

Focus Group meeting on blue whiting

26 April 2019, Den Haag, Netherlands

Agenda

- 09:00 Opening of the meeting
- 09:05 Follow-up on action items
- 09:15 Follow-up on the last FG meeting in Copenhagen (Claus Reedtz-Sparrevohn)
- 09:30 Discussion on issues with blue whiting and standard ICES MSY rule
- 10:00 Presentation on blue whiting survey progress by Benoit Berges
- 10:30 Discussion predicted stock decline from 2020 by ICES
- 11:00 Discussion on LTMP/MSE for blue whiting
- 11:50 AOB
- 12:00 End of meeting



Follow-up on action items

Blue whiting Focus Group 6 September 2017

- Send NEAFC blue whiting requests and ICES responses to Dankert Skagen (Verena Ohms) ✓
- Draft explanation why the ICES standard MSY rule is problematic to use for a stock like blue whiting (Dankert Skagen) - **in progress**
- Provide some arguments for the use of TSB rather than SSB (Dankert Skagen) ?
- Update NEAFC request accordingly (Focus Group) ?



Follow-up on action items

Working Group II February 28 2019

- Develop management strategy to address recruitment fluctuations and predicted stock decline (Focus Group) - **in progress**
- Invite Coastal States stakeholders and coordinator international blue whiting egg survey to BW FG in April 2019 ✓ (but unsuccessful)
- Draft explanation why standard Fmsy rule is problematic for stock like blue whiting - **in progress**
- Invite Henrik Sparholt to present Fmsy project at April meeting (chairman, secretariat) ✓



