

17 October 2011

**ICES ASSESSED STOCKS
SUMMARY OF NEW ADVICE PUBLISHED IN JUNE AND OCTOBER 2011**

Cod	Cod in Barents Sea continues to be in excellent condition. Stock status improving for Iceland, Baltic, Faroe Plateau and Celtic Sea (advice to double TAC). Slightly improved in North Sea.	Page 2 – 6
Dover sole	Stock shows improvement in the North Sea and Eastern English Channel	7 - 9
Haddock	Barents Sea improvement. West of Scotland advice to increase TAC x 4.	10 - 13
Hake	Southern European hake stock improved.	14
Herring	Big Norwegian spring spawning stock at MSY but expected to decline. North Sea/Celtic Sea stocks improved.	15 – 18
Mackerel	Spawning stock well above precautionary levels but concerns about lack of international agreement.	19
Megrim	Status Quo.	10
Monkfish	Decline in North Sea and west of Scotland.	21
Nephrops	Little change.	22 - 28
Plaice	North Sea stock improved.	29 - 31
Saithe	Stock deteriorated in North Sea, West of Scotland and Rockall	32 - 33
Whiting	Stock improved in North Sea and English and Bristol Channel	34 – 36
Others	Covers brill, dab, flounder, grey gurnard, pollack, red gurnard, striped red mullet and turbot	37 - 39

Key - *Fishing mortality/Spawning Stock Biomass

- 1. MSY – Maximum Sustainable Yield** MSY - fishing at levels that catch the maximum proportion of a fish stock, that can safely be removed on a continuous basis,
- 2. PA – Precautionary Approach** – to avoid stock depletion.
- 3. Mg'ment Plan – Management Plan** – agreed by all parties to maintain/rebuild stocks.

In the following tables a very simple statement has been included on the status of the spawning stock biomass in 2011 in comparison with 2010. This is an estimate based on ICES stock status information and is not necessarily definitive.

COD

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
NORTH EAST ATLANTIC COD					
Inside safe biological limits					
Cod in I and II Barents Sea North East Arctic	703,000 (includes 20,000 coastal cod)	Spawning stock biomass has been above precautionary levels since 2002 and is now near its record high. Fishing mortality has been reduced and is now close to its lowest value. Surveys indicate cod recruitment will be average in 2012-2013. Estimates of unreported landings have decreased and for 2009 and 2010 the estimate is zero.	1. Not defined 2. Harvested sustainably 3. Below target	A management plan has been implemented since 2004 with the objectives of maintaining high long-term yield, year-to-year stability, and full utilization of all available information on stock dynamics. Under the management plan catches should be less than 750,000 t in 2012. The plan will be in force until 2015. Discarding is illegal	IMPROVED Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Full reproductive capacity 3. Above trigger
Cod in Va Icelandic	160,000	Spawning stock reached a historical low in 1993 of 120,000 t - since increased to around 360,000 t at present. Fishing mortality has declined significantly. Year classes 2001 onward were below average, while the 2008 and 2009 year classes are around average. First measurement of the 2010 year class indicates that it will be poor.	1. Not relevant 2. Below precautionary levels 3. Within expected range	The Icelandic Government has adopted a management plan for Icelandic cod. ICES advises, on the basis of the plan that landings in the fishing year 2011/2012 should be no more than 177,000 t. Estimates of annual cod discards since 2001 are in the range of 1.4–4.3% of numbers landed	IMPROVING Spawning stock biomass 1. Not relevant 2. Well above limit 3. Above trigger

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Inside safe biological limits					
Cod in 25 – 32 Eastern Baltic	64,500	Spawning stock biomass has increased rapidly in recent years to 309, 000 t at the start of 2011. Fishing mortality in 2008-10 estimated to be lowest in the series. The 2006, 2007 and 2008 year classes (at age 2) is above the average of the last 15 years.	1. Appropriate 2. Harvested sustainably 3. Below target	A management plan has been agreed. The management plan is under revision. There are also seasonal closures during 1 July to 31 August to protect spawning fish. ICES advises that the TAC for 2012 should be set at 74,200 t. Discards estimated at 6.6%.	IMPROVING Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Undefined 3. Above possible reference points
Cod in 22 – 24 Western Baltic	18,800	Spawning stock biomass has fluctuated around precautionary levels in recent years. Fishing mortality has decreased to just below target specified in the management plan. The three latest year classes have been close to the 10-year average	1. Above target 2. Undefined 3. Below target	A management plan has been agreed. ICES advises on the basis of the EU management plan that the TAC for 2012 should be set at 21,300 t. Discards 1,400 t (10%).	IMPROVING Spawning stock biomass 1. Above 2. Full reproductive capacity 3. Undefined
Stocks at risk of being outside safe biological limits and below biomass action point BMSY-trigger					
Cod in Vb1 Faroe Plateau	Effort reduction	Spawning stock has shown some increase after reaching a historical minimum in 2007, but remains below MSY. Fishing mortality has decreased since 2002. The 2008 year class is estimated to be above average.	1. Above target 2. Increased risk	There is no explicit management plan for this stock. ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach to reduce fishing mortality by 30% in 2012 to <10,000 t.	IMPROVED Spawning stock biomass 1. Below trigger 2. Increased risk

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Stock outside biological limits					
Cod in IV (North Sea), VIId (Eastern Channel) and IIIa (West Skagerrak)	26,800	There has been a gradual improvement in the status of the stock over the last few years. Spawning stock has increased from the historical low in 2006. Fishing mortality declined from 2000, but is estimated to be well above MSY, and is just above precautionary levels. Recruitment since 2000 has been poor. Although discards are still high, there has been a decreasing trend since 2008.	1. Above target 2. Increased risk 3. Above target	The EU–Norway agreement management plan was updated in December 2008. The EU has adopted a long-term plan for this stock with the same aims. A joint ICES–STECF group is currently conducting a historical evaluation of the effectiveness of these plans. ICES advises landings in 2012 should be no more than 31, 800 t. Proportion of total numbers caught that are discarded. In 2010, 91% of 1-yr-old, 57% of 2-yr-old, 21% of 3-yr-old, and 3% of 4-yr-old cod.	SLIGHTLY BETTER ISSUE WITH DISCARDS Spawning stock biomass 1. Below trigger 2. Reduced reproductive capacity 3. Below target
Cod in VIIa Irish Sea	506	Fishing mortality in recent years is uncertain, but total mortality remains very high. Spawning-stock biomass has declined ten-fold since the late 1980's. Last nine years has been the lowest recruitment, but 2009 year class estimated to be largest since 2001.	1. Above target 2. Harvested unsustainably	A long-term plan has been agreed by the EU in 2008 which results in a TAC of 380 t and effort reduction of 25%. ICES considers the plan not to be in accordance with the precautionary approach. ICES advises on the basis of MSY approach zero catches in 2012. Accurate discard estimates not available but evidence of discarding 2-year old fish.	SAME DISCARDS ISSUE Spawning stock biomass 1. Below trigger 2. Reduced reproductive capacity

