



# Manx Queen Scallop Fishery - 2024

## Guidance Document

Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture

This Guidance Document provides a summary of the management measures set for the start of the 2024 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.**

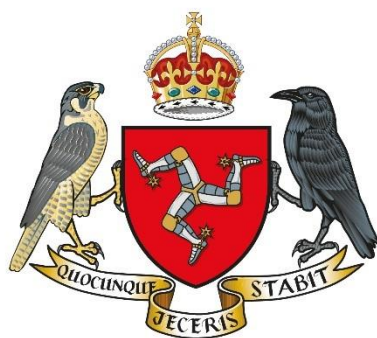
The management measures set out in this document are subject to change.

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 [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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**Isle of Man**  
**Government**

*Reiltys Ellan Vannin*

## **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 Monday 01 July 2024.

The dredge fishery will remain closed for the 2024 season reflecting the continued low abundance of populations in the Queen Scallop Dredge Zone area based on survey data from both independent and industry survey efforts in May/June 2024.

## **3. TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH**

The Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the 2024 trawl season is set at 726 t (based on a 20% increase on the end of 2023 landings (605 t); however, this is without prejudice to an uplift to a TAC of 1,142 t, which is the same TAC as for 2023.

## **4. CATCH LIMIT**

The Weekly Catch Limit (WCL) is set at 9,828 kg (approx. 327 bags), of which no more than 7,098 kg (approx. 236 bags) may be taken outside the designated 'Point of Ayre' area.

This effectively means a general weekly catch limit of 7,098 kg with an additional 2,730 kg available at the Point of Ayre area and vessels are permitted to utilise the entire weekly catch limit at the Point of Ayre if they wish.

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**.

## **5. CURFEW**

Fishing for queen scallops is permitted 7 days per week, but 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.

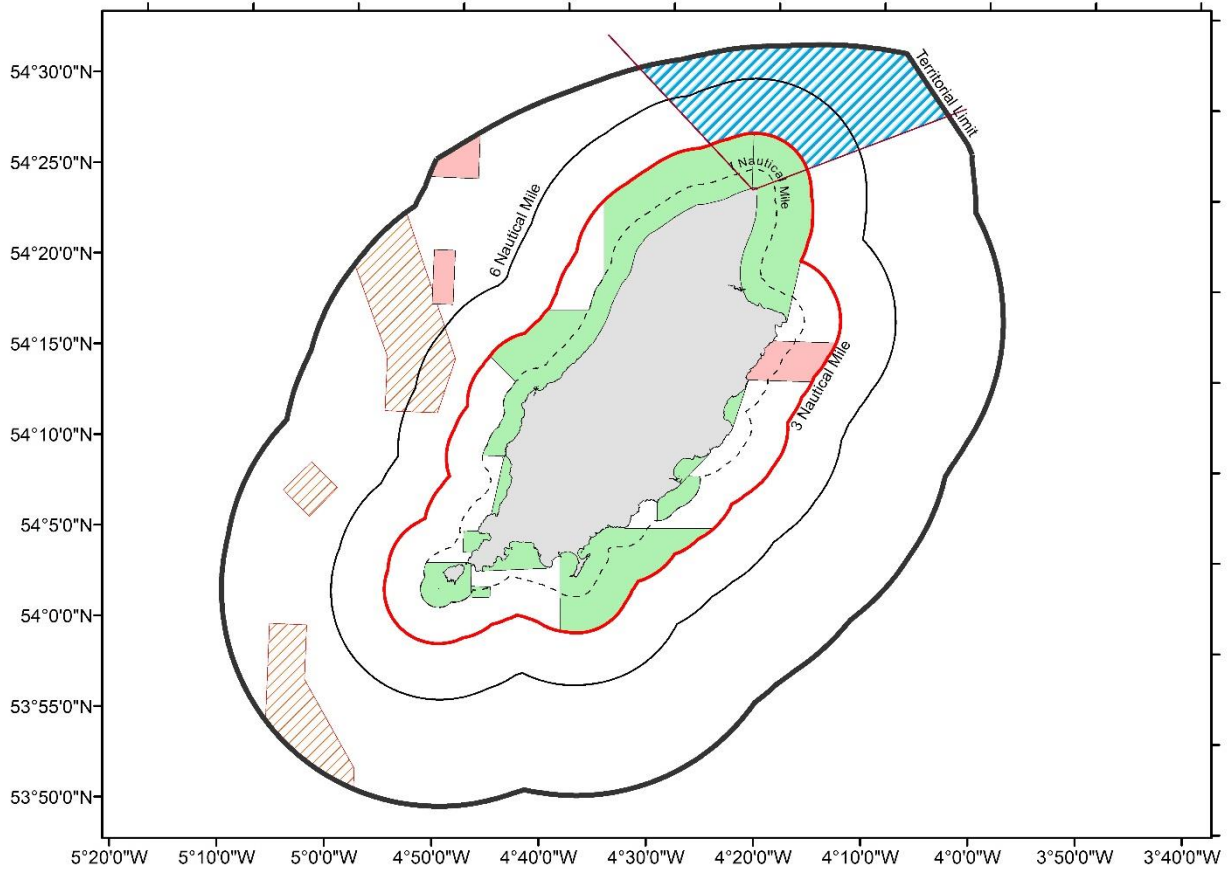
## 12. MANX MARINE NATURE RESERVES

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, eastward to a point 54° 21.000' N, 004° 50.000' W, southward to a point 54° 18.000' N, 004° 50.000' W, westward to a point 54° 18.000' N, 004° 52.000' W, northward to a point 54° 21.000' N, 004° 52.000' W.
Targets Closed Area 2	that area of the territorial sea bounded by a line drawn from a point 54° 24.500' N, 004° 48.000' W, northward to the 12 nautical mile, and a line drawn from a point 54° 24.500' N, 004° 48.000' W, westward to the 12 nautical mile, and bounded by the 12 nautical mile limit.
Experimental Research Area (East Douglas)	that area of the territorial sea lying between the 0 - 3 mile limit, south of a line projected eastward, 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 along the line of latitude 54° 14.450' N from MLW on the east coast of the Isle of Man.



Other areas shown the Figure above are the:

- 'Point of Ayre' ground for trawl fishery (hatched blue) - OPEN;
- Blue Carbon Experimental Closed Areas (hatched red) – CLOSED TO BOTTOM TOWED GEAR;
- Marine Nature Reserve Network (green) – CLOSED UNLESS EXPLICITLY AUTHORISED.

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