Follow-up on last FG in Copenhagen

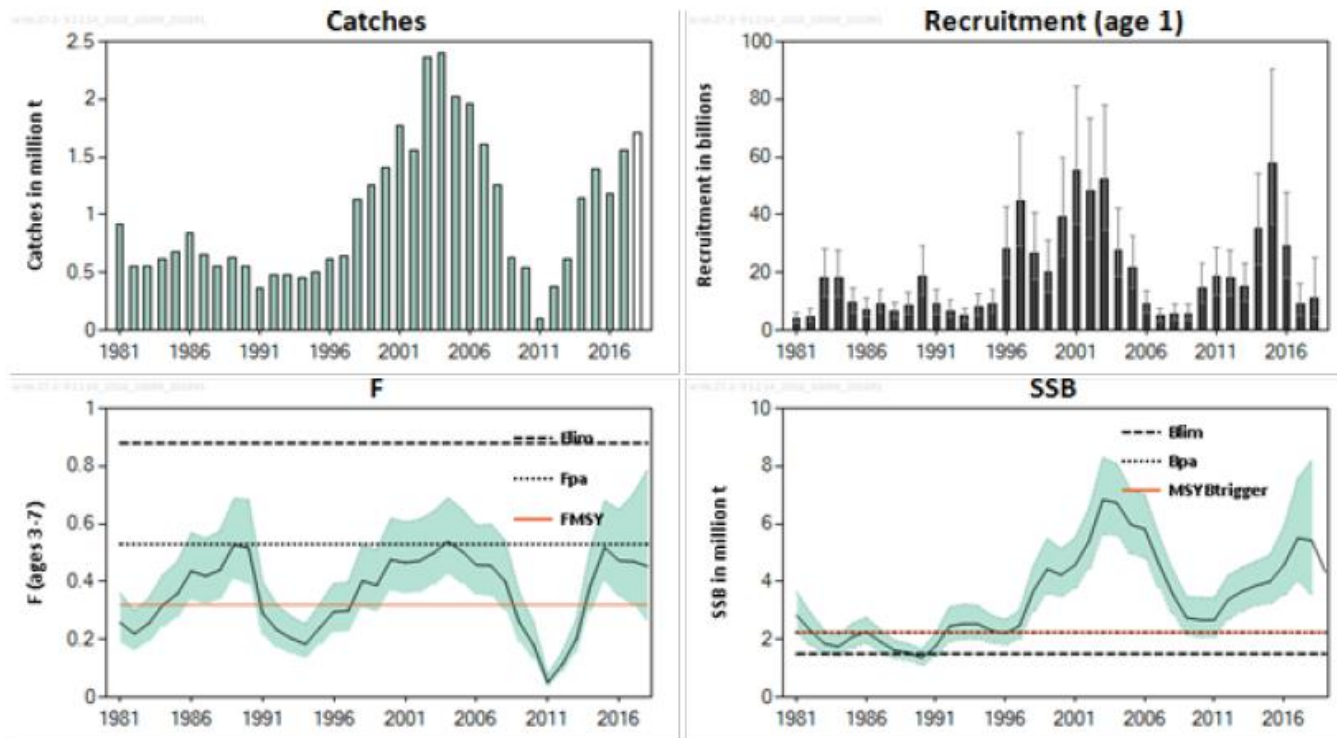


Figure 1 Blue whiting in subareas 1-9, 12, and 14. Summary of the stock assessment. Catches for 2018 (not shaded) are preliminary. For this stock, $F_{MGT} = F_{MSY}$ and $SSB_{MGT} = B_{pa}$; therefore, the horizontal lines representing these points in the graph would overlap.



Follow-up on last FG in Copenhagen

DANKERT SKAGEN
Fisheries Science Consultant

Bergen, 31/8-2017

Harvest rules for stocks with changing recruitment, like Blue whiting

by
Dankert W. Skagen
for Pelagic AC



Focus Group blue whiting, 26 April 2019, Den Haag



Follow-up on last FG in Copenhagen

Status:

- Pelagic AC did in 2017 hire Dankert Skagen to look at HCR options for stocks with varying recruitment,
- Late 2017 an agreed [LTMP](#) based on a modified ICES Harvest Control rule,
- Indication that we are entering a “low-productivity” phase



Discussion on issues with blue whiting and ICES MSY rule

Main issue:

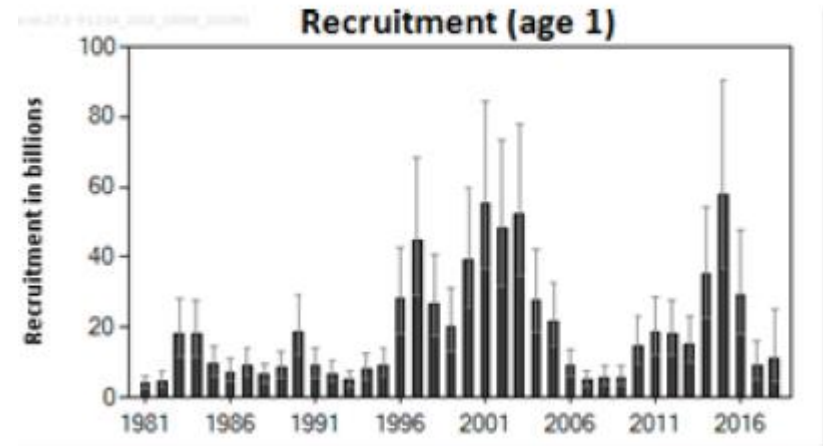
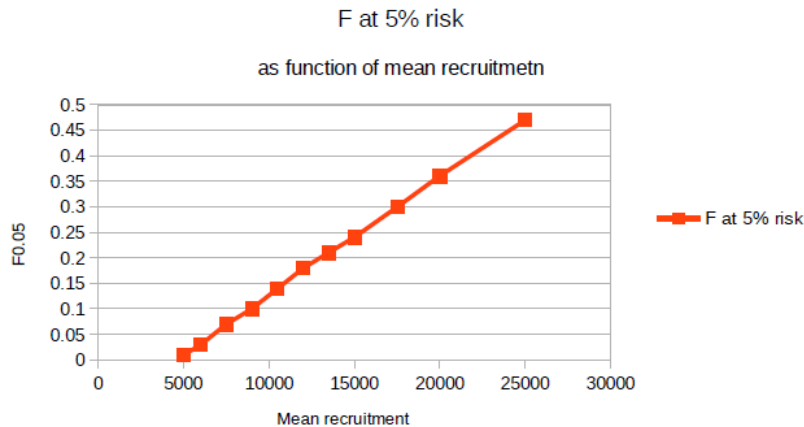
- ICES way of reporting F_{msy} , $F_{msy}=0.32$ based upon $F_{0.05}$ but the “nominal” value is 0.42,
- Dankers work showed that key to a successful two-tier management is the ability to identify shift in productivity, using TSB might be the solution



Discussion on issues with blue whiting and ICES MSY rule

Main issue:

- Dankers work also showed that $F_{msy}=0.32$ is not precautionary in the low productivity phases



Mean recruitment = 20000 (median = 15000)

