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Assessing the sustainability of fisheries catch limits negotiated by the UK for 2026

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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 the best scientific advice and taking into account best available evidence on the effects of fishing activity ([Joint Fisheries Statement](#)¹). The Government's [2025 Environmental Improvement Plan](#) states that this report will be used as an evidence base to measure progress towards the JFS commitments.

The fishery management units covered by 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 and which were listed within the [Trade and Cooperation Agreement](#)² (TCA). 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 2026. 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).

Of the baseline list of 79 TACs, 31 were considered to be set in line with the scientific advice (39%), 2 could not be scored and 46 failed (58%). Breaking this down to the advice type (MSY or PA), 28 out of 59 TACs (47%) based on MSY advice were set in line with the advice and 3 out of 20 (15%) TACs based on PA 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. Between 2025 and 2026 the number of TACs passing the assessment decreased.

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total number of baseline TACs passing the assessment	27	26	27	32	36	36	31

¹ Joint Fisheries Statement, November 2022

² 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

1. Introduction

The fisheries sustainability assessment detailed in this report is the fifth report under the assessment methodology described in Nash and others (2021), the first being published in 2022 (Bell and others, 2022).

As an independent coastal state with a commitment made in the [Joint Fisheries Statement](#)³ to achieving sustainable fisheries management:

“the UK will seek to increase the overall number of stocks fished at MSY or suitable MSY proxy, consistent with the best available scientific advice and taking into account best available evidence on the effects of fishing activity”

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 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.

³ Joint Fisheries Statement, November 2022

This allows for most TACs listed in the [Trade and Cooperation Agreement⁴ \(TCA\)](#) 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 two 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 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

⁴ 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

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](#) 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 two 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-evaluated.

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 two 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 (or "measures" in NEAFC terms) as negotiated in bilateral UK-EU, trilateral UK-EU-Norway, NEAFC and Coastal States negotiating forums. In some instances, quota transfers affecting some stocks reported on here were agreed outside these forums. In these cases, any additional quota transferred to the UK were added to the TAC to obtain the total catch limit agreed. Any additional quota transfers from Norway to the UK were considered, using the published [written records of fisheries consultations between the UK and Norway](#)⁵. Additional quota transfers from the Faroe Islands to the UK were also considered, noting that in previous years this record was not typically signed until March and therefore not available to be considered in the analysis ([written records of fisheries consultations between the UK and the Faroe Islands](#))⁶.

⁵ Agreed record of fisheries consultations between the United Kingdom and Norway for 2026, 18 December 2025.

⁶ Agreed record of fisheries consultations between the Faroe Islands and the United Kingdom for 2026, 22 December 2025

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.

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 TACs requiring stage 2 evaluation (i.e. pooled, pooled subset, fragmented and wide), where a contributing stock does not have three years of concurrent advice and realised catches, that contributing stock did not contribute to the stage 2 scoring however the remaining stocks would be used to give the stage 2 score. 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.

In 2025 ICES released advice for pok.27.7-10 and her.27.7e-f for the first time, meaning the TACs POK/7/3411 and HER/7EF can now be scored, however neither TAC is in the baseline set (see section 4) so are not included in the headline total. HER/7EF is categorised as direct match, whilst technically POK/7/3411 is categorised as wide due to the inclusion of European Union waters of CECAF 34.1.1 in the TAC area, however it is calculated based on the direct match methodology as this area is minimal. Being calculated as “direct-match” TACs means neither requires stage 2 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 however some of them are set unilaterally by one or other party. Only those TACs (or “measures” in NEAFC terms) negotiated in bilateral UK-EU, trilateral UK-EU-Norway, NEAFC or Coastal States forums are considered in scope for this report (88 TACs).

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.

When the baseline was originally constructed, there was no ICES advice for four TACs and these were therefore also not included in the baseline assessment. It is noted that two of these TACs now have advice and will be considered in a baseline revaluation in the future (this assessment scores them but does not include them in the baseline totals).

