





















## SUMMARY OF 2014 ICES ADVICE FOR PELAGIC SPECIES

	Date	Status of key stocks in 2014 (more detail in the following pages)	ICES Catch advice for 2015	TAC for 2014	SSB Status in comparison with 2013	Pg
<b>Blue whiting combined stock I-IX, XII &amp; XIV</b>	Oct 2014	Spawning stock biomass has almost doubled from 2010 to 2014 and is well above precautionary levels. This increase is due to the lowest fishing mortality in the time-series in 2011 and 2013, in combination with increased recruitment. Recruitment (age 1) is estimated significantly higher in 2011–2014 than in the years 2007–2009.	<b>839,866 Catches</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>		<b>4</b>
<b>Barents Sea capelin</b>	Oct 2014	Adult stock size is large enough to produce a sufficient amount of offspring to maintain the stock. Fishing pressure is unknown. Advised TAC for 2015 is 91% less than the total allowable catch for 2014.	<b>6,000</b>	<b>65,000</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Capelin Iceland East Greenland Jan Mayen</b>	May 2014	Adult stock size is probably stable and fishing pressure is unknown.	<b>225,000 50% of predicted</b>	<b>160,000</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Herring N Sea autumn spawners</b>	June 2014	Adult stock size is larger and fishing pressure is lower than aimed at by management.	<b>461,664</b>	<b>470,000</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Icelandic summer spawners</b>	June 2014	Adult stock size is large enough and fishing pressure is low enough to ensure an optimal use in the long term.	<b>83,000</b>	<b>87,500</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Norwegian spring spawning herring</b>	Sept 2014	The stock is declining. Since 1998 five large year classes have been produced (1998, 1999, 2002, 2003, and 2004), but year classes 2005 to 2012 are small. Fishing mortality in 2013 was at precautionary levels and FMSY, but above the management plan target.	<b>283,013 Catches</b>	<b>436,000 Catches</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>Mackerel in the North East Atlantic</b>	Sept 2014	Adult stock size is large enough and the fishing pressure is low enough to ensure an optimal use in the long term.	<b>831,000 - 906,000</b>	<b>1,396,238 (sum of unilateral quotas)</b>		<b>8</b>

	Date	Status of key stocks in 2014 (more detail in the following pages)	ICES Catch advice for 2015	TAC for 2014	SSB Status in comparison with 2013	Pg
<b>Norway pout in the North Sea</b>	Oct 2014	Adult stock size is large enough to ensure an optimal use in the long term. Fishing pressure is probably below average.	326,000	108,000		9
<b>Sandeel in the Dogger Bank</b>	Feb 2013	The number of young fish is increasing, but there is a risk that adult stock size is too small to produce a sufficient amount of offspring to maintain the stock. Fishing pressure is thought to be very low.	57,000 (2014)	225,000		10
<b>Sandeel on southeastern North Sea</b>	Feb 2013	The number of young fish is low and there is a risk that the adult stock size is too small to produce a sufficient amount of offspring to maintain the stock. Fishing pressure is thought to be very low	Monitoring TAC <5,000t (2014)	17,544 (2013)		10
<b>Sandeel in east-central North Sea</b>	Feb 2014	The number of young fish is increasing, and fishing pressure is thought to be low.	270,000 (2014)	78,331 (2013)		10
<b>Sandeel in waters West of Scotland</b>	Feb 2014	No information on adult stock size and fishing pressure is available.	Monitoring TAC of <5,000t (2014)	Zero (2013)		11
<b>Sandeel in Viking and Bergen Banks</b>	Feb 2014	The stock size is probably very low and declining. Fishing pressure is unknown and probably low	Zero (2014)	Zero (2013)		11
<b>Sandeel in the Kattegat</b>	Feb 2014	Unknown, but thought to be very low	219 (2014)	219 (2013)		11
<b>Sandeel in Shetland</b>	Feb 2014	Unknown, but thought to be very low.	Zero (2014)	Zero (2013)		11
<b>Sprat in the Baltic</b>	May 2014	Adult stock size is large enough, but fishing pressure is too high to ensure optimal use in the long term.	222,000 2014-15	240,000 2014-15		12
<b>Sprat in the North Sea</b>	June 2014	Adult stock size is large enough and fishing pressure is low enough to ensure an optimal use in the long term. Fishing year from July to June.	227,000 W catch 2014-15	144,000 2013-14		12
<b>Sprat in the Skaggeiak/ Kattegat</b>	June 2014	Adult stock size and fishing pressure are unknown.	6,787 W catch 2014-15	6,787 2013		13

