

**ICES ASSESSED STOCKS - SUMMARY OF NEW ADVICE PUBLISHED IN JUNE AND OCT 2009**

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**COD**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b>  <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>NORTH EAST ATLANTIC COD</b>					
<b>Inside safe biological limits – Full reproductive capacity and harvested sustainably</b>					
Cod in I and II Barents Sea North East Arctic	525,000	Estimates of spawning stock biomass show 18% increase. Estimates of unreported landings have been reduced from 2006 to 2008.	Harvested sustainably	Fishing is within the agreed management plan which implies landings of 577,000 t in 2010, an increase on 2009.	IMPROVED
<b>At risk of reduced reproductive capacity and/or harvested unsustainably</b>					
Cod in Area Seven Vlle-k Celtic Sea	4,023	The benchmark assessment for this stock in 2009 is not sufficient to produce an assessment but the perception is low stock size and high mortality.	Unknown	The 2008 advice called for a 50% reduction in fishing mortality. 2009 advice is to reduce fishing efforts but it is not possible to determine the scale of such reduction.	SAME
<b>Suffering from reduced reproductive capacity and/or harvested unsustainably</b>					
Cod in IV (North Sea), VIId (Eastern Channel) and IIIa (West Skagerrak)	34,590	Spawning stock biomass has been increasing steadily since its historical low in 2006. 2005 year class estimated to be one of the most abundant amongst recent below-average year classes. The 2008 year class is estimated to be one of the lowest in the series.	Increased risk	In December 2008 a new cod management plan was agreed. ICES has evaluated the management plan and considers it is in accordance with the precautionary approach. A zero catch was advised in 2009. Under the management plan ICES has advised a TAC of 40,300 t for 2010.	MUCH BETTER.

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b>  <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
Cod in VIIa Irish Sea	899	Fishing mortality in recent years is uncertain, but total mortality remains high. The stock has been harvested unsustainably since the late 1980's.	Harvested unsustainably	Stock remains depleted, and the effects of the agreed catch are difficult to predict. A zero catch is recommended for 2010.	SAME
Cod in Vb <sub>1</sub> Faroe Plateau		Most year classes from 2001 onwards have been around one third of the long-term average.	Harvested unsustainably	Close fishery for the fishing season 2009/2010 and develop a recovery plan aimed at rapidly rebuilding the stock to above precautionary levels.	SAME
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
Cod in 22 – 24 Western Baltic	16,337	Improving position. A strong 2008 year class is expected to provide 50% of the total catch in 2010.	Undefined	EU management plan implemented in 2008. Plan sets a maximum change of 15% in TAC year to year. Advisory TAC for 2010 is 17,700 t.	IMPROVING
Cod in 25 – 32 Eastern Baltic	44,580	The spawning stock biomass is increasing and there has been a marked decline in fishing mortality.	Harvested sustainably	EU management plan implemented in 2008. Plan sets a maximum change of 15% in TAC year to year. Advisory TAC for 2010 is 56,800 t (an increase).	IMPROVING
Cod in VIa West of Scotland	302	Spawning stock biomass has increased from an all-time low in 2006, but remains below the precautionary limits. 2005 year class is estimated to be the largest in last decade.	Unknown	Previous cod recovery plan did not apply west of a line known as the west of Scotland management line, but this was introduced in 2008. No fishing should take place.	IMPROVING

Stock	TAC for 2009  Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2009	Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits	ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010	Status in comparison with 2008
<b>Reference points not defined</b>					
Cod in Va Icelandic	130,000	Low recruitment and low growth means that the stock's productivity is low. 2008 year class may be above average. Reference biomass has increased.	Undefined	The advisory TAC for 2009/2010 is 135,000 t, higher than for 2008/2009.	IMPROVING
Greenland ICES XIV and NAFO I Offshore stocks	15,000 in 2008	Cannot be evaluated. A variable TAC regulation has been agreed, with annual TACs adjusted to take account of ICES information on stocks.	Unknown	No fishery should take place in 2010 to allow for rebuilding of the spawning stock. A multi-annual management plan should be developed.	SAME
Cod in Vb <sub>2</sub> Faroe Bank		Very low stock size.	No fishing	Fishery should be closed. Re-opening the fishery should not be considered until both survey indices indicate a biomass at or above the average of the period 1996-2002.	SAME
Cod in I & II Norwegian Coastal	20,000	Although precautionary limits are not defined, there is clear evidence that the stock is being fished unsustainably.	Undefined	No catch should be taken from this stock in 2010 and a recovery plan should be implemented.	WORSE