The result of addressing the above issues means that there are 79 of which are included in the baseline. 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 in the baseline set linked to scientific advice.

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 2026

This evaluation of the negotiated outcomes for 2026 follows the principles set out in the MSY methodology review (Nash and others, 2021).

Table 1 provides the results of the assessment for 2026 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 2026. It summarises the outcome of this year and last year's assessments and provides a comparison of the negotiated outcomes over the last 7 years.

For 2026 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 of which 79 are included in the baseline (see section 4). TACs outside the baseline are presented at the bottom of each table.

Of the baseline list of 79 TACs, 31 were considered to be set in line with the scientific advice (39%), 2 could not be scored and 46 failed (58%). Breaking this down to the advice type (MSY or PA), 28 out of 59 TACs (47%) based on MSY advice were set in line with the advice and 3 out of 20 (15%) TACs based on PA 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. Between 2025 and 2026 the number of TACs passing the assessment decreased.

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total number of baseline TACs passing the assessment	27	26	27	32	36	36	31

5.1. TACs that have changed scores from 2025 to 2026

Nine TACs saw their scores change between 2025 and 2026. A brief explanation is given for each change in assessment.

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

Change: fail to pass

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 2025 the sum of the 4 associated TACs was above the advice provided by ICES, hence the stage 1 fail.
- In 2026 the sum of the 4 associated TACs was in line with the ICES advice for hke.27.3a46-8abd, hence the change to a stage 1 pass.

5.1.2. TCA 33 (LEZ/07, Megrims (7))

Change: pass to fail

LEZ/07 and LEZ/8ABDE. are a pooled subset of meg.27.7b-k8abd and ldb.27.7b-k8abd.

- In 2025, the sum of the associated TACs was in line with the sum of the advice for the associated stocks. For meg.27.7b-k8abd catches were consistently below the advice, meanwhile no catch advice was given for ldb.27.7b-k8abd between 2019 and 2022, hence in 2025 it received a stage 2 pass based on the stock for which there were data.
- In 2026 the sum of the associated TACs was above the sum of the ICES advice for the associated stocks, hence the stage 1 fail.

5.1.3. TCA 36, 37 and 38 (LIN/03A-C, Ling (3a), LIN/04-C, Ling (North Sea), LIN/6X14, Ling (Western))

Change: pass to fail

LIN/03A-C., LIN/04-C. and LIN/6X14. are all fragmented from lin.27.346-91214. These TACs pass stage 1 as TACs were set in line with advice but as they are fragmented they must go through stage 2 scoring.

- In 2025 the TACs received a stage 2 pass as catches were below the ICES advice in 2021 and 2020 (ICES releases lin.27.346-91214 advice on a biennial basis).

- In 2026 the TACs received a stage 2 fail as catches of lin.27.346-91214 exceeded the advice in 2022, 2023 and 2024.

5.1.4. TCA 53 (RJE/7FG., Small-eyed Ray (7fg))

Change: pass to fail

In the 2026 the UK and EU agreed a new TAC framework for small eyed ray in 7d and 7e to align with the ICES advice in the form of “of-which” clauses under the SRX/07D and SRX/67AKXD TACs. However, the additional existence of a Special condition flexibility clause (see below) on the RJE/7FG TAC allows for an additional 5.15 tonnes of small eyed ray to be fished in 27.7d. This flexibility means scoring the RJE/7FG as a pooled subset with the “of-which” clauses for 7de. The addition of this flexibility clause means that the total negotiated catch limits allow for catches to be above the advice for the rje.27.de stock and causes the RJE/7FG TAC agreement to be scored as a fail.

“(1) Special condition: of which up to 5 % may be fished in European Union waters of 7d and reported under the following code: (RJE/*07D.). This special condition is without prejudice to the relevant prohibitions in EU and UK law for the areas specified therein”.

