AN t-ÚDARÁS UM CHOSAINT IASCAIGH MHARA | SEA-FISHERIES PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Landing Obligation Exemptions:

Recording Discards, *De Minimis* and High Survivability

BIA MARA SÁBHÁILTE INBHUNAITHE
SAFE SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD

How to Record Discards Using ieCatch V3

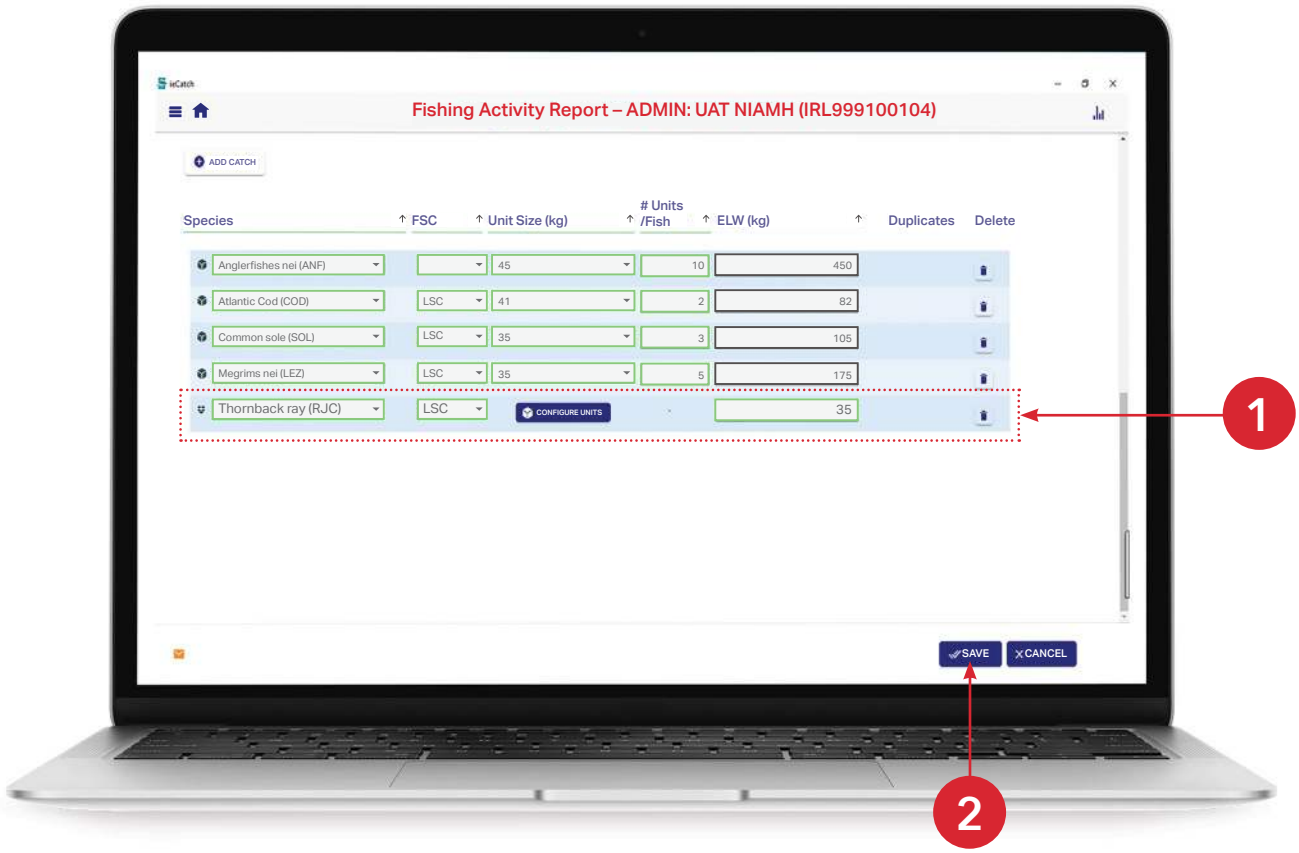
All fish must be recorded as caught in a **Fishing Activity Report (FAR)** in the first instance. It is recommended that when you record species which you are going to discard that you do so in bulk.

