

**Changes to legislation:** There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

## ANNEX VII

### SOUTH WESTERN WATERS

#### PART A

#### Minimum conservation reference sizes

Species	Whole area
Cod ( <i>Gadus morhua</i> )	35 cm
Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> )	30 cm
Saithe ( <i>Pollachius virens</i> )	35 cm
Pollack ( <i>Pollachius pollachius</i> )	30 cm
Hake ( <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> )	27 cm
Megrim ( <i>Lepidorhombus</i> spp.)	20 cm
Sole ( <i>Solea</i> spp.)	24 cm
Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )	27 cm
Whiting ( <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> )	27 cm
Ling ( <i>Molva molva</i> )	63 cm
Blue ling ( <i>Molva dypterygia</i> )	70 cm
Norway lobster ( <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> )	Total length 70 mm, Carapace length 20 mm
Norway Lobster tails	37 mm
Mackerel ( <i>Scomber</i> spp.)	20 cm <sup>f</sup>
Herring ( <i>Clupea harengus</i> )	20 cm <sup>f</sup>
Horse mackerel ( <i>Trachurus</i> spp.)	15 cm <sup>f1</sup> ...fg
Anchovy ( <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i> )	12 cm or 90 individuals per kg <sup>f1</sup> ...f
Bass ( <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i> )	36 cm
Sardine ( <i>Sardina pilchardus</i> )	11 cm <sup>f</sup>
Red sea-bream ( <i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i> )	33 cm
Lobster ( <i>Hommarus gammarus</i> )	87 mm
Spinous spider crab ( <i>Maja squinado</i> )	120 mm
Queen scallop ( <i>Chlamys</i> spp.)	40 mm
Grooved carpetshell ( <i>Ruditapes decussatus</i> )	40 mm

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Carpetshell ( <i>Venerupis pullastra</i> )	38 mm
Short-necked clam ( <i>Venerupis philippinarum</i> )	35 mm
Clam ( <i>Venus verrucosa</i> )	40 mm
Hard clam ( <i>Callista chione</i> )	6 cm
Razor clam ( <i>Ensis</i> spp.)	10 cm
Surf clams ( <i>Spisula solida</i> )	25 mm
Donax clams ( <i>Donax</i> spp.)	25 mm
Bean solen ( <i>Pharus legumen</i> )	65 mm
Whelk ( <i>Buccinum undatum</i> .)	45 mm
Octopus ( <i>Octopus vulgaris</i> )	750 g F1 ...
Crawfish ( <i>Palinurus</i> spp.)	95 mm
Deepwater rose shrimp ( <i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i> )	22 mm (carapace length)
Edible crab ( <i>Cancer pagurus</i> )	140 mm <sup>de</sup>
Scallop ( <i>Pecten maximus</i> )	100 mm
a	F1...
b	F1...
c	F1...
d	In [F2United Kingdom] waters in ICES [F3sub-area 8] a minimum conservation reference size of 130 mm shall apply.
e	For edible crabs caught in pots or creels, a maximum of 1 % by weight of the total catch of edible crab may consist of detached claws. For edible crabs caught with any other fishing gear, a maximum of 75 kg of detached crab claws may be landed.
f	By way of derogation from Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, the minimum conservation reference sizes of sardine, anchovy, herring, horse mackerel and mackerel shall not apply within a limit of 10 % by live weight of the total catches retained on board of each of those species. The percentage of sardine, anchovy, herring, horse mackerel or mackerel below the minimum conservation reference size shall be calculated as the proportion by live weight of all marine organisms on board after sorting or on landing. The percentage may be calculated on the basis of one or more representative samples. The limit of 10 % shall not be exceeded during transshipment, landing, transportation, storage, display or sale.
g	No more than 5 % may consist of horse mackerel between 12 and 15 cm. For the purposes of the control of that quantity, the conversion factor to be applied to the weight of the catches shall be 1,20. These provisions shall not apply for catches subject to the landing obligation.

