



**International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)**

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Date: 22 May 2015  
Our reference: 1415/PAC 139  
Subject: Verification of mackerel F targets and B triggers

Dear Katja, dear Thomas,

In the recent ICES advice to the special request by the EU, Norway and Faroe Islands evaluating a multi-annual management strategy for mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic ICES states that *“Other options with higher target Fs and a higher trigger biomass are considered precautionary and would maximize short-term yields, ensure high long-term yields, but would also increase the interannual variations of the TACs and result in a smaller stock.”*

The Pelagic AC is currently working on a draft multiannual management strategy and it would therefore be most helpful if ICES could provide a table with F values ranging from 0.2 to 0.35 in 0.01 increments and associated trigger biomass values that would be precautionary.

I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean O'Donoghue', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Sean O'Donoghue  
Chairman Working Group II

