



# DEFA

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The Department of Environment, Food  
And Agriculture

**Fisheries Division**  
Rheynn Eastaght

## **HARVEST CONTROL RULES – GUIDANCE DOCUMENT**

### **Manx Queen Scallop 2023**

This Guidance Document provides a summary of the Harvest Control Rules set for the start of the 2023 queen 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 Harvest Control Rules 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 [www.gov.im/fishing/conditions](http://www.gov.im/fishing/conditions) for the latest version of the Conditions, Schedule and Annexe of your licence, and any recent Notice to Owners and Masters.

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## 1. ACCESS

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

## 2. SEASON

The trawl fishery will open on 03 July 2023, and should close no later than 30 September 2023.

The dredge fishery is to take place 01 – 31 October 2023 and participation is restricted to the four vessels, who have previously required to participate with dredges.

Letters of comfort were issued to all potential participants in the Isle of Man queen scallop fishery to advise should they opt not to attend this year their track-record would be unaffected.

## 3. TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH

The Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the 2023 trawl season is set at 1142 t (based on a 20% increase on the end of 2022 season TAC (952t)).

The TAC for the 2023 dredge fishery is set at 58.3 t (0% increase on the previous year).

## 4. CATCH LIMIT

The Weekly Catch Limit (WCL) is set at 5460 kg per vessel. A separate WCL of 2100 kg per vessel is allowable from the Point of Ayre ground. The WCL may be subject to change within the season.

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

Please note on Point of Ayre ground:

- This additional weekly catch limit of 2100 kg from Point of Ayre is an opportunity for boats to expand their fishing activity for queen scallops.
- If you fish at the Point of Ayre ground for queen scallops you cannot fish elsewhere for queen scallops on that same calendar-day within the Isle of Man territorial sea.

## 5. CURFEW

Fishing for queen scallops is permitted Monday to Friday.

Fishing for queen scallop is prohibited between the hours of 18:00 and 06:00.

## 6. MINIMUM SIZE

You must not retain any queen scallop below 55 mm.

## 7. VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEMS

Vessels are required to have a VMS/iVMS device installed and active when fishing for queen scallops.

VMS devices must be capable of sending accelerated polls over a GPRS network.

## 8. 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.

## 9. ADDITIONAL REPORTING (NESTFORMS)

Vessels must complete a NESTFORMS electronic daily catch return no later than 23:59 on the day that fishing activity occurred. You must indicate if you fished at the Point of Ayre ground.

## 10. TRANSITING TERRITORIAL LIMITS WITH QUEEN SCALLOPS

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

## 11. 'SHUCKED' SCALLOPS

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

Vessels must not land shucked king scallops or queen scallops.

## 12. MANX MARINE NATURE RESERVES

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

## 13. SPATIAL MANAGEMENT

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

Area	Definition
Targets Closed Area 1	that area of the territorial sea bounded by a line drawn from a point 54° 21.000' N, 004° 52.000' W, (TAR_A) eastward to a point 54° 21.000' N, 004° 50.000' W, (TAR_B) southward to a point 54° 18.000' N, 004° 50.000' W, (TAR_C) westward to a point 54° 18.000' N, 004° 52.000' W, (TAR_D) northward to a point 54° 21.000' N, 004° 52.000' W, (TAR_A) indicated as the shaded area "Targets Closed Area 1" on the map labelled Figure 1 (below).
Targets Closed Area 2	that area of the territorial sea bounded by a line drawn from a point 54° 22.500' N, 004° 46.000' W, (TAR_E) eastward to a point 54° 22.5000' N, 004° 42.000' W, (TAR_F) southward to a point 54° 21.000' N, 004° 42.000' W, (TAR_G) westward to a point 54° 21.000' N, 004° 46.000' W (TAR_H), northward to a point 54° 22.5000' N, 004° 46.000' W, (TAR_E) indicated as the shaded area "Targets Closed Area 2" on the map labelled Figure 1 (below).
Targets Closed Area 3	that area of the territorial sea bounded by a line drawn from a point 54° 24.500' N, 004° 48.000' W, (TAR_I) northward to the 12 nautical mile, and a line drawn from a point 54° 24.500' N, 004° 48.000' W, (TAR_I) westward to the 12 nautical mile, and bounded by the 12 nautical mile limit, indicated as the shaded area "Targets Closed Area 3" on the map labelled Figure 1 (below).
Experimental Research Area (East Douglas)	that area of the territorial sea lying between the 0 - 3 mile limit, south of a line projected eastward (EDG_A), along the line of latitude 54° 16.650' N from MLW on the east coast of the Isle of Man and north of a line projected eastward (EDG_B) along the line of latitude 54° 14.450' N from MLW on the east coast of the Isle of Man, indicated as the shaded area "Experimental Research Areas (East Douglas)" on the map labelled Figure 1 (below).

