



October 2023 news alert (sent by email 16 October 2023)

This Seafish fishmeal industry news e-alert covers news items, legislation and reports. See also:

<https://www.seafish.org/responsible-sourcing/aquaculture-farming-seafood/sourcing-fishmeal-and-fishoil/>

Seafish news and reports

- [**Seafish summary of 2023 ICES advice for pelagic stocks \(October 2023\)**](#)

Stock status and quotas – North East Atlantic (NEA) and Baltic Fish Stocks
A message in a bottle from the unified voice of the marketplace: Enough is enough. It's time to land solutions and stop overfishing in the NEA (12 October 2023)

In an open letter to Ministers, the North Atlantic Pelagic Advocacy Group (NAPA) demands that Coastal States seize their chance to turn the tide on over two decades of unsustainable management.

EAPO issues Pelagic Industry Position Paper on Fishing Opportunities 2024 (10 October 2023)

The European Association of Fish Producers Organisations (EAPO) has laid out its position to the European Commission on fishing opportunities 2024 and the coastal states negotiations. In its position paper, the EAPO stands with Ireland's position over the granting of access to the "Irish Box" for the Norwegian pelagic fleet wanting to fish blue whiting there saying, it "should not be considered and only be offered in exchange for payment in fish and on the basis of a revised and limited transfer agreement.

PelAC advises ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management (9 October 2023)

The Pelagic Advisory Council (PelAC) nine-page document of advice was drafted for the Commission's consideration in the medium to long-term as the Commission moves towards EAFM, but also in the shorter term, as input to the upcoming 2024 TAC setting discussions and consultations with NEA Coastal States on shared stocks.

ICES 2023/24 advice for Norway Pout in North Sea, Skagerrak, and Kattegat (9 October 2023)

The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches from 1 November 2023 to 31 October 2024 should be no more than 20,583 tonnes.

ICES issues 2024 advice for key NEA pelagic stocks (29 September 2023)

ICES has issued its recommendations for the total allowable catch of key pelagic stocks in 2024.

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- **Blue Whiting.** The quota recommendation for blue whiting is 13% higher compared to the recommendation for 2023. ICES advises that the blue whiting catches in 2024 should not exceed 1,529,754 tonnes. This is the highest blue whiting quota recommendation ever given.
- **Norwegian Spring-Spawning Herring (NVG Herring).** ICES recommends a quota of up to 390,010 tonnes for Norwegian spring-spawning herring (NVG-sild). This represents a 24% decrease compared to the 2023 recommendation.
- **Mackerel.** The quota recommendation for mackerel is 739,386 tonnes, which is 5% lower than the 2023 recommendation and 36% lower than the expected catches in 2023.
- **Western Horse Mackerel.** Researchers recommend zero catches, as was the case last year.

[NAPA launches 2023 Coastal States Campaign \(25 September 2023\)](#)

NAPA is calling on the NEA Coastal States to commit to long-term, science-based management of NEA pelagic stocks (mackerel, Atlanto-Scandian herring, and blue whiting) which are currently being overexploited.

[Oceana report: Keep the small fish plentiful to ensure ocean health \(25 September 2023\)](#)

Oceana has claimed that only one in six forage fish populations in the NEA is both sustainably exploited and in a healthy state.

[European Commission asks for conservationist approach to mackerel sharing \(20 September 2023\)](#)

The European Commission has called for all members of the NEA Coastal States to take a conservationist approach and reach an agreement on mackerel sharing. The call comes after the European Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, Virginijus Sinkevičius wrote to the Norwegian Minister for Fisheries and Oceans, Bjørnar Skjæran, reportedly warning him that the EU is prepared to impose 'measures' against Norway if the coastal state decides not to enter a sharing arrangement and unilaterally sets its own quota as it has done for the past few years.

[Major new report highlights how fisheries affect NEA ecosystem health \(13 September 2023\)](#)

The report from the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the NEA, or OSPAR Convention, underscores the substantial effect of fishing pressure on the environment and should act as a wake-up call for fisheries managers to urgently prioritise ecosystem considerations in setting rules for fishing in these waters.

[Stock Status and Quotas – Atlantic and South America](#)

Peru divides its anchovy fishing areas into two regions – south and north-central – with different capture limits and seasons set for each one. The north-central is Peru's main fishing region, with tonnage capture measuring roughly six times that of the south region.

[Second Peru anchovy season could land some 660,000t \(12 October 2023\)](#)

Canada's Scotiabank has forecast that Peru will hold a second anchovy fishing season this year, likely commencing in November, but catches will likely be well below average due to the ongoing impacts of El Niño.

