Centre for Environment Fisheries & Aquaculture Science

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Assessing the sustainability of fisheries catch limits negotiated by the UK for 2025

Authors: Fiona Gilmour, Ewen Bell, Carl O'Brien

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Executive Summary

The Fisheries Act 2020 refers to fisheries objectives, one of which is the precautionary objective: 'that exploitation of marine stocks restores and maintains populations of harvested species above biomass levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield'.

The UK is committed to achieving sustainable fisheries management and increasingly setting fishing opportunities consistent with scientific advice from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) encompassing both their maximum sustainable yield (MSY) and precautionary approach (PA) advice.

The fishery management units covered by total allowable catches (TACs) used for many international fisheries rarely align with the ICES' stock assessment units. This mismatch makes assessing the TACs against the scientific advice highly complex and potentially open to interpretation.

In 2022, the publication of the first report (Bell and others, 2022) presented the outcome from assessing the sustainability of catch limits negotiated by the UK in bilateral UK-EU, trilateral UK-EU-Norway, NEAFC and coastal States forums for 2020 to 2022. That publication saw the start of annual reports applying the independently peer-reviewed methodology review (Nash and others, 2021). In parallel to the international negotiations, there are TACs set unilaterally by the UK which have not been included in these assessments.

This report provides an assessment of 84 TACs negotiated for setting catch limits for 2025. In order to provide a consistent suite of TACs which can be reported across multiple years, a set of 79 'baseline' TACs have been identified (see section 4).

For 2025, 36 of the 79 baseline TACs were consistent with ICES' advice (46%), compared to 36 TACs (46%) in 2024. This represents no change in the number of baseline TACs which were set in line with the ICES' advice compared to 2024. As in previous years 2 baseline TACs could not be scored.

Breaking this down to the advice type (MSY or PA), 27 out of 54 TACs (50%) based on MSY advice were set in line with the advice and 9 out of 25 (36%) TACs based on PA advice (or a combination of PA and MSY advice) were set in line with the advice.

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total number of baseline TACs passing the assessment	27	26	27	32	36	36

1. Introduction

The fisheries sustainability assessment detailed in this report is the fourth report under a new assessment methodology (Nash and others, 2021), the first being published in 2022 (Bell and others, 2022). The Environmental Improvement Plan[1] highlights the UK's commitment to 'publish each year a transparent and scientifically robust assessment of the sustainability outcomes of our annual fisheries negotiations'.

As an independent coastal state with a commitment made in the Joint Fisheries Statement[2] to achieving sustainable fisheries management, the UK's objective is to increasingly set fishing opportunities consistent with scientific advice provided by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), whether based on maximum sustainable yield (MSY) or the precautionary approach (PA).

In 2020, Defra commissioned a methodology review to assess whether quotas (TACs) were set at sustainable levels, involving an expert panel. The terms of reference for the expert panel were summarised as 'to provide an agreed methodology which enables fisheries managers to determine whether a quota (TAC) was set at a sustainable level and communicate this information effectively'. This MSY methodology review (Nash and others, 2021) was undertaken in 2021 and demonstrated the Ministerial commitment to strengthening sustainable fisheries management for the long-term benefit of our marine environment and fishing industry. For the background to the review and further details see (Bell and others, 2022).

This report documents why a forward-looking or intention-based assessment is appropriate for reporting on the UK's negotiated outcomes. However, in fisheries management, intentions do not always match outcomes as fishery forecasts of population size and mortality rates are not known with certainty. Therefore, this assessment should be viewed in conjunction with outcome-based reporting such as that under the Marine Strategy and UK Biodiversity Indicators which retrospectively measures and reports on the status of UK stocks and fishing pressure.

ICES' assessment areas and total allowable catches (TAC) management areas are often not aligned, necessitating that ICES' advice be interpreted and translated into the TAC management areas. This mismatch makes assessing the TACs against the scientific advice highly complex and potentially open to interpretation.

The findings of the methodology review and the principles agreed to assess consistency with MSY have subsequently been broadened for the purposes of evaluating negotiated

[1] Environmental Improvement Plan 2023, First revision of the 25 Year Environment Plan. 2023.
[2] Joint Fisheries Statement, November 2022

outcomes and applied to include all TACs of interest to the UK which relate to either ICES' MSY advice, ICES' Precautionary Advice or advice relating to agreed Management Plans.

This allows for most TACs listed in the Trade and Cooperation Agreement[3] (TCA) to be assessed and evaluated for consistency with ICES' scientific advice, thus providing an opportunity for the UK to set a clear benchmark for the reporting of negotiated catch limits.

2. Background to the assessment of negotiation outcomes in relation to scientific advice

2.1. Biological stock versus TAC

Scientists and managers often use the term 'stock' referring to different entities which can cause a degree of confusion. ICES define stocks as a 'part of a fish population usually with a particular migration pattern and specific spawning ground which are part of the same reproductive process'. Such biological stocks are largely self-contained with limited migration of individuals from or to the stock. Managers will often refer to the units of management as a stock (typically a TAC for a species within a specific sea area). However, the area definition for these units often has no scientific or biological basis instead being borne from political processes or simply using ICES areas, sub-areas, divisions, or sub-divisions for convenience. Here we will refer to a stock as the units defined by ICES whilst the area-defined management units along with their ascribed TACs will be referred to as management units. It should be noted that there are some cases where the management units are identical to the biological stock area (meaning that there is a direct mapping from stock to management unit) but typically, there is some mismatch between the area definitions.

2.2. ICES' advice types

ICES generates catch advice according to an established hierarchy reflecting the availability of data. There are 2 nested frameworks, the overarching precautionary approach (PA) framework and the subsidiary maximum sustainable yield (MSY) framework (all MSY advice must satisfy the PA framework). The MSY framework is applied when data

[3] Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, of the one part, and the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, of the other part Brussels and London, 30 December 2020

are sufficient to assess the current exploitation rate in relation to the theoretical optimum, while the data-limited rules of the PA framework are used in all other cases. Improvements in assessment methodology means that more stocks are now assessed under the MSY framework than in the previous report.

For further details on the ICES' advisory process, read the 2022 ICES technical guidance for harvest control rules and stock assessments for stocks in categories 2 and 3, the 2023 ICES guide to advice, and the 2012 ICES guidance for data limited stocks.

2.3. Outcome versus intention reporting

One of the primary objectives of fishery management in the UK is to prevent the collapse of stocks and the management framework with its reference points is designed to achieve this objective. It is entirely appropriate that the effectiveness of fishery management should therefore be measured in terms of how well these targets and objectives are met.

This scoring of outcomes is retrospective but if we operated in a world of certainty then management actions would naturally achieve these objectives. In reality, fishery management operates in an uncertain paradigm where environmental variation, complex biological interactions, human decisions, and observation error combine meaning that management actions may not necessarily result in the desired outcome.