5.1.5.TCA 61 and 65 (SOL/07E, Sole (Western), SOL/7HJK, Sole (7hjk))

Change: pass to fail

SOL/07E and SOL/7HJK were previously categorised as direct matches and in 2025 TACs were set in line with the relevant advice.

In the 2026, the TACs were set at the ICES advice however the UK-EU written record includes a new Special condition flexibility clause (see below) allowing quota from SOL/07E to be fished in UK and EU waters of 7h. This means there is management in place allowing the SOL/07E TAC to be used on the sol.27.7h-k stock. The 2026 TAC for SOL/07E was set at 1,213 tonnes, 3% of this is 36.39 tonnes. The addition of this flexibility clause means that the negotiated catch limits allow for catches to be above the advice for the sol.27.7hjk stock.

“(1) Special condition: up to 3% may be fished in United Kingdom and European Union waters of 7h and reported under the following code: (SOL/*07H).”

There is a growing evidence base (from UK and Belgian studies) of strong genetic connectivity between sole in 7.e and 7.h suggesting that the current ICES stock boundaries may need revision. ICES is evaluating these studies but has yet to reach a conclusion on the stock definitions currently used.

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 (2022- 2024) shows that catches have been higher than the corresponding ICES advice for all three years.

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 three years. ICES advice is released on a biennial basis, hence 2023 is the most current year for which there is catch advice and catch data for the stock.

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 36, 37 and 38 (LIN/03A-C, Ling (3a), LIN/04-C, Ling (North Sea), LIN/6X14, Ling (Western))

LIN/03A-C., LIN/04-C. and LIN/6X14. are all fragmented from lin.27.346-91214. Catches of the stock exceeded the advice for the years 2022, 2023 and 2024, hence the stage 2 fail.

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

NEP/07 is a pooled TAC covering 8 stocks. Catch data for nep.fu.17 were above the ICES catch advice for the years 2022 and 2023. Catch data for nep.fu.22 were above the ICES catch advice for the years 2022 and 2024. Landings data for nep.27.7outFU were

consistently above the ICES advice for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022. Catch data for nep.fu.19 were above the ICES advice in 2023 and 2024.

5.2.6.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 2022, 2023 and 2024. Landings in excess of advice from stocks with biennial assessments also occurred. Landings from nep.fu.33 were above landings advice in 2021 and 2022 while landings from both nep.fu.34 and nep.27.4outFU were above landings advice for each of the years 2021, 2022 and 2023.

5.2.7.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 landings of rng.27.1245a8914ab were higher than the ICES advice, resulting in a stage 2 fail. ICES advice for rng.27.1245a8914ab is released on a quadrennial basis, updated advice is expected in 2027.

5.2.8. 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.

5.2.9.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.

5.2.10.TCA 87 and 96, (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.

5.3. Additional issues in 2026

5.3.1. TCA 50 and 51, (POL/07, Pollack (7) and POL/56-14, Pollack (West of Scotland))

The advice for the pol.27.67 stock for 2026 is for total catches which includes both commercial and recreational catches (see headline statement below). The POL/07. and POL/56-14 TACs are only applicable to the commercial catches and are both fragmented from this biological stock. When setting these commercial TACs (2317t for the two combined), a deduction from the ICES headline advice was made for recreational catches, however this deduction (993t) was considerably less than the estimate of recent 5-year average recreational catch of ~1559t. Whilst the Written Record lays out the introduction of new controls on recreational catches during 2026 there is no basis on which to evaluate whether these measures will achieve any reduction compared to the recent average. In order for new remedial regulations to be considered likely to bring catches into compliance there needs to be some evidence basis and in this case none is available. Consequently, as the combination of the recent average recreational catch plus the negotiated TACs is larger than the ICES advice, these TACs are scored as a stage 1 fail.

“ICES advises that when the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) approach is applied, total removals in 2026 should be no more than 3 310 tonnes. This applies to the sum of the commercial and recreational catches (accounting for survival of released fish).”

