

The important steps that the Northern Ireland Fishing Industry take to ensure a sustainable fishery



- Fishermen must register their vessels with the [Registry of Shipping and Seamen](#).
- They acquire a [Fishing Vessel Licence](#).
- They acquire the appropriate [fishing quota](#) (species).
- Food hygiene regulations - vessels must be registered and inspected by their local authority.
- They obtain an [International Maritime Organisation Number](#) (IMO) if required.

Step 1

Prerequisites to fishing vessel ownership



- They open their Electronic log-book (E-Log) - this is a record of all fishing activity.
- Fishermen complete their [log-book](#) as per requirements. There are different fishing log-book requirements depending on the vessel size and licence conditions.
- Submit a Fishing Activity Report ([FAR](#)) - to be submitted daily by 23:59.

Step 2

Sustainable Fisheries Management



- They only fish in the allocated areas as designated by the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the UN (FAO 27).
- They check for restrictions regarding fishing in Marine Protected Areas (MPA).
- They use the correct fishing gear (nets) for certain species /area.
- They record any by-catch - [see mandatory recording of mammal bycatch](#).

Step 3

Marine Environmental Protection



- They notify at least 4h prior to arrival in port ([PNO](#)), indicating the amount of fish caught.
- They choose an appropriate port i.e. [designated port](#) for certain species.
- They submit an End of Fishing Report ([EOF](#)) when fishing is concluded.
- They hit return to port ([RTP](#)) in E-log.

Step 4

Port Obligations



- They record weight of fish caught upon landing.
- They observe the [landing obligation](#).
- They apply appropriate [fish labelling rules](#).
- They complete and submit a [landing declaration](#) (weight of fish) as per legal requirements.
- They ensure [traceability](#) by the completion of a sales note.
- If fish is to be exported then a catch certificate may be required, note [DAERA Website](#).

Step 5

Fish Traceability

Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.



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