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[Fishing vessel weekly licence variations - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

27 May 2021

SCOTTISH INSHORE (LINE) MACKEREL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS IN AREAS IV AND VI FOR 2021

North Sea mackerel fishery

- Allocation for Scottish 10 metre and under, non-sector vessels will be 1,050 tonnes. The shares by geographic sub-group can be found at the bottom of this document.
- Allocation for Scottish over 10 metre, non-sector vessels will be 100 tonnes.
- These fisheries will all open from 1 June
- The 10mu fleet will continue to be managed via a fortnightly catch limit.
- It is important that 10mu skippers check the weekly variations page, [Fishing vessel weekly licence variations - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot), to ensure the 2-week period in operation and the catch limit for the current period.
- The >10m fleet will be managed by a monthly limit.

Western mackerel fishery

- Allocation for Scottish 10 meter and under, non-sector vessels will be 300 tonnes.
- Allocation for Scottish over 10m, non-sector vessels will be 100 tonnes.
- To assist with the management of fishing opportunities, Marine Scotland can enable some of this quota to be landed by vessels operating in sea area 4a.
- Use of this 'flexibility' quota will be managed by Marine Scotland as the fishery progresses in all sea areas.

General management and compliance considerations

- Catch limits will be published every week via the electronic Licensing Variations on the Marine Scotland website.
- All skippers are obligated to check the variations section of the Marine Scotland website on a weekly basis.
- FISH1 forms are to be submitted within 48 hours of the end of the fishing week (2359 each Saturday).
- Marine Scotland reminds vessel owners fishing against pool allocations, that all fish must be caught and landed by the licensed vessel and that the catch must not be transhipped or transferred prior to landing. Pool catch limits are not transferable between vessels.
- Marine Scotland may review the management of the pool allocations in 2021 and beyond if there are reports of the transfer of catch between vessels.
- Marine Scotland's policy aim for this fishery is that it delivers a 'premium' product to market, generating a higher price per unit.

- Marine Scotland may restrict catch limits or move to a weekly limit where an oversupply of mackerel to the market is creating a drop in value.
- Marine Scotland encourages rIFGs and local FAs to be our primary point of contact for the in-year management of the inshore mackerel fisheries and looks forward to discussing in-year management of the inshore mackerel fisheries with the industry.
- As in previous years, Marine Scotland will continually review uptake within the sub-groups and assess if any likely unutilised quota should be made available to other sub-groups.

Initial allocation of NS mackerel by sub-group for 10mu pool

Sub-group ¹	Allocation
Shetland	357 tonnes
Orkney	100 tonnes
Moray Firth	357 tonnes
4b	250 tonnes

Yours faithfully

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¹ Detail on the grouping of individual vessels can be found in the published Scottish Quota Management Rules document, [Scottish Quota Management Rules 2021 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot/Scottish-Quota-Management-Rules-2021)