Maps for illustrative purposes only

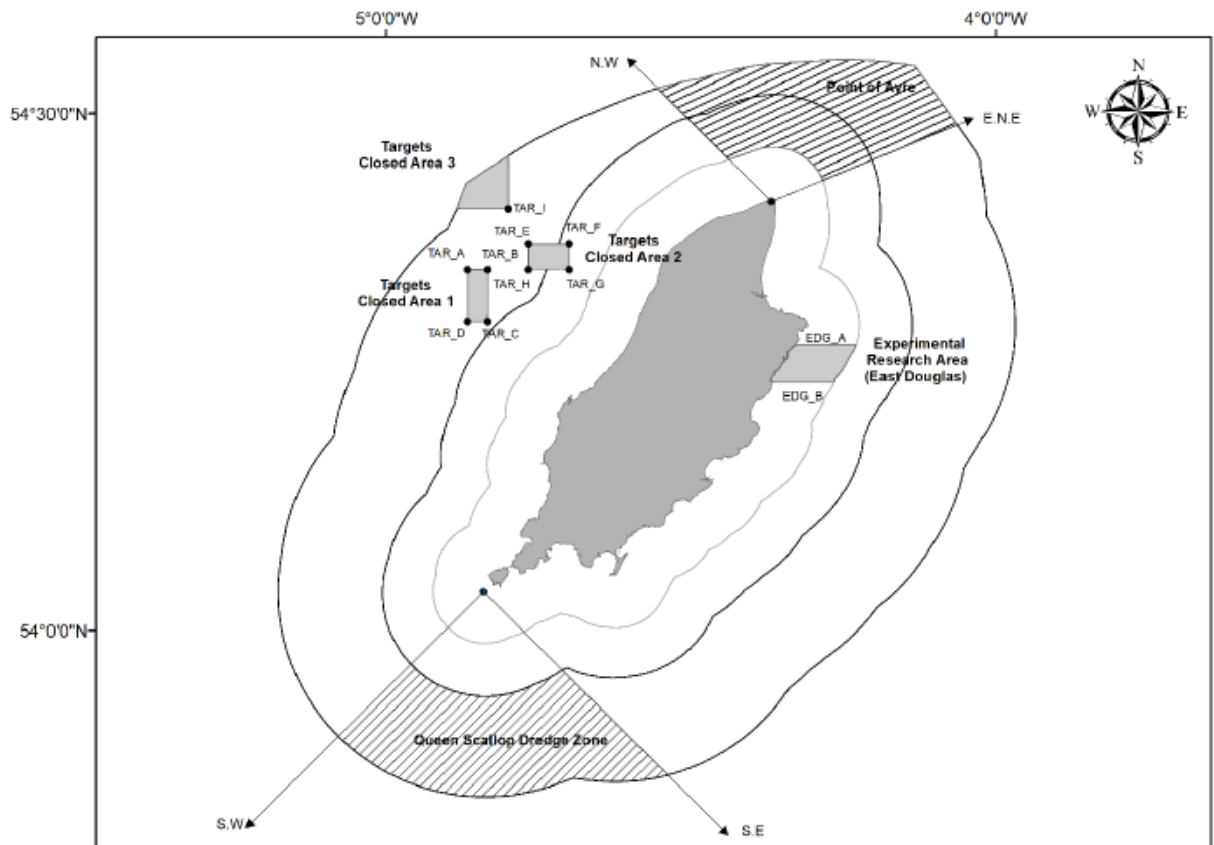


Figure 1 Fisheries Closed, Restricted and Other Management Zones. Position format = DD MM.MMM

Other grounds shown in Figure 1 by hatched lines are the:

- 'Point of Ayre' ground for trawl fishery; and
- 'Queen Scallop Dredge Zone', which is the zone to which the dredge fishery is restricted.

Please refer to the **Annexe Part III** of your **Isle of Man sea fishing licence** for co-ordinates.