

## Working Group II meeting

8 July 2015, Den Haag, The Netherlands

## Agenda

12:00	Opening of the meeting by the chairman
12:05	Adoption of the agenda
12:10	Follow-up on action items
12:25	Fishing opportunities for 2016: presentation of ICES advice
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Herring Vla North and Vla South, VIIb,c
14:30	Celtic Sea herring
15:00	Irish Sea herring
15:15	Coffee break
15:30	Western horse mackerel
16:00	Northeast Atlantic mackerel
16:25	Boarfish
16:50	AOB
17:00	End of meeting

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## Follow-up on action items

### General

- Liaise with other ACs to draft common letter to ICES regarding the scope of the MIACO meeting (secretariat) ✓
  - Other ACs do not consider this an issue and hence do not support such a letter
- Try to arrange stakeholder meeting with ICES before WG WIDE (Sean O'Donoghue, secretariat)
- Submit (if possible jointly with other ACs) letter to ICES raising concern on changing reference points in MSYREF rather than at benchmarks (Claus Reedtz-Sparrevoth, Sean O'Donoghue, secretariat) ✓
  - Waiting for response from BSAC

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## Follow-up on action items

### Herring in Vla North and Vla South, VIIb,c

- Find out whether reference points for herring in Vla North and South will be looked at again at a new benchmark (Lotte Worsøe Clausen)
- Discuss combined advice for herring in Vla North and South at July meeting (Working Group II)
- Review management plan and rebuilding plan at July meeting (Working Group II)
- Draft new management plan/rebuilding plan before October meeting (Working Group II)
- Decide at October meeting how to move on (Working Group II)

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## Follow-up on action items

### Irish Sea herring

- Reinvigorate Irish Sea herring management plan (Alan McCulla)

### Celtic Sea herring

- Ask ICES once the advice is issued whether an in-year revision of the 2015 TAC is warranted given the revisions of the assessment model and changes to the 2015 forecast (Eibhlin O'Sullivan, Sean O'Donoghue, secretariat)

### Southern horse mackerel

- Continue work on southern horse mackerel (José Beltran, Miren Garmendia, secretariat) ✓

### Western horse mackerel

- Prepare draft management plan before July meeting (Subgroup of Working Group II, scientists)

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## Follow-up on action items

### Northeast Atlantic mackerel

- Circulate report of WGMEGS once available (Sean O'Donoghue, secretariat) ✓
- Discuss MCRS in the North Sea and Western waters (Sean O'Donoghue, Martin Pastoors, Stella Nemecky)
- Ask ICES to confirm calculations of Ftargets and Btriggers (Sean O'Donoghue, secretariat) ✓
- Prepare management strategy before July meeting (Sean O'Donoghue, Ian Gatt, Martin Pastoors, Claus Reedtz-Sparrevoth) and discuss during July meeting (Working Group II)
- Submit list of questions to ICES (Sean O'Donoghue, secretariat) ✓

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## Follow-up on action items

### Boarfish

- Provide updated assessment at July meeting (Marine Institute Ireland)
- Revise management plan at July meeting (Working Group II)



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## Fishing opportunities 2016

### Presentation of ICES advice

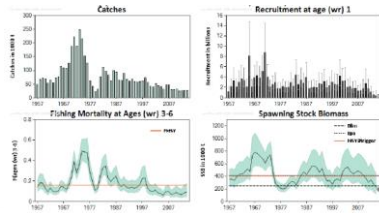


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## Herring Vla North and Vla South, VIIb,c

- ICES has assessed two stocks in combination
- 0 catch advice and that a rebuilding plan is implemented



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## Herring Vla North and Vla South, VIIb,c

### Rebuilding plan:

- Socio Economic Issues
- Catch options



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## Herring Vla North and Vla South, VIIb,c

### Rebuilding plan:

Catch (2016)	Basis	F (2016)	SSB (2016) *	% SSB change **	% TAC change ***
0	Zero catch	0	166670	-14%	-100%
12762	$F_{MSY} \times SSB_{2015} / MSY_{Bigger}$	0.08	159452	-18%	-44%
17797	$F_{2015}$	0.11	156570	-19%	-22%
22690	TAC 2015	0.14	153750	-21%	0%
26049	$F_{MSY}$	0.16	151803	-22%	15%
17018	TAC <sub>2015</sub> - 25%	0.10	157017	-19%	-25%
8509	$F = 0.05$	0.05	161870	-17%	-62%



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## Herring Vla North and Vla South, VIIb,c

### Rebuilding plan:

- Socio Economic Issues
- Catch options
- Stock Separation (Genetics)
- Industry/Science Acoustic Surveys



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## Herring Via North and Via South, VIIb,c

Next steps and time table:

- Prepare rebuilding plan Sept.
- Recommendations Pel. AC Oct. meeting
- Submit Evaluation to STECF Oct.
- Design & Implementation Industry/Science Acoustic Survey Jan. 2016
- Possible Results Genetics Study Sept. (Stock Separation) & further samples



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## Celtic Sea herring

- ICES advises catches of no more than 23.164 tonnes (MSY)
- TAC 2015: 15.652 tonnes (management plan)

Revised management plan following 2015 benchmark:

- Blim updated to 33.000 tonnes
- Biomass trigger kept at 61.000 tonnes
- Ftarget = 0.23
- 30% TAC constraint
- ICES evaluated this updated plan to be precautionary



