



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Catch recording: Frequently Asked Questions

1

How do I register?

You will need an invite in order to register. If you have not received an invite to register for the Catch Recording system, or if you need support to use the system, please contact us right away. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions we are unable to offer face to face training, but you can contact us on:

Welsh speaking: 03000 257920

English speaking: 03000 258923 or 03000 258907

Due to the nature of our work you may be transferred to our answering service, we would encourage you to leave a message and we will call back as soon as possible.

2

Where do I access the system?

You can record your catch on the web or you can download the Android or Apple app. The app allows you to record your catch in an area without a mobile signal.

If you do not want to use the app, there is a web link which you can use to add the catch on a laptop or home computer: www.record-catch.service.gov.uk/

You can get help to create a catch record if you do not have the appropriate access, skills or confidence to complete the service online (see question 6).

3

What do I need to record?

You must create a catch record for everything you catch on every fishing trip. You'll be asked for information about your trip and the live weight of what you've caught.

Weights can be converted to live weights by multiplying them by a conversion factor. www.gov.uk/government/publications/calculate-your-fisheries-catch-limits/conversion-factors

If you catch quota species or species subject to catch limits all sizes of fish must be recorded unless exemptions apply.

You'll also be asked for the statistical sub rectangle area where the majority of your catch was caught.

4

I am a skipper of a vessel. How do I get an invite to use the catch recording system?

You will need to contact the owner of the vessel you work on in order to get an invite for the system.

5

How soon after I land do I need to record my catch?

For both quota and non-quota species, you must create a catch record within 24 hours of landing.

6

Is there a telephone number I can call to record my catch?

Any fisher who is not confident to use the Catch App but has a family member who is, can add them as a skipper to update the Catch App for them.

If you don't have anyone to use the Catch App on your behalf, a contact centre is available.

For those who will be phoning catch records through to the contact centre, phones would normally be staffed from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Due to the impact of COVID19 this service has been temporarily reduced to 10am to 4pm, Monday to Friday. At other times, the contact centre will run an automated service allowing you to leave your catch record.

The contact centre number is **0300 0203 788**

Calls to 03 numbers cost no more than a national rate call to a 01 or 02 number and must count towards any inclusive minutes in the same way as 01 and 02 calls.

7

Is there any guidance available?

Yes, these short videos provide step-by-step guides to the service:

How to register: www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Ue1BxFKnik

Recording your catch with or without a signal:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBZXAayw5Pk

8

Why isn't there a de-minimis threshold for reporting under 50kg of fish in line with over-10 metre vessels?

We are asking you to record all fish in order to understand fully the catch being taken. For some stocks, catch limits are very small and applying a de-minimis would not be appropriate. For paper and electronic recording for vessels over 10 metres, there is an exemption on recording fish under 50kg in the log book, but subsequently landing declarations are provided giving accurate weights of all fish. Welsh Ministers have removed the requirement from the Catch Recording Service for under-10 metre vessels to provide a landing declaration.

9

Do I need to submit a catch record if I keep my catch in keep pots?

Yes, if you complete a fishing trip and put your catch directly into a keep/store pot, you must submit a catch record for what you have placed into the keep/store pot. The catch recording service has a section for recording the shellfish placed into store pots.

You are not required to complete a separate catch record when you empty the store pot.

We need to know what has been caught and kept in keep/store pots for each trip. This is to understand the effort required to obtain your catch. This will give us better evidence to help maintain healthy fish stocks.

The information required on your catch record is the same as you used to record on the MSAR1 form which you no longer have to complete.

Example:

Mr Jones catches approximately 20kg of lobster on Monday and stores in his keep pot, he records his catch of approximately 20kg on Monday evening.

Mr Jones catches approximately 30kg of lobster on Tuesday, he also collects his catch from Monday from his keep pot and lands both days catch. On Tuesday evening he records his 30kg catch from Tuesday. He has already recorded his catch from Monday so does not need to record it again.

10

How do I find out the ICES statistical sub rectangle number?

You must create a separate catch record for each ICES Area you have fished in. These must be created within 24 hours of landing. You will be asked for the statistical sub rectangle area where the majority of your catch was caught. Maps of the ICES areas can be seen on www.gov.uk/guidance/record-your-catch

Example:

Rectangle = 36E6, Subrectangle 3: 36E63

