

Landing Obligation and Choke Species in Multispecies and Mixed Fisheries

The North Western Waters

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Structure of the Presentation

1. Description of the fisheries
2. Choke species analysis
3. Results of analysis
 - Celtic Sea
 - Eastern and Western Channel
 - Irish Sea
 - West of Scotland & Rockall
4. Effectiveness of available tools
5. Future scenarios post-2020

1. Description of the fisheries - NWW



CFP defines NWW – “ICES zones V (excluding Va and only Union waters of Vb), VI and VII”

1. Description of the fisheries

Multiple species and fisheries:



1. Description of the fisheries

Multiple gears:



1. Description of the fisheries

- Complex and highly mixed fisheries
- Multiple gears utilised
- Trawl and beam trawls predominant
- Highest catch rates
- Highest discard rates
- Small mesh trawl fisheries (< 100mm) - most problematic

Mixed nature of the fisheries makes implementing the LO challenging

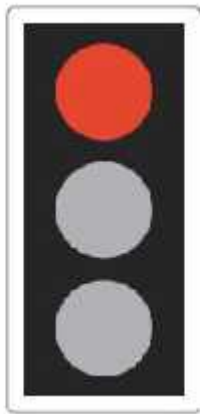
2. Choke species analysis

- CMT tool developed by NWWAC
- Assess and identify choke species
- Identify appropriate tools to reduce choke risk
- Two Workshops 20-21st June & 19th-20th Sept

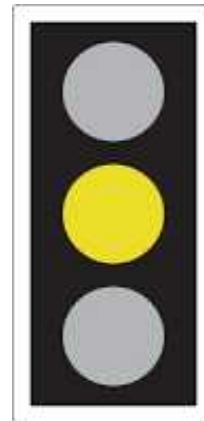
Area 7.b-k - Haddock - All Gears							
Member States		Belgium	France	Ireland	The Netherlands	UK	Spain
Union TAC for 2015 (t)		3332					
Union TAC + full up to 20.34% ICCS (discarded 89%)		11362					
Quota	Initial quota share 2015 (t)	11	86 88	22 22	0	10 00	0
	Initial quota 2015 (t)	33	2581	1854	0	1126	0
	Quota after swap (t)	11	2701	1862	0	1011	0
	Quota 2015 + up to 2015 (t)	329	2509	2200	0	1126	0
STCP data	Reported landings 2015 (t)	10	2421	2199	1	224	0
	Reported discards 2015 (t)	205	1183	1788	3	819	0
	Discard rate 2015 (t)	95%	38%	80%	10%	37%	0%
	Total catch 2015 (t)	250	3604	4387	4	1043	0
effort 2015	Landing STCP / total quota	1.37	1.02	1.19	0	0.82	0
	Landing STCP / Quota after swap	1.20	0.99	1.12	0.18	0.98	0
	Catches STCP / Initial quota share	0.58	1.58	1.96	0	1.94	0
	Catches STCP / Quota after swap	0.74	1.53	2.05	0.22	2.02	0
Estimated Surplus/Deficit by Member		0	3	2	-2	2	0
Estimated Surplus/Deficit by Member		0/2	1/20	0/20	-2	2/2	0/2
Choke Category 2 (Regional) or 3 (Biological)?	Indirect	5					
	Mainly target, by catch fisheries or both - Main species of unwanted catches						
Mitigation actions:							
Avoidance	Close/Restricted Areas	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Real Time Closures (for juveniles and/or spawning aggregations)	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N
	Voluntary avoidance actions	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Prevention of illegal activities (e.g. bycatch reduction)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Selectivity	Size selectivity - increasing minimum mesh size	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Species selectivity - sorting devices	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Modifications e.g. sorting	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
	Reduction of effort	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Quota	Swapping	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Inter-quota flexibility	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Discard quotas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Transfer TAC / Merge TAC / Rights	N	N	N	N	N	N
Exemptions	High vessel	N	N	N	N	N	N
	0% vessels (based on single TAC)	Y	N	N	N	N	N
	0% vessels (based on combined TAC)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Estimated remaining tonnage of choke after mitigation actions:	Removing a by-catch species like sole in this area from the TAC regime would involve the choke situation. Similar to fish and flounder in the North Sea area.					