5.3.2. TCA 79 and 80 & 81, North Sea herring

In previous years, the Agreed Record of the tri-lateral negotiations was used as the source of the agreed TACs and provided TACs for 4 separate fleets of which only the ‘A-fleet’ (the main human consumption fleet) and ‘B-fleet’ (bycatches) were relevant to the UK. For 2026, the Agreed Record provides one overall TAC for North Sea herring. However, the UK-EU written record continues to provide fleet-level TACs for HER/2A47DX and HER/4AB (TCA 79 and 80 & 81) and therefore these continue to be included in the baseline list of TACs.

Table 1: Evaluation of the 2026 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/2AC 4-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/5671 2-	Black Scabbardfish (Western)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
13	COD/07A .	Cod (Irish Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
15	COD/5BE 6A	Cod (West of Scotland)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Stage 1	Stage 2	Final	Stage 2 fail rationale
16	COD/5W6-14	Rockall Cod	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
17	COD/7XA D34	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)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
29	HKE/571214	Hake (Western)	pass	[Z]	pass	[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	[Z]
33	LEZ/07.	Megrims (7)	fail	[Z]	fail	[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	fail	fail	a
37	LIN/04-C.	Ling (North Sea)	pass	fail	fail	a
38	LIN/6X14.	Ling (Western)	pass	fail	fail	a
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]

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Stage 1	Stage 2	Final	Stage 2 fail rationale
47	PLE/7HJ K.	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/2AC 4-C	Northern Prawn (North Sea)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
53	RJE/7FG.	Small-eyed Ray (7fg)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
54	RJU/7DE.	Undulate Ray (English Channel)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
	RNG/5B6 7-	Roundnose Grenadier (Western)	pass	fail	fail	a
56	RNG/8X1 4-	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]
	SOL/07D.	Sole (Eastern Channel)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
61	SOL/07E.	Sole (Western Channel)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
62	SOL/24-C.	Sole (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	[Z]
64	SOL/7FG.	Sole (7fg)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
	SOL/7HJ K.	Sole (7hjk)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
68	SRX/07D.	Skates and Rays (Eastern Channel)	pass	fail	fail	a
69	SRX/2AC 4-C	Skates and Rays (North Sea)	pass	fail	fail	a
70	SRX/67A KXD	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/567 EI.	Tusk (Western)	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[Z]
74	WHG/07A .	Whiting (Irish Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
	WHG/56-14	Whiting (West of Scotland)	pass	fail	fail	a
76	WHG/7X7 A-C	Whiting (Celtic Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
14 [TN]	COD/07D .	Cod (Eastern Channel)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Stage 1	Stage 2	Final	Stage 2 fail rationale
21 [TN]	HAD/5BC 6A.	Haddock (West of Scotland)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
48 [TN]	POK/56-14	Saithe (West of Scotland)	pass	fail	fail	[Z]
77 [TN]	COD/2A3 AX4	Cod (North Sea)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
78 [TN]	HAD/2AC 4.	Haddock (North Sea)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
79 [TN]	HER/2A4 7DX	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/2A3 AX4	Plaice (North Sea)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
83 [TN]	POK/2C3 A4	Saithe (North Sea)	pass	fail	fail	[Z]
84 [TN]	WHG/2A C4.	Whiting (North Sea)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
85 & 86 [CS]	MAC/2A3 4.	Mackerel (North Sea & Western)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
87 [CS]	WHB/1X1 4	Blue Whiting (Northern)	pass	fail	fail	b
96 [CS]	HER/1/2-	Herring (ASH)	pass	fail	fail	b
100	RED/512 14D	Redfish [Deep Pelagic] (5,12,14)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
101	RED/512 14S	Redfish [Shallow Pelagic] (5,12,14)	fail	[Z]	fail	[Z]
26 [OB]	HER/7EF.	Herring (Western Channel and Bristol Channel)	pass	[Z]	pass	[Z]
44 [OB]	PLE/56-14	Plaice (West of Scotland)	no advice	no advice	no advice	[Z]
49 [OB]	POK/7/34 11	Saithe (Celtic Sea)	pass	[Z]	pass	[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