Ideally, a management framework should be designed to be robust to these fluctuations and uncertainties but not everything can be foreseen, and outcomes may not be as intended. Historical outcome evaluation may vary as the understanding of stock development evolves. It is therefore also desirable to report on whether catch limits agreed by managers were consistent with the scientific understanding at that time.

In the longer term, chronic systematic differences between the intention and outcomes may indicate that the management framework needs to be modified to accommodate these differences. Both types of reporting (outcomes and intention) are therefore important tools for monitoring management performance.

Outcome scoring is undertaken as part of the UK's reporting on the Marine Strategy (due to be updated in 2025) and reports the number of stocks where the spawning biomass is estimated to be at or above the target reference point and the exploitation rate is estimated to be at or below the target reference point. In contrast, the scoring of negotiation decisions (intention scoring) is based on TAC decisions, so direct comparisons between these 2 scoring approaches cannot be made due to the mismatches of stock and TAC definitions.

2.4. MSY methodology review approach and considerations

The methodology review proposed an approach and method to assess the MSY consistency of TACs based on the comparison of ICES' advice and stock assessment areas, and the TAC management areas. Six categories of TACs were identified reflecting the increasing complexity of the mapping issues, examples of these can be found in Sections 4.1 to 4.6 of the methodology review report (Nash and others, 2021).

1. Direct match: management area is the same as the stock assessment area.
2. Wide: management area wider than stock area but does not overlap with other defined stocks. These are effectively treated as a direct match.
3. Pooled: multiple stocks pooled into a single TAC, area definitions matching.
4. Subset: Single stock split into multiple TAC units.
5. Subset pooled: Multiple stocks fished across multiple TAC units.
6. Fragmented: Stocks or multiple stocks fished across multiple TAC units (TAC and advice areas do not match) and where substantial portions of catches are taken outside the jurisdiction of the relevant negotiation forum (bilateral UK-EU, trilateral UK-EU-Norway, or coastal States negotiations).

Note that mapping classification may change through time, particularly in the case of the fragmented class where the introduction of a sharing arrangement could see the classification re-elevated.

The methodology review agreed on an approach with an expert panel that is based on whether catch limits do not exceed the best available ICES' scientific advice for stocks (biological areas or units) that are relevant to the management areas (or TAC units).

The agreed principles and considerations can be found in the methodological review report (Nash and others, 2021).

3. Assessment methodology

The principles agreed in the MSY methodology review (Nash and others, 2021) are used as the basis to assess whether negotiated catch limits agreed are consistent with the ICES' scientific advice at that time. In addition to an explanation of the 2 stages of the assessment, this section describes issues that were not covered by the MSY methodology review but have subsequently been identified as requiring consideration.

3.1. Explanation of stage 1 and stage 2

Assessment of the TACs considered their alignment with the ICES' advice and was performed in 2 stages and only those TACs which pass stage 2 are considered to have been set in line with the advice.

Stage 1

This stage assessed the TAC alignment with ICES' scientific advice by considering the match between the TAC area and the relevant ICES advice stock assessment areas and whether the total catch limit was set at or below the scientific advice.

TACs with a management area that match to scientific advice assessment area and had been set at or below the scientific advice are given a stage 1 pass, and if no further considerations exist would be assigned a stage 2 pass.

Any TAC for which its total catch limit was set above the scientific advice failed stage 1, and therefore failed this year's assessment.

Stage 2

TACs for which the ICES' advice assessment area did not match the management area, and which passed stage 1 were subject to additional considerations, assessed in stage 2. Catch considerations are examined, in particular to determine whether the total international catches had exceeded the ICES' advice 2 or more times in the previous 3 years for which data were available. Where catches had habitually exceeded the advice, unless remedial measures to prevent this were included in the written records of the Negotiation Agreements, the TAC was considered to have failed at stage 2.

In the summary of evaluations that follow, only those TACs which pass stage 2 are considered to have been set in line with the advice and awarded a 'pass'.

3.2. Consideration of quota transfers

For this assessment, the total catch limit agreed was considered as the Total Agreed TAC as negotiated in bilateral UK-EU, trilateral UK-EU-Norway, NEAFC and coastal States negotiating forums. In some instances, quota transfers for additional, specific species were agreed outside these forums. In these cases, additional quota transferred to the UK were added to the TAC to obtain the total catch limit agreed.

At the time of writing this report, negotiations between the UK and the Faroe Islands for 2025 have not yet concluded, so any upcoming quota transfers from the Faroe Islands to the UK have not been considered in this year's assessment. Only quota transfers from

Norway to the UK were considered, using the published written records of fisheries consultations between the UK and Norway[4].

3.3. Consideration of area-misalignment with negligible effects

The misalignment of ICES' stock areas and TAC units is considerable, often whole ICES' Divisions. However, there are a number of cases where the misalignment of ICES' stock boundaries and TAC areas is much less pronounced involving a few ICES statistical rectangles (or part rectangles) and the catches in these portions are considered to be relatively trivial. In these cases, although flagged as 'Fragmented', no consideration is made of the exploitation of the neighbouring stock. For example, the HAD/5BC6A TAC covers Division 6.a and UK and international waters of Division 5.b. However, the area of sea covered by UK and international waters of Division 5.b is a small fraction of Division 5.b and catches in UK and international waters of Division 5.b are considered to be negligible in relation to the total international landings from Division 5.b.

3.4. Third country catches

One issue that emerged during the MSY methodology review process was the need to consider catches from ICES' stocks by countries not encompassed by the UK-EU, UK-EU-Norway or coastal States TAC setting process (termed third country catches). In an ideal situation, international agreements on all fishing opportunities for all stocks would be achieved, but in the absence of such agreements one science-based approach to this issue would be to quantify the portion of the ICES' advised tonnage that is expected to be caught by the vessels of third countries before determining what would be a sustainable level for the UK-EU/UK-EU-Norway/coastal States TACs. This could either be some projection of absolute tonnage, or an assumption that the proportion of third country catches recorded over some recent historic period will continue into the future. Another alternative could be directly requesting that each third country provides their own estimates. A scientific exercise was undertaken to explore what the potential implications for UK-EU/UK-EU-Norway/coastal States TAC setting might be when considering the effects of third country catches. This scientific exercise requires further exploration to determine the most reliable approach to forecasting third country catches and should be undertaken independently from negotiations around TACs or future sharing arrangements.

[4] Agreed record of fisheries consultations between the United Kingdom and Norway for 2025, 17 December 2024.

Table 2 contains a notation as to which TACs we currently believe this issue affects. Third country catches were not considered in stage 1 of the current assessment method. For those TACs going through stage 2, total international landings (which include third country catches) are considered when assessing whether catches exceed the scientific advice.