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. MSY PA Mg'ment plan
Stock outside biological limits					
Cod in VIa West of Scotland	182	Total mortality is high, but cannot be accurately divided into fishing mortality and natural mortality. The spawning-stock biomass continues to increase from an all time low in 2006, but remains low. Recruitment has been estimated to be low over the last decade. The 2005 and 2008 year classes are estimated to be the largest since 1997.	1. Unknown 2 Unknown 3. Above possible reference points	ICES advises on the basis of the precautionary considerations that catches in 2012 should be reduced to the lowest possible level. In the cod long-term management plan stock is considered data poor. Discards reported to ICES (all fleets combined) are five times greater than landings, making catch (landings + discards) six times greater than landings.	SAME ISSUE WITH DISCARDS Spawning stock biomass 1. Below trigger 2. Below precautionary limits
Reference points not fully defined					
Cod in Area Seven Vlle-k Celtic Sea	4,023	The stock is highly dependent on incoming recruitment. Various sources indicate that the recruitment of the 2009 year class is the strongest since 2000. Spawning stock is above precautionary levels and is expected to increase due to decreasing fishing mortality and strong incoming recruitment. The strong 2009 year class is expected to bring the spawning stock above the MSY trigger point.	1. Above target 2. Harvested sustainably	Based on the MSY framework, ICES advises that landings in 2012 should be 10,000 t. It is known that discard rates have increased in some fleets in 2010, but discard estimates are >500 t in 2010.	IMPROVED ISSUE WITH DISCARDS Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Reference points not fully defined					
Greenland ICES XIV and NAFO I Offshore stocks	15,000	All information indicates cod biomass is low compared to the late 1980s. Offshore component severely depleted since 1990, but started to recover in 2005. Inshore recruitment since 2000 shows some signs of improvement. Dense concentrations of large spawning cod have been found off East Greenland since 2007 in small areas.	Local information	In 2008 Greenland and EC agreed upon a management plan. The plan included an offshore areal closure, division of the fishery into an offshore and inshore component, and licenses for the coastal fishery. A revision of the plan in 2010 has not yet been agreed by the parties. ICES advises that no fishery should take place in 2012	SLIGHTLY WORSE Spawning stock biomass Offshore local high densities Inshore unknown
Cod in Vb2 Faroe Bank	No fishing	2009 data on landings and indices from two surveys (summer 2010 and spring 2011) do not change the perception of the stock which is at a very low stock size.		ICES advises that the fishery should be closed and not reopened until both surveys indicate biomass at or above the 1996-2002 average. Bank has been closed since 1 Jan 2009 but 61 fishing days were allowed in 2010.	SAME
Cod in I & II Norwegian Coastal	Included in Arctic stock 21,000	There has been no change with low spawning stock biomass and recruitment for this stock. The survey indicates that the SSB is close to the lowest observed level. Recruitment has remained low since 2002.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	A rebuilding plan agreed by the Norwegian authorities was evaluated by ICES in 2010 and considered to be provisionally consistent with the precautionary approach. ICES advises different scenarios for 2012 based on 2011 autumn survey results.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown

DOVER SOLE

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tones	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS					
Inside safe biological limits					
Dover sole in IV North Sea	14,100	Spawning stock biomass has fluctuated around the precautionary reference points for the last decade and is estimated to be above the precautionary point in 2010. Fishing mortality has shown a declining trend since 1995 and is estimated to have been below the precautionary level since 2008.	1. Above target 2. Harvested sustainably 3. Below target	ICES advises on the basis of the first stage of the EU management plan that landings in 2012 should be no more than 15,700 t. ICES notes that according to the management plan, transitional arrangements to the second stage of the plan should be established as both North Sea sole and plaice have now been within safe biological limits for two consecutive years.	SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity 3. Above target
Dover sole in VIII a & b Bay of Biscay	4,250	Most recent estimates of spawning stock biomass show stock close to MSY trigger and precautionary level. Fishing mortality is around the precautionary level and above MSY. Recruitment has increased since 2004.	1. Above target 2. Harvested sustainably	A multiannual plan was agreed by the EU in 2006 with the aim of first bringing spawning-stock biomass above 13 000 t in 2008 and thereafter within sustainable levels. ICES has not evaluated the plan. ICES advises on the basis of the transition to the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 4,000 t.	SLIGHTLY WORSE Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Dover sole in VIII f and g Celtic Sea, Bristol Channel	1,241	The spawning stock biomass has been above MSY trigger since 2001. Fishing mortality has decreased and is now below MSY. The 2007 year class is estimated to be above average while the 2009 year class is the lowest of the time series.	1. Appropriate 2. Harvested sustainably	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 1,060 t. Beam trawl discards about 5% in weight.	SLIGHTLY WORSE Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity
Dover sole in III a Skagerrak and Kattegat	700	Spawning stock biomass has decreased from 2005, and has fluctuated around MSY trigger since 2008. Fishing mortality has been stable since 2005, just below MSY. Recruitment has been about average since 2003.	1. Below target 2. Increased risk	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 610 t. Discards estimated at 2%.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Below target 2. Undefined
Stocks at risk of being outside safe biological limits and below biomass action point <small>B_{MSY-trigger}</small>					
Dover sole in VI d Eastern English Channel	4,852	The spawning-stock biomass has increased since 2002 and is above MSY trigger. Since 2005, fishing mortality has been slightly above precautionary levels. The 2008 year class is the highest in the time-series and the 2001, 2004, and 2005 year classes were above average.	1. Above trigger 2. Risk of being harvested unsustainably	ICES advises on the basis of the transition to MSY that landings in 2012 should be no more than 5,600 t. The 80 mm mesh size for sole is not matched to the minimum landing size of plaice. Measures to reduce discarding of plaice in the sole fishery would greatly benefit the plaice stock and future yields of plaice, but would also result in loss of marketable sole landings.	SLIGHTLY IMPROVED Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Stocks at risk of being outside safe biological limits and below biomass action point <small>B_{MSY-trigger}</small>					
Dover sole in VIIe Western English Channel	710	The significant reduction in fishing levels in 2009 reflects the reduction in fishing effort. Spawning stock biomass is around the lowest observed values in the time series. Recruitment has been fluctuating without trend.	1. Appropriate 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY that landings in 2012 should be < 740 t. Discarding in the towed gears using 80mm mesh sizes (majority of the landings), is very small (<5% by number) and small (5-10%) for the much smaller gillnet fishery.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Below trigger 2. Undefined
Outside safe biological limits					
Dover sole in Irish Sea: ICES Division VIIa	390	Spawning stock biomass has continuously declined since 2001 reaching its lowest level in 2009. Fishing mortality has been declining to a stable level in recent years with beam trawl effort declining by 75% 2003-2010. Incoming recruitment is lowest in the time series.	1. Above target 2. Harvested sustainably	ICES advises on the basis of the transition to the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 200 t. Discarding of sole is between 0 and 8% in weight.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Below trigger 2. Reduced reproductive capacity
Reference points not defined					
Dover sole in VIIb & c West of Ireland	44	There is insufficient information to evaluate the status of the stock.	Insufficient information	ICES advises no increase in catch without evidence it will be sustainable.	SAME Insufficient information
Dover sole in VII h-k Southwest Ireland	423	State of stock biomass is unknown. Exploratory estimates of mortality suggest current fishing mortality in VIIj,k is close to current proxy for MSY.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Close to proxy for MSY	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that catches in 2012 should not increase.	SAME 1. Unknown 2. Unknown