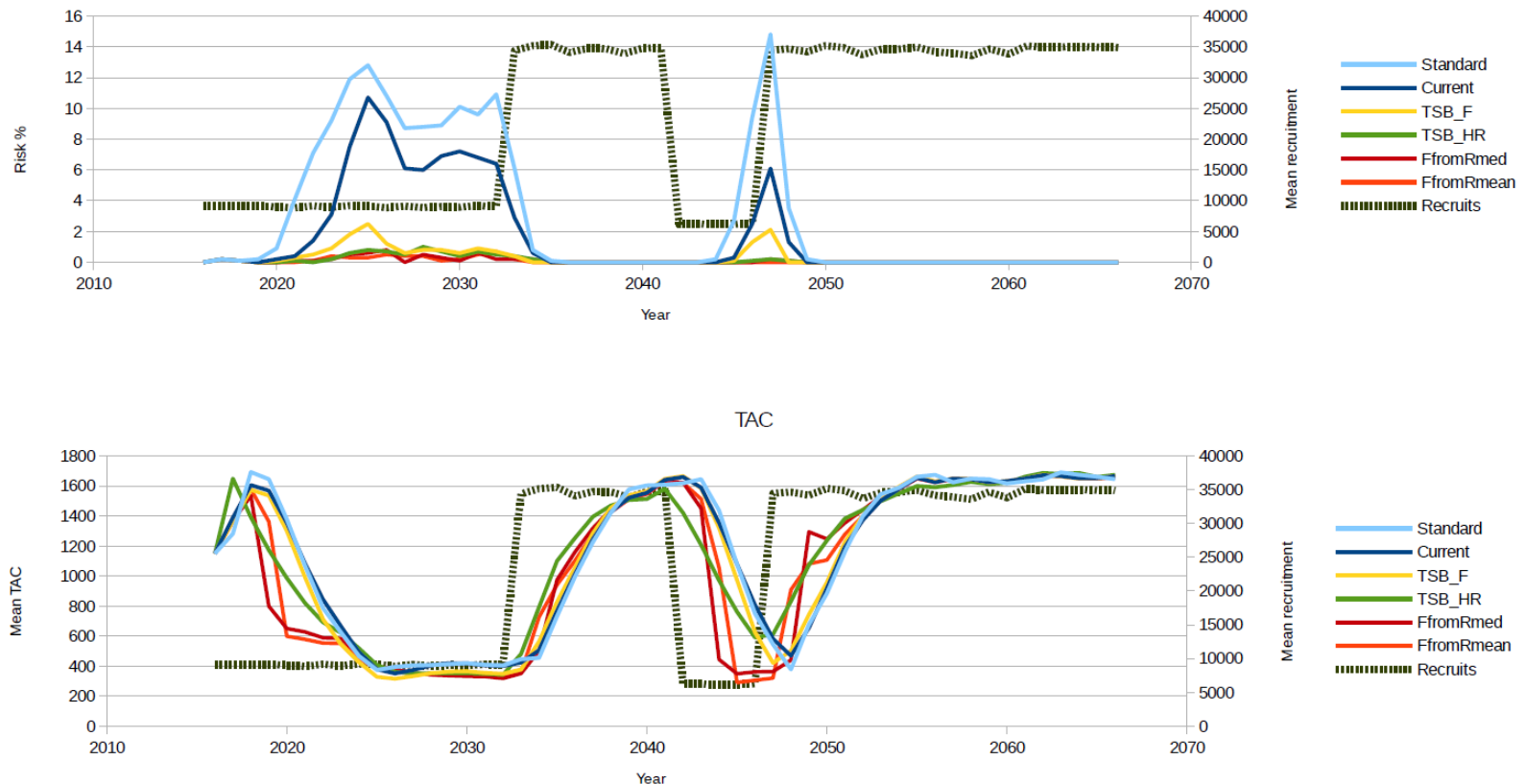
Mean of the lowest = 7000

Mean of the highest = 29000