There are two reasons for this:

i) You can only record discards using the same unit with which you have recorded the species in your FAR (if recorded in boxes, you must discard in boxes) and;

ii) It is easier to review quantities discarded when recorded in bulk.

In the example below, you have caught and recorded Thornback Ray (RJC) which you are going to discard under the High Survivability option. You have all your other species recorded in boxes, but the Thornback Ray is recorded in bulk – 35kg (see highlight 1).



Once the FAR is completed, Select **'Save'** (see highlight 2). You can now create a Discard (See page 2).

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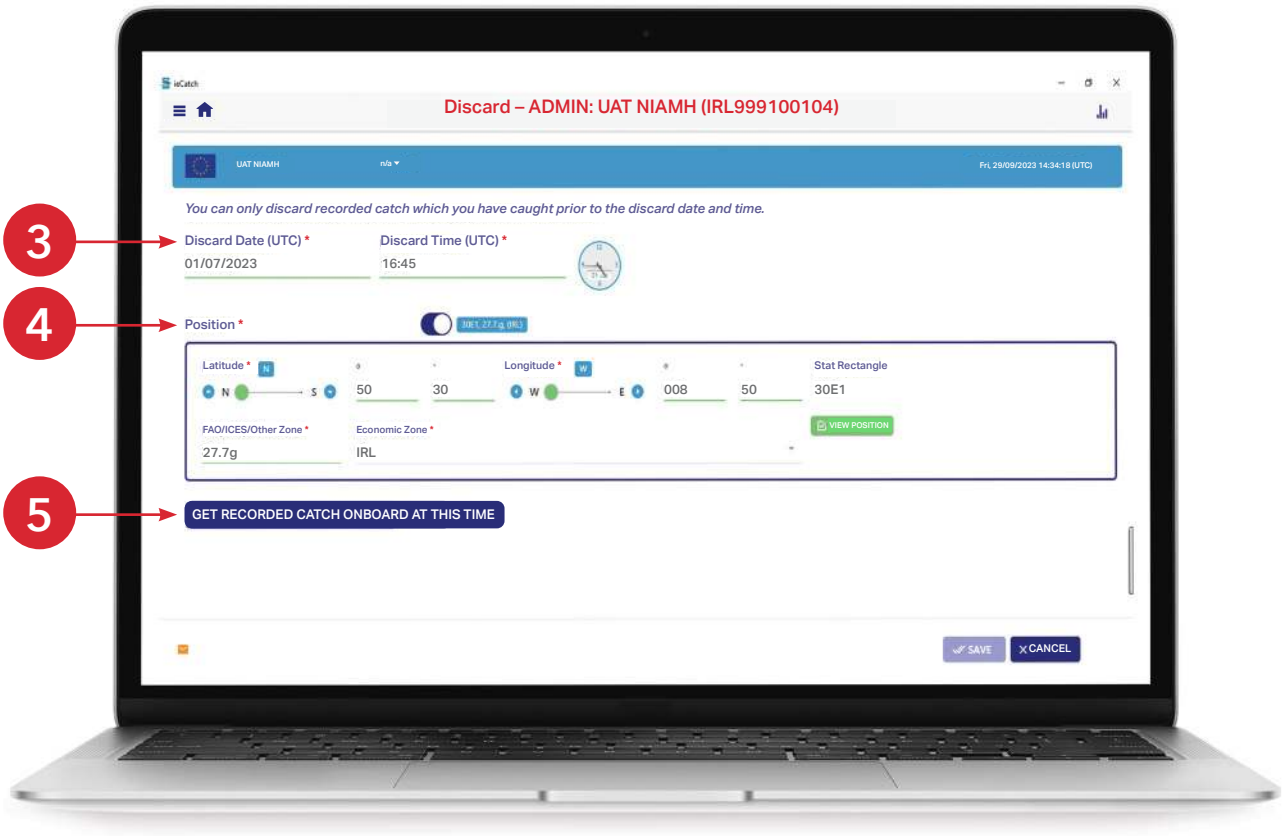
How to Record Discards Using ieCatch V3 (CONTINUED)

