

# Where you can find information

For more information, go to [gov.uk/guidance/the-fisheries-sector-and-preparing-for-eu-exit](https://gov.uk/guidance/the-fisheries-sector-and-preparing-for-eu-exit)

## Contact us

For specific information on using the new online service contact the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) Export Fish helpline on 0330 1591989.

## Prepare your business

This leaflet focuses on changes related to the fishing and seafood sector. There are other actions you may need to take to be ready for EU Exit.

Visit [gov.uk](https://gov.uk) to find more information and to sign up for regular updates.

We encourage you to discuss these preparations with your drivers, staff, suppliers and customers.



HM Government



HM Government

UK LEAVES  
THE EU 29.03.19

## Catching fish in the UK

These guidelines are intended to help UK fishermen understand what they will need to do in the event of a no deal Brexit.



March 2019

# What you need to know

The United Kingdom will be leaving the European Union at 11pm UK time on 29 March 2019.

Leaving the EU with a deal remains the government's top priority and would give businesses stability and certainty to prepare for our new relationship after EU Exit.

However, the government must plan for every possible outcome including no deal. Without a deal, businesses may need to take action before 29 March 2019.

Use this information to understand how leaving the EU may affect your business and what you can do to get ready.

## Rules

There will be no change to your rights and responsibilities if you have a UK-registered vessel fishing in UK waters. You must continue to comply with the law and the conditions of your licence, including the economic link criteria.

## Fishing opportunities

The UK fisheries administrations will tell you what your allocation will be. There will be no automatic access for the UK fisheries to exchange fishing opportunities (quota and effort) with EU member states, and no automatic access for EU member states to exchange fishing opportunities with the UK.

## Access arrangements

There will be no automatic access for UK-registered vessels to fish in EU or third country waters (subject to any existing agreements covering territorial waters).

In the case of force majeure or distress, you'll be allowed access to EU Member State ports for services you need to rectify the situation.

## Licensing arrangements

While future access to fish in EU and other coastal State waters in the event of a no deal scenario remains a matter for negotiation, UK fishermen who want to prepare for all EU exit scenarios should apply for an International Maritime Number (IMO). The form is available to download from [gov.uk](http://gov.uk).

## Trade arrangements

The majority of fish and fish products (including fresh and processed fish), will need a catch certificate for imports and exports between the UK and the EU. This applies to direct landings from UK vessels into EU ports. The EU uses catch certificates to detect illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

To land your catch directly in the EU, you'll need to land in an EU designated port. A prior notification form and pre-landing declaration will need to be completed and submitted alongside the catch certificate. This is in addition to the current requirements when using electronic logbooks.

If you are landing in an EU designated port, you'll need to submit a NEAFC Port State Control form (PSC1 or PSC2) before landing.

A new online service will be available to process and issue catch certificates and other supporting documents electronically. You'll need to register for this service on [gov.uk](http://gov.uk)

**More information is available on [gov.uk](http://gov.uk).**