3.5. Consultative elements

Several TACs listed in the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) are classed as 'consultative'. This is where one party has an historical fishing interest, but the body of water referred to lies entirely (or to all practical extent entirely) in the jurisdiction of the other party. In these instances, the TACs will be set unilaterally by the party with jurisdiction. Several of these consultative TACs are linked to subset or pooled subset TACs of interest to the UK and therefore potentially affect the scoring of alignment with the ICES' advice for TACs that form part of the baseline set. The process of scoring TACs resulting from the MSY methodology review process demands that we look at the totality of all TACs that draw on the stocks. However, the publication of consultative elements has sometimes been many weeks after conclusion of negotiations, and it was therefore necessary to devise an approach that only used the published TACs. In these instances, the maximum advice-compliant TAC for the management unit of interest was defined as the advice multiplied by the proportion implied by the 2020 EU TAC and Quota Regulation (TQR). The 2020 TACs for a number of species already included a deduction for fleet sectors that had exemptions from the Landing Obligation. In these instances, the implied total catches for those TACs in 2020 were back calculated using the deduction calculations published by the EU Commission.

During the negotiations for the 2023 TACs, the tonnages to be set for the Consultative elements were shared during the negotiations and therefore the scoring methods used these actual tonnages rather than the historic share method devised for the scoring of 2022 TACs.

3.6. Stocks with advice given for the first time since signing the TCA

Another issue not considered within the MSY methodology review was how assessment should operate where ICES provides advice for the first time. This could arise for a stock unit where advice had not previously been requested, where data improvements allow for advice to be generated or where ICES' stock definitions change. For instance, four-spot megrim (ldb.27.7b-k8abd) received advice from ICES for the first time in 2021 (for catches in 2022). As part of the 'subset pooled' category, catches for all contributing stocks should be compared to their advice for the most recent 3 years of concurrent advice and catch. In

the current implementation, where a contributing stock cannot be assessed in this manner there is no stage 2 consideration made for that stock. Alternative approaches could include either not scoring the TAC on the basis that there is insufficient evidence to suggest that catches are likely be no more than the advice, or to compare recent catch history with the new advice as a proxy for the concurrent catch-advice comparison. Any future development of TAC assessment method for this situation has the potential to impact both retrospective and future scoring.

4. Determining the baseline suite of TACs

To facilitate direct comparison between the outcomes of different years it is desirable to have a consistent number of TACs. It is inevitable that some changes may occur through time as management units evolve and the baseline may require periodic revision, however no changes to the baseline have been made for this report.

The Trade and Cooperation Agreement lists 123 quotas which link to stocks in which both the UK and EU have an interest. The UK has access to 104 of these TACs. Only those TACs negotiated in bilateral UK-EU, trilateral UK-EU-Norway, NEAFC or coastal States forums are considered in scope for this report.

Five of the TACs listed in the Trade and Cooperation Agreement are not included in the scoring. Deep-sea Sharks (TCA 19, DWS/56789-) is not included because these are a prohibited species (meaning that landing them is illegal). Porcupine Bank Nephrops (TCA 39, NEP/*07U16) is excluded because this is a sub-clause of the main Area 7 Nephrops TAC (TCA 40, NEP/07.) and would otherwise be double counting. North Sea Sandeel Sea (TCA 57, SAN/2A3A4), North Sea Sprat (TCA 66, SPR/2AC4-C) and English Channel Sprat (TCA 67, SPR/7DE.) are all agreed later during the fishing year and therefore are excluded from this assessment.

The trilateral UK-EU-Norway negotiation agrees 4 TACs for North Sea herring of which only the ‘A-fleet’ (the main human consumption fleet) and ‘B-fleet’ (bycatches) are relevant to the UK. The UK-EU portion of the A-fleet TAC is then split into 2 TCA quotas (TCA 80 and 81). As the negotiated agreement is at the A-fleet level, and ICES gives advice for the A-fleet, a single scoring is applied to the trilateral agreement and not the 2 TCA quotas. This same rationale of a single scoring applies to the TAC for North-East Atlantic Mackerel which is agreed at the coastal States meetings with the UK-EU portion then split into 2 TACs (TCA 85 and 86).

The result of addressing the above issues means that there are 83 TACs that are considered, only 79 of which are included in the baseline due to 4 having no scientific advice at the time of this publication. The summary of evaluations is given as the percentage (%) of passes determined as the number of stage 2 passes divided by the number of TACs linked to scientific advice (79).

Table 2 lists the TACs that are evaluated along with their advice basis, mapping category, negotiation forum and inclusion in baseline applicable at the time of publication.

5. Assessment of negotiated outcomes for 2025

This evaluation of the negotiated outcomes for 2025 follows the principles set out in the MSY methodology review (Nash and others, 2021).

Table 1 provides the results of the assessment for 2025 and the pass and fail scores for stage 1 and stage 2. The basis of type 2 fails is categorised in the last column of the table as follows:

a) total international catches (which include third country catches) of one or more of the stocks linked with the TAC setting process have exceeded the ICES' advice 2 or more times in the most recent 3 years for which ICES has published data
b) there is no sharing agreement in place even if TACs have been agreed

Succinctly, type 2 fails represent those cases where either there is a history of exceeding ICES' advice or sufficient management measures are not in place.

Table 3 gives the final evaluation per year for the suite of baseline TACs from 2020 to 2025. It summarises the outcome of this year and last year's assessments and provides a comparison of the negotiated outcomes over the last 6 years.

TACs outside the baseline are presented at the bottom of each table.

For 2025 TACs were agreed in the UK-EU negotiations, trilateral negotiations between the UK, EU and Norway, and coastal States negotiations. Table 2 shows the 84 TACs that were agreed in total this year.

Scientific advice on catch opportunities provided by ICES related to 80 of these 84 TACs. The remaining 4 TACs came from combinations of species and TAC areas for which there was no scientific advice. One TAC (Porcupine Bank Nephrops) is not included in the baseline list for reasons explained in section 4; leaving 79 TACs to score.

Of the baseline list of 79 TACs, 36 were considered to be set in line with the scientific advice (46%), 2 could not be scored and 41 failed (52%). Breaking this down to the advice type (MSY or PA), 27 out of 54 TACs (50%) based on MSY advice were set in line with the advice and 9 out of 25 (36%) TACs based on PA advice (or a combination of PA and MSY advice) were set in line with the advice.

The total number of baseline TACs passing the assessment increased annually from 2021 until 2024, between 2024 and 2025 there was no change in the number of baseline TACs passing the assessment.

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total number of baseline TACs passing the assessment	27	26	27	32	36	36

5.1. TACs that have changed scores from 2024 to 2025

Sixteen TACs saw their scores change between 2024 and 2025. A brief explanation is given for each change in assessment.