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## Celtic Sea herring

Request from the Celtic Sea herring Management Advisory Committee to Pelagic Advisory Council:

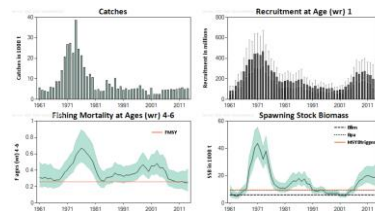
*"The Pelagic Advisory Council, having been involved in the recent ICES benchmark assessment of Celtic Sea herring, is aware that the new assessment and forecast implies a greater fishing opportunity for 2015 than the previous assessment and forecast that was performed in 2014. Therefore, the Pelagic AC asks that the European Commission requests ICES to provide an updated forecast of fishing opportunities for 2015, based on the new benchmark assessment. If supported by the updated forecast the Pelagic AC would also request the Commission to carry out an in-year TAC revision."*



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## Irish Sea herring



- ICES advises catches of no more than 4.575 tonnes in 2016 (MSY)
- TAC 2015: 4.854 tonnes (MSY)



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## Western horse mackerel

- Management plan developed by the PELAC is no longer precautionary
- Additional Scientific work started Feb. 2014
- Objective develop draft revised management strategy
- Huge effort scientists/stakeholders
- Major difficulties encountered with assessment
- Draft revised management strategy requires further work.



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## Western horse mackerel

### Main Problems

- Simulations show under no fishing high risk stock falling below Blim paired with long recovery times
- Recruitment spikes dominant feature population dynamics
- When recruitment spikes ignored, the stock appears no longer able sustain levels of exploitation that meet the 5% risk criterion
- Reducing catch levels for 2016 has negligible impact on recovery times and risk
- Defining reference points e.g B<sub>lim</sub> problematic



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## Western horse mackerel

### Way Forward & Action Points from Sub Group

- Look at recruitment dynamics of other horse mackerel stocks (Martin Pastoors)
- Circulate results of additional runs with catch in 2016 set to 0 and 50.000 tonnes (José de Oliveira, Andy Campbell, Martin Pastoors)
- Calculate TAC in 2016 based on ICES Fmsy (José de Oliveira, Martin Pastoors, Claus Sparrevohn)
- Include area VIIIc in draft management strategy (Sean O'Donoghue)
- Check feasibility of retrospective analysis of acoustic surveys in Spanish waters (Andres Uriarte)
- Provide a report on the use of existing acoustic data (Ciaran O'Donnell)
- Provide coordination plan of acoustic surveys to get appropriate coverage (Ciaran O'Donnell)



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## Western horse mackerel- action items

### Way Forward & Action Points from Sub Group

- Find ways of utilizing industry acoustic data (Sean O'Donoghue, Martin Pastoors, Ciaran Kelly)
- Request benchmark to be carried out in 2017 at the latest (Sean O'Donoghue, Verena Ohms)
- Request meeting between ICES and stakeholders prior to WG WIDE and put forward issues to be addressed which will be discussed at WGII on the 8th July (Sean O'Donoghue, Verena Ohms)
- Write section on the calculation of Blim (José de Oliveira)
- Continue to work on developing the draft management strategy over the next six to nine months and arrange group meetings (Sean O'Donoghue, Verena Ohms, Group)



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## Northeast Atlantic mackerel

### Draft management strategy:

"This draft strategy is based on ICES advice which provides;  
**"other options with higher target Fs and a higher trigger biomass are considered precautionary..."**

1. For the purpose of this strategy, SSB means the estimate according to ICES of the spawning stock biomass at spawning time in the year in which the TAC applies, taking account of the expected catch.
2. When the SSB is above [xxx] tonnes the TAC shall be fixed according to the expected landings, as advised by ICES, on fishing the stock consistent with a fishing mortality rate of [xxx] for appropriate age groups as defined by ICES.
3. When the SSB is lower than [xxx] tonnes the TAC shall be fixed according to the expected landings, as advised by ICES, on fishing the stock consistent with a fishing mortality determined by the following:

Fishing mortality  $F = [xxx] * SSB/[xxx]$



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## Northeast Atlantic mackerel

### Draft management strategy:

4. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, the TAC shall not be changed by more than [20%] from one year to the next.
5. In the event that the ICES estimate of SSB is less than the Blim level of 1,840,000 tonnes, the Parties shall decide on a TAC which is less than that arising from the application of paragraphs 2 to 4.
6. The Parties shall review and revise these management measures and strategies on the basis of new advice from ICES after an intermediate benchmark on NEA mackerel in 2018.



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## Northeast Atlantic mackerel

### Next steps and time table:

- Draft for discussion WGII Oct meeting



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## Northeast Atlantic boarfish

### Revised management Strategy:

#### Two main revisions

1. Six stock categories in line with ICES
2. Start date of closure changed from 15<sup>th</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> March



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## Northeast Atlantic boarfish

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Next steps and time table:

- **Submit plan for evaluation July**
- **Annual Acoustic Study July**
- **Possible new assessment method developed August (WGWIDE)**
- **Outcome Genetics Study October WGII meeting**
- **Pel AC recommendations 2016 October meeting**



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## AOB

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FREMSS proposal for a multi-annual plan for the North-West Cantabrian sea

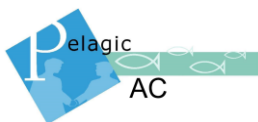


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## Thank you!

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