HADDOCK

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS					
Inside safe biological limits					
Haddock in IV, IIIa North Sea & Skagerrak	36,100	Fishing mortality has been below precautionary levels and spawning stock has been above MSY trigger since 2001. Recruitment is characterised by occasional large year-classes. The last was the strong 1999 year class. Apart from 2005 and 2009 year classes (about average), recent recruitment has been poor. Report of the North Sea Stock Survey shows industry perception is increasing abundance in all areas of the North Sea.	1. Appropriate 2. Harvested sustainably 3. Below target	A management plan has been agreed by EU and Norway in 2008. ICES has evaluated the plan and concludes that it is can be accepted as precautionary. ICES advises on the basis of the EU-Norway management plan that landings in 2012 should be 41,575 t. 26% discards	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity 3. Above trigger
Haddock in I and II Barents Sea North East Arctic	303,000	Spawning stock biomass has been increasing in recent years. At present at its historic highest value. Fishing mortality has been around MSY since the mid 1990s. Year classes 2004-2006 est'd to be very strong, 2008 and 2010 are below average and 2009 year class around average.	1. Appropriate 2. Harvested sustainably 3. Below target	JRNC agreed a management strategy for both cod and haddock in this area, which is designed to keep the stocks within safe biological limits. ICES advises catches of 318,000 t in 2012, an increase on 2011. Discarding is illegal in Norway and Russia	IMPROVED Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity 3. Above trigger

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Haddock in VIb Rockall	3,748	Spawning stock biomass has increased in recent years due to 2001 and 2005 year classes. Stock above precautionary levels since 2003. Fishing mortality has declined over time - now below MSY. Recruitment since 2007 estimated to be extremely weak and there is a high probability that spawning stock will decrease to below precautionary levels in 2013.	1. Below target 2. Harvested sustainably	A management plan is under development and is currently being evaluated. ICES advises on the basis of the MSY considerations that landings in 2012 should be no more than 3,300 t. 8% discards. Last year discards are significantly reduced as a result of the small number of young haddock in the population.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity
Stocks at risk of being outside safe biological limits and below biomass action point <small>B_{MSY-trigger}</small>					
Haddock in Vb Faroes	Zero catch	Spawning stock biomass has decreased since 2003 and is now just below precautionary limits. Fishing mortality has decreased from above precautionary limits in 2003 to around precautionary limits in the last three years; to above in 2010. Year classes from 2003 onwards have all been well below the	1. Undefined 2. Increased risk	ICES advises on the basis of the precautionary approach that there should be no directed fishery on haddock in 2012. Measures should be put in place to minimise by-catches of haddock in other fisheries. A recovery plan should be developed and implemented as a prerequisite to reopening the directed fishery.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Reduced reproductive capacity

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Stocks at risk of being outside safe biological limits and below biomass action point B_{MSY-trigger}					
Haddock in Va Iceland and East Greenland	20,000 (2010/11)	Spawning stock biomass increased from 2001 to 2005 due to several strong year classes but has since decreased. Fishing mortality is currently above precautionary levels. Five strong year classes (1998-2003) with 2003 very strong. Recruitment has been below the long-term average since 2004. 2008–2010 year classes est'd to be very small. Growth has started to improve after a number of years poor growth. Mean weight-at-age still low for many age groups	1. Undefined 2. Harvested unsustainably	ICES advises on the basis of the precautionary approach that catches in 2011/2012 should be no more than 42,000 t. Discards are considered very small (less than 3%).	IMPROVED Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Well above limit
Haddock in Vla West of Scotland	2,500	2009 year class is strong relative to recent classes, but still below the long-term average. This contributes to rise of spawning stock in 2011, estimated at 20,800 t. Fishing mortality has been above precautionary levels in most years since 1987, but dropped below precautionary levels in 2007 has been at MSY since 2008.	1. At target 2. Harvested sustainably	A management plan is under development. ICES advises on the basis of MSY framework that landings in 2012 should be no more than 10,200 t. The selection pattern should be improved in the <i>Nephrops</i> (TR2) fleet to reduce its high proportion of discards. 51% discards rate for fishery mainly attributed to <i>Nephrops</i> vessels (88%).	IMPROVEMENT DISCARDS ISSUE Spawning stock biomass 1. Below trigger 2. Reduced reproductive capacity

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Reference points not fully defined					
Haddock in VIIa Irish Sea	1,317	The assessment is indicative of trends only. Stock trends indicate an increase in spawning stock biomass over the time-series, but a decrease since 2008. The strength of the 2010 year class is uncertain and the response to spawning stock biomass is unknown. Spawning stock is expected to remain at current levels or decrease depending on the strength of recruitment.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	ICES advises based on precautionary considerations, that catches in 2012 should be reduced, and uptake of further technical measures to reduce discards. Discard rates are high. In 2010 discard numbers were 92-100% for 1-year-olds; 22-96% for 2-year-olds and 3-68% for 3-year-olds.	SAME ISSUE WITH DISCARDS Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Below possible reference points
Haddock in VIIb – k Area seven	13,316	Assessment indicative of trends only. Spawning stock biomass shows increasing trend over the time-series. Recruitment is highly variable but 2009 year class appears to be exceptionally good, and catches have increased in 2010, but most of this increase was discarded as they were under minimum landing size. Fishing mortality stable over the recent years. Abundance of haddock is increasing due to a large recruiting year class.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	ICES advises no increase in catch and technical measures to mitigate the increased discarding of the recruiting year class. During 2011 new data from surveys and the industry will be coming in that will improve the estimate of the year-class strength, and this may allow changes in management in 2012. Discard rates are high. As fish become of marketable size (age 2 onwards), they are likely to be discarded due to a restrictive TAC.	IMPROVED ISSUE WITH DISCARDS Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Strong increase

HAKE

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Stock outside safe biological limits					
Southern stock European hake ICES divisions VIIIc, IX and X	10,695	Fishing mortality has been stable over the last decade and about three times above MSY. In 2010 fishing mortality was estimated to have decreased by 37% from 2009. Spawning stock has increased since 1998 and is estimated to have increased considerably in 2011. Recruitment has been high since 2005. Catch and landings increased from 2004 – 2009, decreased in 2010, but remain high.	1. Above target 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of the transition to MSY that landings in 2012 should not exceed 14,300 t. A recovery plan was agreed by EU in 2005. The aim is to recover the stock to a spawning-stock biomass above 35,000 t by 2016 and to reduce fishing mortality. TAC has been ineffective in regulating the fishery landings greatly exceeded the TACs.	IMPROVED Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Undefined
Reference points not defined					
European hake, northern stock: ICES divisions IIIa, VIIIa, b, d sub areas IV,VI,VII (TAC includes Divs Vb (EU zone), VIIIe, Sub areas XII,XIV)	55,100 (TAC includes Divs Vb EU zone)	Spawning biomass has been increasing since 1998 and is estimated at a record high in 2011. Fishing mortality has been decreasing in recent years, but is still above MSY. Recruitment fluctuates. After several high recruitments in 2006 to 2008, the last two recruitments are estimated to be low.	1. Above target 2. Undefined	A recovery plan was agreed by the EU in 2004. The aim is to increase the SSB to above 140,000 t, ICES advises on the basis of the transition to MSY that landings in 2012 should be no more than 51,900 t. Discards of juvenile hake can be substantial in some areas and fleets.	SAME ISSUE WITH DISCARDS 1. Undefined 1. Undefined