2. Choke species analysis

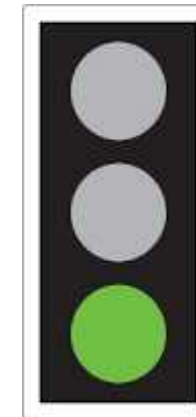
Classification of choke risk



High risk - catches currently exceed the TAC with multiple Member States impacted

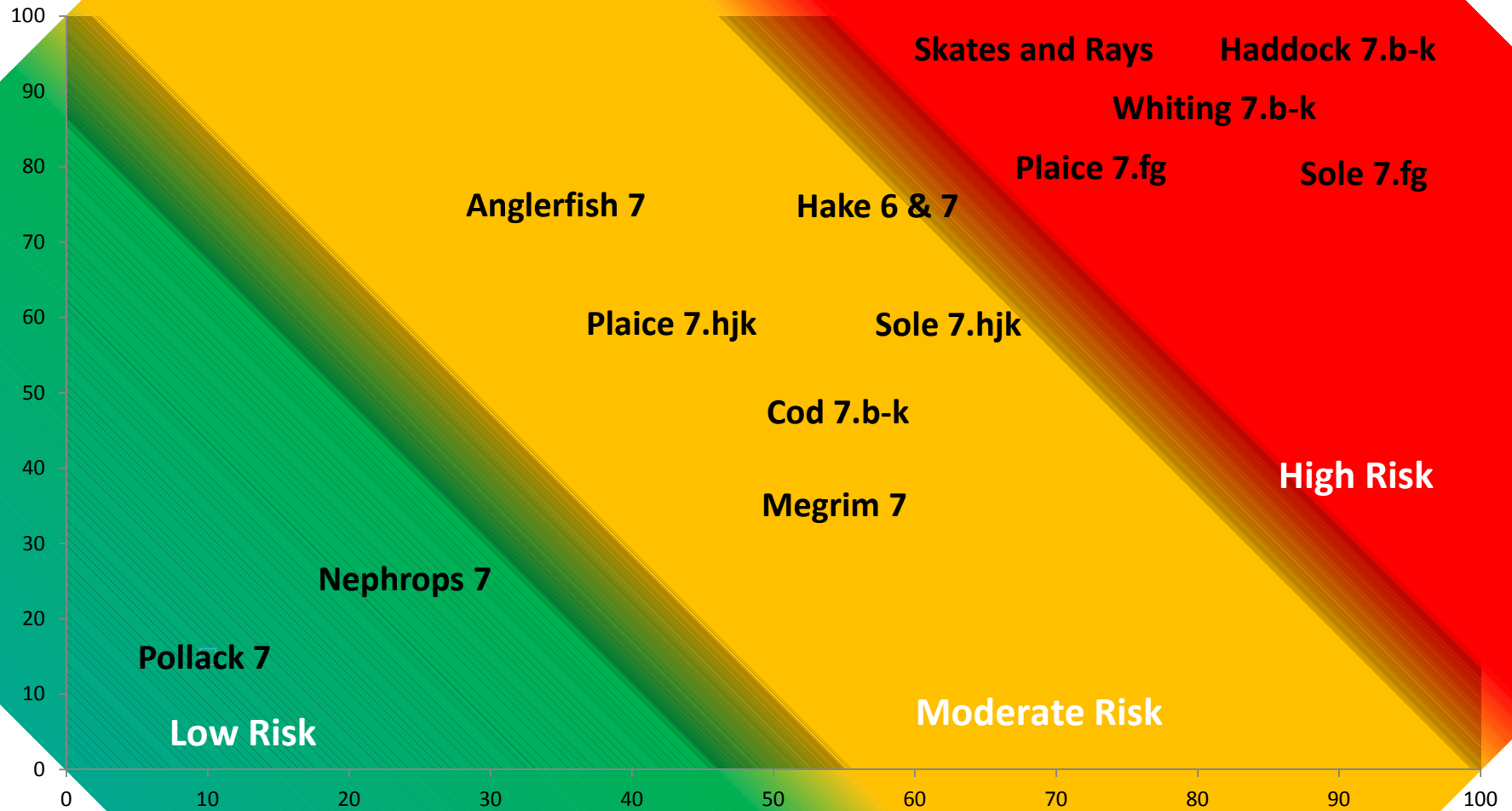