Entering Catch Details

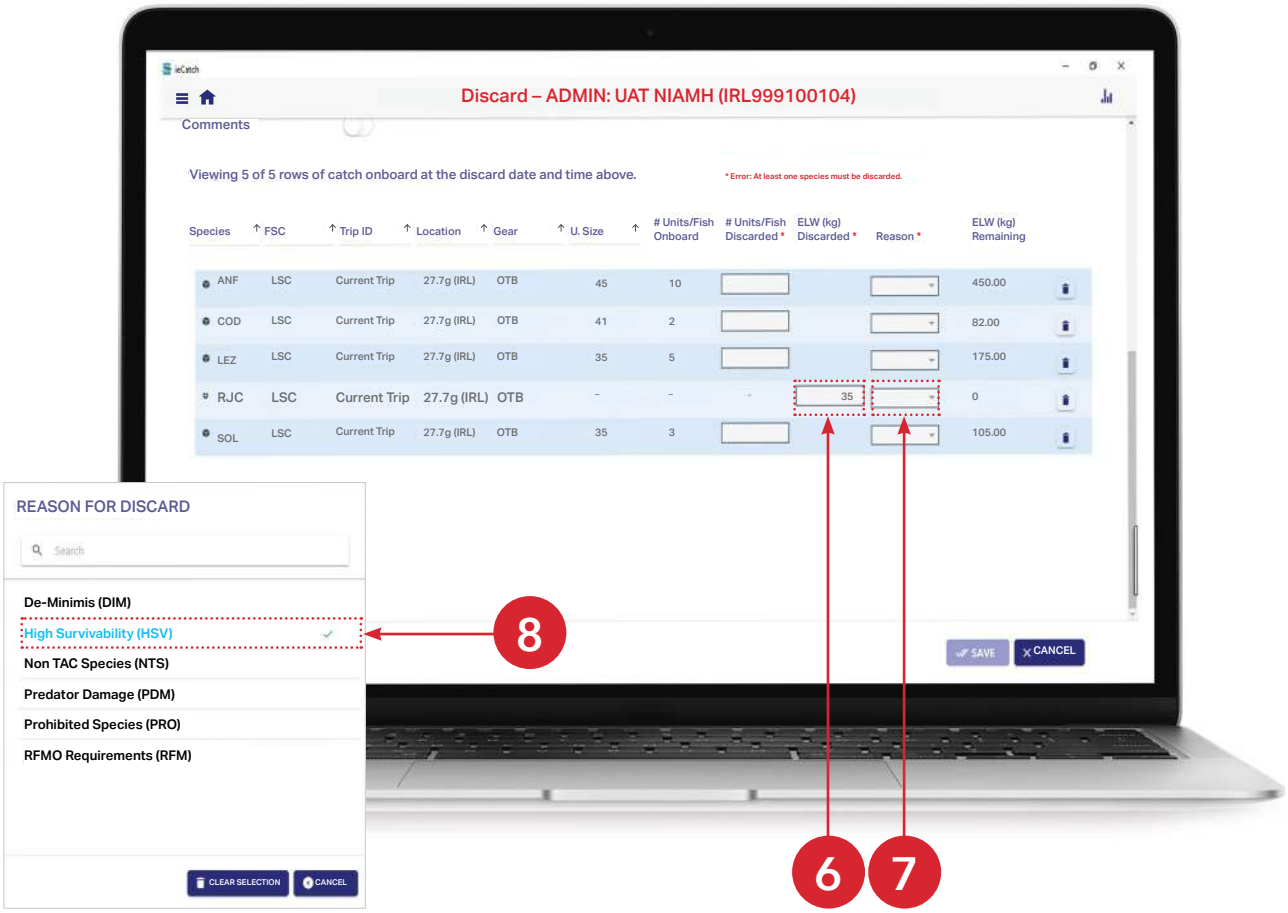
You must first enter the Date/Time of discard (see highlight 3), and this cannot overlap the time of any previous messages. Then you enter the Position (see highlight 4), making sure you select an Economic Zone where there is more than one option. Next click on the blue button **"GET RECORDED CATCH ONBOARD AT THIS TIME"** (see highlight 5).



