Atlantic and North Sea Fishing Opportunities 2019: TAC Proposal methodology
Overview

- Why am I here?
- Terminology
- TAC Setting Previous Years: "Top-ups"
- TAC Proposals FO 2019
Why am I here?

- 2019: Full Landing obligation (LO)
- Commission will no longer propose ICES advice MSY approach "wanted catch" to then discuss "top ups" in November via "non-papers" – intention is to present full TAC with the proposal.

Terminology

- Has changed due to the Landing obligation, as now everything has to be landed!
- "Wanted Catch" = Previously called "Landings"
- "Unwanted catch" = Previously "Discards"
- So now "Unwanted catch" should also be landed!
"Unwanted Catch"?

- Catch
  - Landing
    - Wanted catch
      - Above Minimum reference size
    - Unwanted catch
      - Below Minimum reference size
  - Discard
Before Landing Obligation

Catch

Landing

Above minimum reference size

Discard

Below minimum reference size

Over quota

Damaged, diseased

European Commission
Before Landing Obligation

Catch

Landing

Wanted Catch
- Above minimum reference size

Discard
- Below minimum reference size
- Over quota
- Damaged, diseased

Unwanted catch
After Landing Obligation

Catch

Landing

Above minimum reference size

Discard

Below minimum reference size

Damaged, diseased

Exemptions e.g. *de minimis*
After Landing Obligation

- **Catch**
  - **Landing**
    - **Wanted Catch**:
      - Above minimum reference size
    - **Below minimum reference size**
  - **Discard**
    - Damaged, diseased
    - Exemptions e.g. *de minimis*
TAC Setting Previous Years: "Top-ups"

- Discard Plans allowed for early implementation of Landing Obligation (LO)
- Member States agree fleets to be put under LO and exemptions needed -> draft Joint Recommendations (JRs) for Discard Plans
- JR -> STECF for evaluation
- Delegated Acts drafted
- Back to STECF to calculate catches, landings discards per fleet segment. Provide a report with tables of data
- Thresholds data call -> How much of the fleet under the LO?
- Commission calculates "Top-ups" and presents via "non-paper"
ICES Advice on fishing opportunities, catch, and effort
Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast Ecoregion
hke.17.8c9a

Hake (Merluccius merluccius) in divisions 8.c and 9.a, Southern stock (Cantabrian Sea and Atlantic Iberian waters)

ICES stock advice

ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2018 should be no more than 8561 tonnes.

Stock development over time

The spawning-stock biomass (SSB) has increased since 1998 and is above MSY B_{trigger} in 2017. The fishing mortality (F) is above F_{MSY}. Since 2010, recruitment (R) has been close to the historical average.

Table 3

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICES advice basis</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSY approach: F_{MSY}</td>
<td>8561</td>
<td>7366</td>
<td>1195</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>38 286</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other options</td>
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<tr>
<td>F = 0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>51 997</td>
<td>111%</td>
<td>-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSB (2019) = B_{lim}</td>
<td>28 905</td>
<td>24 547</td>
<td>4358</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>1.32</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>8000</td>
<td>-68%</td>
<td>259%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSB (2019) = B_{pa} = MSY B_{trigger}</td>
<td>26 707</td>
<td>22 740</td>
<td>3967</td>
<td>1.27</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>11 100</td>
<td>-55%</td>
<td>232%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F_{lim}</td>
<td>24 320</td>
<td>20 753</td>
<td>3567</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>14 506</td>
<td>-41%</td>
<td>202%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F_{pa}</td>
<td>19 981</td>
<td>17 103</td>
<td>2878</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.64</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>20 832</td>
<td>-15%</td>
<td>148%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F = F_{2017}</td>
<td>18 063</td>
<td>15 478</td>
<td>2585</td>
<td>0.64</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>23 643</td>
<td>-4%</td>
<td>124%</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU Recovery Plan*</td>
<td>12 098</td>
<td>10 396</td>
<td>1702</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>32 763</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* "Wanted" and "unwanted" catch are used to describe fish that would be landed and discarded in the absence of the EU landing obligation, based on discard rates at length estimated by the assessment model for 2014–2016.
** SSB 2019 relative to SSB 2018.
*** Total catch in 2018 relative to the advised catch for 2017 (8049 t).
### Table 2.3 South Western Waters: The contribution (%) of each fleet segment identified under the Mer function to total catches and discards of the species-area combination.