**DOVER SOLE**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009 Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS</b>					
<b>Inside safe biological limits – Full reproductive capacity and harvested sustainably</b>					
Dover sole in VIIId Eastern English Channel	5,274	Stock has full reproductive capacity but is at risk of being harvested unsustainably. In the last three years fishing mortality has increased. The 2001, 2004 and 2005 year classes were the three highest since 1990. The 2007 class is the weakest in the time series.	Increased risk	The advisory TAC for 2010 is 3,190 t, considerably lower than 2009 due to downward revision of stock size and poor incoming recruitment.	WORSE
Dover sole in VIII f and g Celtic Sea, Bristol Channel	993	Spawning stock biomass is estimated to be above the precautionary level. Fishing mortality is estimated to be slightly above precautionary level. The 2007 year class is estimated to be strong.	Harvested sustainably	A TAC of 1,185 is advised for 2010, an increase on 2009.	SAME
Dover sole in IIIa Skagerrak and Kattegat	800	Spawning stock biomass had increased from 1998 to 2005, it has decreased since then but is still well above the precautionary level. Fishing mortality has increased. Recruitment has been below average in the last four years. The advisory TAC of 620 t for 2020 is below the 2009 TAC.	Harvested sustainably	The advisory TAC of 620 t for 2020 is below the 2009 TAC.	SAME

Stock	TAC for 2009  Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2009	Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits	ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010	Status in comparison with 2008
<b>At risk of reduced reproductive capacity and/or being harvested unsustainably</b>					
Dover sole in VIII a & b Bay of Biscay	4,390	Most recent estimates of spawning stock biomass are above the precautionary level and fishing mortality is below the precautionary level. Recruitment has been stable since 1993.	Harvested sustainably	A multi-annual management plan was adopted in 2006, to bring SSB above the precautionary level by gradually reducing fishing mortality to keep the fishery sustainable. The targets are being reached. The advisory TAC of 4,900 t for 2010 is consistent with the plan and an increase on 2009.	IMPROVED
<b>Suffering from reduced reproductive capacity and/or being harvested unsustainably</b>					
Dover sole in IV North Sea	14,000	Spawning stock biomass has increased since 2008 owing to a large incoming 2005 year class and reduced fishing mortality. Fishing mortality has shown a declining trend since 1995 and is currently estimated to be below the precautionary level. The 2006 year class is below average, and 2007 average.	Harvested sustainably	The EU has implemented a long-term management plan for both Dover sole and plaice stocks in this area and the TAC advised for 2010 of 14,100 t is consistent with this plan.	MUCH IMPROVED
Dover sole in VIIe Western English Channel	650	No acceptable assessment is available. Fishing effort and catches should be reduced although it is not possible to determine the appropriate scale of such a reduction.	Unknown	Fishing effort and catches should be reduced although it is not possible to determine the appropriate scale of such a reduction.	

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b>  <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
Dover sole in VIIa Irish Sea	502	Spawning stock biomass has continually declined since 2001 to low levels and reached its lowest level in 2008. Fishing mortality has been close to or above the safe biological limit throughout most of the 36-year time series.	At risk of being harvested unsustainably	No fishing is advised in 2010.	SL WORSE
<b>Reference points not defined</b>					
Dover sole in VIIb & c West of Ireland	50	Unknown		No advice	
Dover sole in VII h-k Southwest Ireland	553	Unknown		No advice	

**HADDOCK**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b> <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS</b>					
<b>Inside safe biological limits – Full reproductive capacity and harvested sustainably</b>					
Haddock in IV, IIIa North Sea & Skagerrak	42,110	Spawning stock biomass is above precautionary levels, although this has been declining. Fishing mortality in 2008 is estimated to be below the precautionary level. Recruitment is characterized by occasional large yield-classes, the last of which was the strong 1999 class. The 2005 year class is about average but recent recruitment has been poor.	Harvested sustainably	The EU and Norway agreed a long-term management plan in 1999. ICES concludes that this management plan is precautionary and can be used as the basis for advice. The advisory TAC in 2010 is 38,000 t which is lower than 2009.	SLIGHTLY WORSE
Haddock in I and II Barents Sea North East Arctic	194,000	The year classes 2004 -2006 are very strong but the 2007 and 2008 year-classes are below average. Total stock in 2008 is estimated to be down around 5% and spawning stock 25% lower.	Harvested sustainably	Catches of 243,000 t in 2010, a 25% increase on 2009.	SAME
Haddock in VIb Rockall	4,615 (2008)	Spawning stock biomass has increased in recent years as a result of the 2001 and 2005 year classes and has been above precautionary levels since 2003.	Harvested sustainably	Keep fishing mortality to current levels this corresponds to catches of less than 7,090 t in 2010 and landings of less than 5,480 t.	SAME



