





















## SUMMARY OF 2021 ICES ADVICE FOR PELAGIC SPECIES

	Date of advice	Status of key stocks in 2020 and 2021 (more detail in the following pages)	ICES Catch advice	TAC for previous year	SSB Compared with previous yr	Pg
<b>Blue whiting combined stock I-IX, XII &amp; XIV</b>	<b>Sept 2021</b>	Recruitment in 2020–2021 is estimated to be higher than recruitment in the three previous years. These recruits will mature and contribute to the spawning-stock biomass in 2023.	<b>752,736 (2022)</b>	<b>929,292 (2021)</b>		<b>4</b>
<b>Barents Sea capelin</b>	<b>Oct 2021</b>	Spawning-stock biomass (SSB) has been declining since 2018. The advice for 2022 has increased from zero in 2021 because the maturing stock is estimated to be larger.	<b>70,000 (2022)</b>	<b>Zero (2021)</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Capelin Iceland East Greenland Jan Mayen</b>	<b>Nov 2020</b>	The spawning-stock biomass in 2020 is likely to be below any possible Bpa. The initial advice for 2021/2022 is higher than the initial advice for the 2020/2021 fishing season, because the estimated number of immature fish was higher after the autumn survey in 2020.	<b>400,000 (2021/22)</b>	<b>169,520 (2020/21)</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Herring N Sea autumn spawners</b>	<b>Sept 2021</b>	The 2021 data suggests the steep decline of the stock observed since 2016 has stalled, and SSB is now above MSY Btrigger. This has led to higher catch advice for 2022, compared to 2021.	<b>532,183 (2022)</b>	<b>365,792 (2021)</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Herring Icelandic summer spawners</b>	<b>June 2021</b>	Fishing pressure on the stock is below the harvest rate for the management plan. The spawning stock size is above all the reference points. The infection rates of <i>Ichthyophonus</i> infection remain high.	<b>72,239 (2021/22)</b>	<b>34,572 (2019/20)</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Norwegian spring spawning herring</b>	<b>Sept 2021</b>	The spawning-stock biomass (SSB) has been declining since 2008, but estimated to be above MSY Btrigger in 2019. Recruitment of the 2016 year class has been revised upwards and is expected to dominate the catches in 2022. Subsequent year classes are estimated to be weak.	<b>598,588 (2021)</b>	<b>651,033 (2021)</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>Mackerel in the North East Atlantic</b>	<b>Sept 2021</b>	In 2021, there has been an upwards revision of SSB and a downwards revision of fishing mortality in recent years. The recruitment estimates at age 0 are highly uncertain and year-class strength only becomes apparent when fish enter the fishery at age 2 to 3.	<b>794,920 (2022)</b>	<b>852,284 (2021)</b>		<b>8</b>

