

**Joint Recommendation of the NW Member States group for a 2018 demersal discard plan: request for additional scientific evidence following the meeting of the STECF Expert Working Group (Spain-AZTI)**

**Bycatch of pelagic species (mackerel, horse mackerel, herring, boarfish, greater silver smelt) caught by vessels using bottom trawls and seines, and beam trawls in ICES subarea VI and VIIb-k**

Country	Exemption applied for (species, area, gear type)	Species as bycatch or target	Number of vessels subject to LO	Estimated landings - pelagics (in tonnes) - 2016	Estimated discards - pelagics (in tonnes)	Estimated catch - pelagics (in tonnes)	Discard rate	Estimated de minimis maximum volume (in tonnes) - 5% exemption
ESP	OTT, OTB, PTB, OT, PT, TBN, TBS, TX, SSC, SPR, TB, TBB, SDN, SX, SV (Subarea 6)	By catch	2	(WHB) 0 (ARU) 0	(WHB) 0.219 (ARU) 21.890 TOTAL 22.10	(WHB) 0 (ARU) 0	(WHB) 100% (ARU)100%	(WHB) 0.011 (ARU) 1.094 TOTAL 1.105

In 2016, no discards of mackerel, horse mackerel, herring and board fish were accounted during the sampled trips and consequently no estimates of discards for these species are available. It is to point out that all those species are completely discarded due to the lack of Spanish quota in that area. In the same way, no landings of any of the above species are recorded.

Metier	Area	Year	Species	Total Discards (Tn)	Sampled trips	Total trips
OTB_DEF_100-119_0_0	27.6	2016	Blue whiting (WHB)	0.219	2	32
OTB_DEF_100-119_0_0	27.6	2016	Greater Silver smelt (ARU)	21.892	2	32

Gadoids (cod, ling, blue ling, cod) caught using bottom trawls, seines and beam trawls of greater than or equal to 120mm mesh size in the Celtic Sea and the Channel (ICES 6)

Country	Exemption applied for (species, area, gear type)	Species as bycatch or target	Number of vessels subject to LO	Estimated landings - gadoids (in tonnes) - 2016	Estimated discards - gadoids (in tonnes)	Estimated catch - gadoids (in tonnes)	Discard rate	Estimated de minimis maximum volume (in tonnes) - 5% exemption
ESP	species: cod, ling, blue ling,	by-catch	ESP = 2	(BLI)* 1.612 (LIN) 0.245	(LIN) 0.728	(BLI) 1.612 (LIN) 1.857	300%	0.049

\*In 2016, no discards of blue ling and cod were recorded in the sampling on-board.