



DEFA

Rheynn Chymmyltaght, Bee as Eirinyes
The Department of Environment, Food
and Agriculture

Fisheries Division
Rheynn Eastaght

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Manx King Scallop Fishery - 2023/24 Season

This Guidance Document provides a summary of the management measures set for the start of the 2023/24 king scallop season.

This document must be read in conjunction with the updated Isle of Man sea fishing licence Conditions, Schedule and Annexe.

This is not an official licensing document. It is intended for Guidance only.

The management measures set out in this document are subject to change.

It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of the latest changes to your licence and any 'Notice to Owners and Masters' issued by the Department.

Visit <https://www.gov.im/categories/business-and-industries/commercial-fishing/> for the latest version of the Conditions, Schedule and Annexe of your licence, and any recent Notice to Owners and Masters.

For all enquiries:

DEFA Fisheries Division
Thie Slieau Whallian
Foxdale Road
St John's
Isle of Man
IM4 3AS

Email: FisheriesEnquiries.DEFA@gov.im
Phone: +44 1624 685 857

1. ACCESS

Only those vessels that are authorised to fish for king scallops may participate in the fishery. Please refer to **Section C** of your **Isle of Man sea fishing licence**.

2. SEASON

The fishery will open on 01 November 2023, and close no later than 31 May 2024.

3. TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH

The Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the 2023/24 season is set at 2,179 t (20% increase from 2022/23 landings).

4. DAILY CATCH LIMIT

The Daily Catch Limit (DCL) is set at 800 kg. The DCL may be subject to change within the season.

Please refer to the **Annexe (Part III)** of your **Isle of Man sea fishing licence**.

5. CURFEW

Fishing for king scallops is prohibited between the hours of 1800 and 0600.

6. MINIMUM SIZE

You must not retain any king scallop below 110 mm.

7. VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEMS

Vessels 12 m and over overall length are required to have a VMS device installed and active when fishing for king scallops. VMS devices must be capable of sending accelerated polls over a GPRS network.

Vessels under 12 m overall length are required to have an iVMS device installed and active when fishing for king scallops.

8. REMOTE ELECTRONIC MONITORING

Vessels that have a Remote Electronic Monitoring System (onboard camera system) installed must have the system operating when fishing for king scallops in the Isle of Man territorial sea.

9. CATCH RECORDING / FISHING ACTIVITY REPORTS

Vessels are required to complete their statutory catch recording as set out in the [Sea Fisheries \(Logbook\) Regulations 2015](#).

Under-10 m vessels registered in the Isle of Man must complete an Electronic Catch Record using the MMO Catch App, or alternatively, at <https://record-catch.service.gov.uk>.

Upon each transit of the Isle of Man territorial sea limit, vessels are required to complete and submit a new Fishing Activity Report on their E-Log, or if a vessel is using a paper logbook, complete a new line entry in the paper logbook.

10. ADDITIONAL REPORTING (NESTFORMS)

Vessels must complete a NESTFORMS electronic daily catch return no later than 23:59 on the day that fishing activity occurred.

11. TRANSITING TERRITORIAL LIMITS WITH SCALLOPS

Before transiting the Isle of Man territorial sea limit, all king scallops caught within the territorial sea which are to be retained must be graded and bagged and the bags tied and closed.

Before transiting the Isle of Man territorial sea limit, any king scallops caught within the territorial sea which are not to be retained must be returned to the territorial sea.

12. TECHNICAL MEASURES

Within the 0-3 Zone: vessels must not fish using

- a system of dredges with an aggregate dredge width greater than 762 cm; or
- more than 10 dredges in total.

Within the 3-12 Zone: vessels must not fish using

- a system of dredges with an aggregate dredge width greater than 915 cm;
- more than 6 dredges-a-side;
- more than 12 dredges in total.

Tow bars

- must not exceed 5.5 m
- that are under 5.5 m must not be constructed to allow more than 6 dredges to be attached at the same time.
- must not exceed 185 mm diameter.

Belly rings must have a clear opening of at least 75 mm

Dredges must not have more than 8 teeth per dredges

The minimum spacing between teeth is 85 mm.

Dredges must not have a net cover with a mesh less than 100 mm.

“French dredges” are prohibited.

13. ‘SHUCKED’ SCALLOPS

Vessels must not have any shucked king scallop or queen scallop onboard.

Vessels must not land shucked king scallops or queen scallops.

14. QUEEN SCALLOP BYCATCH

Retaining bycatch of Queen scallops is prohibited **unless** the vessel is authorised to fish for Queen scallops. Please refer to **Section C** of the **Isle of Man sea fishing licence**.