Moderate risk- catches are less than TAC but for some Member States catches exceed quota



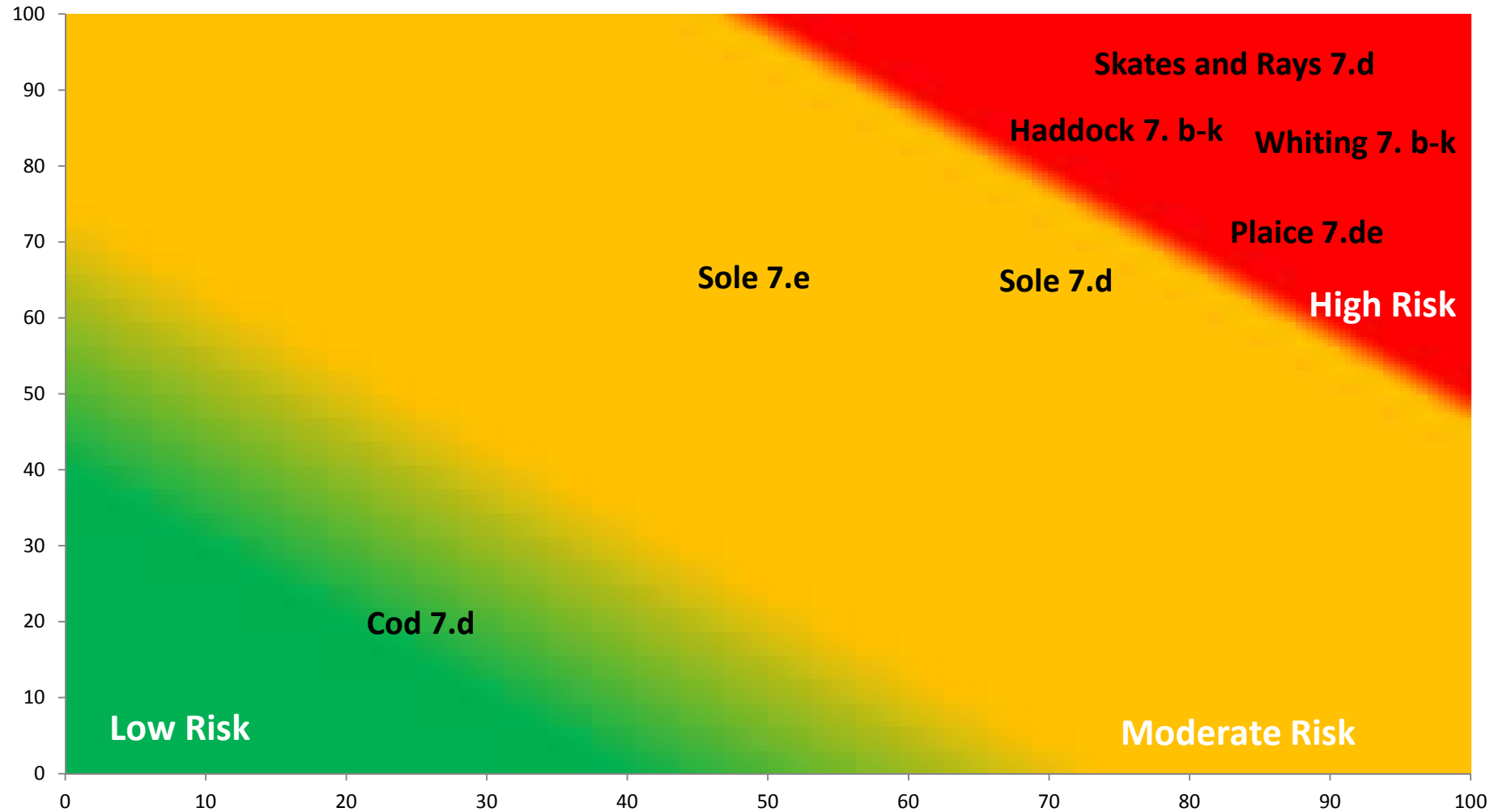
Low or no apparent risk - catches are below TAC and no Member States catches exceed quota