<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b>  <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>At risk of reduced reproductive capacity and/or being harvested unsustainably</b>					
Haddock in Vb Faroes	Effort limits	Recent poor recruitment slow growth and declining spawning stock biomass. An effort management system is in place with an advisory TAC to maintain the status quo.	Harvested sustainably	A recovery plan with zero fishing mortality in 2010 to offer maximum protection to the haddock, recognising that it is caught in a mixed-fishery with cod and saithe.	SAME
Haddock in VIa West of Scotland	3,516	The strong 1999 year class caused spawning stock biomass to increase but it has declined since that time. The 2003 to 2007 year classes are estimated to be weak.	Harvested sustainably	ICES recommends the development of a management plan and that no fishing should take place in 2010.	SAME
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
Haddock in VIIa Irish Sea	1,424	The state of the stock is uncertain. Trends indicate an increase in spawning stock biomass over the last few years but a decrease in 2008. Total mortality appears relatively stable.	Unknown	No increase in fishing effort in 2010 relative to 2009.	SAME
Haddock in VIIb – k Area seven	11,579	Future catches and the spawning stock biomass will be highly dependent on the strength of the incoming year classes and their discard mortality. No strong recruitment has been observed since 2002 and estimated recruitment for 2006 is the lowest since 1997	Undefined	The stock should be managed by ensuring that fishing effort is not allowed to increase.	SAME

**HAKE**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b> <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>Inside safe biological limits – Full reproductive capacity and harvested sustainably</b>					
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)	51,506	Spawning stock biomass is estimated to be just above the precautionary level. Recruitment has been relatively stable over the last decade. Whilst, there are uncertainties about age determination, growth rate and productivity of northern hake, the status of the stock is robust enough to account for uncertainties in growth.	Harvested sustainably	This stock was subject to an emergency plan in the period 2001-4 (9) followed by a recovery plan (11), to constrain fishing effort. This plan has not been evaluated by ICES. ICES advice for 2010 is that the TAC should not exceed 55,200 t, slightly up on 2009.	SLIGHTLY BETTER
<b>Suffering from reduced reproductive capacity and/or being harvested unsustainably</b>					
Southern stock European hake ICES divisions VIIIc, IX and X	8,104	Stock is overexploited and is being fished unsustainably. Fishing mortality has increased in recent years. Despite this, there have been recent increases in spawning stock biomass and recruitment in recent years, but recruitment in 2008 is lower than in previous years and estimated to be poor.		The effects of an EU management plan implemented in 2005 (15) have not yet been evaluated. ICES has advised catches in 2010 should not exceed 4,900 t - zero catches were recommended in 2009.	SLIGHTLY BETTER

**HERRING**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b> <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS</b>					
<b>Inside safe biological limits – Full reproductive capacity and harvested sustainably</b>					
Herring Norwegian spring Spawners (Atlanto- Scandian). ICES sub area I, divisions IIa,Va,Vb  <b>OCTOBER 2009 ADVICE</b>	1,643,000	Spawning stock biomass is well above precautionary levels and is estimated be at its highest level in the last 60 years. In the absence of strong year classes after 2004, the stock is expected to decline in the near future even when fished according to the management plan.	Increased risk	The management plan implies maximum catches of 1,483,000 t in 2010, which is expected to leave a spawning stock of 10.8 million tones in 2011. Long-term management plan is considered to be consistent with precautionary approach.	SAME
Herring in 30-31 Gulf of Bothnia spring spawners	82,669	Recruitment has been stable over last 20 years with the exception of two very rich year classes (2002 and 2006). Spawning stock biomass remains at a high level.	Harvested sustainably	Advisory TAC for 2010 is 109,600 t, a very big increase on 2009.	BETTER
Herring in Gulf of Riga	34,892	The year classes 2005, 2007 and 2008 are strong, while the 2006 year class is poor. Fishing mortality below the precautionary level in 2008.	Harvested sustainably	The advisory TAC for 2010 is 33,400 t, an increase on 2009.	SL BETTER
Herring in VIIa (N) Irish Sea	4,800	Stock assessment is unreliable but estimates of trends from surveys show that the stock has been relatively stable at a low level for a number of years.	Undefined	A TAC of 4,800 t is advised for 2010, the same as 2009. Recent TACs do not appear to have been detrimental to the stock.	SAME

