



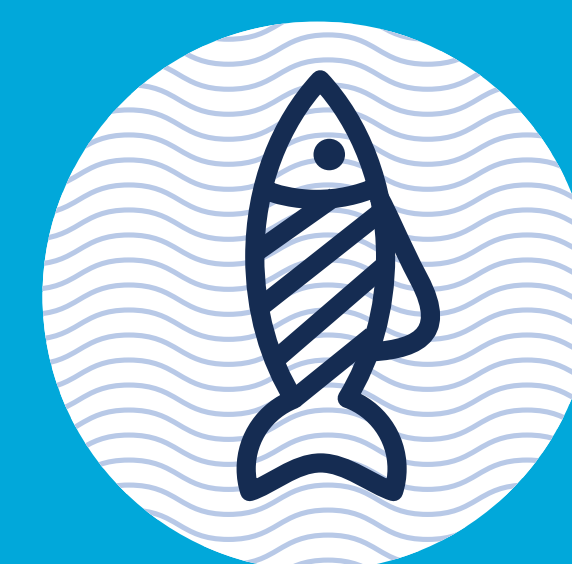
SUPPORTED BY THE EFF (European Fisheries Fund)

# ENSURING SUSTAINABLE LOBSTER STOCKS

Irish registered fishing vessels were incentivized through financial payments of 40-75% of the market price to present female lobsters to Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM/Irish Sea Fisheries Development Agency) for 'V-notching' and to return the lobsters to the sea.

V-notching involves manually removing a simple V-shaped notch from the tail of a female lobster when it is caught, and takes several years to grow out. Landing V-notched lobsters is illegal in Ireland, so lobsters caught with V-notches are returned to the sea to enable them to spawn and to replenish stocks.

More information here: <http://www.bim.ie/schemes/inshorefisheriesconservationscheme-v-notchingsupport/>

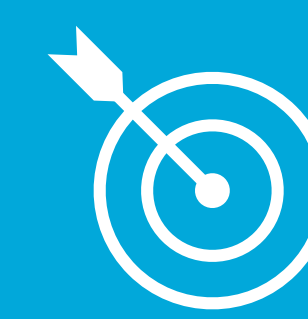


fisheries



environment

## IRELAND



### RESULTS (2014 - 2016):

- 13 807 marketable female lobsters were V-notched in 2014 and returned alive to the sea to contribute to the spawning potential of the lobster stock
- Figures for 2015 and 2016 were 22 388 and 15 268 respectively



### LESSONS LEARNED:

Fishermen are prepared to sacrifice some short-term profit if there are longer term benefits from conservation measures. An increase in the rate of financial support in 2014 resulted in a significant increase in participation in the scheme.



### TOTAL OPERATION COST:

Total budget: 160 243 €  
Union contribution: 42 886 €



### CONTACT DETAILS:

Bord Iascaigh Mhara (Irish Sea Fisheries Development Agency)  
Email: [info@bim.ie](mailto:info@bim.ie)