### Textual Amendments

- F1** Annex 7 Pt. A table footnotes omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (S.I. 2019/1312), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(a)(i)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F2** Words in Annex 7 Pt. A table footnote substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (S.I. 2019/1312), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(a)(ii)(aa)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

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- F3** Words in Annex 7 Pt. A table footnote substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(a)(ii)(bb)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

## PART B

### Mesh sizes

1. Baseline mesh sizes for towed gear
- 1.1. Without prejudice to the landing obligation, vessels shall use a mesh size of at least 70 mm<sup>(1)MIF4</sup> ...

#### Textual Amendments

- F4** Words in Annex 7 Pt. B point 1.1 omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(b)(i)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

#### Marginal Citations

- M1** For directed fishing for Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*), a square mesh panel of at least 100 mm or equivalent selectivity device shall be fitted when fishing in ICES [division 8d]. For directed fishing for sole with beam trawls, a panel with a mesh size of at least 180 mm fitted in the upper half of the anterior part of the net shall be fitted. [Editorial note: Words in Annex 7 Pt. B point 1.1 footnote substituted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(b)(iii)(cc)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)]

- 1.2. Without prejudice to the landing obligation and notwithstanding point 2.1, vessels may use smaller mesh sizes as listed in the following table for South Western waters provided that:
- (i) the associated conditions set out in that table are complied with, and by-catches of hake do not exceed 20 % of the total catch in live weight of all marine biological resources landed after each fishing trip; or
- (ii) other selectivity modifications are used which have been [<sup>F5</sup>approved by a fisheries administration following scientific assessment and approval]. Those selectivity modifications shall result in the same or better selectivity characteristics for hake as that of 70 mm<sup>F6</sup> ....

#### Textual Amendments

- F5** Words in Annex 7 Pt. B point 1.2(ii) substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(b)(ii)(aa)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F6** Words in Annex 7 Pt. B point 1.2(ii) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(b)(ii)(bb)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

Mesh Size	Geographical Areas	Conditions
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At least 55mm	Whole area F7 ...	Directed fishing for species not subject to catch limits and which are not covered elsewhere in the table Directed fishing for red sea bream Directed fishing for mackerel, horse mackerel and blue whiting with bottom trawls
At least 35mm	Whole area	Directed fishing for wedge sole
F8 ...	F8 ...	F8 ...
At least 16 mm	Whole area	Directed fishing for small pelagic species which are not covered elsewhere in the table Directed fishing for shrimps ( <i>Palaemon serratus</i> , <i>Crangon crangon</i> ), and crab ( <i>Polybius henslowi</i> )
Less than 16 mm	Whole area	Directed fishing for sandeel

#### Textual Amendments

- F7** Words in Annex 7 Pt. B point 1 table omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(b)(iii)(aa)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F8** Words in Annex 7 Pt. B point 1 table omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(b)(iii)(bb)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

2. Baseline mesh sizes for static nets and driftnets
- 2.1. Without prejudice to the landing obligation, vessels shall use a mesh size of at least 100 mm<sup>(2)F9</sup>...

#### Textual Amendments

- F9** Words in Annex 7 Pt. B point 2.1 omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(b)(iv)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

- 2.2. Without prejudice to the landing obligation, and notwithstanding point 2.1, vessels may use smaller mesh sizes as listed in the following table for the South Western waters provided that the associated conditions set out in that table are complied with, and by-catches of hake do not exceed 20 % of the total catch in live weight of all marine biological resources landed after each fishing trip.