	Date of advice	Status of key stocks in 2020 and 2021 (more detail in the following pages)	ICES Catch advice	TAC for previous year	SSB Compared with previous yr	Pg
Norway pout in the North Sea	Oct 2021	Stock size is highly variable from year to year. There has been a downward revision of recruitment in 2020, as well as a weak 2021 year class, which has produced a lower forecasted SSB	118,273 (2022)	254,038 (2021)		9
Sandeel in the Dogger Bank (1r)	Feb 2021	Catch advice for 2021 has decreased compared to 2020. 2020 year-class is below average. Large reduction in fishing mortality is required to bring the SSB above MSY Bescapement.	5,464 (2021)	113,987 (2020)		10
Sandeel in central and southern N Sea (2r)	Feb 2021	Zero catch is advised because stock size in 2022 is expected to remain below MSY Bescapment with zero catches in 2021 due to the current low stock size and below average incoming 2020 year class.	5,000 Monitoring (2021)	62,658 (2020)		10
Sandeel in north/central N Sea (3r)	Feb 2021	This stock was inter-benchmarked in 2020. A density dependency has been included to account for overestimation of recruitment and SSB of large incoming year classes when recruitment is above average.	161,335 (2021)	155,072 (2020)		10
Sandeel in north/central N Sea (4)	Feb 2021	The large increase in the advised catch is driven by the high 2019 and 2020 recruitments as evidenced by the dredge survey	77,512 (2021)	39,611 (2020)		11
Sandeel in waters West of Scotland	Feb 2021	The available information on sandeel in Division 6.a is inadequate to evaluate stock status	Zero (2021)	No TAC (2020)		11
Sandeel in Viking and Bergen Banks (5r)	Feb 2021	No landings have occurred since 2007. Available information is inadequate to evaluate stock status or trends so status is unknown.	Zero (2021)	Zero (2020)		11
Sandeel in the Kattegat (6)	Feb 2021	Available information is inadequate to evaluate stock status or trends. The state of the stock is therefore unknown.	140 (2021)	175 (2020)		11
Sandeel in Shetland (7r)	Feb 2021	The stock size is unknown. Fishing pressure is unknown, but it is probably very low and stable.	Zero (2021)	Zero (2020)		11
Sprat in the Baltic	May 2021	The advised catches for 2022 have increased compared to those for 2021 mainly because of the two above-average year classes of 2019 and 2020.	214,000 - 373,210 (2021)	181,567 - 316,833 (2020)		12

	Date of advice	Status of key stocks in 2020 and 2021 (more detail in the following pages)	ICES Catch advice	TAC for previous year	SSB Compared with previous yr	Pg
Sprat in the Skagge- rak/ Katte- gat/ North Sea	April 2021	The 49% reduction in advised catch this year is due to the large decrease in recruitment in 2020 and a subsequent decrease in SSB in 2021.	106,715 (2021-22)	207,807 2020-21		12
Sprat in the West of Scotland/S. Celtic Sea	June 2021	Adult stock size and fishing pressure are unknown.	1,446 (2021-22)	2,800 2020-21		13
Sprat in the English Channel	June 2021	The advice from last year has increased, following on from the application of a new advice method (constant harvest rate) after an inter-benchmark.	2,897 (2022)	1,446 (2021)		13

### 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.

$F_{MSY}$  fishing at levels that catch the maximum proportion of a fish stock that can safely be removed on a continuous basis.

$B_{MSY}$  spawning stock biomass that results from fishing at  $F_{MSY}$  for a long time.

$MSY B_{trigger}$  value of spawning stock biomass that triggers a specific management action.

**PA – Precautionary Approach**

$F_{pa}$  precautionary reference point for fishing mortality.

$F_{lim}$  minimum limit (fishing limit reference point).

$B_{pa}$  precautionary reference point for spawning stock biomass (SSB)

$B_{lim}$  limit reference point for spawning stock biomass (SSB)

$B_{escapement}$  biomass reference point for short-lived species. Target is to leave reference SSB to spawn the next year

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


$F_{MGT}$  fishing mortality reference point as defined in management plans.

$B_{MGT}$  fishing mortality reference point as defined in management plans.



**Cpue** – Catch per unit effort. **Lpue** – Landing per unit effort.

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



**BLUE WHITING**

Stock	TAC for 2021 Tonnes	Status of stock in September 2021	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2022	*Stock status 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Inside safe biological limits</b>					
Blue whiting combined stock Sub-areas I-IX, XII and XIV  September 2021	929,292 tonnes	Recruitment in 2020–2021 is estimated to be higher than recruitment in the three previous years. These recruits will mature and contribute to the SSB in 2023  The assessment uses data from one survey only, the International Blue Whiting Spawning Stock Survey, which was cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 disruption but continued in 2021.	Fishing mortality is above FMSY and Fpa but below Flim;	ICES advises that when the long-term management strategy agreed by the European Union, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, and Norway is applied, catches in 2022 should be no more than 752,736 tonnes.  The advice is based on the application of the long-term management strategy agreed by the European Union, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, and Norway. The recommended catch scenario uses the latest TAC (ICES advice) as the basis from which to calculate the option relating to the –20% TAC constraint.  The advice for 2022 is 19% lower than for 2021 due to a lower advised F for 2022 of 0.32 compared to the advice for 2021, which was based on an F of 0.36.	<b>DECLINING</b>    <b>Spawning stock biomass</b> is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim


**CAPELIN**

Stock	TAC Tonnes	Status of stock	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice	*Stock status 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
<b>Advice in October 2021</b>					
Barents Sea capelin Subareas I and II, excluding Division IIa west of 5°W.  <b>October 2021.</b>  <i>Abbreviated due to the COVID-19 disruption</i>	Zero (2021)	In Oct 2021. Spawning-stock biomass (SSB) has been declining since 2018. The advice for 2022 has increased from zero in 2021 because the maturing stock is estimated to be larger.	No reference points for fishing pressure have been defined for this stock	ICES advises that when the management plan of the Joint Norwegian–Russian Fisheries Commission (JNRFC) is applied, catches in 2022 should be no more than 70,000 tonnes.	<b>DECLINING</b>    <b>Spawning stock biomass size</b> is above Blim.
<b>Advice in November 2020</b>					
Capelin in the Iceland East Greenland Jan Mayen area Subareas V and XIV and Division IIa west of 5°W  <b>November 2020</b> <b>New advice due 30 Nov 2021</b>  <i>Abbreviated due to the COVID-19 disruption</i>	2020/21 169,520	In Nov 2020. The spawning-stock biomass in 2020 is likely to be below any possible Bpa. The initial advice for 2021/2022 is higher than the initial advice for the 2020/2021 fishing season, because the estimated number of immature fish was higher after the autumn survey in 2020.	1. Undefined 2. Undefined 3. Not applicable	ICES advises that when the harvest control rule agreed in 2015 by the Coastal States is applied, the initial TAC for the fishing season July 2021–March 2022 should be 400,000 tonnes. ICES recommends the initial TAC is revised based on acoustic survey information in autumn 2021 (intermediate TAC). The final TAC to be based on winter 2022 survey results.	<b>DECLINING</b>    <b>Spawning stock biomass</b>  1. Undefined 2. Increased risk 3. Not above with 95% probability


**HERRING**

Stock	TAC advice Tonnes	Status of stock in 2021	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2022	*SSB Status  1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Inside safe biological limits</b>					
Herring in IV and VIId North Sea, Eastern English channel - autumn spawners  <b>September 2021</b>  <i>Abbreviated due to the COVID-19 disruption</i>	365,792 in 2021	The new assessment model resulted in a lower estimated stock size and higher fishing mortality than the previous assessment. The 2021 data suggests the steep decline of the stock observed since 2016 has stalled, and SSB is now above MSY Btrigger. The decrease in the rate of stock decline and the higher FMSY leads to higher catch advice for 2022 compared to 2021.	Fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY, Fpa, and Flim;	ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2022 should be no more than 532,183 tonnes. The basis for the 45% increase in catch advice is twofold. 1.The recent interbenchmark on the stock has led to changes in both the assessment model, the reference points and associated increase in FMSY. 2. The 2021 data suggests the rate of stock decline has decreased.	<b>IMPROVING</b>    <b>Spawning stock biomass</b> is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim
<b>Stocks at risk of being outside safe biological limits and below biomass action point BMSY-trigger</b>					
Herring Icelandic summer spawners Va  <b>June 2021</b>  <i>Abbreviated due to the COVID-19 disruption</i>	34,572 2019/20  No advice requested 2020/21	ICES assesses that fishing pressure on the stock is below the harvest rate for the management plan. The spawning stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa and Blim.  Advice has increased as a result of the upward revision in the stock size, due to a large 2017 year class entering the fishery at age 4.	No information	ICES advises that when the Icelandic management plan is applied, catches in the fishing year 2021/2022 should be no more than 72,239 tonnes.  The infection rates of <i>Ichthyophonus</i> remain high, and this is taken into account in the assessment and in the management plan rule.	<b>SAME</b>    <b>Spawning stock biomass</b>  1. Below trigger 2. Increased risk 3. Above trigger