HERRING

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June or October 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS					
Inside safe biological limits					
Norwegian spring Spawners (Atlanto-Scandian). ICES sub area I, divisions IIa, Va, Vb. October 2011 advice	988,000	SSB in 2011 is well above precautionary levels. Stock is composed of five large year classes in last 13 years (1998, 1999, 2002, 2003, and 2004). But all cohorts from 2005 have been small. Fishing mortality during 2008–2010 has been at MSY. SSB in 2009 was the highest in the last 20 years, but recruitment poor since 2004 and SSB consequently declined in 2010/2011 and is expected to decline further.	1. At target 2. Harvested sustainably 3. Above target	ICES advises on the basis of the EU, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, and Russia management plan that landings in 2012 should be no more than 833,000 t. Short-term prognoses indicates a decline of SSB from 7.9 mill t in 2011 to 6.9 and 5.9 mill t in 2012 and 2013, respectively, assuming exploitation in 2011 and 2012 is according to the management plan.	WORSE Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity 3. Above trigger
Herring in IV and VIId North Sea, Eastern English channel autumn spawners June 2011 advice	200,000	Full reproductive capacity, harvested sustainably and below management plan and MSY targets. Year classes 2002 to 2007 are estimated to be among the weakest since the late 1970s. Year classes 2008/9 estimated to be above the long-term geometric mean. ICES considers stock is still in a low productivity phase.	1. Below target 2. Harvested sustainably 3. Below target	A management plan was agreed by EU and Norway in 2008. ICES advises on the basis of the agreed plan that catches in 2012 should be no more than 248,000 t, including 230,000 t for the A-fleet. EU–Norway agreement calls for a review of the current plan no later than December 2011.	IMPROVED Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Full reproductive capacity 3. Between lower and upper trigger

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Stocks at risk of being outside safe biological limits and below biomass action point <small>B_{MSY-trigger}</small>					
Herring Icelandic summer spawners Va	40,000 (Sept 2010 to Sept 2011)	Spawning stock biomass has been declining over past 3 to 4 years and is now close to precautionary levels. A high <i>Ichthyophonus</i> infection was observed in the stock in the winter 2008/2009 and again in 2009/2010 causing additional natural mortality. Estimated prevalence of the <i>Ichthyophonus</i> infection was 32% in the winter 2008/09, 43% in 2009/10, and 34% in 2010/11. Indications are infection might be abating. Fishing mortality currently well below MSY. Recruitment in last decade has been at or above long-term average. Strong year classes - 1999, 2000, 2002.	1. Below trigger 2. Undefined	In early autumn 2011 new information on the <i>Ichthyophonus</i> infection will be available. ICES recommends that no TAC be set until this information is available.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Below trigger 2. Increased risk
Reference points not fully defined					
Herring in VIa, VII b, c North & west Ireland	4,400	Assessment is indicative for trends only. Recent fishing levels are unknown, but is likely to be above MSY. Current spawning stock level is uncertain, but is likely to be below possible reference points. Recruitment has been low since 2000.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Above possible reference points	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that landings in 2012 should be reduced	WORSE Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Above possible reference points

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Reference points not fully defined					
Herring in Celtic Sea and Southwest Ireland VIIg, h, j and k and VIIa (S)	13,200	Current assessment shows the stock continues to improve. Spawning stock biomass is at the highest level since the 1960s and continues to increase. Fishing mortality is well below MSY. There are three recent strong year classes (2003/4, 2005/6, and 2007/8).	1. Below target 2. Undefined	A long-term management plan was agreed by the Irish industry in 2011. ICES has not yet evaluated the plan. A rebuilding plan has been in place since 2009. ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 26,900 t.	IMPROVED Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Full reproductive capacity
Herring in IIIa Skagerrak & Kategatt and Subdivisions 22-24 Western Baltic spring spawners	30,000 IIIa 15,800 in 22-24	Catches have declined since the early 1990s. Spawning stock biomass has been decreasing in recent years and has reached the lowest in the time-series in 2010. Fishing mortality increasing since 2005, but dropped to 0.30 in 2010 (still higher than the target MSY of 0.25). Most recent recruitment is estimated to be near the long-term average.	1. Above target 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY framework that catches in 2012 should be no more than 42,700 t.	WORSE Spawning stock biomass 1. Below trigger 2. Undefined
Herring in VIIa (N) Irish Sea	5,200	Assessment is indicative of trends only. Catches have been close to TAC levels, and main fishing activity has not varied considerably. Spawning stock biomass is highest in 18 year series.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	A TAC of <4,800 t was advised for 2011, the same as 2010. ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that landings in 2012 should not be allowed to increase.	IMPROVED Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Reference points not fully defined					
Herring in 25-32 Baltic (excluding Gulf of Riga herring)	107,000	Spawning stock biomass in 2010 was 60% of the long-term (1974–2010) average. Fishing mortality has been above precautionary levels and MSY since beginning of the 1980s. Last stronger year classes were the 2002 and 2007 year-classes.	1. Above target 2. Harvested unsustainably	ICES advises on the basis of the transition to the MSY approach that catches in 2012 should be no more than 92,000 t.	SLIGHT DECLINE Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Undefined 3. Stable but low biomass
Herring in 30-31 Gulf of Bothnia spring spawners	104,400	30 - Recruitment seems to be stable over the last 20 years with the exception of three very abundant year-classes in 2002, 2006, and 2008. Fishing mortality has been below precautionary levels and has not reached FMSY since 2000. Stable stock abundance in 31.	1. Appropriate 2. Harvested sustainably	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY framework that the catch in 2012 should be no more than 104,000 t for 30 and 31.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity
Herring in Gulf of Riga	32,700	Spawning stock biomass is above MSY trigger. Year classes 2005, 2007 and 2009 are strong. 2006 and 2008 year classes are poor.	1. Above target 2. Harvested unsustainably	ICES advises on the basis of the transition to the MSY approach that catches in 2012 should be no more than 25,500 t.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Undefined
Herring in West of Scotland autumn spawners VIa (N)	22,480	Stock over recent years has been fluctuating at a low level. Fishing mortality has fluctuated around FMSY in recent years. Recruitment has been low since 2003.	1. Above target 2. Undefined 3. Above target	Management plan adopted in 2008. ICES advises on the basis of the agreed west of Scotland herring management plan that the TAC for 2012 should be set at 22,900 t.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Above limit

MACKEREL

Stock	TAC for 2010 Tonnes	Status of stock in October 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in October 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Stocks at risk of being outside safe biological limits and below biomass action point <small>B_{MSY-trigger}</small>					
Mackerel in the North East Atlantic (combines Southern, Western and North Sea spawning components). October 2011 advice	No internationally agreed TAC	Western component of this stock comprises 76% of the entire NE Atlantic stock. The Southern component makes up most of the rest, along with the small North Sea component. SSB has more than doubled from a low of 1.68 mt in 2002 to around 3.1 mt in 2009, and is currently at 2.9 mt, well above the precautionary level. Fishing mortality was high during the 1990s, then declined and has been relatively stable since 2006, and was estimated at 0.26 in 2010, just above F_{MSY} (0.22). The 2005 and 2006 year classes are the highest on record, helping SSB in 2009 to reach the highest level for the last 30 years. The 2007, 2008 and 2009 year classes are about average. The size of the 2010 and 2011 classes are not yet known.	1. Above target 2. Increased risk 3. Above target	TAC should apply to all areas where mackerel is caught. Catches since 2008 have been considerably in excess of ICES advice (based on the management plan). This situation continued in 2011. Absence of international agreements remains a critical concern, and prevents control of the total exploitation rate. The total estimated catch in 2011 is 927,245 tonnes. If this catch level is maintained in 2012 and 2013, the SSB in 2013 could decline to below precautionary levels. ICES advises on the basis of the Norway, Faroe Islands, and EU management plan that catches in 2012 should be between 586,000 tonnes and 639,000 tonnes.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity 3. Above trigger