3. Resilience and Ecosystem Analysis

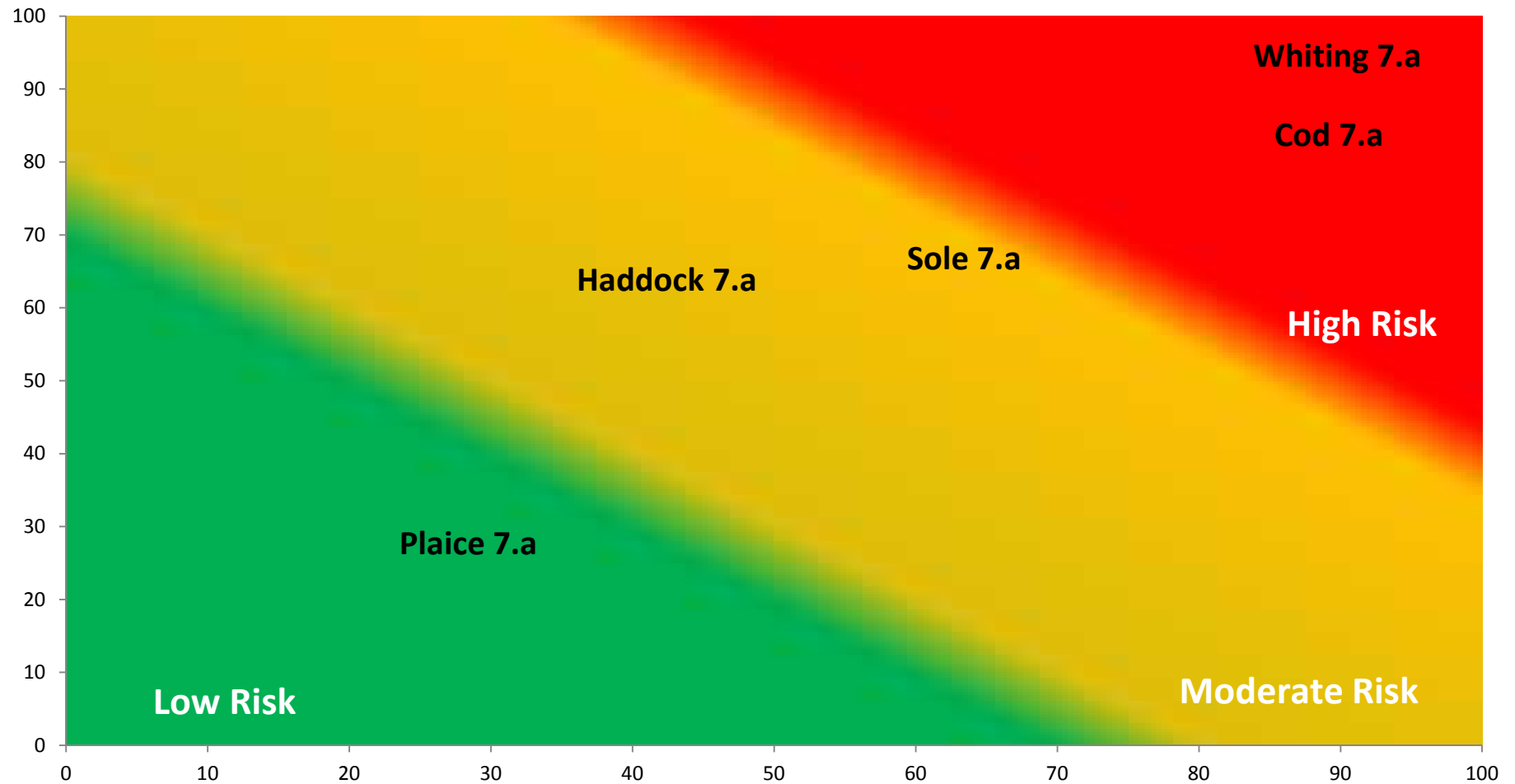


3. Choke species analysis

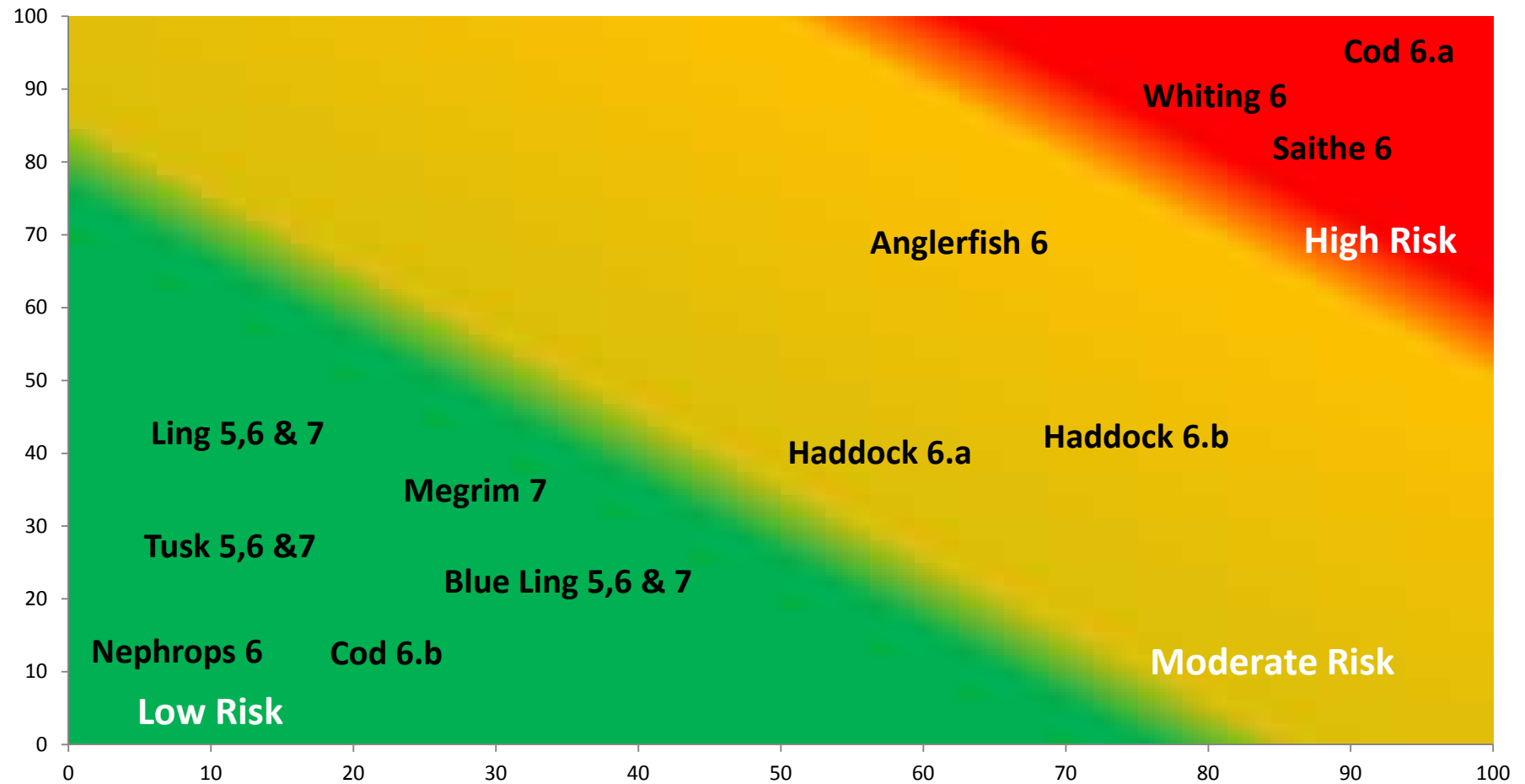
Results - eastern and western Channel



3. Choke species analysis Results - Irish Sea



3. Choke species analysis Results – West of Scotland & Rockall



3. Zero quota

- 22 stocks
- ES most impacted
- BE, FR, NL, DE, IE, UK
- 9 moderate/high risk
- Choke fisheries immediately
- Quota flexibilities
 - Swaps
 - ISF
 - Bycatch footnotes
 - Remove TACs
- Improvements in selectivity

Species	MS Impacted	Risk of Choking
Greater silver smelt (V, VI, VII)	ES, BE	ES – Moderate BE – Low