**HERRING contd**


Stock	TAC for 2021 Tonnes	Status of stock in September 2021	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2022	*SSB Status 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Inside safe biological limits</b>					
Norwegian spring spawners (Atlanto-Scandian) herring. ICES sub area I, divisions IIa, Va, Vb.  <b>September 2021.</b>  <i>Abbreviated due to the COVID-19 disruption</i>	651,033 (2021)	The estimated SSB and fishing mortality are generally in line with the estimates from last year's assessment. Recruitment of the 2016 year class is, revised upwards. The 2016 year class is expected to dominate the catches in 2022. Subsequent year classes are estimated to be weak. There has been an overshoot of the catches in relation to the advised TAC since 2013.  Failing to adhere to the advised catches as derived from the application of the long-term management strategy may no longer be precautionary in the long term	Fishing pressure on the stock is above FMSY and Fpa but below Flim.	ICES advises that when the long-term management strategy agreed by the European Union, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, and the Russian Federation is applied, catches in 2022 should be no more than 598,588 tonnes.  A long-term management strategy was agreed by the European Union, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, and Russia in 2018. ICES has evaluated the long-term management strategy and found it to be precautionary.  The advice is based on the target fishing mortality in the long-term management strategy agreed by the parties above. It does not take into account the deviations from the plan as evident from the sum of declared unilateral quotas.	<b>SAME</b>    <b>Spawning stock biomass</b> size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim

**MACKEREL**

Stock	TAC for 2021  Tonnes	Status of stock in Sept 2021	*Fishing mortality. Key - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2022	*SSB Status  1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Inside safe biological limits</b>					
<p>Mackerel in the North East Atlantic (NEA) (combines Southern, Western and North Sea spawning components).</p> <p><b>September 2021.</b></p> <p><b>August 2020 ICES was asked to advise on long-term management strategies for NEA mackerel. Their response was published on 3 Aug. Their Management Evaluation Strategy (MSE) tool provides a useful instrument to explore a wider range of uncertainties associated with NEA mackerel stock assessment.</b></p>	<p>852,284</p> <p>No internationally agreed quotas. Values presented are the sum of unilateral quotas (including quotas and transfers).</p>	<p>In 2021, there has been an upwards revision of SSB and a downwards revision of fishing mortality in recent years. The recruitment estimates at age 0 are highly uncertain and year-class strength only becomes apparent when fish enter the fishery at age 2 to 3. Estimates of recruitment for 2020 and 2021 make a relatively small contribution to catches (6.7% and 0.8%) and to the SSB (10.4% and 0.7%) forecasted for 2022</p>	<p>Fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY, Fpa, and Flim</p>	<p>ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2022 should be no more than 794,920 tonnes.</p> <p>The advised catch for 2022 is 7% lower than the advice for 2021 because of the continued decline in stock size, though this was partly offset by the upward revision of the perception of stock size.</p> <p>There is no long-term management strategy for Northeast Atlantic (NEA) mackerel agreed by all parties involved in the mackerel fishery.</p>	<p><b>Spawning stock biomass</b></p> <p><b>DECLINING</b></p>  <p>Spawning-stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim.</p>



**NORWAY POUT**

Stock	TAC for 2021 Tonnes	Status of stock in October 2021	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2022	*SSB Status  1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Inside safe biological limits</b>					
Norway pout in the North Sea and Skagerrak & Kattegat Subarea IV and Division IIIa  October 2021	254,038	<p>The change (–53%) from this year's to last year's advice results from a downward revision of recruitment in 2020, as well as the weak 2021 year class, which produces a lower forecasted SSB</p> <p>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>	no reference points for fishing pressure or for MSY Btrigger have been defined for this stock	<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.</p> <p>ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches from 1 November 2021 to 31 October 2022 should be no more than 118,273 tonnes.</p> <p>The catch forecast is for the period 1 October to 30 September. ICES considers that this forecast sufficiently approximates the TAC period and that it can be used directly for management purposes.</p>	<p><b>SAME</b></p>  <p><b>Spawning stock biomass</b> is above Bpa and Blim.</p>



