

# Latest ICES Scientific Advice



International Council for the Exploration of the Sea

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# ICES Catch advice for 2020

|   | <i>Compared to<br/>2019 Catch<br/>estimate</i> | <i>Compared to<br/>2019 Advised TAC</i> | <i>Advised<br/>TAC</i>         | <i>Figures<br/>based on</i> |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <br><i>North Sea herring</i>        | ↑ 9%   | ↑ 38%                                   | <b>418,649 t<br/>(A-fleet)</b> | MSY approach<br>(F=0.24)    |
| <br><i>Western Scotland herring</i> | ↓ 100%   | → 0%                                    | <b>0 t</b>                     | MSY approach<br>(F=0)       |
| <br><i>Irish Sea herring</i>        | ↑ 17%  | ↑ 17%                                   | <b>8,064 t</b>                 | MSY approach<br>(F=0.266)   |

# North Sea Herring



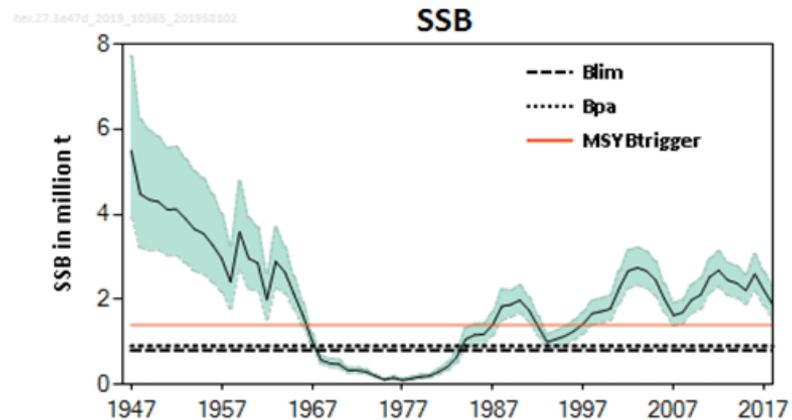
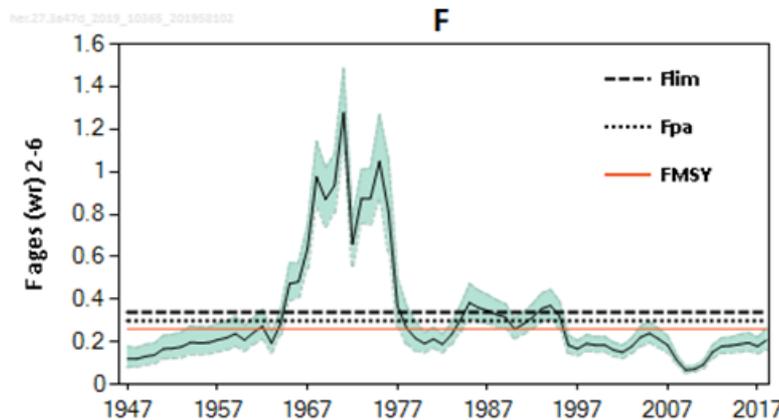
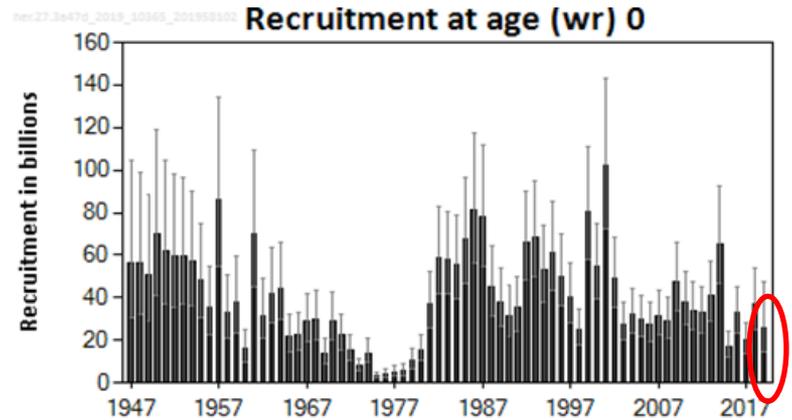
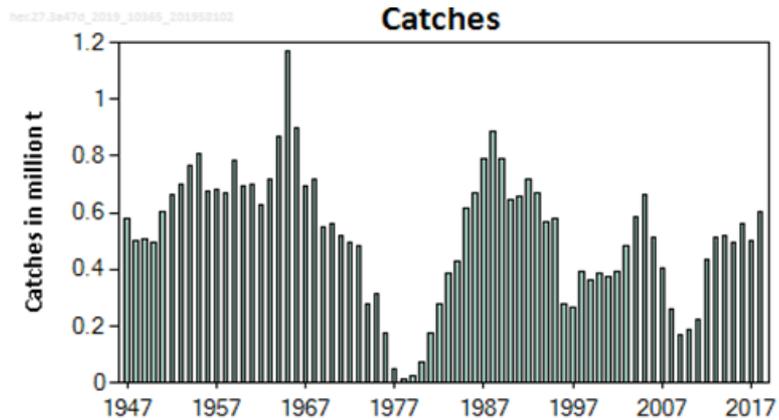
Latest advice: 29 May 2019