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b>  <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>Suffering from reduced reproductive capacity and/or being harvested unsustainably</b>					
Herring in IV and VIId North Sea, Eastern English channel autumn spawners	171,000	Six poor year classes in a row. Indications that 2008 year class is slightly higher. Size of 2007 year class has been revised upwards, but still considered poor. Survival of the larvae has been poor.	Harvested sustainably	In 2008 ICES advised a management plan. This was agreed in November 2008. Based on the management plan ICES advises a TAC of 174,700 t for 2010. SL	SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT
Herring in VIa, VII b, c North & west Ireland	9,314	There is little information on recruitment, but it is unlikely to be above average and may possibly be below average.	Undefined	ICES recommends a rebuilding plan is developed that will reduce catches. If no rebuilding plan is established, there should be no fishing.	SAME
Herring in Celtic Sea and Southwest Ireland VIIg, h, j and k and VIIa (S)	3,516	Now considered at full reproductive capacity. Good stock recovery but the stock is still composed of younger fish. The spawning stock biomass is increasing. Fishing mortality has reduced to the lowest rate in 45 years. Evidence of two good recruitments and three poor recruitments in recent years.	Undefined	Advice for the Celtic Sea and South of Ireland last year for no fishing without a rebuilding pan is no longer applicable. A combined TAC for the Irish Sea and Celtic Sea of 10,150 t is advised for 2010.	MUCH IMPROVED
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
Herring in IIIa Skagerrak & Kategatt Western Baltic spring spawners	37,722	Spawning stock biomass has been stable over a number of years, but expected to decline rapidly. From 2004 onwards, recruitment has been declining and is now at a record low.	Undefined	In June 2008 ICES recommended a substantial reduction in fishing in 2009. The TAC advised for 2010 is slightly higher at 39,800 t.	SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT

Stock	TAC for 2009 Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2009	Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits	ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010	Status in comparison with 2008
Herring in 25-32 Baltic	143,609	Status of stock cannot be fully evaluated. New results show lower estimates of spawning stock biomass and higher levels of fishing mortality for recent years. The last strong year class was 2002.	Harvested at increased risk	Based on a precautionary approach the advisory TAC is 103,000 t for 2010, 30% lower than 2009.	WORSE
Herring in West of Scotland autumn spawners VIa (N)	21,760	Status of stock is uncertain but considered to be fluctuating at a low level and exploited close to maximum sustainable yield. Recruitment has been very low since 1998. 2001 and 2002 year classes are weak.	Undefined	The EU adopted a management plan in December 2008. ICES advises a TAC of 24,420 t, which is in accordance with the proposed management plan.	IMPROVED
<b>ICELANDIC AND NORTHWEST ATLANTIC STOCKS</b>					
<b>At risk of reduced reproductive capacity and/or being harvested unsustainably</b>					
Herring Icelandic summer spawners Va	130,000	The status of the stock has improved. A high <i>Ichthyophonus</i> infection was observed in the stock in the winter 2008/2009 causing an additional mortality.	Harvested at increased risk	For 2008/09 the TAC was set at 130,000 tonnes (up from 117,000 t in 2007/08). New information on <i>Ichthyophonus</i> will be available in July 2009 and no TAC for 2009/10 should be set until this is available.	IMPROVED

**LING**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009 Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in October 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in October 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>At risk of reduced reproductive capacity and/or being harvested unsustainably</b>					
Ling in I and II Arctic		Catch per unit effort has been at a reduced level.	Unknown	Constrain catches to 6,000 t and to collect information that can be used to evaluate a long-term sustainable level of exploitation.	SAME
Ling in Va Iceland	7,000	Surveys indicate that overall biomass is increasing. Landings have also increased.	Unknown	Constrain catches to 7,500 t (recent average 2006-2007) and to collect information that can be used to evaluate a long-term sustainable level of exploitation.	BETTER
Ling in Vb Faroe Islands		Catch per unit effort has been at a reduced level.	Unknown	Effort should not be allowed to increase and to collect information that can be used to evaluate a long-term sustainable level of exploitation.	SAME
Ling in other areas Divisions IIIa and IVa and sub areas VI, VII, VII, IX, X, XII & XIV	19,520	Catch per unit effort has been at a reduced level.	Unknown	Constrain catches to 10,000 t and to collect information that can be used to evaluate a long-term sustainable level of exploitation.	SAME

**OCTOBER 2009 ADVICE**

**MACKEREL**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009 Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in October 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in October 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>At risk of reduced reproductive capacity and/or being harvested unsustainably</b>					
Mackerel in the North East Atlantic (combines Southern, Western and North Sea spawning components.  <b>OCTOBER 2009 ADVICE</b>	511,287	Spawning stock biomass has increased by 47% since 2002 and is currently estimated to be above the precautionary level. The 2002 year class is the highest on record. Subsequent year classes are estimated to be above average. There is insufficient information to confirm the sizes of the 2007 and 2008 year-classes.	Increased risk	ICES advice, to comply with the management plan would imply an annual catch of between 527,000 t and 572,000 t in 2010. The SSB is expected to remain stable in 2011 for a catch in this range. A management plan was agreed in October 2008 by Norway, the Faroe Islands and the EU. High grading ban agreed in June 2009 to commence in January 2010.	SLIGHTLY BETTER