**SANDEEL**

Stock	TAC for 2020 Tonnes	Status of stock in February 2021	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2021	*SSB Status  1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Sandeel in North Sea IV and IIIa – divided into sub areas 1r, 2r, 3r, 4, 5r, 6 and 7r.</b>					
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
<b>1r</b> Sandeel Central and southern North Sea, Dogger Bank  <b>Feb 2021</b>	113,987 (2020)	<b>1r</b> Catch advice for 2021 has decreased compared to 2020. 2020 year-class is below average. Large reduction in fishing mortality is required to bring the SSB above MSY $B_{\text{escapement}}$ .	<b>1r</b> No fishing reference points defined	<b>1r</b> – ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2021 should be no more than 5,464 tonnes. ICES advises a sampling protocol similar to a monitoring TAC.	<b>DECREASING</b>  Below MSY $B_{\text{escapement}}$ and $B_{\text{pa}}$ but above $B_{\text{lim}}$ .
<b>2r</b> Sandeel Central and South North Sea  <b>Feb 2021</b>	62,658 (2020)	<b>2r.</b> Zero catch is advised because stock size in 2022 is expected to remain below MSY $B_{\text{escapement}}$ with zero catches in 2021 due to the current low stock size and below average incoming 2020 year class	<b>2r</b> No fishing reference points defined	<b>2r</b> - ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2020 should be zero. Monitoring TAC for 2021 of 5,000 tonnes.	<b>DECREASING</b>  Below MSY $B_{\text{escapement}}$ and $B_{\text{pa}}$ but above $B_{\text{lim}}$ .
<b>3r</b> Sandeel North and Central North Sea, Skaggerak  <b>Feb 2021</b>	155,072 (2020)	<b>3r.</b> This stock was inter-benchmarked in 2020 because the assessment can overestimate both recruitment and SSB when recruitment is above average. A density dependency has been included to account for overestimation of large incoming year classes.	<b>3r</b> No fishing reference points defined	<b>3r</b> – ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2021 should be no more than 161,335 tonnes.	<b>SAME</b> Above MSY $B_{\text{escapement}}$ , $B_{\text{pa}}$ and $B_{\text{lim}}$ .



**SANDEEL contd**

Stock	TAC for 2020 Tonnes	Status of stock in February 2021	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2021	*SSB Status  1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Sandeel in North Sea IV and IIIa –divided into sub areas 1r, 2r, 3r, 4, 5r, 6 and 7r.</b>					
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
<b>Area 4</b> Sandeel North and Central North Sea <b>Feb 2021</b>	39,611 (2020)	4. The large increase in the advised catch is driven by the high 2019 and 2020 recruitments evidenced in the dredge survey.	<b>Area 4</b> No fishing reference points defined	<b>Area 4</b> – ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2021 should be no more than 77,512 tonnes.	<b>IMPROVING</b> Above MSY $B_{escapement}$ , $B_{pa}$ and $B_{lim}$ .
<b>5r</b> Sandeel North North Sea Viking and Bergen Bank <b>Feb 2021</b>	Zero (2020)	<b>5r.</b> No landings have occurred since 2007. Available information is inadequate to evaluate stock status or trends so status is unknown.	<b>5r</b> No fishing reference points defined	<b>5r</b> - ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, there should be zero catches in each of the years 2021 and 2022.	<b>SAME</b> No biomass reference points defined
<b>Area 6</b> Sandeel Skagerrak, Kattegat and Belt Sea <b>Feb 2021</b>	<175 (2020)	<b>6.</b> Available information is inadequate to evaluate stock status or trends. The state of the stock is therefore unknown.	<b>Area 6</b> No fishing reference points defined	<b>Area 6</b> - ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, catches should be no more than 140 tonnes in 2021 and 2022 (buffer quota)	<b>SAME</b> No biomass reference points defined
<b>7r</b> Sandeel Shetland area <b>Feb 2021</b>	Zero (2020)	<b>7r.</b> The available information is inadequate to evaluate stock status or trends. The state of the stock is therefore unknown.	<b>7r</b> No fishing reference points defined	<b>7r</b> - ICES advises that when the precautionary approach (PA) is applied there should be zero catches in each of the years 2021 and 2022.	<b>SAME</b> No biomass reference points defined
<b>Sandeel</b> in 6a West of Scotland <b>Feb 2021</b>	No TAC (2020)	The available information on sandeel in Division 6.a is inadequate to evaluate stock status	No fishing reference points defined	ICES advises that when the precautionary approach (PA) is applied, there should be zero catches in each of the years 2021, 2022, and 2023.	<b>SAME</b> No biomass reference points defined

