

Special requests

Pelagic RAC July 2, 2013

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Blue whiting MP request (NEAFC)

ICES issued advice in May 2013, in response to request:

- Review of reference points:

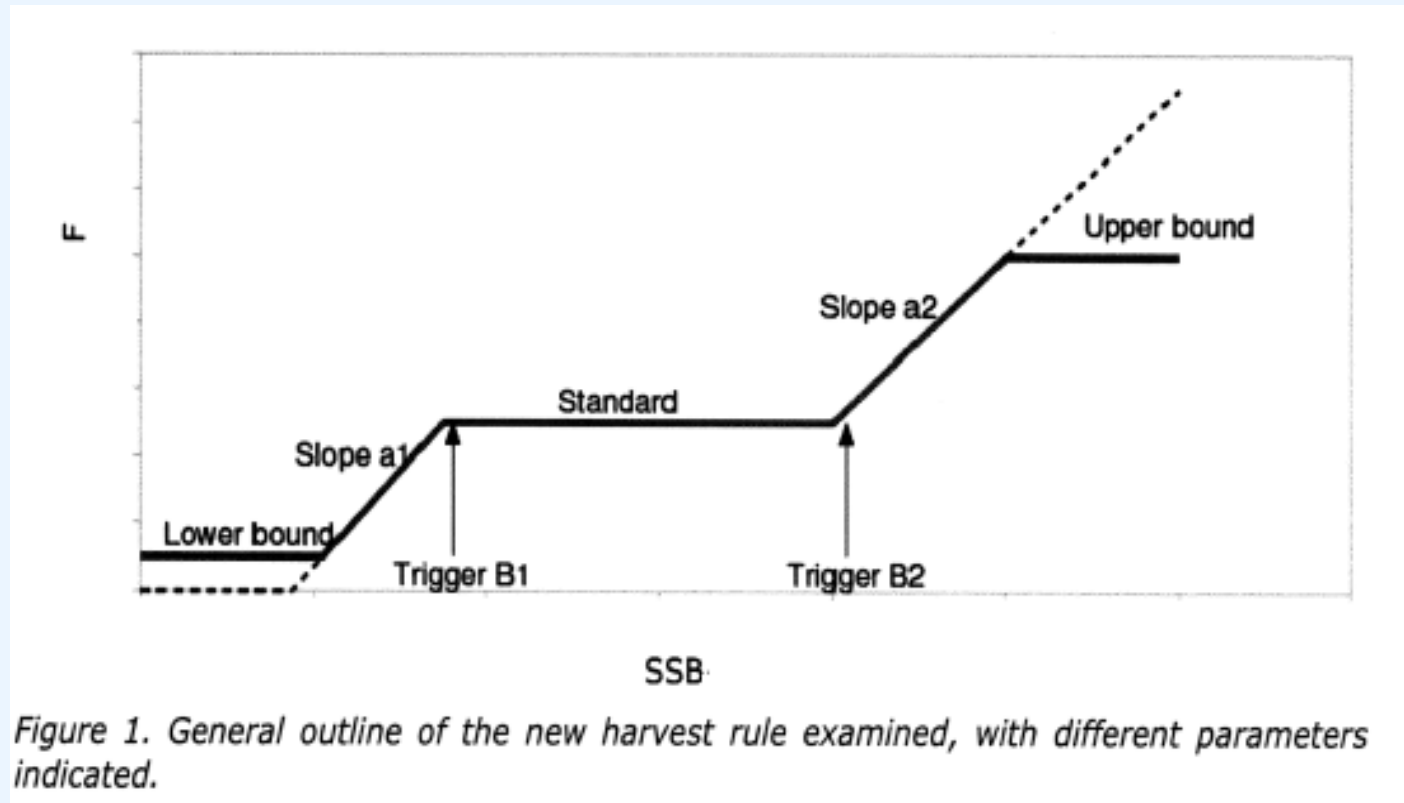
Blim=1.5 mt, Bpa=2.25 mt unchanged

New: Flim=0.48, Fpa=0.32 consistent with biomass ref points

New: Fmsy=0.30 and MSY Btrigger=2.25 mt

- Current MP (target $F=0.18$) is precautionary
- Same HCR with values of target F up to 0.32 also precautionary, but only minimal increase in mean TAC for target $F > 0.30$
- TAC stability mechanisms tested (3-year average; 50-50) in current HCR → Probability of $SSB < Blim$ remains below 5% (50-50 mechanism can reduce inter-annual variation substantially, but can generate high F s or lower catch)

- Preliminary testing of HCR with 2 biomass trigger points
→ additional, more robust, testing required



- Banking and borrowing up to 10% tested in current HCR (target $F=0.18$) → precautionary

Follow-up request from NEAFC:

1. Confirm F reference points (including F0.1)
2. Confirm current HCR with target $F = 0.22, 0.25$ or 0.30 is precautionary
& Test banking and borrowing up to 10%
3. Test new HCR (2 biomass trigger points), with specific settings:
Lower bound: $F=0.05$ (below $B_{lim}=1.5$ mt)
Standard: $F=F_{0.1}$
(between $Trigger1=B_{pa}=2.25$ mt and $Trigger2=4$ mt)
Upper bound: $F=F_{msy}$
Two slope options going from standard to upper bound F
& Test banking and borrowing up to 10%

Request asks advice to be delivered with October advice on widely distributed stocks

- Request has just been received at ICES
- Workplan under discussion
- Tentatively: expert to prepare work in advance of WGWIDE, and WGWIDE (end of August) to provide additional input
- Followed by RG/ADG

Western horse mackerel MP request (EC)

MP proposed by Pelagic RAC:

- Y = year of latest egg survey
- Total Removal (Y+1) =
 $1.07 * \{ 75\,000 + TAC(Y) * \text{weight}(\text{slope } 3 \text{ last surveys}) / 2 \}$

Evaluation in 2007 not comprehensive enough (*e.g.* if long periods of low recruitment)

- ICES cannot unequivocally conclude that the original or modified HCR is consistent with the precautionary approach *in the long term* and further advises that it should be subjected to a complete review

Current EC request:

1. Fully evaluate the plan, and ascertain whether it is precautionary in the short and long term
2. Should the plan be found not precautionary in the long term: identify reinforcements in the harvesting rules to resolve this
3. Identify what TAC should apply in 2013 in accordance with a revised harvesting rule under point 2 above

Workplan:

- Workshop in ICES in mid-June
- RG/ADG on July 10-11
- Advice delivered on July 19

Boarfish MP request (EC)

Evaluate MP for boarfish proposed by Pelagic RAC:

Plan has rules for setting TACs, depending on available assessment:

1. Analytical assessment (SSB & F) with low uncertainty
2. Analytical assessment (SSB & F) with higher uncertainty
3. Assessment provides only F
4. Trends-based assessment based on IBTS survey index
5. Survey biomass (from acoustic survey)
6. No information

In 2012, biomass from an acoustic survey was available

Workplan:

- Work by experts in advance of WGWIDE
- WGWIDE (end of August) to provide additional input
- RG/ADG in September
- Advice delivered on October 3

Thank you