**MEGRIM**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b> <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
Megrim in Celtic Sea and Bay of Biscay VIIb-k and VIIIa, b, d	20,425 <i>L. whiff</i> includes 5% <i>L. boscii</i> contribution	The state of the stock is unknown. Surveys and commercial data indicate that the stock has been stable over the time-series.	Unknown	No increase in effort is recommended for 2010. TACs in 2004–2008 have not been restrictive.	SAME
Megrim in Spain and Portugal VIIIc and IXa	1,430	The state of the two stocks cannot be evaluated. SSB of both species has decreased since the late 1980s. However, SSB for <i>L. boscii</i> shows a slightly upwards trend and recruitment has been low in the last decade.	Undefined	Combined catches of <i>L. whiffiagonis</i> and <i>L. boscii</i> in 2010 should not exceed 900 t. This corresponds to a TAC reduction of 36%.	WORSE
Megrim in the West of Scotland and Rockall VI	2,790	The state of the stock is unknown. A recently developed fishery independent survey suggests an increasing trend in biomass in both areas VI and IV since 2005.	Unknown	In recent years management advice has been based on average landings. This year the advice is based on effort with no increase in effort recommended for 2010.	SAME
Megrim in the North Sea IV	1,590	The state of the stock is unknown. Since 2009, ICES now provides advice on megrim in IV because the megrim population is believed to be contiguous between Divisions IVa and VIa.	Unknown	No increase in effort recommended for 2010.	SAME



**MONKFISH**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009 Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>Reference points not defined</b>					
Monkfish in Skagerrak and Kattegat, the North Sea and the West of Scotland and Rockall. Division IIIa, Sub Area IV and Sub Area VI	11,345	The state of the stock is unknown. There are major uncertainties about catch and effort data as well as limited knowledge about population dynamics. A fishery independent survey has indicated an increasing trend in biomass in areas VI and IV since 2005. A mandatory programme to collect catch and effort data on both target and bycatch fish will be in its 5 <sup>th</sup> year in 2009. This will yield good information for the management of this stock.	Unknown	ICES advises on the basis of precautionary consideration that the effort in fisheries that catch anglerfish should not be allowed to increase. The TAC is to remain the same.	SAME
Monkfish in Celtic Sea and Biscay. Sub Areas VII b-k and VIII a, b, d	36,000. Catches are approximately 80% <i>Lophius piscatorius</i> and 20% <i>Lophius budegassa</i> .	ICES is unable to classify the status of either stock, however indicators for <i>Lophius piscatorius</i> show biomass has been increasing as a result of good recruitment observed in 2001, 2002 and 2004 and has stabilised in recent years. There are evidences of good recruitment in 2008.	Unknown	Efforts should not be allowed to increase.	SAME

		For <i>Lophius budegassa</i> biomass has shown a continuous increase since the mid 2000s as a result of several good incoming recruitments. There is evidence of a strong incoming recruitment from 2008.			
<b>Stock assessed using a production model</b>					
Monkfish in North and West Spain and Portugal Divisions VIIIc, IXa	1,760 Stock consists of <i>Lophius piscatorius</i> and <i>Lophius budegassa</i> .	For <i>Lophius piscatorius</i> despite the decrease in fishing mortality stock is still below maximum sustainable yield. With a zero catch in 2010 the stock is not expected to reach maximum sustainable yield until 2013. For <i>Lophius budegassa</i> fishing mortality has shown a decreasing trend and this has led to an increase in biomass. Fishing mortality in 2010 equal to the status quo is expected to bring the stock to maximum sustainable yield in 2011.	Undefined	ICES advice zero fishing in 2010 or a management plan.	SAME

**NEPHROPS**

<b>Stock</b> <b>FU = Functional Unit</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b> <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS</b>					
<b>ICES IV NORTH SEA</b>					
Nephrops in FU 7 Fladen Ground <b>Management Unit G</b>	11,300 (Rec Landings)  <b>24,837 overall for North Sea Management units G, F, I &amp; H</b>	Underwater TV (UWTV) survey estimates show stock has fluctuated without trend. Estimates for last two years indicate highest abundance in the series. Indications of stable or slightly increasing mean sizes in the length compositions of catches which suggests the stock is being exploited sustainably.	Exploited sustainably	ICES recommends landings of 16,419 tonnes for 2010, an increase of over 4,000 tonnes on reported landings in 2008.	BETTER
Nephrops in FU 9 Moray Firth & FU 10 Noup <b>Management Unit F</b>	FU 9 <1,800  FU 10 240	UWTV survey suggests the population is stable, but at a lower level than that evident from 2003-2005. The current fishery appears sustainable.	Exploited sustainably	ICES recommends a reduction in landings to 1,372 tonnes for 2010 for FU 9 and 240 tonnes for FU10..	SAME
Nephrops in FU 6 Farne Deepes & FU 8 Firth of Forth <b>Management Unit I</b>	FU 6 <3,000 (Rec Landings)  FU 8 <2,500 (Rec Landings)	For FU 6 UWTV survey, fishery data and length frequency data all point to the stock continuing to be at a low level with low recruitment.  For FU 8 evidence from the UWTV survey suggests population has been at a relatively high level since 2003. The current fishery appears sustainable.	Unknown  Appears to be sustainably exploited	For FU 6 ICES recommends for 2010 landings should be less than 1,210 tonnes.  ICES recommends landings of 1,567 tonnes in 2010, a 37% reduction relative to 2008.	WORSE  WORSE