MEGRIM

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Reference points not fully defined					
Megrim in Celtic Sea and Bay of Biscay VIIb-k and VIIIa, b, d	2,100	No analytical assessment. Surveys and commercial data indicate the stock has been stable over the time-series. Perception of the stock has not changed.	Unknown	The advice for the fishery in 2012 (under transition to MSY) is for catch and effort reduction.	SAME Spawning stock biomass Unknown
Megrim in Spain and Portugal VIIIc and IXa	<860 combined <100 <i>L. whiffiagonis</i>	<i>L. whiffiagonis</i> is in poor conditions in terms of spawning stock but currently not overexploited. <i>L. boscii</i> spawning stock is slightly increasing but currently overexploited in relation to MSY.	1. Below target 2. Undefined	Two megrim species are managed under a common TAC. ICES advice based on MSY is that combined landings should be < 860 t in 2012 (<100 t <i>L. whiffs</i>). Discard levels are estimated to be in the range of 10–45%.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Undefined 3. Below poss. MSY trigger
Megrim in the North Sea IVa and in the West of Scotland VIa. (Before 2011 advice was given for Division IVa, VIa and VIb combined).	1,845	There is no analytical assessment for this stock. Survey indices show an increase in biomass 2005 to 2010. Indications overall mortality rate has declined - total biomass has increased	1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Stable at low level	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that there should be no increase in catch. Discards range 1 – 23% by weight.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Increasing
Megrim in VIb Rockall	3,387	There is no analytical assessment for this stock. Survey indices show an increase in biomass over the from 2005 to 2010.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations there should be no increase in catch.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Increasing

MONKFISH (Anglerfish)

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Stock outside safe biological limits					
Monkfish in North and West Spain and Portugal Divisions VIIIc, IXa	1,600 includes <i>L. budegassa</i> and <i>L. piscatorius</i>	Status of <i>L. pisc</i> remains unchanged, in poor condition (constitutes around 70 % of total landings) at around 30% of MSY. For <i>L. bud</i> fishing mortality has decreased since 1999 and is now below MSY. Biomass has increased since 2002 and is now just under MSY.	<i>L. pisc</i> 1. Below target 2. Undefined <i>L. Bud</i> 1. Below target 2. Undefined	Two species are managed under a common TAC. Advice depends on the stock in poorer condition. ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that combined landings in 2012 should be no more than 3,300 t. (<i>L. Bud</i> = 1,100 t and <i>L. pisc</i> = 2,200 t).	SAME Spawning stock biomass <i>L. pisc</i> 1. Undefined 2. Undefined <i>L. bud</i> 1. Undefined 2. Undefined
Reference points not defined					
Monkfish in Skagerrak and Kattegat, the North Sea and the West of Scotland and Rockall. Division IIIa, Sub Area IV and Sub Area VI	9,640	No accepted analytical assessment for this stock. Recent dedicated anglerfish surveys (in Division IVa and Subarea VI indicate a decline in trends of abundance in 2007–2009 and stable biomass in recent years.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that catches in 2012 should be reduced.	WORSE Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown
Monkfish in Celtic Sea and Biscay. Sub Areas VII b-k and VIII a, b, d	40,900 <i>L. piscatorius</i> combined with <i>L. budegassa</i>	Indications biomass for both increased until 2008 due to good recruitment. After 2008, biomass of the two species has decreased. For <i>L. pisc</i> evidence of good recruitment in 2008-2010. Last strong recruitment for <i>L. bud</i> was in 2008.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	The TAC is for both species combined. ICES advises on the basis of the precautionary considerations that catches should be reduced.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Decreasing

Stock FU = Functional Unit	Advisory TAC in 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS		Above MSY trigger		MSY trigger not defined	
ICES IV NORTH SEA includes Functional Units 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 32 and 33. Also covers FU 3 & 4. Overall TAC in 2011 23,454 t					
Nephrops in FU 8 Firth of Forth	2,000	UWTV survey indicates population has been at a relatively high level since 2003. Harvest ratio is considered to be above MSY and the advice is based on reducing the harvest ratio to MSY by 2015.	1. Above target 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 1,700 t. 18% discard rate	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Undefined
Nephrops in FU 9 Moray Firth	1,100	UWTV survey shows population is stable, but at a low level from 2003-2005. Harvest ratio estimates indicate stock is harvested below MSY.	1. Below target 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 1,100 t. 9% discard rate	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Undefined
Nephrops in FU 10 Noup	Reduce catch	State of stock is unknown.	Insufficient information	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that catches should be reduced.	Insufficient information
Nephrops in FU32 Off Horn Reef	1,200	Landings per unit effort (lpue) relatively stable over the last 16 years. Current levels of exploitation sustainable. ICES recommends reducing catches under MSY framework.	Unknown	This year ICES adopts the transition to MSY approach as the basis for advice, this corresponds to reducing catches.	SAME Unknown
FU 33 Off Horn Reef	800 Landings 2010	State of stock is unknown. There are no strong indications of changes in recruitment or discarding levels.	Unknown	This year ICES adopts the transition to MSY approach as the basis for advice, this corresponds to reducing catches.	SAME Unknown

Stock FU = Functional Unit	Advisory TAC in 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS		Above MSY trigger		MSY trigger not defined	
ICES IV NORTH SEA includes Functional Units 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 32 and 33. Also covers FU 3 & 4. Overall TAC in 2011 23,454 t					
Nephrops in FU 3 Skagerrak and FU 4 Kattegat	<6,000	The first absolute estimate of abundance was available in 2010 from an UWTV survey. The estimate of 2010 harvest ratio (6.4%) from this survey and the fishery indices (effort and lpue) both suggest that the stock is exploited sustainably. Results from a preliminary production model support this	1. Appropriate 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 6,000 t. As a consequence of the current minimum landing size of 40 mm carapace length, the amount of discards is large. Cod, sole, and plaice are bycatch - 39% undersized/discards	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Undefined
ICES VI CELTIC SEA includes Functional Units 11, 12, 13. Overall TAC in 2011 13,681 t. 15% decrease.					
Nephrops in FU 11 North Minch	3,100	Stock has been above MSY trigger for 10 years. Harvest ratio estimate indicates stock is harvested at below MSY. 2012 advice corresponds to an increase in MSY.	1. Below target 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 3,200 t. 11.2% discard rate.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Not defined
Nephrops in FU 12 South Minch	4,000	Stock biomass has been rising from close to MSY trigger in 2007. Harvest ratio indicates stock is fished at below MSY. 2012 advice corresponds to an increase in MSY.	1. Below target 2. Not defined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 5,500 t. 11.8% discard rate	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Not defined