5.1.1. TCA 7 (ARU/567, Greater Silver Smelt (Western))

Change: fail to pass

ARU/567 is a fragmented TAC requiring stage 2 scoring. The contributing stocks are aru.27.5b6a and aru.27.6b7-1012. Previously, in 2020 and 2021 catches of aru.27.5b6a were higher than the advice, with 2 out of 3 years exceeding advice for one of the contributing stocks meaning it received a stage 2 fail in 2024.

However, according to the latest catch data for aru.27.5b6a for 2023 and 2022 catches were below the ICES advice set, with catches only exceeding the advice in 2021. Similarly, for aru.27.6b7-1012 catches only exceeded the advice in 2022, hence the TAC now receiving a pass.

5.1.2. TCA 8 (BLI/12INT-, Blue Ling (International 12))

Change: fail to pass

BLI/12INT- is a fragmented TAC. In 2024 it received a stage 1 fail as the negotiated TAC exceeded the scientific advice of 0. However, for 2025 the TAC was set in line with the scientific advice which is now above zero and catches of the bli.27.5b6712 are consistently below the advice.

5.1.3. TCA 23 (HAD/7X7A34, Haddock (Celtic Sea))

Change: pass to fail

The negotiated TAC for 2025 was set above the scientific advice for had.27.7b-k, hence becoming a stage 1 fail.

5.1.4. TCA 24 (HER/07A/MM, Herring (Irish Sea))

Change: pass to fail

HER/07A/MM is a direct match with the her.27.nirs stock. In 2024 the TAC was set in line with the ICES advice. For 2025 ICES issued MSY advice for the Irish Sea (her.27.nirs) stock but also gave 0 catch advice when precautionary considerations were made. ICES advice for 2025 now explicitly includes a precautionary consideration to reflect the fact that herring caught in the Irish Sea comprise a mix of fish spawned in the Irish Sea and the Celtic Sea. Given ICES mixed-stock advice considerations, it is more appropriate to score this TAC in line with the precautionary considerations to protect the her.27.irls stock which received 0 catch advice for 2025. The scoring for this TAC is therefore based on the 0 catch precautionary advice level while the TAC was set at the MSY advice level, hence the fail.

5.1.5. TCA 28 and 29 (HKE/2AC4-C, Hake (North Sea), HKE/571214, Hake (Western))

Change: pass to fail

HKE/2AC4-C and HKE/571214, along with HKE/03A and HKE/8ABDE are subset TACs formed from the hke.27.3a46-8abd stock. In 2024 the sum of the 4 TACs was set at the level of ICES advice and no additional quota was transferred in from Norway in the record of fisheries consultation between the United Kingdom and Norway for 2024 . The 2 UK-EU TACs in the baseline therefore receive a stage 1 pass with no requirement for stage 2 considerations due to the subset classification. Meanwhile in 2025 the sum of the 4 associated TACs was above the advice provided by ICES, hence the stage 1 fail.

5.1.6. TCA 30 (JAX/2A-14, Horse Mackerel (Western))

Change: fail to pass

JAX/2A-14 is a fragmented TAC. Both JAX/2A-14 and JAX/08c are fragmented from the stock hom.27.2a3a4a5b6a7a-ce-k8. In 2024 the ICES advice was set at 0 and the negotiated TACs exceeded this advice. For 2025 the sum of the associated TACs was set in line with the ICES advice which was above zero.

5.1.7. TCA 31 (JAX/4BC7D, Horse Mackerel (Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel))

Change: pass to fail

JAX/4BC7D is a direct match with the hom.27.4bc7d stock. The ICES advice for 2025 is 0, however the negotiated TAC was set above the scientific advice resulting in the fail.

5.1.8. TCA 34 and 35 (LEZ/2AC4-C, Megrims (North Sea), LEZ/56-14, Megrims (West of Scotland))

Change: fail to pass

LEZ/2AC4-C and LEZ/56-14 are pooled subset TACs, formed from the lez.27.4a6a and the lez.27.6b stocks. In 2024, the catches of lez.27.6b were above the advice in 2020 and 2021 with 2 out of 3 years exceeding advice for one of the contributing stocks. For 2025 when added together the advice for the associated stocks aligns with the negotiated TACs, meaning a stage 1 pass. Catches of both lez.27.4a6a and the lez.27.6b are consistently (2021- 2023) below the advice, apart from in 2021 catches of lez.27.6b were above the advice. Therefore, the TACs now receive a stage 2 pass.

5.1.9. TCA 42 (NOP/2A3A4., Norway Pout (North Sea))

Change: pass to fail

NOP/2A3A4 is a direct match. The ICES advice provided for nop.27.3a4 in 2025 is 0, the negotiated TAC exceeds this, hence the stage 1 fail.

5.1.10. TCA 52 (PRA/2AC4-C, Northern Prawn (North Sea))

Change: fail to pass

PRA/2AC4-C is a direct match with pra.27.4a. In 2024 the negotiated TAC was set above the ICES advice of 0. For the year 2025 both the ICES advice and TAC have been set at 0.

5.1.11. TCA 59 (SOL/07A., Sole (Irish Sea))

Change: fail to pass

SOL/07A is a direct match with sol.27.7a. In 2024, the negotiated TAC exceeded the ICES advice of 0. For the year 2025 the negotiated TAC was set in line with the ICES advice.

5.1.12. TCA 61 (SOL/07E., Sole (Western Channel))

Change: fail to pass

SOL/07E is a direct match with sol.27.7e. In 2024, the negotiated TAC exceeded the ICES advice, for the year 2025 the negotiated TAC was set in line with the ICES advice.

5.1.13. TCA 48 and 83 [TN] (POK/56-14, Saithe (West of Scotland), POK/2C3A4, Saithe (North Sea))

Change: pass to fail

POK/56-14 is a fragmented TAC. Both POK/56-14 and POK/2C3A4 are fragmented from pok.27.3a46. For 2025 the negotiated TAC was set in line with the scientific advice, hence a stage 1 pass. However, catch data exceeded the catch advice for pok.27.3a46 in 2022 and 2023, meaning it is a stage 2 fail as for 2 of the past 3 years catches have exceeded the advice.

5.2. Rationale for stage 2 fails by TAC

Stage 2 considerations include a review of historic international catches compared to ICES advice. A stage 2 pass requires that catches have been at or less than the advice for 2 of the most recent 3 years for which data are available.

5.2.1. TCA 3 and 4 (ANF/2AC4-C, Anglerfish (North Sea) and ANF/56-14, Anglerfish (West of Scotland))

ANF/2AC4-C and ANF/56-14 are classed as fragmented, due to substantial third country catches from the parent stock, and therefore require stage 2 scoring. For the contributing stock anf.27.3a46, the past 3 years of available data (2021- 2023) shows that catches have been higher than the corresponding ICES advice for all 3years. In 2024 these TACs did not go through stage 2 scoring as they failed at stage 1.