# North Sea Herring – ICES Advice

## ICES advice on fishing opportunities

ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2020 should be no more than 431 062 tonnes, which includes 418 649 tonnes for the A-fleet.



## North Sea Herring

- A-Fleet: 38% increase in advised TAC for 2020 (418,649 t,  $F=0.26$ ) (=9% increase in agreed TAC)
- EU-Norway management not agreed following recent advice (ICES, 2019c), so advice based on MSY approach.
- Recruitment – lowest in 2015 and 2017, better in 2018

## Quality of the assessment

*The SSB has been estimated to be at a higher level for a number of years compared to the previous assessment (e.g. 16% higher for 2017). The 2019 assessment was particularly sensitive to the inclusion of the 2018 data from the herring acoustic survey (HERAS). The quality of the survey was evaluated and considered appropriate. The observed revision in the assessment cannot be fully explained but will require further scientific investigation.*

# Western Herring



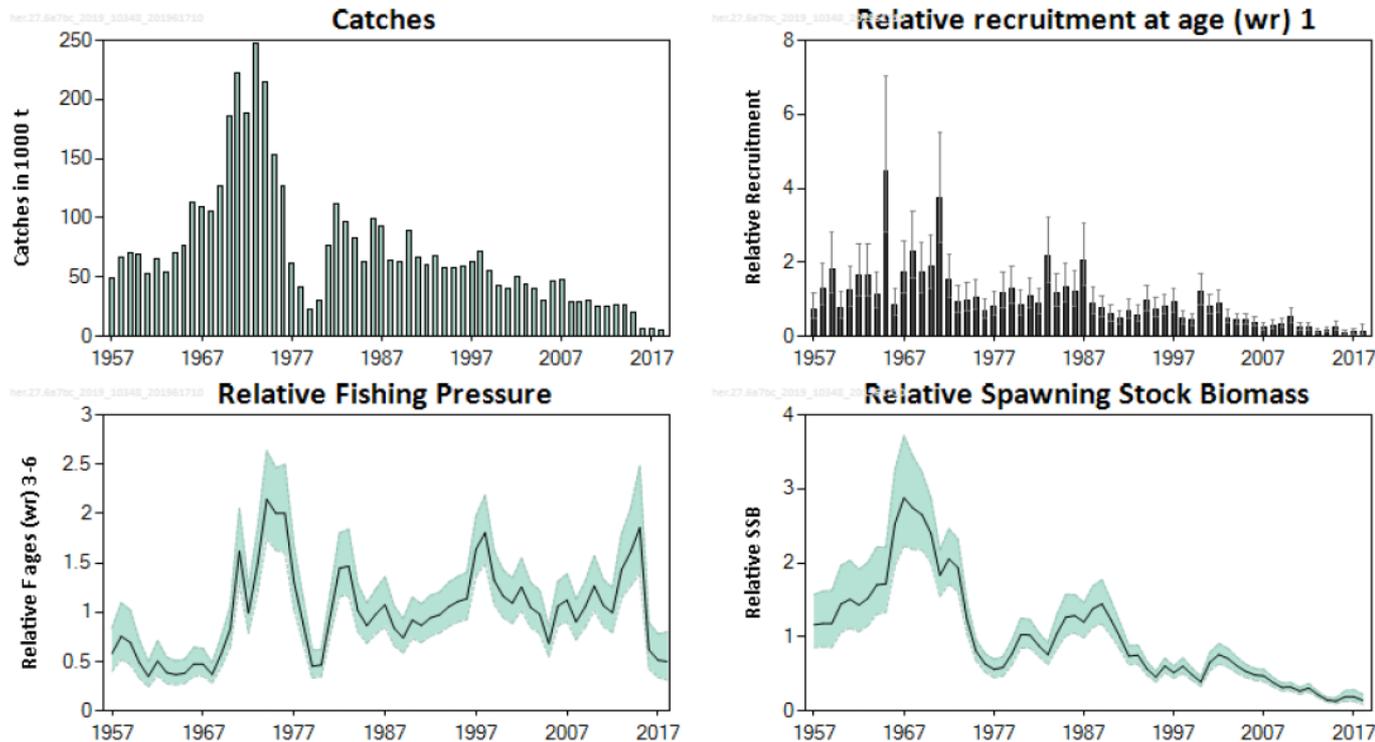
Latest advice: 28 June 2019



# West of Scotland & Ireland Herring (6a,7bc)

## ICES advice on fishing opportunities

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, there should be zero catch in 2020.