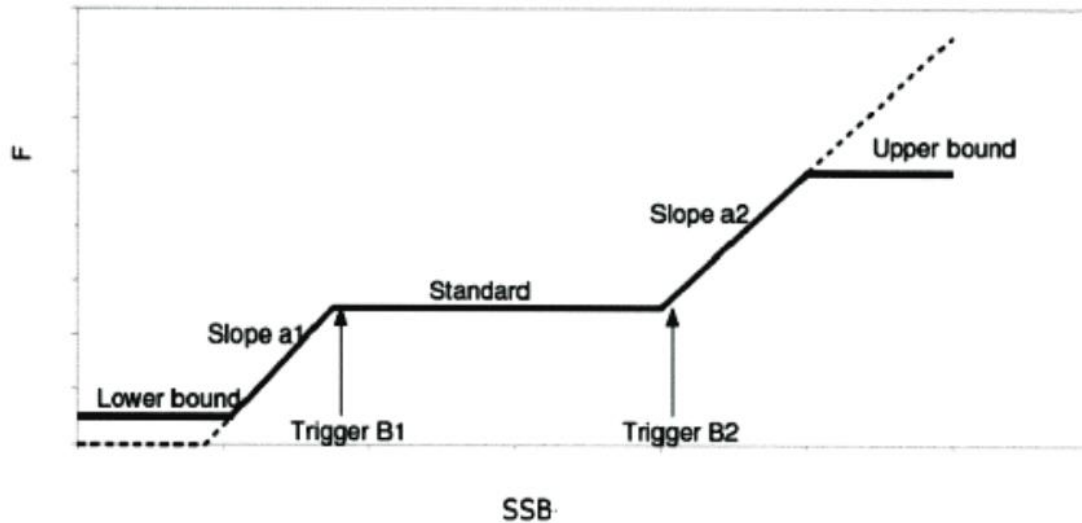
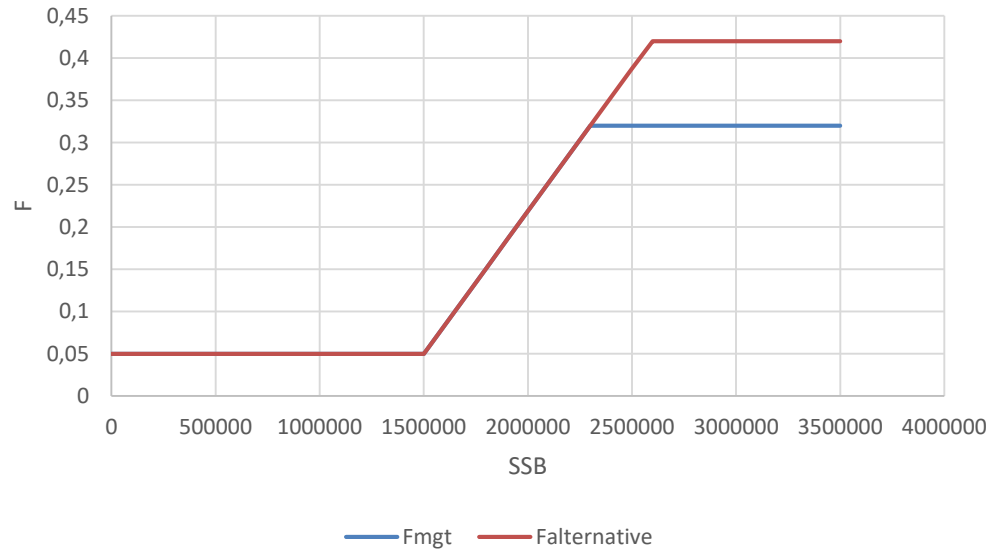