5.2.2. TCA 5 and 6, (ARU/1/2., Greater silver smelt 1,2 and ARU/3A4-C, Greater silver smelt North sea)

ARU/1/2 and ARU/3A4-C are classed as fragmented therefore requiring stage 2 scoring. For the contributing stock aru.27.123a4, the past 3 years of available data (2021- 2023) shows that catches have been higher than the corresponding ICES advice for all 3 years.

5.2.3. TCA 18 (DGS/15X14, Spurdog (Western))

There is no sharing agreement but historically has been exploited by a range of countries. Although the UK-EU TAC setting allowed for a certain level of third country catch, until there are sufficient years of observations to be confident that this allowance is sufficient to keep total international catches below the level of the advice, this TAC will be scored as a fail.

5.2.4. TCA 40 (NEP/07., Nephrops (7))

NEP/07 is a pooled TAC covering 8 stocks. Catch data for nep.fu.17 were consistently above the ICES catch advice for the years 2021, 2022 and 2023. Catch data for nep.fu.22 were above the ICES catch advice for the years 2021 and 2022. Landings data for nep.27.7outFU were consistently above the ICES advice for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022.

5.2.5. TCA 41 (NEP/2AC4-C, Nephrops (North Sea))

NEP/2AC4-C is a pooled TAC covering 9 stocks. Catches were above ICES advice for nep.fu.6 in 2021, 2022 and 2023. Landings from nep.fu.33 were above landings advice in 2020 and 2022 and landings from nep.fu.34 and nep.27.4outFU were above landings advice for each of the years 2021, 2022 and 2023.

5.2.6. TCA 55 and 56, (RNG/5B67-, Roundnose Grenadier (Western) and RNG/8X14-, Roundnose Grenadier (8,9,10,12,14))

RNG/5B67- and RNG/8X14- are classed as fragmented, the associated stocks are rng.27.5b6712b, rng.27.5a10b12ac14b and rng.27.1245a8914ab. In 2022 and 2021 catches of rng.27.1245a8914ab were higher than the ICES advice, resulting in a stage 2 fail.

5.2.7. TCA 68, 69 and 70, (SRX/07D., Skates and Rays (Eastern Channel), SRX/2AC4-C, Skates and Rays (North Sea) and SRX/67AKXD, (Skates and Rays (Western))

These TACs are comprised of several contributing stocks, 1 or more of which had catches which exceeded the advice 2 or more times in the past 3 years.

5.2.8. TCA 75 (WHG/56-14, Whiting (West of Scotland))

WHG/56-14 is a fragmented TAC, the associated stocks are whg.27.6a and whg.27.6b. For the years 2021, 2022 and 2023 landings data for whg.27.6b exceeded the landings advice.

5.2.9. TCA 76 (WHG/7X7A-C, Whiting (Celtic Sea))

WHG/7X7A-C is a pooled subset TAC, the associated stocks are whg.27.47d and whg.27.7b-ce-k. For the years 2021, 2022 and 2023 catches for whg.27.7b-ce-k were above the catch advice.

5.2.10. TCA 48 and 83 (POK/56-14, Saithe (West of Scotland), POK/2C3A4, Saithe (North Sea))

POK/56-14 and POK/2C3A4 are fragmented, the associated stock is pok.27.3a46. Catches of pok.27.3a46 exceeded catch advice for the years 2022 and 2023.

5.2.11. TCA 85&86, 87 and 96, (MAC/2A34., Mackerel (North Sea & Western), WHB/1X14, Blue Whiting (Northern) and HER/1/2-, Herring (ASH))

Although the TAC is agreed in coastal States negotiations, there is no sharing agreement and the contracting parties declare unilateral TACs which are in total are in excess of the total TAC.

5.2.1. TCA 100 (RED/51214D, Redfish [Deep Pelagic] (5,12,14))

RED/51214D is a fragmented TAC and the associated stock is reb.2127.dp. There is no international agreement on TACs and the Russian Federation declares a unilateral TAC. Following the process for stage 2 scoring RED/51214D receives a stage 2 fail as in 2021, 2022 and 2023 the catch data exceeded the 0 catch advice for the stock.

5.2.2. TCA 101 (RED/51214S, Redfish [Shallow Pelagic] (5,12,14))

RED/51214S is a fragmented TAC and the associated stock is reb.2127.sp. There is no international agreement on TACs and the Russian Federation declares a unilateral TAC. Following the process for stage 2 scoring RED/51214S receives a stage 2 fail as in 2018 and 2020 (the most recent 3 year period with catch data available on the ICES advice sheet) the catches for each year exceeded the catch advice.

Table 1: Evaluation of the 2025 negotiated TACs.

Rationales for a stage 2 fail are represented in the last column of table 1 by the following letters:

- ‘a’ means total international catches (which include third country catches) of one or more of the stocks linked with the TAC setting process have exceeded the ICES’ advice 2 or more times in the most recent 3 years for which ICES has published data
- ‘b’ means there is no sharing agreement in place even where TACs have been agreed.

Type 2 fails represent those cases where either there is a history of exceeding ICES advice or sufficient management measures are not in place.

Table key:

- [TN] means the assessment uses the internationally agreed TAC from the Written Record of the tri-lateral negotiations. The UK-EU TAC codes listed may only form a subset of the total international TAC
- [CS] means the assessment uses the internationally agreed TAC from the Written Record of the coastal States negotiations. The UK-EU TAC codes listed may only form a subset of the total international TAC
- [OB] means TACs which are outside the baseline suite of TACs
- [z] means ‘not applicable’
- [NAP] means no analysis possible

