

S.I. No. 33/2006 — Greater Silver Smelt (Fisheries Management and Conservation) Regulations 2006

S.I. No. 33 of 2006

Greater silver smelt (Fisheries Management and Conservation) Regulations 2006

I, Pat the Cope Gallagher, Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, in exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 224B (inserted by section 5 of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1983 (No. 27 of 1983)) of the Fisheries (Consolidation) Act 1959 (No. 14 of 1959) and the Fisheries (Transfer of Departmental Administration and Ministerial Functions) Order 1977 (S.I. No. 30 of 1977) (as adapted by the Marine and Natural Resources (Alteration of Name of Department and Title of Minister) Order 2002 (S.I. No. 307 of 2002) and the Marine (Delegation of Ministerial Functions) (No. 5) Order 2005 (No. 843 of 2005)), hereby make the following regulations:

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Greater Silver Smelt (Fisheries Management and Conservation) Regulations 2006.
2. These Regulations come into operation on 1 February 2006.
3. In these Regulations -

“greater silver smelt” means *Argentina silus*;

“ICES” means the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea;

“Irish sea fishing boat” means a boat entered in the Register of Fishing Boats or in the EU Community Fishing Fleet Register.

“quotas” means the State's share of the total allowable catch (TAC) fixed by the Council of the European Communities relating to certain species of fish in respect of the year 2006¹ or, as the case may be, each subsequent year thereafter;

“specified area” means waters falling within ICES sub-areas III and IV as described in Communication (85/C347/05) from the Commission of the European Communities on the description of the ICES sub-areas and divisions used for the purposes of fishing statistics and regulations in the North East Atlantic.

4. The master of an Irish sea-fishing boat shall not engage in or cause or permit any person on board to engage in fishing for greater silver smelt in the specified area.
5. (1) An Irish sea-fishing boat shall not have greater silver smelt on board

within the specified area.

- (2) The master of an Irish sea-fishing boat shall not cause or permit the boat or any person on board to have greater silver smelt on board within the specified area.
6. The master of an Irish sea-fishing boat shall not cause or permit the boat to be used within the specified area for the transhipment of greater silver smelt.
7. (1) In a prosecution for an offence for contravening Regulation 6 of these Regulations, the following shall be *prima facie* evidence that the Irish sea-fishing boat concerned was, at the time of the alleged offence, used for the transhipment of greater silver smelt in contravention of that Regulation -
 - (a) evidence that the boat had on board any books, papers or other documents from which it appears to the Court that on the day on which the offence is alleged to have been committed greater silver smelt were received on board the boat otherwise than in the course of fishing,
 - (b) any admission by any person who is for the time being the master, or another member of the crew, of the boat that at such time she was so used, or
 - (c) any other matter from which it so appears that the boat was so used or which in the opinion of the Court suggests, or tends to suggest, that the boat was so used.
- (2) In a prosecution for an offence for contravening Regulation 5 of these Regulations, it is a defence for the defendant to show that the greater silver smelt to which the prosecution relates was taken outside the specified area.
8. The Greater Silver Smelt (Fisheries Management and Conservation) (No. 3) Regulations 2005 (S.I. No. 856 of 2005) are revoked.

GIVEN under my Hand,

25 January 2006

Pat the Cope Gallagher

**Minister of State at the Department of
Communications, Marine and Natural
Resources**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the instrument and does not purport to be a legal interpretation).

The effect of these Regulations is to prohibit fishing for, transhipment or having on

board greater silver smelt by Irish sea-fishing boats in ICES sub-areas III and IV with effect from 1 February 2006.

¹ Council Regulation (EC) No. 51/2006, O.J. L16, 20.1.2006, pp. 1-183.

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