How to Record Discards Using ieCatch V3 (CONTINUED)

Catch Details Recorded

The application then collects and presents to you all the catch recorded during the trip so far, including any catch retained on board at the time of departure. Looking at the page you can see all the species, the unit weight they are recorded in and the number of units. Over to the right is the **Estimated Live Weight (ELW)** of each species remaining onboard.



Selecting a Reason for a Discard

Enter the quantity you want to discard in the column ELW (kg) discarded. In this case, you have discarded 35kg RJC (see highlight 6). Select a reason from the drop-down list (see highlight 7). In this case, you have selected "High Survivability (HSV)" from the reason drop-down list (see highlight 8). Select 'Save' to progress to the next step.

Discard Record

Now you can see the quantity of the species RJC discarded row and the reason why has been updated. In addition, you can see that there is 0kg left onboard. (see highlight 9).

You can now save and send the message. **Note, once a discard has been sent it cannot be edited.** If changes are required please contact the ERS Team.

Landing Obligation Exemptions: *De Minimis**

*** The exemptions listed apply from the 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2027 under Regulation (EU) 2023/2623. Updates may occur. For further information, please contact the SFPA.**

Species	Fishing area	Gear in use	Cod end mm	Specific area	Required condition
WHG (Whiting)	7d and 7e	OTB, OTT, PTB, SSC, SDN, SPR, TBN, TBS, OTM, PTM, TBB	Bottom trawls and seines mesh equal to or greater than 80. Pelagic trawls and beam trawls 80-119.	NA	NA
SOL (Common Sole)	7d to 7g	GNS, GND, GNC, GTN, GTR	NA	NA	NA
	7a, 7d to 7h, 7j to 7k	TBB	80-119	NA	Flemish Panel
HAD (Haddock)	7b, 7c and 7e to 7k	OTB, OTT, PTB, SSC, SDN, SPR, TBN, TBS	Greater than or equal to 100	NA	Catch must be no more than 30% NEP. Beam trawls are excluded from this exemption.
		NA	Greater than or equal to 80	NA	Catch must comprise more than 30% NEP
		Beam Trawls	Greater than or equal to 80	NA	Flemish Panel
BOR (Boarfishes)	7b, 7c and 7f to 7k	OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, PTB	NA	NA	NA
LEZ (Megrim) below MCRS	7	OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, PTB	70 - 99	7f, 7g and part of 7h north of latitude 49°30'N and part of 7j North of 49°30'N and East of 11°W	Catch composition more that 55% whiting or 55% anglerfish, hake or megrim combined.
				7, outside above areas	NA
		TBB	80 - 119	NA	NA
ARU (Greater Silver Smelt)	5b (EU waters) and 6	OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, PTB	Greater or equal to 100	NA	NA
HOM (Horse Mackerel), MAC (Mackerel)	6 and 7b to 7k	OTB, OTT, PTB, SSC, SDN, SPR, TBB, TBN, TBS	NA	NA	Caught in demersal mixed fisheries.
WHB (Blue Whiting)	5b, 6 and 7	NA	NA	NA	In the Industrial pelagic trawler fishery targeting blue whiting and processing on board to obtain surimi base.
MAC (Mackerel), HOM (Horse Mackerel) and WHG (Whiting)	7d	OTM & PTM	NA	NA	Pelagic trawlers up to 25m in length overall targeting mackerel, horse mackerel and herring.

