

June 2017

Discard Action Group e-alert – latest developments re the Landing Obligation and gear selectivity
<http://www.seafish.org/responsible-sourcing/discussion-forums/the-discard-action-group>

Latest news

[Agenda for Scottish Discard Steering Group Meeting. 28 June 2017.](#)

[Question for written answer to European Commission on the Landing Obligation. 19 June 2017.](#)

1. What is the Commission's view of the restriction on the use of species subject to the landing obligation as specified in Article 15(1) to purposes other than direct human consumption, including fish meal, fish oil, pet food, food additives, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics, as laid down in Article 15(11) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy?
2. Will it authorise their use for human consumption, the biotechnology sector and other purposes?

Commission response: The study on discard reducing policies³ conducted within the framework of the impact assessment revealed that the prohibition to use undersized fish for direct human consumption can have an impact on the market value of the catches and thus provide a further incentive to increase selectivity, which is one of the key objectives of the landing obligation. The Commission is not empowered to modify the rules agreed by the co-legislators, including the prohibition to use catches of species below the minimum conservation reference size for direct human consumption. However, one of the objectives of this Regulation is to make the best use of unwanted catches, without creating a market for those catches that are below the minimum conservation reference size i.e. for fishmeal, fish oil, pet food, food additives, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics. Use for indirect human consumption, such as food additives, protein-based products or fish gelatine, has not been excluded.

[Newlyn 'through the gaps'. Latest on the Landing Obligation rules for 2018 implementation. 15 June 2017.](#)

Discard plans

[Joint Recommendation of the Scheveningen Group for a Discard Plan for Demersal Fisheries in the North Sea. 31 May 2017.](#)

[Joint Recommendation of the North Western Waters Advisory Group for the Discard Plan for demersal and deep-sea fisheries in the North Western Waters for 2018. 31 May 2017.](#)

[Discard plan for certain small pelagic fisheries and fisheries for industrial purposes in the North Sea – derogation - Technical measures for sprat fisheries in an area along the Danish North Sea coast. 24 May 2017.](#)

[Report of the North Sea Advisory Council Landing Obligation Focus Group. 19 May 2017.](#)

[NWWAC advice on the Joint Recommendation for 2018. 5 May 2017.](#)

DAG news summary. June 2017.

Forthcoming meetings (invitation only)

6 July 2017. [NWWAC Horizontal Working Group - Landing Obligation](#). Scottish Government, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh.

19 July. [North Sea Advisory Council. Landing Obligation Focus Group meeting](#). LSE Bankside House, London.

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This is an amalgamation of the news alerts issued in June 2017.