**SPRAT**

Stock	TAC for 2020/2021  Tonnes	Status of stock in April and May 2021	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2021/2022	*SSB Status  1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Inside safe biological limits</b>					
Sprat in the Baltic Subdivisions 22 – 32  May 2021	Between 181,567 – 316,833 (2021)	The advised catches for 2022 have increased compared to those for 2021 mainly because of the two above-average year classes of 2019 and 2020.	1. Above 2. Below 3. Below	ICES advises that when the EU multiannual plan (MAP) for the Baltic Sea is applied, catches in 2022 that correspond to the F ranges in the plan are between 214,000 tonnes and 373,210 tonnes. Catches higher than those corresponding to FMSY (291,745 tonnes) can only be taken under conditions specified in the plan, whilst the entire range is considered precautionary when applying ICES advice rule.	<b>SAME</b>    Above MSY $B_{trigger}$ , $B_{pa}$ and $B_{lim}$ .
Sprat in the Skagerrak & Kattegat Division IIIa and North Sea Subarea IV  April 2021	207,807 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	The 49% reduction in advised catch this year is due to the large decrease in recruitment in 2020 and a subsequent decrease in SSB in 2021. A high proportion of the predicted SSB consists of recruits from the previous year for which the abundance and proportion of mature fish at spawning time are unknown	No fishing reference points defined	ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 should be no more than 106,715 tonnes.	<b>DECLINING</b>    Above MSY $B_{escapement}$ , $B_{pa}$ and $B_{lim}$ .

**SPRAT contd**

Stock	TAC for 2020/2021  Tonnes	Status of stock in June 2021	*Fishing mortality - 1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment Plan	TAC advice for 2022	*SSB Status  1. MSY 2. PA 3. Mg'ment plan
<b>Reference points not fully defined</b>					
Sprat in Subarea VI and Divisions VIIa-c and f-k (West of Scotland and southern Celtic Sea)  June 2021	<2,800 (2020/21)	The information available is insufficient to evaluate stock trends and exploitation. Stock identity for this species in this area is not defined.	No fishing reference points defined	ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, catches should be no more than 2,240 tonnes in each of the years 2022 and 2023.	<b>SAME</b>  No biomass reference points defined
Sprat in Divisions VII d,e (English Channel)  June 2021	1,446 (2021)	The advice from last year has increased, following on from the application of a new advice method (constant harvest rate) after an inter-benchmark.	Below MSY	ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2022 should be no more than 2,897 tonnes.	<b>INCREASING</b>  Above MSY B <sub>trigger</sub>

**For further information:**

ICES advice

<https://www.ices.dk/advice/Pages/Latest-Advice.aspx>**For further information contact:** Karen Green. T: 07515 993499E: [karen.green@seafish.co.uk](mailto:karen.green@seafish.co.uk)**October 2021**