Stock FU = Functional Unit	Advisory TAC in 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS		Above MSY trigger		MSY trigger not defined	
ICES IV NORTH SEA includes Functional Units 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 32 and 33. Also covers FU 3 & 4. Overall TAC in 2011 23,454 t					
Nephrops in FU 13 Firth of Clyde and Sound of Jura	4,700	Firth of Clyde stock above MSY trigger since 1995. Stock is exploited above MSY. Recommended catch for 2012 corresponds to reducing harvest ratio to MSY by 2015. Sound of Jarra advice corresponds to MSY.	Firth of Clyde 1. Above target 2. Not defined Sound of Jura 1. Below target 2. Not defined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be 4,200 t in the Firth of Clyde and 900 t for the Sound of Jarra.	SAME Firth of Clyde 1. Above trigger 2. Not defined Sound of Jarra 1. Not defined 2. Not defined
				25% discard rate.	
ICES VII IRISH SEA & CELTIC SEA includes Functional Units 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20-22. Overall TAC for 2010 21,759 t.					
Nephrops in FU 14 Irish Sea East	681	Three UWTV surveys (2008, 2009, 2010) indicate a stable stock. It is too early to designate the MSY trigger level.	1. Below target 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of a transition to MSY that landings in 2012 should be no more than 960 t.	SAME 1. Undefined 2. Undefined
				28% discard rate	
Nephrops in FU 15 Irish Sea West	9,500	Stock has sustained catches of around 9,000 t for more than 35 years. Biological stock knowledge is good. Harvest ratio indicates stock is fished below MSY.	1. Below target 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 9,800 t.	SAME 1. Above trigger 2. Undefined
				16% discard rate	
Nephrops in FU 16 Porcupine Bank	Lowest catch	Fishing effort, landings and catch data indicate overexploitation. 2009 good recruitment led to increased biomass for the first time in years. Closed season (1 May – 31 July) for over 75% of area introduced in 2010 to protect emerging females.	1. Undefined 2. Undefined 3. High exploitation rate	ICES advice on the basis of the precautionary approach is that for 2012 catches should not increase to allow stocks to rebuild.	SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT 1. Undefined 2. Undefined
				Minimal discards	

Stock FU = Functional Unit	Advisory TAC in 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS		Above MSY trigger		MSY trigger not defined	
ICES IV NORTH SEA includes Functional Units 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 32 and 33. Also covers FU 3 & 4. Overall TAC in 2011 23,454 t					
Nephrops in FU 17 Arran Grounds	<050	Abundance has fluctuated widely since 2002 and it has not been possible to define MSY trigger. Stock is currently exploited at just below MSY.	1. Below target 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that landings in 2012 should be no more than 1,100 t	SAME 1. Undefined 2. Undefined
Nephrops in FU 19 Ireland South West	800	There is insufficient information to make an assessment.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	ICES advice on the basis of the precautionary approach is that for 2012 catches should be reduced.	SAME 1. Unknown 2. Unknown
Nephrops in FU 20 – 22 Irish & Celtic Seas	5,400	FU 20-21 Status stock is largely unknown. Landings are stable and the effort by the French and Irish fleets are showing opposite direction. Steady decrease on effort since early 90's. FU 22 Stock considered to be stable based. Indications of strong recruitment in recent years (2006).	FU 20- 21 1. Unknown 2. Unknown FU 22 1. Appropriate 2. Unknown	FU 20 -21 On the basis of the precautionary approach catches should be reduced for 2012. FU22 On the basis of the MSY approach landings in 2012 should be no more than 2,300 t.	SAME FU 20- 21 1. Unknown 2. Unknown FU 22 1. Unknown 2. Unknown
				Discards are thought to be extensive, but observations are insufficient to provide a reliable time-series.	
ICES VIIIa, b BAY OF BISCAY AND WESTERN IBERIAN SEAS includes FU 23 and 24.					
Nephrops in FU 23 Biscay North & FU 24 Biscay South	3,400	Status uncertain but appears stable. Selective devices have been implemented to counter discarding.	Unknown	ICES advises on the basis of a transition to MSY that landings in 2012 should be reduced.	SAME Unknown
				25% discard rate.	

Stock FU = Functional Unit	Advisory TAC in 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS		Above MSY trigger		MSY trigger not defined	
BAY OF BISCAY AND WESTERN IBERIAN SEAS includes Functional Units 25 and 31.					
Nephrops in FU 25 North Galicia and FU 31 Cantabrian Sea	Zero	Both stocks have suffered severe recruitment failure and population decline.	Unknown	A recovery plan was put in place in January 2006. Catches at 34 t in 2010 were very much lower than the TAC of 101 t.	SAME Unknown
ICES IXa BAY OF BISCAY AND WESTERN IBERIAN SEAS includes Functional Units 26, 27, 28, 29, 30.					
Nephrops in FU 26 West Galicia and FU 27 Portugal North,	Zero	Stocks are severely depleted.	Unknown	A recovery plan was put in place in January 2006. ICES repeats its advice of zero catch in 2011.	SLIGHTLY WORSE UWTV abundance in relation to precautionary levels unknown
Nephrops in FU 28 Portugal South west and FU 29 Portugal South &	<200	Stocks are in a better condition than in FU 26 and 27.	Unknown	ICES advises on the basis of a transition to MSY that landings in 2012 should be reduced.	SAME UWTV abundance in relation to precautionary levels unknown
Nephrops in FU 30 Gulf of Cadiz	200	Stock appears to be relatively stable. Fishery has been redirected onto other crustacean species as a result of effort controls and economic factors. These fisheries have not achieved their agreed TACs in recent years.	Unknown	ICES advises on the basis of a transition to MSY that landings in 2012 should be reduced.	SLIGHTLY WORSE UWTV abundance in relation to precautionary levels unknown

PLAICE

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
EUROPEAN STOCKS					
Inside safe biological limits					
Plaice in IV North Sea	73,400	Stock is well within precautionary boundaries, and has reached its highest levels in recorded history. Recruitment has been around long-term average from 2005. Assessment is considered uncertain, partly due to uncertain discard estimates. 2010 Fishers' North Sea stock survey reported plaice more abundant in 2010.	1. Appropriate 2. Harvested sustainably 3. Below target	ICES advises on the basis of the first stage of the EU management plan that landings in 2012 should be no more than 84,410 t. Transitional arrangements to the second stage of the plan should be established as both North Sea plaice and sole have been within safe biological limits for two consecutive years. 43% discards rate.	IMPROVED DISCARDS ISSUE Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity 3. Above target
Plaice in VIIa Irish Sea	1,630	Assessment is indicative of trends only. Spawning stock biomass shows an increase in stock size since the mid-1990s to stable level. Total mortality shows a declining trend since the early 1990s to stable level. Recruitment has been slightly lower than average in recent years. High level of discarding (80%) indicates a mismatch between the minimum landing size and mesh size.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Below possible reference points	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that catches of plaice should not increase and technical measures should be introduced to reduce discard rates. A very high proportion of the catch is discarded – 87%.	SAME DISCARDS ISSUE Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Above possible reference points