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Principal advice type	Mapping category	Included in baseline suite of TACS?	Negotiation forum
7 [TCC]	ARU/567.	Greater Silver Smelt (Western)	MSY	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 [TCC]	BSF/56712-	Black Scabbardfish (Western)	MSY	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)	PA	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/M	Herring (Irish Sea)	MSY	1	Yes	UK-EU
25 [TCC]	HER/5B6AN	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
30 [TCC]	JAX/2A-14	Horse Mackerel (Western)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Principal advice type	Mapping category	Included in baseline suite of TACS?	Negotiation forum
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.	Megrimms (7)	MSY [c]	5	Yes	UK-EU
34 [TCC]	LEZ/2AC4-C	Megrimms (North Sea)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU
35 [TCC]	LEZ/56-14	Megrimms (West of Scotland)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU
36 [TCC]	LIN/03A-C.	Ling 3a	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
37 [TCC]	LIN/04-C.	Ling (North Sea)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
38 [TCC]	LIN/6X14.	Ling (Western)	MSY	6	Yes	UK-EU
40	NEP/07.	Nephrops (7)	MSY [c]	3	Yes	UK-EU
41	NEP/2AC4-C	Nephrops (North Sea)	MSY [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	2	Yes	UK-EU
53	RJE/7FG.	Small-eyed Ray (7fg)	MSY	5	Yes	UK-EU

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Principal advice type	Mapping category	Included in baseline suite of TACS?	Negotiation forum
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
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	5	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	5	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/67AKX D	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

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Principal advice type	Mapping category	Included in baseline suite of TACS?	Negotiation forum
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
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

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	Principal advice type	Mapping category	Included in baseline suite of TACS?	Negotiation forum
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)	PA	1	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)	PA	2	No	UK-EU
63	SOL/56-14	Sole (West of Scotland)	[z]	[z]	No	UK-EU

5.4. Comparison of results from 2020 to 2026

Table 3. Comparison of evaluation for the Baseline TACs from 2020 to 2026.