<b>Stock</b> <b>FU = Functional Unit</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b> <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
Nephrops in FU 5 Botney Gu & FU 33 Off Horn Reef <b>Management Unit H</b>	700 (FU 5 landings in 2008)  1,400 (FU 33 landings in 2008)	In June 2009 there is no new advice, the state of the stock is unknown. The assessment is based only on catch data and mean sizes in the catches. There are no strong indications of changes in recruitment or discarding levels.	Appears to be sustainably exploited	ICES recommends no increase in effort on these stocks from landings of 700 tonnes for FU 5 and 1,400 tonnes for FU 33 in 2008	SAME
<b>ICES VII IRISH &amp; CELTIC SEAS</b>					
Nephrops in FU 14 Irish Sea east & FU 15 Irish Sea west <b>Management Unit J</b>	<b>24,650</b> <b>overall for</b> <b>Management</b> <b>Areas J, L &amp;</b> <b>M</b>  1,000 (FU 14 landings in 2007)  8,500 FU 15	Previously ICES provided combined advice for FU 14 and FU 15. In 2009 the stocks are assessed as separate functional units.  FU 14 there is significant uncertainty. There is no new advice in June 2009. The stock appears to be in good condition and the current fishery appears sustainable.  FU 15 stock is considered overfished. UWTV survey estimates abundance declined by 42% between 2004 and 2008.	Appears to be sustainably exploited  Overfished	FU 14 the advice remains the same as for 2009 which corresponds to landings in 2010 of 1,000 tonnes.  FU 15 ICES has advised a large reduction (40%) in the TAC to 5,465 tonnes for 2010.	SAME  WORSE
Nephrops in FU 20 – 22 Irish & Celtic Seas <b>Management Unit M</b>	5,300	There is no new advice in 2009. Landings have fluctuated around 4600 t since the mid-1990s. Lpue indicators do not show signs of decrease in recent years.	Appears to be sustainably exploited	ICES advice remains the same which corresponds to landings of no more than 5,300 tonnes in 2010.	SAME

<b>Stock</b> <b>FU = Functional Unit</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b> <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
Nephrops in FU 16 Porcupine Bank, FU 17 Arran Grounds & FU 19 Ireland south west <b>Management Unit L</b>	<1,000	Previously ICES had provided combined advice for FU 16, 17 & 19. From 2008 the stocks are assessed as separate functional units.  FU 16 - The state of the stock is uncertain. There are indications that exploitation rate has been high in the last five years.	Over exploited	FU 16 - ICES advice for 2010 is that catches should be reduced to the lowest possible level.	WORSE
	900	FU 17 - Abundance of stock has fluctuated widely but the 2008 survey is the lowest in the series and abundance is only 60% of 2004 levels.	Over exploited	FU 17 - ICES advises a reduction in the TAC for 2010 to 505 tonnes.	WORSE
	800	FU 19 - There is no new advice. for south west and Landings have been variable throughout the time-series. Landings from 2005 onwards have been around average.	Appears to be sustainably exploited	FU 19 - ICES advice remains the same for landings in 2010 of no more than 800 tonnes.	SAME
<b>OTHER FUNCTIONAL UNITS</b>					
Nephrops in FU 32 Norwegian Deep <b>Management Unit S</b>	1,200	Landings per unit effort (lpue) have been relatively stable over the last 14 years and suggest that current levels of exploitation are sustainable. A slight increase in mean size in the catches in 2007 could indicate a reduced exploitation pressure.	Appears to be sustainably exploited	ICES recommends that effort should not be allowed to increase.	SAME

