota share being untouched.

Yours faithfully,

John Lynch
Chairman ISEFPO