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Stage 1	Stage 2	Final	Stage 2 fail rationale
1	ALF/3X14-	Alfonsinos (3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12,14)	pass	pass	Pass	[Z]
2	ANF/07.	Anglerfish (7)	pass	pass	Pass	[Z]
3	ANF/2AC4-C	Anglerfish (North Sea)	pass	fail	Fail	a
4	ANF/56-14	Anglerfish (West of Scotland)	pass	fail	Fail	a
5	ARU/1/2.	Greater silver smelt 1,2	pass	fail	Fail	a
6	ARU/3A4-C	Greater silver smelt (North sea)	pass	fail	Fail	a
7	ARU/567.	Greater Silver Smelt (Western)	pass	pass	Pass	[Z]
8	BLI/12INT-	Blue Ling (International 12)	pass	pass	Pass	[Z]
9	BLI/24-	Blue Ling (North Sea)	fail	[Z]	Fail	[Z]
10	BLI/5B67-	Blue Ling (Western)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
11	BOR/678-	Boarfish (Western)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
12	BSF/56712-	Black Scabbardfish (Western)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
13	COD/07A.	Cod (Irish Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Stage 1	Stage 2	Final	Stage 2 fail rationale
15	COD/5BE6A	Cod (West of Scotland)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
16	COD/5W6-14	Rockall Cod	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
17	COD/7XAD34	Cod (Celtic Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
18	DGS/15X14	Spurdog (Western)	pass	fail	fail	a
20	HAD/07A.	Haddock (Irish Sea)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
22	HAD/6B1214	Haddock (Rockall)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
23	HAD/7X7A34	Haddock (Celtic Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
24	HER/07A/MM	Herring (Irish Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
25	HER/5B6ANB	Herring (West of Scotland)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
27	HER/7G-K.	Herring (Celtic Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
28	HKE/2AC4-C	Hake (North Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
29	HKE/571214	Hake (Western)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
30	JAX/2A-14	Horse Mackerel (Western)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
31	JAX/4BC7D	Horse Mackerel (Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
32	L/W/2AC4-C	Lemon Sole and Witch (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	a
33	LEZ/07.	Megrims (7)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
34	LEZ/2AC4-C	Megrims (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
35	LEZ/56-14	Megrims (West of Scotland)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
36	LIN/03A-C.	Ling 3a	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
37	LIN/04-C.	Ling (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
38	LIN/6X14.	Ling (Western)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
40	NEP/07.	Nephrops (7)	pass	fail	fail	a
41	NEP/2AC4-C	Nephrops (North Sea)	pass	fail	fail	a
42	NOP/2A3A4.	Norway Pout (North Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
43	PLE/07A.	Plaice (Irish Sea)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
45	PLE/7DE.	Plaice (English Channel)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
46	PLE/7FG.	Plaice (7fg)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
47	PLE/7HJK.	Plaice (7hjk)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
50	POL/07.	Pollack (7)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
51	POL/56-14	Pollack (West of Scotland)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
52	PRA/2AC4-C	Northern Prawn (North Sea)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
53	RJE/7FG.	Small-eyed Ray (7fg)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Stage 1	Stage 2	Final	Stage 2 fail rationale
54	RJU/7DE.	Undulate Ray (English Channel)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
55	RNG/5B67-	Roundnose Grenadier (Western)	pass	fail	fail	a
56	RNG/8X14-	Roundnose Grenadier (8,9,10,12,14)	pass	fail	fail	a
58	SBR/678-	Red Seabream (Western)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
59	SOL/07A.	Sole (Irish Sea)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
60	SOL/07D.	Sole (Eastern Channel)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
61	SOL/07E.	Sole (Western Channel)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
62	SOL/24-C.	Sole (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
64	SOL/7FG.	Sole (7fg)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
65	SOL/7HJK.	Sole (7hjk)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
68	SRX/07D.	Skates and Rays (Eastern Channel)	pass	fail	fail	a
69	SRX/2AC4-C	Skates and Rays (North Sea)	pass	fail	fail	a
70	SRX/67AKXD	Skates and Rays (Western)	pass	fail	fail	a
71	T/B/2AC4-C	Turbot and Brill (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
72	USK/04-C.	Tusk (North Sea)	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[Z]
73	USK/567EI.	Tusk (Western)	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[Z]
74	WHG/07A.	Whiting (Irish Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
75	WHG/56-14	Whiting (West of Scotland)	pass	fail	fail	a
76	WHG/7X7A-C	Whiting (Celtic Sea)	fail	fail	fail	a
14 [TN]	COD/07D.	Cod (Eastern Channel)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
21 [TN]	HAD/5BC6A.	Haddock (West of Scotland)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
48 [TN]	POK/56-14	Saithe (West of Scotland)	pass	fail	fail	a
77 [TN]	COD/2A3AX4	Cod (North Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
78 [TN]	HAD/2AC4.	Haddock (North Sea)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
79 [TN]	HER/2A47DX	Herring (North Sea bycatch)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
80 & 81 [TN]	HER/4AB.	A-fleet Herring (North Sea, Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
82 [TN]	PLE/2A3AX4	Plaice (North Sea)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
83 [TN]	POK/2C3A4	Saithe (North Sea)	pass	fail	fail	a
84 [TN]	WHG/2AC4.	Whiting (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Stage 1	Stage 2	Final	Stage 2 fail rationale
85 & 86 [CS]	MAC/2A34.	Mackerel (North Sea & Western)	pass	fail	fail	b
87 [CS]	WHB/1X14	Blue Whiting (Northern)	pass	fail	fail	b
96 [CS]	HER/1/2-	Herring (ASH)	pass	fail	fail	b
100	RED/51214D	Redfish [Deep Pelagic] (5,12,14)	pass	fail	fail	b
101	RED/51214S	Redfish [Shallow Pelagic] (5,12,14)	pass	fail	fail	b
26 [OB]	HER/7EF.	Herring (Western Channel and Bristol Channel)	no advice	no advice	no advice	[Z]
44 [OB]	PLE/56-14	Plaice (West of Scotland)	no advice	no advice	no advice	[Z]
49 [OB]	POK/7/3411	Saithe (Celtic Sea)	no advice	no advice	no advice	[Z]
63 [OB]	SOL/56-14	Sole (West of Scotland)	no advice	no advice	no advice	[Z]

Table 2. TACs included in the scoring.

The mapping category column follows the TAC mapping classification used in 2021. 1= direct match, 2=wide, 3=pooled, 4=subset, 5= subset pooled, 6=fragmented. See section 3.2 for description.

Advice type is classed as either maximum sustainable yield (MSY), precautionary approach (PA) or management plan (MP). Where advice is generated from a combination of MSY and PA sources, the classification is based on the stocks which provide the greatest tonnage to the advice.

Table key:

- [TN] means the assessment uses the internationally agreed TAC from the written record of the tri-lateral negotiations. The UK-EU TAC codes listed may only form a subset of the total international TAC
- [CS] means the assessment uses the internationally agreed TAC from the written record of the coastal States negotiations. The UK-EU TAC codes listed may only form a subset of the total international TAC
- [TCC] means TACs where catches by third countries are not always considered in the TAC setting process
- [SC] means Porcupine Bank Nephrops (NEP/*07U16) is a sub-clause of the main area 7 Nephrops TAC (NEP/07.) and is excluded from the assessment to avoid double-counting
- [z] means ‘not applicable’
- [c] means categorisation of combined advice - category assigned on the basis of the stock(s) which provides the greatest proportion of tonnage