<b>Stock</b> <b>FU = Functional Unit</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b> <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
Nephrops in FU 3 Skagerrak & FU 4 Kattegat <b>Management Unit E</b>	5,200	There is no new assessment in June 2009. The 2008 assessment shows that the stocks are stable. High catch rates of small <i>Nephrops</i> in 2007 may indicate strong recruitment.	Appears to be sustainably exploited	ICES recommends no increase in effort. Current fishing effort appears to be sustainable at 2008 levels of 5,200 tonnes.	SAME
<b>Division VIa West of Scotland</b>  Nephrops in FU 11 North Minch, FU 12 South Minch & FU 13 Clyde <b>Management Unit C</b>	18,400 (15,100 Rec landings for VIa)	Previously ICES had provided combined advice for FU 11, 12 & 13. In 2009 the stocks are assessed as separate functional units.		An overall TAC of 8,953 tonnes is recommended for 2010.	
	<4,100	FU 11 - UWTV surveys show stock has declined by 40% over the past two years from a high in 2006.	Exploited unsustainably	FU 11 - This corresponds to reduced landings of 972 tonnes for the North Minch	WORSE
	<5,000	FU 12 - The stock has declined from a record high in 2004 to a record low in 2007, but increased in 2008.	Exploited unsustainably	FU 12 - 4,126 tonnes for South Minch	WORSE
	<5,700	FU 13 - The population has been at relatively high levels since 2003 except for 2007.	Exploited unsustainably	FU 13 - 3,855 tonnes for the Firth of Clyde.	WORSE
Nephrops in FU 23 Biscay North & FU 24 Biscay South <b>Management Unit N</b>	4,100	Discarding of <i>Nephrops</i> is a significant problem and selective devices have been implemented. There is no new ICES advice in June 2009. Advice remains of a relatively stable spawning stock biomass.	Appears to be sustainably exploited	ICES recommends landings of 3,400 t in 2010.	SAME

<b>Stock</b> <b>FU = Functional Unit</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b> <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
Nephrops in FU 25 North Galicia & FU 31 Cantabrian Sea <b>Management Unit O</b>	112	There is no new ICES advice in June 2009. The 2008 advice indicates both stocks are at very low abundance. A recovery plan was put in place in January 2006, which aims to rebuild stocks within 10 years.	Recovery plan	ICES repeats its advice of zero catch in 2010.	SAME
Nephrops in FU 26 West Galicia, FU 27 Portugal North, FU 28 Portugal South west, FU 29 Portugal South & FU 30 Gulf of Cadiz <b>Management Unit Q</b>	374	There is no new ICES advice in June 2009. Therefore the advice for 2008 remains.  FU 26-27 are at an extremely low level. These stocks are included in the recovery plan.  FU 28-29 the stock appears to have recovered from its low level in 1996 and has been stable since 2002.  FU 30 stock appears to be relatively stable.	Recovery plan  Appears to be sustainably exploited  Appears to be sustainably exploited	FU 26-27 ICES advises zero catches.  FU 28-29 ICES advises landings in 2010 of 200 t.  FU 30 ICES advises catches of 200 t.	SAME  SAME  SAME

**PLAICE**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b> <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>EUROPEAN STOCKS</b>					
<b>Inside safe biological limits – Full reproductive capacity and harvested sustainably</b>					
Plaice in VIIa Irish Sea	1,430	Spawning stock biomass (in 2009) was well above the precautionary level. Fishing mortality has been declining since the early 1990s.	Harvested sustainably	Catches should not exceed 1,627 t in 2010.	SAME
Plaice in IV North Sea	55,500	Stock improvement continues. For two successive years stock has been classified within safe precautionary boundaries. Spawning stock biomass has increased above precautionary levels. Fishing mortality has decreased. Recruitment had been of average strength from 2005 onwards. 2008 recruitment just below long-term average.	Harvested sustainably	An EU multi-annual management plan for flatfish (plaice and sole) came into effect 1 January 2008. The plan aims to bring the stock to within safe biological limits by an annual 10% reduction in fishing mortality and further reductions. Advice for 2010 is to apply the EU management plan, corresponding to a 15% constraint on TAC increase and set a TAC of 63,825 t.	IMPROVED
<b>At risk of reduced reproductive capacity and/or being harvested unsustainably</b>					
Plaice in VII d and e English Channel	4,646	Eastern Channel (VII d): information is poor. Trends suggest SSB has declined since the end of the 1990s. Recruitment in 2006 and 2007 average. Western Channel (VII e): spawning stock biomass declining.	Eastern Channel: Unknown Western Channel: Harvested at increased risk	For the Eastern Channel ICES recommends landings should not increase above the average for the last three years (2006-2008) at 3,500 t. In the Western Channel ICES recommends a substantial reduction in catch.	SAME