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[Uncertainty remains over start of Peru's first anchovy fishing season \(15 August 2023\)](#)

The start of the first industrial anchovy fishing season in Peru is still uncertain due to unfavorable oceanographic conditions, according to a study by the country's high-level committee for the study of the El Nino phenomenon, or the ENFEN.

[Peru preparing national fisheries policy to make industry more competitive by 2030 \(4 August 2023\)](#)

Peru's Production Ministry (PRODUCE) is working to establish regulations for the country's first-ever national fisheries policy, which aims to position Peru's fishing industry as more competitive and sustainable by 2030 and address food security issues, among other goals.

Reports/studies/resources

[MarinTrust launches new resource on their Fishery Improvement Projects \(FIPs\) \(9 October 2023\)](#)

A new interactive resource has been launched by MarinTrust to provide an accessible and transparent centre for the completed and on-going Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs) under MarinTrust's Improver Programme (IP). This tool defines and assesses FIPs against time benchmarks to understand the rate at which a fishery is improving.

[2023 Report: Fishmeal and fish oil in the EU \(3 October 2023\)](#)

The European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products (EUMOFA) has recently released its 2023 study on the production of fishmeal and fish oil. This study provides an overview of the fishmeal and fish oil sectors within the EU. According to the latest EUMOFA report, fishmeal and fish oil production in the EU accounts for approximately 10-15% of global production. Annually, the EU produces between 370,000 to over 520,000 tonnes of fishmeal and between 120,000 to 190,000 tonnes of fish oil.

[Peru's fishmeal production down 76% in 2023, IFFO reports \(20 September 2023\)](#)

Global production of fishmeal and fish oil was down 52% in July 2023, hurt primarily by a plunge in Peruvian supply due to the cancellation of the country's anchoveta season. Peru's fishmeal production is down 76% year from January to July, according to IFFO, The Marine Ingredients Organization, dragging down global cumulative fishmeal production 31% year over year.

[Peru's fishing shutdown drives global fishmeal shortage \(3 August 2023\)](#)

With fishing closed off the Peruvian coast to preserve fishery health amid El Nino, global availability of fishmeal and fish oil has plummeted, according to IFFO.

News

[Danish Fisheries Agency report finds onboard cameras an effective control \(10 October 2023\)](#)

An evaluation report from the Danish Fisheries Agency "Electronic Monitoring of the Norway Lobster Fishery in Kattegat: Comprehensive Project Evaluation" concludes camera documentation is an effective control method, especially for documenting catches and thus complying with landing obligations.

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[New video on Scottish pelagic industry-science data collection programme \(26 September 2023\)](#)

Scottish pelagic fishing vessels now participate in gathering biological data that inform how fisheries are managed in a collaboration with scientists that provides high quality data on pelagic stocks.

[SFP unveils new projects to address carbon and biodiversity impacts of aquaculture \(21 September 2023\)](#)

The Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP) will initiate two new projects within its aquaculture programmes. One to support more sustainable aquafeed, and the other to improve farmed shrimp in Andhra Pradesh.

[New research shows changes in fish fat content thanks to industry data \(31 August 2023\)](#)

Research, co-funded by the Scottish Pelagic Fishermen's Association in association with the University of Aberdeen and the Pelagic Freezer-Trawler Association has revealed important new facts about fish fat content and 'the fatter the better'.

[BIM and Marine Institute collaborate with pelagic sector to capture NEA mackerel data \(14 August 2023\)](#)

Irish pelagic fishers and processors are joining an international scientific initiative to provide vital information which helps inform the management of Northeast Atlantic mackerel, one of Ireland's most valuable species.

[Remote electronic monitoring made mandatory for Scottish pelagic vessels \(14 August 2023\)](#)

Remote Electric Monitoring (REM) will become mandatory on large pelagic vessels and all scallop dredge vessels in Scottish waters. Further rollout of REM will be considering alongside the Future Catching Policy development.

[Steady herring landings as the processing sector invests in the future \(2 August 2023\)](#)

Against a background of the fleet busy at sea, processors onshore are playing their role in ensuring that the catch is handled and marketed in the most efficient manner possible, with three pelagic processors either engaged in, or shortly embarking upon, major upgrades to ensure the provision of state-of-the-art facilities.

See also

- **[Seafish aquaculture web](#)**
- **[Seafish aquaculture profiles](#)**

This is an information service provided by Seafish for industry and key stakeholders. The views expressed are not necessarily those of Seafish.