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Principal advice type	Mapping category	Included in baseline suite of TACS?	Negotiation forum
1 [TCC]	ALF/3X14-	Alfonsinos (3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12,14)	PA	6	Yes	UK-EU
2	ANF/07.	Anglerfish (7)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU
3 [TCC]	ANF/2AC4-C	Anglerfish (North Sea)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
4 [TCC]	ANF/56-14	Anglerfish (West of Scotland)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
5 [TCC]	ARU/1/2.	Greater silver smelt 1,2	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
6 [TCC]	ARU/3A4-C	Greater silver smelt North Sea	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
7 [TCC]	ARU/567.	Greater Silver Smelt (Western)	MSY [c]	6	Yes	UK-EU
8 [TCC]	BLI/12INT-	Blue Ling (International 12)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
9 [TCC]	BLI/24-	Blue Ling (North Sea)	PA	6	Yes	UK-EU
10 [TCC]	BLI/5B67-	Blue Ling (Western)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
11	BOR/678-	Boarfish (Western)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
12	BSF/56712-	Black Scabbardfish (Western)	PA	6	Yes	UK-EU
13	COD/07A.	Cod (Irish Sea)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU
15	COD/5BE6A	Cod (West of Scotland)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
16 [TCC]	COD/5W6-14	Rockall Cod	PA	6	Yes	UK-EU
17	COD/7XAD34	Cod (Celtic Sea)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU
18	DGS/15X14	Spurdog (Western)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
20	HAD/07A.	Haddock (Irish Sea)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU
22 [TCC]	HAD/6B1214	Haddock (Rockall)	MSY	2	Yes	UK-EU
23	HAD/7X7A34	Haddock (Celtic Sea)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU
24	HER/07A/MM	Herring (Irish Sea)	PA	1	Yes	UK-EU
25	HER/5B6ANB	Herring (West of Scotland)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
27	HER/7G-K.	Herring (Celtic Sea)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
28 [TCC]	HKE/2AC4-C	Hake (North Sea)	MSY	4	Yes	UK-EU
29 [TCC]	HKE/571214	Hake (Western)	MSY	4	Yes	UK-EU

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Principal advice type	Mapping category	Included in baseline suite of TACS?	Negotiation forum
30 [TCC]	JAX/2A-14	Horse Mackerel (Western)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
31	JAX/4BC7D	Horse Mackerel (Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
32	L/W/2AC4-C	Lemon Sole and Witch (North Sea)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
33	LEZ/07.	Megrims (7)	MSY [c]	5	Yes	UK-EU
34 [TCC]	LEZ/2AC4-C	Megrims (North Sea)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU
35 [TCC]	LEZ/56-14	Megrims (West of Scotland)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU
36 [TCC]	LIN/03A-C.	Ling 3a	PA	6	Yes	UK-EU
37 [TCC]	LIN/04-C.	Ling (North Sea)	PA	6	Yes	UK-EU
38 [TCC]	LIN/6X14.	Ling (Western)	PA	6	Yes	UK-EU
40	NEP/07.	Nephrops (7)	MSY [c]	3	Yes	UK-EU
41	NEP/2AC4-C	Nephrops (North Sea)	PA [c]	3	Yes	UK-EU
42	NOP/2A3A4.	Norway Pout (North Sea)	MSY	2	Yes	UK-EU
43	PLE/07A.	Plaice (Irish Sea)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
45	PLE/7DE.	Plaice (English Channel)	MSY	3	Yes	UK-EU
46	PLE/7FG.	Plaice (7fg)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
47	PLE/7HJK.	Plaice (7hjk)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
50	POL/07.	Pollack (7)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
51	POL/56-14	Pollack (West of Scotland)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
52	PRA/2AC4-C	Northern Prawn (North Sea)	PA	6	Yes	UK-EU
53	RJE/7FG.	Small-eyed Ray (7fg)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
54	RJU/7DE.	Undulate Ray (English Channel)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
55 [TCC]	RNG/5B67-	Roundnose Grenadier (Western)	PA	6	Yes	UK-EU
56 [TCC]	RNG/8X14-	Roundnose Grenadier (8,9,10,12,14)	PA	6	Yes	UK-EU
58	SBR/678-	Red Seabream (Western)	PA	1	Yes	UK-EU

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Principal advice type	Mapping category	Included in baseline suite of TACS?	Negotiation forum
59	SOL/07A.	Sole (Irish Sea)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
60	SOL/07D.	Sole (Eastern Channel)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
61	SOL/07E.	Sole (Western Channel)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
62	SOL/24-C.	Sole (North Sea)	MSY	2	Yes	UK-EU
64	SOL/7FG.	Sole (7fg)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
65	SOL/7HJK.	Sole (7hjk)	PA	1	Yes	UK-EU
68	SRX/07D.	Skates and Rays (Eastern Channel)	MSY [c]	6	Yes	UK-EU
69	SRX/2AC4-C	Skates and Rays (North Sea)	MSY [c]	6	Yes	UK-EU
70	SRX/67AKXD	Skates and Rays (Western)	MSY [c]	6	Yes	UK-EU
71	T/B/2AC4-C	Turbot and Brill (North Sea)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
72 [TCC]	USK/04-C.	Tusk (North Sea)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
73 [TCC]	USK/567EI.	Tusk (Western)	MSY [c]	6	Yes	UK-EU
74	WHG/07A.	Whiting (Irish Sea)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU
75	WHG/56-14	Whiting (West of Scotland)	MSY [c]	6	Yes	UK-EU
76	WHG/7X7A-C	Whiting (Celtic Sea)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU
14 [TN]	COD/07D.	Cod (Eastern Channel)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU-NO
21 [TN]	HAD/5BC6A	Haddock (West of Scotland)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU-NO
48 [TN]	POK/56-14	Saithe (West of Scotland)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU-NO
77 [TN]	COD/2A3AX4	Cod (North Sea)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU-NO
78 [TN]	HAD/2AC4.	Haddock (North Sea)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU-NO
79 [TN]	North Sea Herring (B-Fleet): HER/2A47DX	Herring (North Sea bycatch)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU-NO
80 and 81 [TN]	North Sea Herring (A-Fleet): HER/4AB. and HER/4CXB7D	A-fleet Herring (North Sea, Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU-NO
82 [TN]	PLE/2A3AX4	Plaice (North Sea)	MSY	4	Yes	UK-EU-NO
83 [TN]	POK/2C3A4	Saithe (North Sea)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU-NO

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Principal advice type	Mapping category	Included in baseline suite of TACS?	Negotiation forum
84 [TN]	WHG/2AC4.	Whiting (North Sea)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU-NO
85 and 86 [CS]	Coastal States North-East Atlantic Mackerel: MAC/2A34. and MAC/2CX14-	Mackerel (North Sea and Western)	MSY	6	Yes	Coastal States
87 [CS]	Coastal States North-East Atlantic Blue Whiting: WHB/1X14	Blue Whiting (Northern)	MP	6	Yes	Coastal States
96 [CS]	Coastal States Atlanto-Scandian Herring: HER/1/2-	Herring (ASH)	MP	6	Yes	Coastal States
100	RED/51214D	Redfish [Deep Pelagic] (5,12,14)	MSY	6	Yes	NEAFC
101	RED/51214S	Redfish [Shallow Pelagic] (5,12,14)	PA	6	Yes	NEAFC
26	HER/7EF.	Herring (Western Channel and Bristol Channel)	[z]	[z]	No	UK-EU
39 [SC]	NEP/07U16	Nephrops (Porcupine Bank)	MSY	1	No	UK-EU
44	PLE/56-14	Plaice (West of Scotland)	[z]	[z]	No	UK-EU
49	POK/7/3411	Saithe (Celtic Sea)	[z]	[z]	No	UK-EU
63	SOL/56-14	Sole (West of Scotland)	[z]	[z]	No	UK-EU

5.3. Comparison of results from 2020 to 2025

Table 3. Comparison of evaluation for the Baseline TACs from 2020 to 2025.