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<b>Sprat in the Celtic Sea and waters West of Scotland</b>	June 2014	Adult stock size and fishing pressure are unknown.	3,832	3,832		13
<b>Sprat in the English Channel</b>	June 2014	Adult stock size and fishing pressure are unknown.	<3,500	<3,500		13
Text above taken from ICES popular advice (except blue whiting and Barents Sea capelin): <a href="http://www.ices.dk/publications/our-publications/Pages/Popular-advice.aspx">http://www.ices.dk/publications/our-publications/Pages/Popular-advice.aspx</a>						

**KEY**

**Fishing mortality** – Removals from a stock by fishing.

**Spawning Stock Biomass** - total weight of all sexually mature fish in the stock.

**MSY** – Maximum Sustainable Yield.

**FMSY** – fishing at levels that catch the maximum proportion of a fish stock that can safely be removed on a continuous basis.

**BMSY** – spawning stock biomass that results from fishing at FMSY for a long time.

**PA** – Precautionary Approach

**FPA** – precautionary reference point for fishing mortality.

**BPA** – precautionary reference point for spawning stock biomass.

**Mg'ment** – Management Plan – agreed by all parties to maintain/rebuild stocks.

**Btrigger** – Value of spawning stock biomass that triggers a specific management action.

**Cpue** – Catch per unit effort.

**Lpue** – Landing per unit effort.

**W catch is 'Wanted catch'** - (see sprat) is used to describe fish that would be landed in the absence of the EU landing obligation. The 'unwanted catch' refers to the component that was previously discarded.

*In the following tables a very simple statement has been included on the status of the spawning stock biomass in 2014 in comparison with 2013. This is an estimate based on ICES stock status information and is not necessarily definitive.*

**BLUE WHITING**

Stock	TAC for 2014 Tonnes	Status of stock in October 2014	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2015	*SSB Status 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Inside safe biological limits</b>					
<p><b>Blue whiting</b> combined stock Sub-areas I-IX, XII and XIV</p>	<p>1,200,000</p>	<p>Spawning stock biomass has almost doubled from 2010 (2.9 million tonnes) to 2014 (5.5 million tonnes) and is well above precautionary limits of 2.25 million tonnes. This increase is due to the lowest fishing levels in the time-series in 2011–2013, in combination with increased Recruitment since 2010 (at age 1) is estimated significantly higher in 2011–2014 than in the years 2007–2009. Although there is scientific evidence to support the hypothesis of two components, there is insufficient information for ICES to conduct separate assessments. Blue whiting in ICES Subareas I–IX, XII, and XIV is therefore considered as a single stock for assessment purposes.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Appropriate</li> <li>2. Harvested sustainably</li> <li>3. Below target</li> </ol>	<p>ICES advises on the basis of the management plan agreed by Norway, the EU, the Faroe Islands, and Iceland that catches in 2015 should be no more than 839,866 tonnes. All catches are assumed to be landed. This management plan was agreed in 2008. ICES evaluated a NEAFC request concerning an alternative management plan in May 2013 and in October 2013. No agreement on the application of this new plan has been obtained.</p>	<p><b>IMPROVING</b></p> <p><b>Spawning stock biomass</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Above trigger</li> <li>2. Full reproductive capacity</li> <li>3. Above trigger</li> </ol>