Discussion on issues with blue whiting and ICES MSY rule

Performes of different management strategies



Discussion on issues with blue whiting and ICES MSY rule



Blue whiting survey progress

- Presentation by Benoit Berges



Discussion predicted stock decline from 2020 by ICES

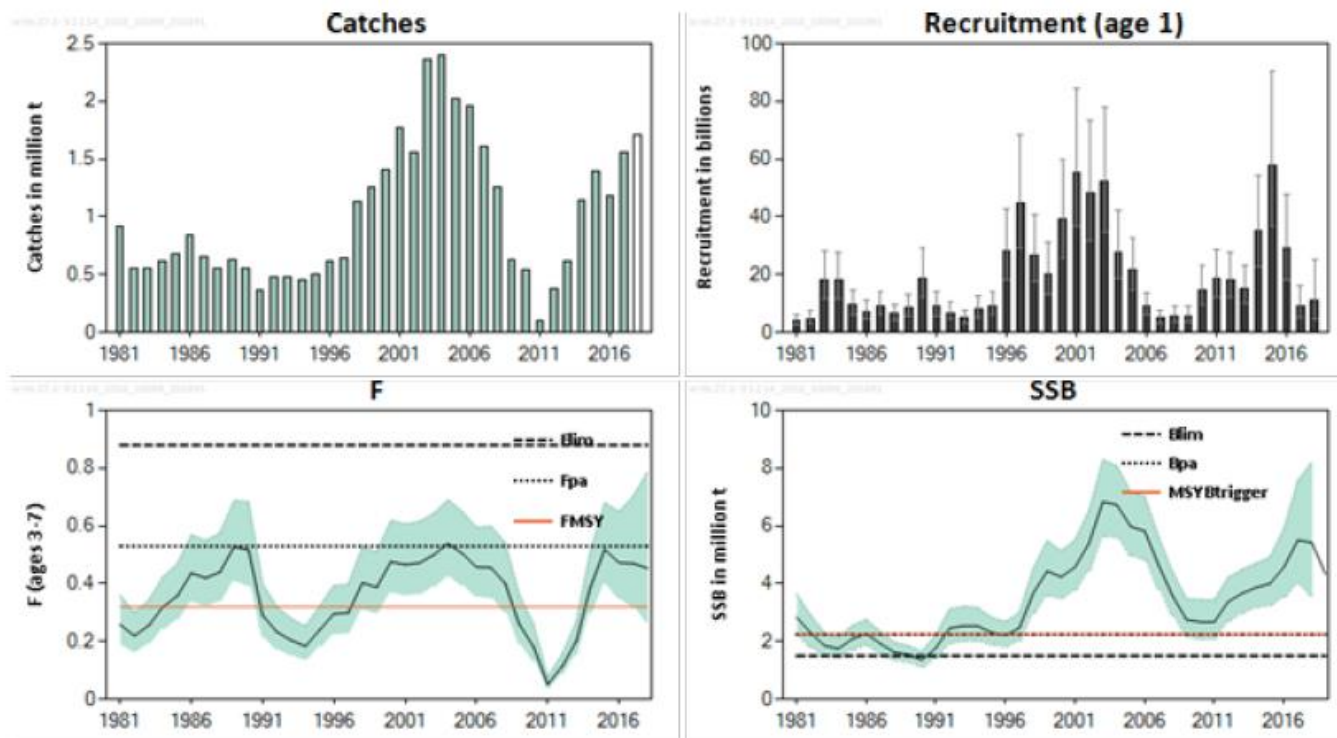


Figure 1 Blue whiting in subareas 1-9, 12, and 14. Summary of the stock assessment. Catches for 2018 (not shaded) are preliminary. For this stock, $F_{MGT} = F_{MSY}$ and $SSB_{MGT} = B_{pa}$; therefore, the horizontal lines representing these points in the graph would overlap.

SSB(2019) = 4326857 tonnes

SSB(2020) = 3386825 tonnes



Discussion on LTMP/MSE for Blue whiting

Late 2017 an agreed [LTMP](#) based on a modified ICES Harvest Control rule,

- +25/-20% TAC stability unless 1) Below Blim, 2) TAV deviation above 40%
- $F=0.05$ when SSB is below Blim



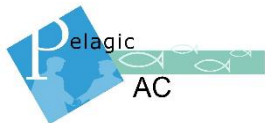
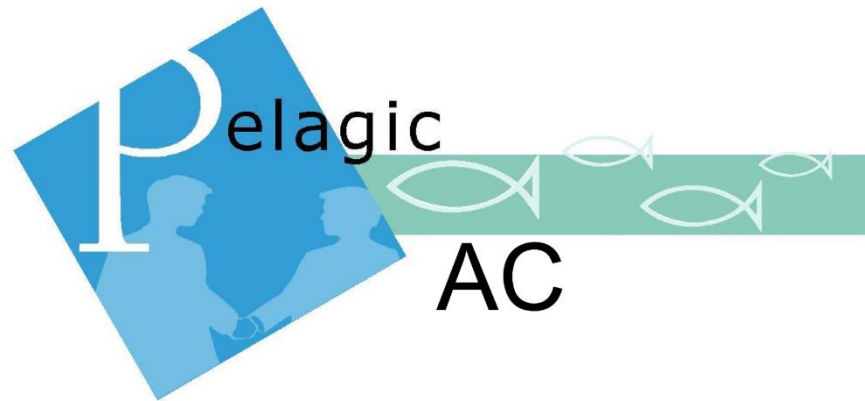
List of agreed action items



AOB



Thank you!



Focus Group blue whiting, 26 April 2019, Den Haag