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Stocks at risk of being outside safe biological limits and below biomass action point B_{MSY-trigger}					
Plaice in VII d and e English Channel Western Channel	4,665	For VII d the current assessment is indicative of trends only. Spawning stock biomass declined from the 1990s to a record low (2003–2008) and has subsequently slightly increased. Fishing mortality has declined since the mid 1990s and is presently among the lowest in the time-series. For VII e fishing mortality is well above MSY and spawning stock has increased to above MSY trigger in last two years.	VII d 1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Indications of reduction VII e 1. Above target 2. Undefined	There is a combined TAC for VII d and VII e. ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that catches should not increase in 2012, and discarding should be reduced. In VII d discards up to 50%. 80 mm mesh size does not match the minimum landing size for plaice (27 cm), a large number of undersized plaice are discarded.	SAME DISCARDS ISSUE IN VII d Spawning stock biomass VII d 1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Slight increase from lowest level VII e 1. Above trigger 2. Undefined
Plaice in VI f and g Celtic Sea	410	Assessment is indicative of trends only. Spawning stock has increased since 2004 to a stable level, but is considered to be well below historic levels. Fishing mortality shows a declining trend since 2002, but is considered above levels that would increase spawning stock. Stock is considered at a low level. Recruitment has been fluctuating without clear trend in recent years.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Above possible reference points	ICES advises on the basis of the precautionary considerations that catches should be reduced. Discards exceed landings and technical measures should be introduced to reduce discard rates. Discards are substantial and have ranged from 30% to 70% in number (mainly below minimum landing There is a high rate of discarding in both beam and otter trawl fisheries (62%).	SAME DISCARDS ISSUE Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Below possible reference points

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Reference points not fully defined					
Plaice in IIIa Skagerrak	9,900	Assessment is exploratory only. Surveys indicate that a number of large year classes over the period 2000–2006, but that the recent year classes have been lower. Fishing mortality is unknown. Catches have increased in 2010.	Insufficient information	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that catches in 2012 should be reduced. This advice does not take into account the mixing with the increasing North Sea plaice stock in the Skagerrak.	SAME Spawning stock biomass Insufficient information
Plaice in Va Icelandic waters	6,500	NO NEW ADVICE			
Plaice in 22-33 Baltic	1,948 2010 landings	In recent years an increase in the abundance has been observed in this survey.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	Based on precautionary considerations ICES advises that catches should not increase	SAME Spawning stock biomass Undefined
Plaice in VII b and c West of Ireland	78	Stock status is unknown and the available catch statistics are not considered reliable indicators of abundance.	Insufficient information	ICES advises that no increase of the catch should take place unless there is evidence that this will be sustainable.	SAME Insufficient information
Plaice in VII h – k	218	There is no accepted analytical assessment for this stock. State of the stock is unknown. Exploratory estimates of mortality suggest that recent fishing mortality for the major component of the catch is greater than a proxy for MSY.	Unknown	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that catches in 2012 should be reduced.	SAME Spawning stock biomass Unknown

SAITHE (Coley)

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
EUROPEAN STOCKS					
Inside safe biological limits					
Saithe in I and II Northeast Arctic	173,000 Norwegian fleet	Since 1995, spawning stock biomass has been well above precautionary levels but has decreased in recent years. Fishing mortality has been well below precautionary levels since 1996 but increased after 2005. The 2005 year class is above average, 2006 below average, 2007 above average strength. as low as possible.	1. Undefined 2. Harvested sustainably 3. Below target	The Norwegian authorities have adopted harvest control rules. The advisory TAC for 2012 is 164,000 t.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Full reproductive capacity 3. Above trigger
Saithe in Va Iceland	50,000	The fishing mortality has been high in recent years, peaking in 2008 and 2009. Spawning stock has been declining since 2006 and is at present below the long-term average. Recruitment in recent years has been around the long-term average.	1. Above target 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that catches in 2012 should be no more than 45,000 t.	WORSE Spawning stock biomass 1. Above target 2. Above limit

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Stocks at risk of being outside safe biological limits and below biomass action point B_{MSY-trigger}					
Saithe in IV, VI and IIIa North Sea, Skagerrak, West of Scotland & Rockall	93,000	The status of the stock has deteriorated in the last few years. Spawning stock was estimated to have been above precautionary levels from 2001–2008 but has substantially declined during the last three years. From 2001–2007, fishing mortality has been at or below the target of the management plan, but has now increased. Because of lack of input data, no assessment was conducted in 2010, and these trends could not be recognised until now.	1. Above target 2. Increased risk 3. Above target	Given the recent poor recruitment and low spawning stock ICES advises that paragraph 6 of the EU–Norway management plan be invoked to reduce the catches beyond the 15% TAC reduction < 87,544 t.	WORSE Spawning stock biomass 1. Below trigger 2. Increased risk 3. Below trigger
Outside safe biological limits					
Saithe in Vb Faroe Islands	None agreed	Spawning stock biomass has increased since the mid-1990s and is above MSY trigger. Recruitment in 2010 is above average while fishing mortality is above MSY. Current fishing mortality on this stock is unlikely to result in MSY and should be reduced.	1. Above target 2. Harvested unsustainably	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that fishing mortality in 2012 should be reduced by 38% to FMSY.	WORSE Spawning stock biomass 1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity

WHITING

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS					
Stock status uncertain or unknown					
Whiting in IIIa Skagerrak & Kattegat:	1,050	The available landing data provides insufficient information on stock status. Major part of catch taken as a bycatch in small-mesh fisheries.	Insufficient information	Based on precautionary considerations catches should be reduced. ICES estimates of discards are 291 t (54 % of catch).	SAME Spawning stock biomass ISSUE WITH DISCARDS
Whiting in IV North Sea	14,800	Spawning stock biomass in 2010 is slightly higher than in 2009 - around average. Fishing mortality stable since 2003. Recruitment very low between 2003 and 2007. Stronger recruitments estimated in 2008 and 2009. Stock no longer considered to be in a period of impaired recruitment. Industry perception of increasing whiting abundance in S. North Sea in line with IBTS surveys. In N. North Sea perception of increasing whiting abundance at odds with IBTS surveys showing a general decline.	1. Undefined 2. Undefined 3. Stable	ICES advises on the basis of the EU–Norway interim management plan a TAC of 24,300 t (human consumption for the combined area) in 2012. Fish discarded appears to have been reduced since 2003, from around 60% in 2003 to around 47% in 2009. However restrictive TACs means discard rates increased in 2010 and expected to be high again in 2011.	IMPROVED Spawning stock biomass 1. Undefined 2. Undefined 3. At recent average

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Whiting in VII e-k English and Bristol Channel & Celtic Sea	16,658	The state of the stock is uncertain and assessment is indicative of trends only. Stock is estimated to have declined since the mid 1990 and has recently increased to long term average. Surveys indicate 2008 and 2009 year classes may be above average. Whiting are taken in mixed species fisheries. Discard rates are very high due to low market value of species, particularly for smaller sizes.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	ICES advises based on precautionary considerations, that catches should not be allowed to increase and technical measures should be introduced to reduce discard rates. Discarding of this stock for different fleets is substantial and highly variable (9–82% by weight and 18–90% by number of total catch).	IMPROVING ISSUE WITH DISCARDS Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown
Whiting in VIa West of Scotland	320 Combined TAC with VIb	State of stock is unknown, but long-term information indicates present stock size is at historical low. Fishing mortality has declined since 2005. Recruitment in most recent years estimated to be very low with indications of an increase in 2010.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. At possible reference points	ICES advises on the basis of the precautionary considerations that catches in 2012 should be reduced. The selection pattern should be improved in the Nephrops (TR2) fleet. More than half of the annual catch weight comprises undersized or low-value whiting which are discarded. 83% of these discards come from the TR2 (Nephrops) fishery.	SAME ISSUE WITH DISCARDS Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Below possible reference points