**Figure 1** Herring in divisions 6.a and 7.b-c. Summary of the stock assessment. Relative R, F, and SSB from the stock assessment (relative to mean over assessment period). The shaded areas on the F and SSB plots represent 95% confidence intervals.

# Irish Sea Herring



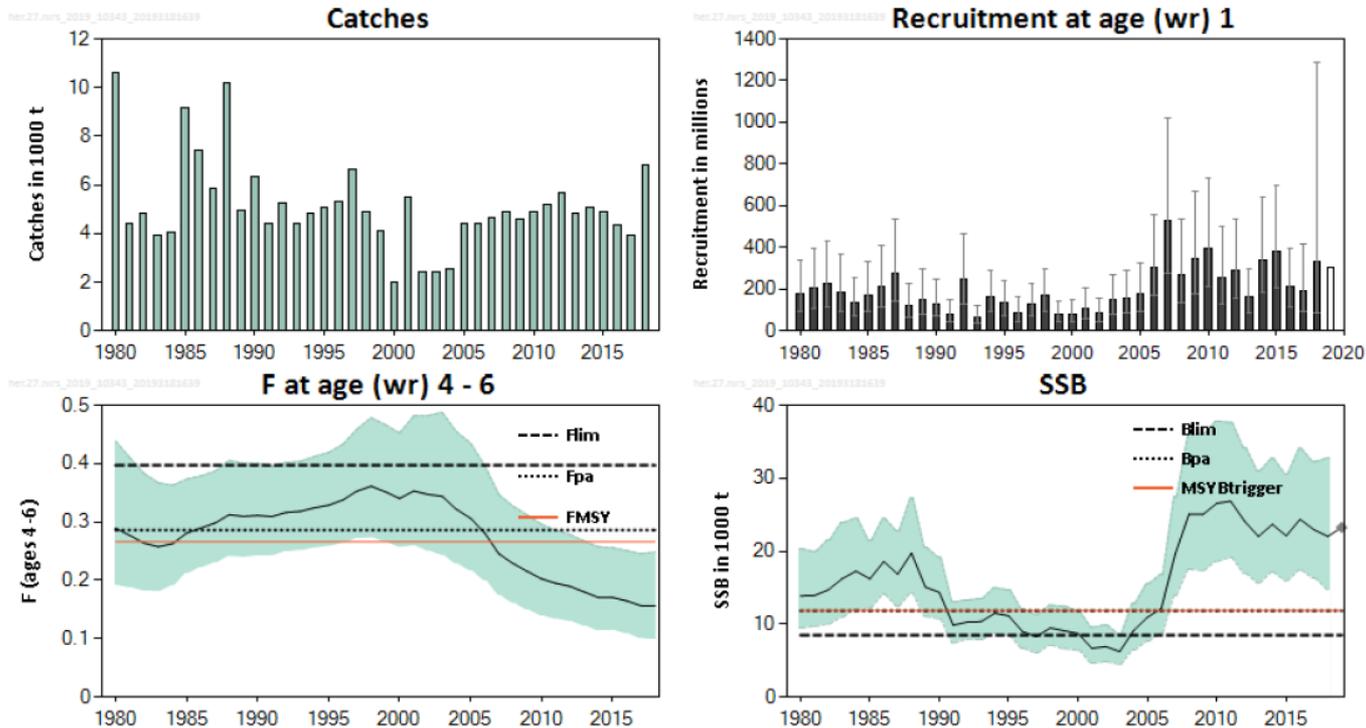
Latest advice: 28 June 2019



# Latest advice

## ICES advice on fishing opportunities

ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2020 should be no more than 8064 tonnes.