**CAPELIN**


<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2014</b>  <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock</b>	<b>*Fishing mortality -</b> <b>1. MSY</b> <b>2. PA</b> <b>3. Mg'ment Plan</b>	<b>TAC advice for 2015</b>	<b>*SSB Status</b>  <b>1. MSY</b> <b>2. PA</b> <b>3. Mg'ment plan</b>
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
<b>Advice in October 2014</b>					
Barents Sea capelin Subareas I and II, excluding Division IIa west of 5°W	65,000	The maturing component of the stock in autumn 2014 estimated to be 0.87 million t. This is considered an underestimate due to reduced survey coverage - has been corrected to 1.45 mt. Spawning stock in 2014 will be fish from 2011 and 2012 year classes. Surveys estimate 2011 year class above av. Indications 2013 and 2014 year classes at age 1, below long-term av.	1. Not relevant  2. Not relevant	ICES advises on the basis of the management plan agreed by the Jt Norwegian–Russian Fisheries Commission (JNRFC) (2002) that catches in 2015 should be no more than 6,000 t to ensure SSB remains above the proposed precautionary limits of 200,000 t with 95% probability. In 2010, the JNRFC decided that the management plan should remain unchanged for five years.	<b>WORSE</b>  <b>Spawning stock biomass</b>  1. Undefined  2. 95% probability of being above limit reference point
<b>Advice in May 2014</b>					
<b>Capelin</b> in the Iceland East Greenland Jan Mayen area Subareas V and XIV and Division IIa west of 5°W	2013/14 160,000 for whole season	Maturing component of the stock autumn 2013 estimated to be 603 000t. Spawning stock in 2015 will be fish from 2012 year class + part of the 2011 year class, both close to the long-term avg. Summer fishery in 2011 (first time since 2004). No fishery summer 2012 or 2013, limited fishery in autumn 2012, none autumn 2013.	1. Undefined  2. Undefined	Management plan agreed between Iceland, Greenland, and Norway, which aims at a spawning-stock biomass of 400,000 t by the end of the fishing season. ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations an initial quota of 225,000t (50% of predicted quota). Final quota to be revised based on in-season survey winter 2015.	<b>STABLE</b>  <b>Spawning stock biomass</b>  1. Undefined  2. Undefined

**HERRING**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2014</b>  <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2014</b>	<b>*Fishing mortality -</b> <b>1. MSY</b> <b>2. PA</b> <b>3. Mg'ment Plan</b>	<b>TAC advice for 2015</b>	<b>*SSB Status</b>  <b>1. MSY</b> <b>2. PA</b> <b>3. Mg'ment plan</b>
<b>Inside safe biological limits</b>					
Herring in IV and VIId North Sea, Eastern English channel - autumn spawners	470,000 Catches	Year-class strength has been consistently weak since 2002 with year classes 2002 to 2007 being among the weakest. Since 1996 stock has fluctuated above precautionary levels. ICES considers that the stock is in a low productivity phase. Fishing mortality has been below FMSY since 1996.	1. Appropriate 2. Undefined 3. Below limit	A management plan was agreed by EU and Norway in 2008. ICES advises on the basis of this plan that catches in 2015 should be < 461,664 t in 2015, incl 429,797 t for the A fleet. All catches are assumed to be landed. Activities that have a negative impact on the spawning habitat of herring should not occur.	<b>SAME</b>  <b>Spawning stock biomass</b>  1. Undefined 2. Full reproductive capacity 3. Above trigger
Herring Icelandic summer spawners Va	87,500 Catches (Sept 2013 to May 2014)	Spawning stock biomass had been declining until 2011, likely related to the <i>Ichthyophonus</i> infection in recent years. Since then SSB has increased and is above reference points. Average-size year classes which show no signs of infection are entering the fishable stock. Fishing mortality has been increasing and is currently below FMSY.	1. Appropriate 2. Harvested sustainably	There is no formal management plan for this stock. ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that catches in 2014/2015 should be no more than 83,000 t. All catches are assumed to be landed. <i>Ichthyophonus</i> infection mortality rate been high in 2009-2010 and the current infection mortality is observed to be zero.	<b>SAME</b>  <b>Spawning stock biomass</b>  1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity

Stock	TAC for 2014 Tonnes	Status of stock in September 2014	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2015	*SSB Status 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Stocks at risk of being outside safe biological limits and below biomass action point <math>B_{MSY-trigger}</math></b>					
Norwegian spring spawners (Atlanto-Scandian). ICES sub area I, divisions IIa, Va, Vb.	436,000 (no agreed TAC – sum of autonomous quotas)	The stock is declining and estimated below precautionary limits in 2013. Since 1998 five large year classes have been produced (1998, 1999, 2002, 2003, and 2004). However the available information indicates year classes between 2005 and 2012 are small. Fishing mortality in 2013 was at precautionary levels and FMSY, but above the management plan target. The extent of the present period of low recruitment is unknown. For the fishing seasons 2013 and 2014, a lack of agreement between the countries on their TAC share has led to higher unilaterally set quotas.	1. Appropriate 2. Harvested sustainably 3. Above limit	ICES advises on the basis of the EU, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, and Russia management plan that catches in 2015 should be no more than 283,013t. Short-term prognoses indicates a decline in SSB from 5 mill tonnes in 2013 to 4.1 and 3.5 mill tonnes in 2014 and 2015 respectively, and 3.19 million tonnes in 2016.	<b>WORSE</b> <b>Spawning stock biomass</b> 1. Below trigger 2. At increased risk 3. Below target

**MACKEREL**

Stock	TAC for 2014  Tonnes	Status of stock in September 2014	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2015	*SSB Status in comparison with 2013. 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Inside safe biological limits</b>					
Mackerel in the North East Atlantic (combines Southern, Western and North Sea spawning components).	1,396,238 Sum of unilateral quotas  Mgmt Plan advice was for a TAC of Between 927,000 to 1,011,000 tonnes	Fishing mortality in 2012 is estimated to be 0.22, below FMSY and Fpa. Fishing mortality was above precautionary limits during the early 2000s. Spawning stock biomass has increased considerably since 2002 and remains high, above Bpa and MSY Btrigger. The 2002 and 2006 year classes are the strongest year classes in the time-series. The incoming 2011 and 2012 year classes appear to be high. There is insufficient information to reliably estimate the size of the 2013 year class. Over the last six years the pelagic industry has encountered large shoals of mackerel over the entire distribution area and believes stock size has greatly increased overall. The industry also sees signs of above average recruitment over the last few years, particularly in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.	1. Appropriate  2. Harvested sustainably  3. At target	A management plan was agreed by Norway, Faroe Islands, and the EU in October 2008. ICES evaluated the plan and concluded that it was precautionary. On the basis of this plan ICES advises catches should be between 831,000 t and 906,000 t in 2015. This corresponds to a catch decrease between 35% and 40% compared to the estimated catch of 1,396,238 t in 2014. Such a TAC would lead to an estimated SSB in 2016 of between 4.3 and 4.4 mill t. EU, Norway, and the Faroes have approached ICES with a draft request on a revised long-term management plan evaluation. ICES is currently carrying out analyses to answer this request draft. MSY approach	<p><b>Spawning stock biomass</b></p> <p><b>IMPROVED</b></p>  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Above trigger</li> <li>2. Full reproductive capacity</li> <li>3. Above trigger</li> </ol>



**NORWAY POUT**

Stock	TAC for 2014 Tonnes	Status of stock in Oct 2014	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2015	*SSB Status 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Inside safe biological limits</b>					
<p><b>Norway pout</b> in the North Sea and Skagerrak &amp; Kattegat Subarea IV and Division IIIa</p>	<p>216,000 In year reduced to 108,000</p>	<p>Stock dynamic is highly variable from year to year, due to recruitment variability and a short life span. Stock size has increased following very high recruitment in 2012 and is well above MSY Bescapement in 2014. Fishing mortality has been lower than natural mortality and has decreased in recent years to below the long-term average. Recruitment in 2014 is the highest estimate on record. The directed fishery for Norway pout was closed in 2005, the first half of 2006, and in 2007, as well as in the first half of 2011 and 2012. Historically, the fisheries have resulted in bycatches of other species, particularly whiting, blue whiting, haddock, saithe, and herring. Bycatches of these species have been low in the recent decade.</p>	<p>1. Undefined 2. Undefined 3. Below average</p>	<p>Due to the short-lived nature of this species a preliminary TAC is set every year, which is updated on the basis of advice in the first half of the year. TAC was not taken in 2008, 2009 or 2010 probably due to high fishing (fuel) costs in these years, and bycatch regulations in 2009 and 2010 (mainly in relation to whiting bycatch). There was a less than 30% uptake of ICES advised TAC for 2012 (late opening of the fishery at end of quarter 3 in 2012). In 2013 the quota uptake was also below 30%. ICES advises on basis of precautionary considerations that catches should be no more than 326,000t in 2015. All catches assumed to be landed.</p>	<p><b>IMPROVING</b>  <b>Spawning stock biomass</b>  1. Above trigger  2. Full reproductive capacity</p>