Landing Obligation Exemptions: High Survivability*

*** The exemptions listed apply from the 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2027 under Regulation (EU) 2023/2623. Updates may occur. For further information, please contact the SFPA.**

Species	Fishing area	Gear in use	Cod end mm	Specific area	Required condition
NEP (Nephrops)	6 and 7	FPO, FIX	NA	NA	NA
	6a within 12nm of the coast	OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, PTB	80-110	NA	NA
	7	OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, PTB	Equal to or larger than 100	NA	NA
		OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, PTB	70-99	Celtic Sea Protection Zone	One of the following selective gears must be used: - Square mesh panel (SMP) of at least 300mm (200mm if vessel is under 12m); - Seltra panel; - Sorting grid with max. bar spacing of 35 mm or equivalent Netgrid selectivity device; - 100mm cod-end with SMP of at least 100mm; - Dual cod-end with the uppermost cod-end constructed of T90 mesh of at least 90mm with a separation panel with max mesh size of 300mm.
				7a	One of the following selective gears must be used: - SMP of at least 300mm (200mm if vessel is under 12m); - Seltra panel; - Sorting grid with max. bar spacing of 35 mm; - Cefas Netgrid; - Flip-flap trawl.
SOL (Common Sole), below MCRS	7d within 6nm of coast, but outside identified nursery areas	OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, PTB	80-99	NA	Vessel has a maximum length of 10m and max. engine power of 221kW and fishing in waters with depths of 30m or less with tow durations of no more than 90 mins.
	7e within 6nm of coast, but outside identified nursery areas	OTB		NA	Vessel must be under 12m.
Skates and Rays	6 and 7	All gear types	NA	NA	NA
PLE (Plaice)	7d to 7g	GTR, GTN, OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, PTB	NA	NA	NA
	7a to 7g	TBB	NA	NA	Maximum engine greater than 221kW with a flip-up rope or benthos release panel.
	7a to 7g				Vessels with a maximum engine power of 221kW or a max length of 24m, constructed to fish within 12nm of the coast and with average tow durations of no more than 90 mins.
	7d	SDN	NA	NA	NA
	7d to 7k	SSC	NA	NA	NA

Landing Obligation Exemptions: High Survivability* (CONTINUED)

*** The exemptions listed apply from the 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2027 under Regulation (EU) 2023/2623. Updates may occur. For further information, please contact the SFPA.**

Species	Fishing area	Gear in use	Cod end mm	Specific area	Required condition
Species caught in pots, traps, and creels	5 (excluding 5a and only union waters of 5b), 6 and 7	FPO, FIX	NA	NA	NA
MAC (Mackerel), HER (Herring)	6	Purse Seine Fisheries	NA	NA	All of the following conditions must be met: - Catch is released before the point of retrieval is reached. Point of retrieval shall be 80% closure for MAC fisheries and 90% for HER fisheries. If the surrounded school is a mix, it is 80%. - The purse seine is fitted with visible buoys marking the limit for the point of retrieval. - The vessel and gear are equipped with an electronic recording and documenting system recording when, where and extent to which gear has been hauled for all fishing operations. - Surrounded school is sampled before release to estimate species and size composition and quantity.
	7e and 7f	Ring net fishery targeting non-quota pelagic species	NA	NA	All of the following conditions must be met: - Catch is released before the point of retrieval is reached. Point of retrieval shall be 80% closure for MAC fisheries and 90% for HER fisheries. If the surrounded school is a mix, it is 80%. - The purse seine is fitted with visible buoys marking the limit for the point of retrieval. - The vessel and gear are equipped with an electronic recording and documenting system recording when, where and extent to which gear has been hauled for all fishing operations. - Surrounded school is sampled before release to estimate species and size composition and quantity.

Species being discarded under these exemptions shall be released immediately.

Technical measures laid down in Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 must be complied with at all times.

Further information on exemptions to the Landing Obligation can be found in the Landing Obligation Fishery Information Notice on the SFPA website:

sfpa.ie

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