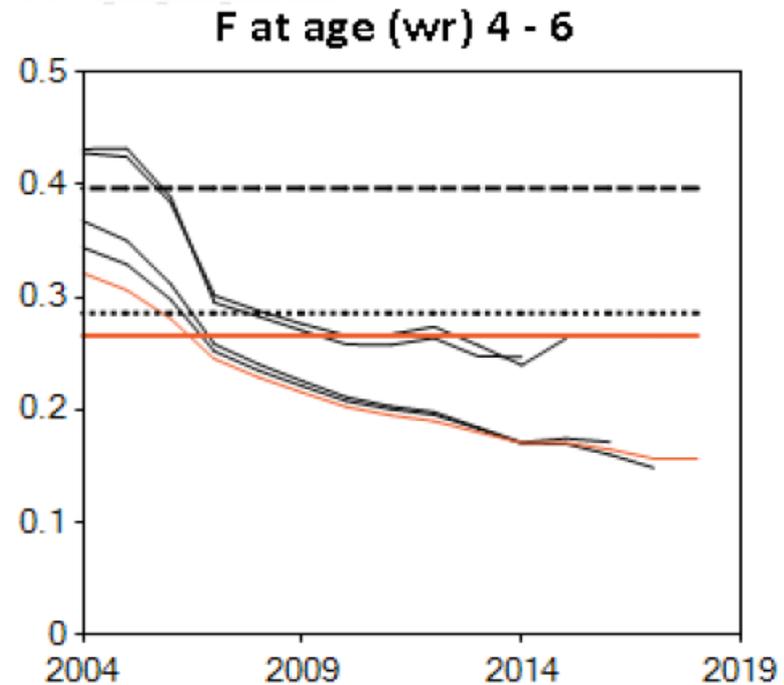
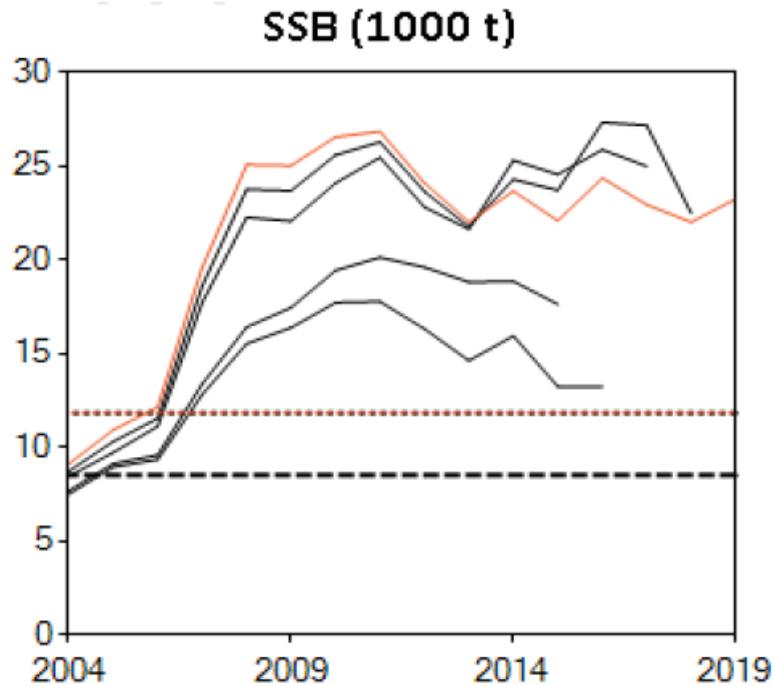


**Figure 1** Herring in Division 7.a North of 52°30'N. Summary of the stock assessment. The shaded areas on F and SSB and error bars on recruitment represent 95% confidence intervals. The assumed final year recruitment value is unshaded and predicted SSB is shown with a diamond shape.



## Quality of the assessment

- Big change in perception following benchmark in 2017 due to change in how acoustic survey data treated. In Oct 2019 a workshop on acoustic surveys during spawning will take place, and the Irish Sea will be looked at alongside, 6a herring and others.



# ICES Catch advice for 2020

|  | Compared to 2019 Catch estimate | Compared to 2019 Advised TAC | Advised TAC         | Figures based on       |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| <br>North Sea herring        | ↑ 9%                            | ↑ 38%                        | 418,649 t (A-fleet) | MSY approach (F=0.24)  |
| <br>Western Scotland herring | ↓ 100%                          | → 0%                         | 0 t                 | MSY approach (F=0)     |
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NE Atlantic mackerel



Atlanto-Scandian herring



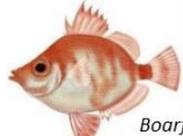
Blue whiting



Western horse mackerel



Widely distributed stocks  
(advice: 1 Oct)

|  | Compared to 2019 Catch estimate | Compared to 2019 Advised TAC |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <br>N. sea horse mackerel | ↓ -23%                          | ↓ -20%                       |
| <br>Boarfish              | ↑ 1%                            | ↓ -12%                       |