**SANDEEL**

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2013 Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in February 2014</b>	<b>*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan</b>	<b>TAC advice for 2014</b> Stock is generally assessed in October and updated in Feb/Mar	<b>*SSB Status</b>  <b>1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan</b>
<b>Sandeel in North Sea IV and IIIa – divided into sub areas SA 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.</b>					
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
<b>SA 1</b> Dogger Bank (71% of landings)	<225,000	<b>SA 1</b> - Stock is at precautionary limits in 2013 and just below in 2014 due to low mean weights in 2013. Recruitment in 2013 below average.	<b>SA 1</b> 1. Undefined 2. Undefined	<b>SA 1</b> - ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that the catch in 2014 should be no more than 57,000 t to maintain SSB in 2015 above MSY Bescapement.	<b>SAME</b> 1. Below escapement trigger 2. Increased risk
<b>SA 2</b> South East North Sea (8% of landings)	<17,544	<b>SA 2</b> – Spawning stock biomass has increased in 2014, but remains below precautionary levels. Recruitment in 2013 is estimated to be low, and this is expected to keep SSB below Bpa in 2015.	<b>SA 2</b> 1. Undefined 2. Undefined	<b>SA 2</b> - ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach zero catch in 2014. But a zero TAC will not provide samples from the fishery that help assessment continuity in coming years so a monitoring TAC of <5,000t should be considered.	<b>SAME</b> 1. Below escapement trigger 2. Increased risk
<b>SA 3</b> Central Eastern North Sea (19% of landings)	<78,331	<b>SA 3</b> – Spawning stock in 2014 is below precautionary limits and recruitment in 2013 estimated to be high which could lead to an increase in SSB in 2015. Low SSB in 2013 and 2014 is caused by historically low fish weights in 2013.	<b>SA 3</b> 1. Undefined 2. Undefined	<b>SA 3</b> – ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that the catch in 2014 should be no more than 270,000t to maintain SSB in 2015 above MSY Bescapement.	<b>IMPROVEMENT</b> 1. Below escapement level 2. Below precautionary limits

Stock	TAC for 2013 Tonnes	Status of stock in February 2014	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2014 Stock is generally assessed in October and updated in Feb/Mar	*SSB Status 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Sandeel in North Sea IV and IIIa –divided into sub areas SA 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.</b>					
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
<b>SA 4</b> Central Western North Sea (<1% of landings)	<2,041	<b>SA 4</b> – Survey data indicates strong 2009 year class has been followed by lower recruitments in 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013, but the 5,000t taken in the southern part of SA 4 in 2013 were caught at a very high cpue.	<b>SA 4</b> 1. Unknown 2. Unknown	<b>SA 4</b> – ICES advises on the data-limited approach, that catches in 2014 should not exceed 2,041t. This TAC will not provide samples from the fishery that help assessment continuity in coming years so a monitoring TAC of <5,000t should be considered.	<b>SAME</b> 1. Unknown 2. Unknown Stable
<b>SA 5</b> Viking and Bergen Bank in North Sea	Zero	<b>SA 5</b> - New data (catches) available do not change the perception of this stock. The state of the stock is unknown.	<b>SA 5</b> Very low	<b>SA 5</b> - ICES advises on the basis of the approach to data-limited stocks that catches should not increase unless there is evidence that this will be sustainable. This corresponds to zero catch.	<b>SAME</b> Insufficient information
<b>SA 6</b> Skagerrak and Kattegat Division IIIA	<219	<b>SA 6</b> - New data (catches) available do not change the perception of this stock. No forecast can be presented.	<b>SA 6</b> Insufficient information	<b>SA 6</b> - ICES advises on the basis of the approach to data-limited stocks that catches should be no more than 219 t in 2014.	<b>SAME</b> Insufficient information
<b>Sandeel</b> Shetland area (SA 7)	Zero catch	<b>SA 7</b> - New data (catches) available do not change the perception of this stock. Available information is inadequate to evaluate stock status or trends. State of the stock is unknown.	<b>SA 7</b> 1. Unknown 2. Unknown	<b>SA 7</b> - ICES advises on the basis of the approach to data-limited stocks that no increase in the fisheries should take place unless there is evidence that this will be sustainable. This corresponds to zero catch.	<b>SAME</b> <b>SA 7</b> 1. Unknown 2. Unknown