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Common Scabbard</strong></td>
<td>All bottom trawl OTT, OTT, TBF, TBF, TB, TB, TB, TB, TB, TB</td>
<td>All catches of common species are subject to ICES</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Haddock</strong></td>
<td>All bottom trawl OTT, OTT, TBF, TBF, TB, TB, TB, TB, TB, TB</td>
<td>All catches of common species are subject to ICES</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cod</strong></td>
<td>All bottom trawl OTT, OTT, TBF, TBF, TB, TB, TB, TB, TB, TB</td>
<td>All catches of common species are subject to ICES</td>
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ICES

- Total Catches, landings and discards

STECF

- % contribution of each fleet segment to total catches and discards

Member States

- How many vessels and what catches are under the landing obligation according to "thresholds" in discard plans

COM

- Synthesis of all 3 steps and proposal of top ups including *de minimis* or survivability exemptions
### Landings scenario - MS figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICES data</th>
<th>S Hake</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tr>
<td>ICES catch TAC 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discard rate (all fleets)</td>
<td>13.96%</td>
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#### Step 1: Deduct de minimis from ICES total catch figure

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ICES catch TAC 2018</th>
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<th>98%</th>
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<td><strong>de minimis</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contr. to total catch</td>
<td>98,00%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>de minimis deduction (A)</strong></td>
<td>503</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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#### Step 2: Deduct discards fleets not under LO

| Total discards 2018 | 1195 | **Fleet meeting threshold for inclusion** |

- Contribution to discards by fleets not under LO if no data under previous step consider ICES discard rate
- Discards by fleets not under LO to be deducted (B)
- Total deduction A+B | 517 |
- New catch TAC | 8044.5 |
- TAC top up % relative to ICES landings TAC | 9.21% |

Top up | 678.5 |
TAC Setting Previous Years: "Top-ups"

1. ICES Advice
2. COM Proposal
3. Top-ups
4. Final TAC

Legend:
- \(\uparrow\) Fleet under Landing obligation
- \(\downarrow\) Deductions e.g. \textit{de minimis}
TAC Proposals: For this year

1. ICES Advice
2. Deductions (e.g. de minimis)
3. COM Proposal
### Landings scenario - MS figures

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<tr>
<td>Contrib. to discards by fleets not under LO</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>if no data or step considers the LO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discards not under LO to be included (B)</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gillnetters contribute 0.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Longlines 0% discards</td>
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<td>Top up</td>
<td>678.5</td>
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Survival Exemptions:

- Nephrops – advice takes into account survival and so wanted catch level is higher than with no survival.
- If exemption will result in significant amount of dead discards – TAC setting will have to reflect this so as not to allow fishing mortality to be above ICES advice.
- Majority of cases, STECF reported that small volumes, e.g. Fish in pots, traps, creels.
- However Plaice may be a concern – await STECF report.

Extrapolations:

- Lack of data was significant problem for STECF.
- Some exemptions apply to all MS and wider fleet, but data only provided by one MS or minority of fleet.
- COM will rely on STECF estimates in the first instance.
- Deduction extrapolation will never be more than ICES "unwanted catches".
TAC Proposals for 2019

• Commission intention is to present full TAC with the proposal.
• STECF recommendations on Joint Recommendations, data availability for exemptions was a key issue: Extrapolation
• Calculations will follow STECF September WG and report and same methodology as top-ups in previous year.
• Thus Commission proposal should now be ICES advice MSY "Total catches" minus deductions, following the same methodology as "top-ups" last year.
• Caution! Old method of comparing COM proposal to ICES advice alone, will not be so straightforward this year! However this should allow earlier and more transparent consultation.
Review

• Why am I here?
• Terminology
• TAC Setting Previous Years: "Top-ups"
• TAC Proposals FO 2019

Thank you!