A discard ban for the UK

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Article 15 of the CFP

- Lack of integration between the different components of the CFP
- Mixed fisheries
- Applied to a high number of TACS
- Chokes
- May be essentially unpredictable
- The toolbox
- Beyond the toolbox
Brexit

- Independent coastal state
- Parliamentary bottleneck
- Some elements of the CFP will be transferred into UK law
- Important parts won’t (TAC setting, access arrangements and quota shares)
- Fisheries Bill
- UK ministers “want to retain the principle of a discard ban”
A workable UK discard ban

- Central purpose: to create an incentive to minimise unwanted catch
- Minimise unwanted mortality
- Mixed fisheries choke issue
Elements of a UK landing obligation

- 2 stage approach
  - LO applies to primary stocks
  - LO applies to secondary stocks

- Apply individual TACs only where there is a conservation rationale to maintain its conservation status

- Progressively extend the LO to secondary stocks as knowledge allows and implementation issues are dealt with
After a positive scientific assessment by ICES\textsuperscript{22}, and based on a Commission proposal, the Council decided to scrap the TAC for dab and flounder in the North Sea in early 2017. Many stakeholders welcomed this move, which facilitates the implementation of the landing obligation. With this in mind, the Commission is ready to discuss scrapping other TACs in the future, if there is no risk to the conservation of the stock and ICES agrees to this.
An integrated approach: mutually supportive measures

- TAC setting (F ranges)
- Technical conservation rules
- Quota management
- Knowledge base (high survival exemptions)
Contingency planning

- Chokes may be essentially unpredictable
- Administrative scope to suspend the LO when a choke is imminent
- Land over-quota fish - value goes to science fund (trial)
Survival Exemptions

- Reverse the burden of proof
- Criterion: Will inclusion of the stock lead to an increase in mortality?
Up lifts

- Accuracy of discard estimates
- Where the uplift is allocated to