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	2026
1	ALF/3X14-	Alfonsinos (3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12,14)	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
2	ANF/07.	Anglerfish (7)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
3	ANF/2AC4-C	Anglerfish (North Sea)	pass	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
4	ANF/56-14	Anglerfish (West of Scotland)	pass	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
5	ARU/1/2.	Greater silver smelt 1,2	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
6	ARU/3A4-C	Greater silver smelt North sea	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
7	ARU/567.	Greater Silver Smelt (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass
8	BLI/12INT-	Blue Ling (International 12)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass
9	BLI/24-	Blue Ling (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
10	BLI/5B67-	Blue Ling (Western)	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
11	BOR/678-	Boarfish (Western)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
12	BSF/56712-	Black Scabbardfish (Western)	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass
13	COD/07A.	Cod (Irish Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
15	COD/5BE6A	Cod (West of Scotland)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
16	COD/5W6-14	Rockall Cod	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
17	COD/7XAD34	Cod (Celtic Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
18	DGS/15X14	Spurdog (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
20	HAD/07A.	Haddock (Irish Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
22	HAD/6B12 14	Haddock (Rockall)	pass	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
23	HAD/7X7 A34	Haddock (Celtic Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail	fail
24	HER/07A/ MM	Herring (Irish Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail	fail
25	HER/5B6 ANB	Herring (West of Scotland)	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass
27	HER/7G- K.	Herring (Celtic Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
28	HKE/2AC 4-C	Hake (North Sea)	pass	pass	fail	fail	pass	fail	pass
29	HKE/5712 14	Hake (Western)	pass	pass	fail	fail	pass	fail	pass
30	JAX/2A-14	Horse Mackerel (Western)	pass	pass	pass	fail	fail	pass	pass
31	JAX/4BC7 D	Horse Mackerel (Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail	fail
32	LW/2AC4 -C	Lemon Sole and Witch (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass
33	LEZ/07.	Megrims (7)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail
34	LEZ/2AC4 -C	Megrims (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass
35	LEZ/56-14	Megrims (West of Scotland)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass
36	LIN/03A- C.	Ling 3a	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	fail
37	LIN/04-C.	Ling (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	fail
38	LIN/6X14.	Ling (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	fail
40	NEP/07.	Nephrops (7)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
41	NEP/2AC 4-C	Nephrops (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
42	NOP/2A3 A4.	Norway Pout (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	fail	fail
43	PLE/07A.	Plaice (Irish Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
45	PLE/7DE.	Plaice (English Channel)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
46	PLE/7FG.	Plaice (7fg)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
47	PLE/7HJK	Plaice (7hjk)	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
50	POL/07.	Pollack (7)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
51	POL/56-14	Pollack (West of Scotland)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
52	PRA/2AC 4-C	Northern Prawn (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass
53	RJE/7FG.	Small-eyed Ray (7fg)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail
54	RJU/7DE.	Undulate Ray (English Channel)	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass
55	RNG/5B6 7-	Roundnose Grenadier (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
56	RNG/8X1 4-	Roundnose Grenadier (8,9,10,12,14)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
58	SBR/678-	Red Seabream (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
59	SOL/07A.	Sole (Irish Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail	pass	pass
60	SOL/07D.	Sole (Eastern Channel)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
61	SOL/07E.	Sole (Western Channel)	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail	pass	fail
62	SOL/24-C.	Sole (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
64	SOL/7FG.	Sole (7fg)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
65	SOL/7HJK	Sole (7hjk)	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail
68	SRX/07D.	Skates and Rays (Eastern Channel)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
69	SRX/2AC 4-C	Skates and Rays (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
70	SRX/67AK XD	Skates and Rays (Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
71	T/B/2AC4-C	Turbot and Brill (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
72	USK/04-C.	Tusk (North Sea)	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]
73	USK/567E I.	Tusk (Western)	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]	[NAP]
74	WHG/07A.	Whiting (Irish Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
75	WHG/56-14	Whiting (West of Scotland)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
76	WHG/7X7 A-C	Whiting (Celtic Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
14 [TN]	COD/07D.	Cod (Eastern Channel)	fail	fail	fail	pass	fail	fail	fail
21 [TN]	HAD/5BC 6A.	Haddock (West of Scotland)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
48 [TN]	POK/56-14	Saithe (West of Scotland)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail	fail
77 [TN]	COD/2A3 AX4	Cod (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	pass	fail	fail	fail
78 [TN]	HAD/2AC 4.	Haddock (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
79 [TN]	North Sea Herring (B-Fleet): HER/2A47 DX	Herring (North Sea bycatch)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
80 and 81 [TN]	North Sea Herring (A-Fleet): HER/4AB. and HER/4CX B7D	A-fleet Herring (North Sea, Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
82 [TN]	PLE/2A3A X4	Plaice (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass
83 [TN]	POK/2C3 A4	Saithe (North Sea)	pass	pass	pass	pass	pass	fail	fail
84 [TN]	WHG/2AC 4.	Whiting (North Sea)	fail	fail	fail	fail	pass	pass	pass
85 and 86 [CS]	Coastal States North-East Atlantic Mackerel: MAC/2A3 4. and MAC/2CX 14-	Mackerel (North Sea and Western)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail

TCA number	TAC code	TAC name	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
87 [CS]	Coastal States North-East Atlantic Blue Whiting: WHB/1X14	Blue Whiting (Northern)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
96 [CS]	Coastal States Atlanto-Scandian Herring: HER/1/2-	Herring (ASH)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
100	RED/51214D	Redfish [Deep Pelagic] (5,12,14)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail
101	RED/51214S	Redfish [Shallow Pelagic] (5,12,14)	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail	fail

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