Table key:

- [NAP] means no analysis possible
- [TN] means the assessment uses the internationally agreed TAC from the Written Record of the tri-lateral negotiations. The UK-EU TAC codes listed may only form a subset of the total international TAC
- [CS] means the assessment uses the internationally agreed TAC from the Written Record of the coastal States negotiations. The UK-EU TAC codes listed may only form a subset of the total international TAC

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1	ALF/3X14-	Alfonsinos (3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12,14)	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
2	ANF/07.	Anglerfish (7)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
3	ANF/2AC4-C	Anglerfish (North Sea)	pass	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
4	ANF/56-14	Anglerfish (West of Scotland)	pass	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
5	ARU/1/2.	Greater silver smelt 1,2	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
6	ARU/3A4-C	Greater silver smelt North sea	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
7	ARU/567.	Greater Silver Smelt (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass
8	BLI/12INT-	Blue Ling (International 12)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass
9	BLI/24-	Blue Ling (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
10	BLI/5B67-	Blue Ling (Western)	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
11	BOR/678-	Boarfish (Western)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
12	BSF/56712-	Black Scabbardfish (Western)	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass
13	COD/07A.	Cod (Irish Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
15	COD/5BE6A	Cod (West of Scotland)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
16	COD/5W6-14	Rockall Cod	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
17	COD/7XAD34	Cod (Celtic Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
18	DGS/15X14	Spurdog (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
20	HAD/07A.	Haddock (Irish Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
22	HAD/6B1214	Haddock (Rockall)	pass	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass
23	HAD/7X7A34	Haddock (Celtic Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail
24	HER/07A/MM	Herring (Irish Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail
25	HER/5B6ANB	Herring (West of Scotland)	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass
27	HER/7G-K.	Herring (Celtic Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
28	HKE/2AC4-C	Hake (North Sea)	pass	pass	fail	fail	pass	fail
29	HKE/571214	Hake (Western)	pass	pass	fail	fail	pass	fail
30	JAX/2A-14	Horse Mackerel (Western)	pass	pass	pass	fail	fail	pass

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
31	JAX/4BC7D	Horse Mackerel (Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail
32	L/W/2AC4-C	Lemon Sole and Witch (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass
33	LEZ/07.	Megrims (7)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
34	LEZ/2AC4-C	Megrims (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass
35	LEZ/56-14	Megrims (West of Scotland)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass
36	LIN/03A-C.	Ling 3a	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass
37	LIN/04-C.	Ling (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass
38	LIN/6X14.	Ling (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass
40	NEP/07.	Nephrops (7)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
41	NEP/2AC4-C	Nephrops (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
42	NOP/2A3A4.	Norway Pout (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	fail
43	PLE/07A.	Plaice (Irish Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
45	PLE/7DE.	Plaice (English Channel)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
46	PLE/7FG.	Plaice (7fg)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
47	PLE/7HJK.	Plaice (7hjk)	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass
50	POL/07.	Pollack (7)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
51	POL/56-14	Pollack (West of Scotland)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
52	PRA/2AC4-C	Northern Prawn (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass
53	RJE/7FG.	Small-eyed Ray (7fg)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
54	RJU/7DE.	Undulate Ray (English Channel)	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass
55	RNG/5B67-	Roundnose Grenadier (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
56	RNG/8X14-	Roundnose Grenadier (8,9,10,12,14)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
58	SBR/678-	Red Seabream (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
59	SOL/07A.	Sole (Irish Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail	pass
60	SOL/07D.	Sole (Eastern Channel)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
61	SOL/07E.	Sole (Western Channel)	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail	pass
62	SOL/24-C.	Sole (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
64	SOL/7FG.	Sole (7fg)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
65	SOL/7HJK.	Sole (7hjk)	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
68	SRX/07D.	Skates and Rays (Eastern Channel)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
69	SRX/2AC4-C	Skates and Rays (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
70	SRX/67AKXD	Skates and Rays (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
71	T/B/2AC4-C	Turbot and Brill (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass
72	USK/04-C.	Tusk (North Sea)	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]
73	USK/567EI.	Tusk (Western)	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]
74	WHG/07A.	Whiting (Irish Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
75	WHG/56-14	Whiting (West of Scotland)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
76	WHG/7X7A-C	Whiting (Celtic Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
14 [TN]	COD/07D.	Cod (Eastern Channel)	fail	fail	fail	pass	fail	fail
21 [TN]	HAD/5BC6A.	Haddock (West of Scotland)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
48 [TN]	POK/56-14	Saithe (West of Scotland)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail
77 [TN]	COD/2A3AX4	Cod (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	pass	fail	fail
78 [TN]	HAD/2AC4.	Haddock (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
79 [TN]	North Sea Herring (B-Fleet): HER/2A47DX	Herring (North Sea bycatch)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
80 and 81 [TN]	North Sea Herring (A-Fleet): HER/4AB. and HER/4CXB7D	A-fleet Herring (North Sea, Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
82 [TN]	PLE/2A3AX4	Plaice (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
83 [TN]	POK/2C3A4	Saithe (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail
84 [TN]	WHG/2AC4.	Whiting (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
85 and 86 [CS]	Coastal States North-East Atlantic Mackerel: MAC/2A34. and MAC/2CX14 -	Mackerel (North Sea and Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
87 [CS]	Coastal States North-East Atlantic Blue Whiting: WHB/1X14	Blue Whiting (Northern)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
96 [CS]	Coastal States Atlanto-Scandian Herring: HER/1/2-	Herring (ASH)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
100	RED/51214 D	Redfish [Deep Pelagic] (5,12,14)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
101	RED/51214 S	Redfish [Shallow Pelagic] (5,12,14)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail

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Pakefield Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 0HT

The Nothe, Barrack Road, Weymouth DT4 8UB

www.cefas.co.uk | +44 (0) 1502 562244


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