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Mesh Size	Geographical Areas	Conditions
At least 80 mm	Whole area F10 ...	Directed fishing for sea bass, whiting, turbot, flounder and pollack
At least 60 mm	Whole area	Directed fishing for species not subject to catch limits and which are not covered elsewhere in the table
At least 50 mm	Whole area	Directed fishing for small pelagic species <sup>a</sup> which are not covered elsewhere in the table
At least 40 mm	Whole area	Directed fishing for red mullet, shrimps ( <i>Penaeus</i> spp.), mantis shrimp, wedge sole and wrasse

**a** A mesh size of less than 40 mm may be used for sardines.

**Textual Amendments**

**F10** Words in Annex 7 Pt. B point 2 table omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(b)(v)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

PART C

**Closed or restricted areas**

F11<sup>1</sup>. .....

**Textual Amendments**

**F11** Annex 7 Pt. C point 1 omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(c)(i)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

F12<sup>2</sup>. .....

**Textual Amendments**

**F12** Annex 7 Pt. C point 2 omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(c)(i)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

F13<sup>3</sup>. .....

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#### Textual Amendments

**F13** Annex 7 Pt. C point 3 omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(c)(i)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

4. Use of static nets in <sup>F14</sup>United Kingdom waters of ICES division 8d]
- 4.1. In accordance with point (a) of Article 9(7) and by way of derogation from Part B, Point 2 of this Annex, it shall be permitted to use the following gear in waters with a charted depth of less than 600 m:
- Bottom set gillnets used for directed fishing for hake of a mesh size of at least <sup>F15</sup>100mm in United Kingdom waters of ICES division 8d] and no more than 100 meshes deep, where the total length of all nets deployed does not exceed 25 km per vessel and the maximum soak time is 24 hours.
  - Entangling nets used for directed fishing for anglerfish of a mesh size of at least 250 mm and no more than 15 meshes deep, where the total length of all nets deployed does not exceed 100 km and the maximum soak time is 72 hours.
  - <sup>F16</sup> ...

#### Textual Amendments

**F15** Words in Annex 7 Pt. C point 4.1 substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(c)(iii)(aa)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

**F16** Words in Annex 7 Pt. C point 4.1 omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(c)(iii)(bb)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

- 4.2. Directed fishing for deepwater sharks as listed in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2016/2336 in charted depths of less than 600 m shall be prohibited. When accidentally caught, deepwater sharks classified as prohibited in this Regulation and other <sup>F17</sup>... legislation shall be recorded, unharmed to the extent possible, and shall be promptly released. Deepwater sharks subject to catch limits shall be retained on board. Such catches shall be landed and counted against quotas. <sup>F18</sup>... Where accidental catches of deepwater sharks by <sup>F19</sup>United Kingdom fishing vessels] exceed 10 tonnes then those vessels may no longer avail of the derogations set out in point 4.1.

#### Textual Amendments

**F17** Word in Annex 7 Pt. C point 4.2 omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(c)(iv)(aa)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

**F18** Words in Annex 7 Pt. C point 4.2 omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(c)(iv)(bb)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

**F19** Words in Annex 7 Pt. C point 4.2 substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1312\)](#), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(c)(iv)(cc)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

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<sup>F20</sup> 4.3. ....

**Textual Amendments**

**F20** Annex 7 Pt. C point 4.3 omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (S.I. 2019/1312), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(c)(v)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

**Textual Amendments**

**F14** Words in Annex 7 Pt. C point 4 substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Common Fisheries Policy and Animals \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (S.I. 2019/1312), regs. 1(3), **5(36)(c)(ii)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

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- (1) This provision is without prejudice to Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 494/2002.
- (2) For directed fishing for anglerfish a mesh size of at least 220 mm shall be used.



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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- Regulation applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2023/959 reg. 4\(a\)Sch. 1](#)
- Annex 7 Pt. A table words inserted by [S.I. 2024/439 reg. 8\(5\)](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole legislation item and associated provisions**

- Annex 4 para. 10 inserted by [S.I. 2024/439 reg. 8\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Art.006(51) semicolon substituted for full stop by [S.I. 2023/1054 reg. 2\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 6(52)-(55) inserted by [S.I. 2023/1054 reg. 2\(2\)\(b\)](#)