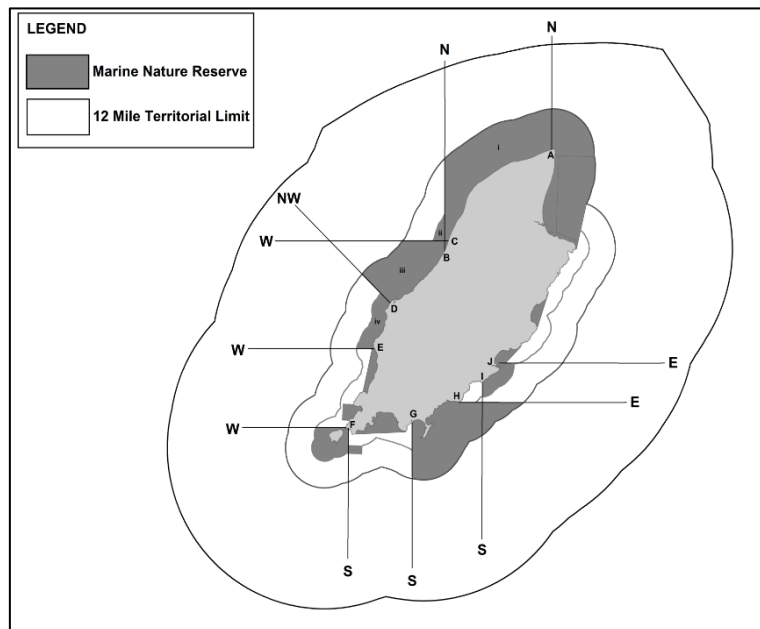
Vessels that may retain Queen scallop bycatch must not retain more than **10% of the king scallop daily catch limit**. The percentage bycatch allowance may be adjusted during the season.

15. RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION SCHEME ('EXCESS SCALLOP') PERMIT

Any scallops caught in excess of the Daily Catch Limit must be discarded **unless** the vessel is issued a 'Fishery Improvement Permit' by the Department.

16. MANX MARINE NATURE RESERVES

Fishing for king scallops within any of the Manx Marine Nature Reserves is **prohibited** unless the vessel is issued a 'Manx Marine Nature Reserve Notice of Variation'.



Point	Location	Latitude	Longitude
A	Point of Ayre	54 25.0482' N	004 22.0999' W
B	Glen Wyllin	54 16.9998' N	004 35.5999' W
C	Orrisdale Head	54 18.0012' N	004 35.2270' W
D	Thistle Head	54 13.2000' N	004 42.4999' W
E	Elby Point	54 09.7500' N	004 44.5602' W
F	Near Calf Sound	54 03.7998' N	004 47.2999' W
G	Castletown Harbour	54 04.3998' N	004 39.0000' W
H	Santon Head	54 06.0000' N	004 33.0000' W
I	Little Ness	54 07.5222' N	004 30.1170' W
J	Conister Rock	54 09.0000' N	004 28.0000' W

17. DAYS-AT-SEA (WESTERN WATERS)

The Western Waters Effort Regime applies day-at-sea limits for vessels over 15 m overall length fishing for scallops. **The 2023 Q4 (01 October 2023 – 23:59 31st December 2023) days-at-sea limit has been set at 75 days.** Owners and masters will be notified of 2024 Q1 and Q2 allocations. Days-at-sea are counted concurrently inside and outside the Isle of Man territorial sea.

18. SCALLOP CLOSED/RESTRICTED AREAS

You **must not fish**, or be present at a speed of less than 4 knts (speed-over-ground), within any of the following areas:

Scallop Management Area	Point	Latitude	Longitude
Targets Closed Area <i>"Western Strip"</i>	TAR_A	54° 21.000' N	004° 52.000' W
	TAR_B	54° 21.000' N	004° 50.000' W
	TAR_C	54° 18.000' N	004° 50.000' W
	TAR_D	54° 18.000' N	004° 52.000' W
Targets Restricted Area <i>1 day per vessel per week</i>	TAR_B	54° 21.000' N	004° 50.000' W
	TAR_E	54° 21.000' N	004° 46.000' W
	TAR_F	54° 18.000' N	004° 46.000' W
	TAR_C	54° 18.000' N	004° 50.000' W
Bradda Restricted Area <i>1 day per vessel per week</i>	BRA_A	54° 5.5000 N	004° 57.0000 W
	BRA_B	54° 5.5000 N	004° 53.0000 W
	BRA_C	54° 4.0000 N	004° 53.0000 W
	BRA_D	54° 4.0000 N	004° 57.0000 W
Experimental Research Areas (East Douglas) - Closed	Line of latitude (MLW to 3 nm)		
	EDG_A	54° 16.6500 N	MLW to 3 nm
	EDG_B	54° 14.4500 N	MLW to 3 nm