**SPRAT**

Stock	TAC for 2014 Tonnes	Status of stock in May and June 2014	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2015	*SSB Status 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Inside safe biological limits</b>					
Sprat in the Baltic Subdivisions 22 – 32	240,000	Spawning stock biomass has declined from a historical high in the late 1990s, and remains above the MSY Btrigger. The fishing mortality in 2013 is above both MSY and precautionary levels. None of the recent four year classes (2009–2012) are strong; but the 2013 year class is estimated to be average. Catches are usually lower than the TAC, except in 2013 when the EU TAC was taken.	1. Above target 2. Increased risk	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that catches in 2015 should be no more than 222 kt. ICES advises the implementation of a spatial management plan for the clupeid stocks in Subdivisions 25–26.	<b>SAME</b>  1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity
Sprat in the North Sea Subarea IV	123,000 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014	The spawning stock has been at or above precautionary limits since 2005. Fishing mortality has shown an overall decreasing trend since 2004. Spawning stock in 2013 is estimated to be at precautionary levels. Recruitment in 2013 is estimated to be one of the highest in the time-series.	1. Appropriate 2. Undefined	ICES advises on the basis of the MSY approach that the wanted catch of sprat from July 2014 to June 2015 should be no more than 227,000t. The resulting total catch cannot be quantified as unwanted catch data are not fully available.	<b>IMPROVED</b>  1. Above trigger 2. Full reproductive capacity

<b>Stock</b>	<b>TAC for 2014</b>  <b>Tonnes</b>	<b>Status of stock in June 2014</b>	<b>*Fishing mortality -</b> <b>1. MSY</b> <b>2. PA</b> <b>3. Mg'ment Plan</b>	<b>TAC advice for 2015</b>	<b>*SSB Status</b>  <b>1. MSY</b> <b>2. PA</b> <b>3. Mg'ment plan</b>
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
<b>Sprat</b> in Skagerrak & Kattegat Division IIIa	6,787 July 2012 to June 2013	New data (landings and surveys: 1st and 3rd Quarter) do not change the perception of the stock. New information indicates that there are discards of sprat that are unquantified and non-negligible.	Insufficient information	ICES advises on the basis of the data-limited approach that wanted catch should be no more than 6,787t for 2014 (July 2013 to June 2014). Resulting total catch cannot be quantified as discard data are not fully available.	<b>SAME</b>  Insufficient information
<b>Sprat</b> in Subarea VI and Divisions VIIa-c and f-k (Celtic Sea and West of Scotland)	<3,500 Predicted catch	The information available is insufficient to evaluate stock trends and exploitation. Stock identity for this species in this area is not defined.	Insufficient information	Based on the ICES approach for data limited stocks, ICES advises catches should be <3,500t. No TAC for this species in this area and it is not clear whether there should be one or several management units.	<b>SAME</b>  Insufficient information
<b>Sprat in Divisions VIId,e</b> (Celtic Sea and West of Scotland)	3,832	New landings per unit effort (lpue) data available do not change the perception of the stock.	Insufficient information	Based on ICES approach to data-limited stocks, ICES advises that catches should be no more than 3,832 t. All catches are assumed to be landed	<b>INCREASING</b>  Increasing

**For further information:**

ICES advice

<http://www.ices.dk/community/advisory-process/Pages/Latest-advice.aspx>

**Compiled by Seafish**

**For further information contact:** Karen Green, T: 07515 993499

**E:** [k\\_green@seafish.co.uk](mailto:k_green@seafish.co.uk)

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