<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b>  <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>Suffering from reduced reproductive capacity and/or being harvested unsustainably</b>					
Plaice in VIIf and g Celtic Sea	422	Since 2000 the estimated landings have been below the TAC, but predicted landings in 2009 are 36% higher than the agreed TAC for the year.	Undefined	A 50% reduction in fishing effort meaning landings of less than 330 t in 2010 to increase spawning stock.	SLIGHTLY BETTER
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
Plaice in IIIa Skagerrak	11,688	Any assessment of the stock is indicative of trends only: a reasonably consistent result for the eastern part of the area, the status of the western part is more uncertain. No indications that the current catch level is detrimental to the stock,	Undefined	ICES advice for 2010 is the same as for 2009 - not to increase the catches above the 2006 catch of 9,400 t. The species is taken in directed, as well as mixed, fisheries with cod so monitoring by-catch and discards for cod should continue.	SAME
Plaice in 22-33 Baltic	No TAC	State of the stock is unknown. Landings were over 2,000 t in 2007 and previously fluctuated between 300 t and 8,300 t over the last 30 years.	Undefined	There is no basis for advice.	NO INFO
Plaice in VII b and c West of Ireland	94	Status is uncertain. Indications that fishing mortality has been relatively high in recent years.	Undefined	Fishing effort is reduced to recent landings (2006-2008) of less than 33 t.	SLIGHTLY WORSE
Plaice in VII h – k	256	There is inadequate information to make an assessment.	Undefined	Fishing mortality should be reduced from the recent average (2004-2006) until there is more information to facilitate an adequate assessment.	SLIGHTLY WORSE

**SAITHE**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b>  <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>EUROPEAN STOCKS</b>					
<b>Inside safe biological limits – Full reproductive capacity and harvested sustainably</b>					
Saithe in I and II Northeast Arctic	247,000	Fishing mortality stable, below precautionary level since 1996, and spawning stock biomass well above since 1994.	Harvested sustainably	The advisory TAC for 2010 is 204,000 t, less than 2009.	SAME
Saithe in IV, VI and IIIa North Sea, Skagerrak, West of Scotland & Rockall	125,934	Status improved in 2008. Spawning stock biomass has been above the precautionary level since 2001 and fishing mortality below the precautionary level. Main uncertainty has been measuring the quantity and abundance of young fish. IMR in Bergen has begun an acoustic survey.	Harvested sustainably	An EU management plan was implemented in 2008. A TAC of 118,000 t is advised for 2010.	SAME
<b>At risk of reduced reproductive capacity and/or being harvested unsustainably</b>					
Saithe in Va Iceland	65,000	A change in the selection patterns in recent years means increased fishing mortality on younger, small fish. Spawning stock biomass has been declining since 2002.	Increased risk of being harvested unsustainably	The advisory TAC for 2010 is 34,000 t, 50% less than 2009.	WORSE

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b>  Tonnes	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>Reference points not defined</b>					
Saithe in Vb Faroe Islands	None agreed	The state of the stock is uncertain, but stock trends indicate that the spawning biomass is declining from a recent high and fishing mortality has been increasing in recent years.	Unknown	A reduction in fishing effort of around 20%.	WORSE

**WHITING**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b>  Tonnes	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
<b>NORTH EAST ATLANTIC STOCKS</b>					
<b>Stock status uncertain or unknown</b>					
Whiting in IIIa Skagerrak & Kattegat:	1,050	Available information is inadequate to evaluate spawning stock biomass or fishing mortality.	Undefined	Landings should be less than the recent average (2003-2005) of 1,050 t as a precautionary value to restrict potential for significant re-expansion of the fishery and misreporting.	SAME
Whiting in IV North Sea	15,173	Unable to evaluate the status of stock. Analytical assessment estimates spawning stock biomass in 2009 as near lowest level since 1990. Fishing mortality declined 2000-2004, but increased in recent years. Modest improvement in the 2007 year-class.		A TAC reduction of 61% for 2010 is needed to stabilise the stock, but rebuilding would require a further reduction.	WORSE
Whiting in VII e-k English and Bristol Channel & Celtic Sea	16,949	Current estimates of fishing mortality and spawning stock biomass are uncertain. Spawning stock biomass shows a decreasing trend while recruitment has been low in recent years, although the 2007 year class is above average, and the 2008 class may be very strong.	Undefined	Fishing mortality should be reduced but ICES cannot quantify the required reduction. Management measures should be introduced in the Celtic Sea to reduce discarding of these year classes in order to maximise their contribution to future yield.	SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2009</b>  <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2009</b>	<b>Fishing mortality in relation to precautionary limits</b>	<b>ICES advice in June 2009 and TAC advice for 2010</b>	<b>Status in comparison with 2008</b>
Whiting in VIa and VIb West of Scotland and Rockall	574	New landing and survey data for VIa show that spawning stock biomass is estimated at the lowest observed level and total mortality at the highest level. No new assessment has been carried out on VIb.	Undefined	Catches in 2010 should be reduced to the lowest possible level.	SAME
Whiting in VIIa Irish Sea	209	Stock and fishing mortality in relation to precautionary levels or highest yield are unknown. Long-term fishery data indicate that the present stock size is low, and total mortality has been increasing.	Undefined	Catches of whiting in 2010 should be the lowest possible.	SAME

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