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Whiting in VIb Rockall	323 Combined TAC with VIa	The available information is insufficient to evaluate the stocks trends and exploitation. Landings of whiting from Division VIb are negligible (18 t in 2010).	Insufficient information	Based on precautionary considerations, ICES advises that no increase of the catch should take place unless there is evidence that this will be sustainable.	SAME Insufficient information
Whiting in VIIa Irish Sea	118	State of the stock is uncertain. Long-term information indicates present stock size is extremely low. Landings have declined since the early 1980s. Survey results indicate a decline in relative spawning stock... Discarding remains a substantial problem for this stock, with almost all whiting caught being discarded. Current fishing mortality is likely to be above possible MSY targets.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Above possible points	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that catches should be reduced to the lowest possible levels and uptake of further technical measures to reduce discards. There is no targeted whiting fishery in the Irish Sea. Whiting are bycatch. Discarding remains a substantial problem for this stock, with almost all whiting caught being discarded.	SAME Spawning stock biomass 1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Below possible reference points

OTHERS

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality – 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Brill in IV, IIIa and VIId,e North Sea	4,642	Brill is mainly a bycatch species in fisheries for plaice and sole. The available information is inadequate to evaluate stock trends.	Insufficient information	TAC is set with turbot. ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that catches should not increase.	Insufficient information
Brill in 22-32 Baltic Sea	82 Landings in 2010.	Survey data suggest an increasing trend, except for low values in 2007 and 2009. No indication of a decline in stock size. No information on the stock identity. Not known if there is one or more stock in the Baltic or if Baltic is part of a larger stock complex.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	Based on precautionary considerations ICES advises that catches should not be increased.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown 3. Increasing
Dab in IV and IIIa North Sea	18,434 with flounder	There is no information on the stock identity of this species. Landing data not complete and are probably not indicative of catches. The mixed TAC with flounder reduces the accuracy of catch statistics per species. Different surveys show a stable to increasing total biomass for the main area (IV) in which the fisheries are conducted.	Insufficient information	No specific management objectives are known to ICES. An EU TAC is set for EU waters of area IIa and IV together with flounder. Effort for the main beam trawl fleet for dab (by-catch) has declined 40% 2003- 2009. ICES advises catches should not increase. Dab is mainly a by-catch species in plaice and sole fisheries. Discard rates are variable.	IMPROVED Total stock biomass has increased.

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality – 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Dab in Subdivisions 22-32 Baltic Sea	1,041 landings in 2010	A positive trend in the abundance has been observed since the start of the survey data time-series	1. Unknown 2. Unknown	Landings should not increase.	IMPROVED Unknown Unknown Increasing
Flounder in IV and IIIa North Sea	18,434 with dab	The available survey information indicates stable (IIIa) or increasing (IV) stock abundance. Subarea IV is the main fishing area - 87% of the landings .	Insufficient information	ICES advises catches should not increase.	IMPROVED Stable or increasing biomass.
Flounder in Subdivisions 22-32 Baltic Sea	16,582 landings in 2010	The stock has been stable in recent years. Exploitation is considered to be low or moderate.	1. Unknown 2. Unknown Low to moderate	No specific management objectives. Based on precautionary considerations ICES advises that catches should be reduced.	SAME Undefined Undefined Stable
Grey gurnard North East Atlantic IV and IIIa First ICES advice - October	Landings 600 in 2010	Available information is inadequate to evaluate overall biomass or abundance trends. Indices show an increase in abundance since the late 1980s. However, this species is widely distributed beyond these two areas and there is no information on the stock structure.	Insufficient information	Currently there is no TAC for this species and the stock structure of the species is unknown. Based on precautionary considerations, ICES advises that catches should not be allowed to increase in 2012 (landings in 2010 - 600 tonnes. Largely discarded.	Insufficient information
Lemon sole in IV, IIIa and VIIId North Sea	6,391	Available survey information indicates stable abundance in recent years at a high level. Landing data show a declining long-term trend.	Insufficient information	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that catches should not increase.	SAME Stable

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality – 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Pollack in IV and IIa North Sea	2,000 Landings in 2009	First time ICES has analysed data. Insufficient information to evaluate status. Unclear if one or several management units	Insufficient information	No TAC in this area -. Based on precautionary consideration, ICES advises that catches should not be allowed to increase in 2012.	Insufficient information
Pollack in VIII and IXa Bay of Biscay and Atlantic Iberian Sea	1,995	First time ICES has analysed data. There is insufficient information to evaluate status.	No Information	Unclear whether one or several management units. Based on precautionary consideration, ICES advises that catches should not be allowed to increase in 2012.	No information
Pollack in VI and VII Celtic Sea and West of Scotland	13,495 VII 397 VI	First time ICES has analysed data. There is insufficient information to evaluate status.	Insufficient information	Unclear whether one or several management units. Based on precautionary consideration, ICES advises that catches should not be allowed to increase in 2012	Insufficient information
Red gurnard North East Atlantic VIIId-k First ICES advice - October	Landings 4,700 in 2008	Available information is insufficient to evaluate stock trends and exploitation status. Stock definition is not clear, and assessments for possible stocks in the NE Atlantic are not possible. Official landings (1985–2008, 1999 not reliable) in the main fishing area (Divisions VIIId–k) show an increasing trend from 1985 to 2002, and a slight decrease since then.	Insufficient information	Currently there is no TAC for this species in the ICES area and it is not clear whether there should be one or several management units. Based on precautionary considerations, ICES advises catches should not be allowed to increase in 2012 (4,700 t in 2008).	Insufficient information

Stock	TAC for 2011 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2011	*Fishing mortality – 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	ICES advice in June 2011 and TAC advice for 2012	*SSB Status in comparison with 2010 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
Striped red mullet North East Atlantic First ICES advice - October	6,946 in 2008	The available information is inadequate to evaluate stock trends. The available information on stock identity suggests there is more than one stock.	Insufficient information	Currently there is no TAC. Based on precautionary considerations, ICES advises catches should not be allowed to increase in 2012 (landings 6,946 t in 2008).	Insufficient information
Turbot in IV, IIIa and VIId,e North Sea	4,642	A trends based assessment is presented, which is taken to represent the stock throughout the area. Landings have been stable since 1995. Fishing mortality has declined since 2002. Recruitment has shown an increase since 2000 and total stock biomass has been stable in that period.	Insufficient information	TAC is set with brill. ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that catches should not increase.	SAME Stable
Turbot in 22-32 Baltic Sea	295 Landings in 2010	Survey data shows no indication of a decline in stock size. Indications that turbot should be treated as several local stocks, but there are not enough data to identify these stocks.	Unknown Unknown	Based on precautionary considerations ICES advises that catches should be reduced.	SAME Undefined Undefined

In these tables a very simple statement has been included on the status of the spawning stock biomass in 2011 in comparison with 2010. This is an estimate based on ICES stock status information and is not necessarily definitive.

For further information contact: Karen Green, **Industry Environmental Communications, Seafish**

E : k_green@seafish.co.uk **Tel:** 01472 252300 **Mobile:** 07515 993499

17 October 2011