Tusk (V, VI, VII)	ES, BE, NL (Other MS quota of 13 tonnes available for by-catches)	ES – Moderate/High NL, BE – Low
Boarfish (V, VI, VII)	ES, BE, NL, FR	ES, NL, FR – High BE – Moderate
Herring (VIIg,h,j,k)	ES, BE	ES, BE – Low
Cod (VIIb-k, VIII, IX and X)	ES, NL	ES, NL – Moderate/High
Megrim (VII)	NL	NL – Low
Haddock VI, Vb & international waters of XII & XIV	ES, NL	ES, NL – Moderate/High
Haddock (VIIb-k, VIII, IX and X)	ES, NL	ES – Moderate/High NL – Moderate
Blue ling (Vb, VI, VII)	BE	BE – Low
Ling (VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV)	NL	NL – Low
<i>Nephrops</i> (VII)	BE, NL	BE – Low/Moderate NL – Low
Plaice (VIIf,g)	ES, NL	ES, NL – Low
Plaice (VIIh,j,k)	ES	ES – Low
Plaice VII d,e	NL	NL – Moderate/High
Mackerel (VI, VII, VIIIa, VIIIb, VIIId and VIIfc, international waters Vb, IIa, XII, XIV)	BE	BE – Low/Moderate
Sole (VII f,g)	ES, NL	ES, NL – Low
Sole (VII h,j,k)	ES	ES – Low
Horse mackerel (IIa, IVa, VI, VIIa-c, VIIe-k, VIIIa, VIIIb, VIIIfc, Vb, inter waters XII, XIV)	BE	BE – Low/Moderate
Pollack (VII)	NL	NL – Low/Moderate
Saithe (VII, VIII, IX and X)	NL	NL – Moderate
Whiting (VIIb-k)	ES	ES – Moderate/High
Whiting (VI, Vb & international waters of XII & XIV)	ES, NL	ES, NL – Moderate/High
Bluefin tuna (Atlantic Ocean, east of 45° W, and Mediterranean)	DE, IE, NL, UK (Other MS quota of 47 tonnes available for by-catches)	DE, IE, NL, UK – Moderate/High

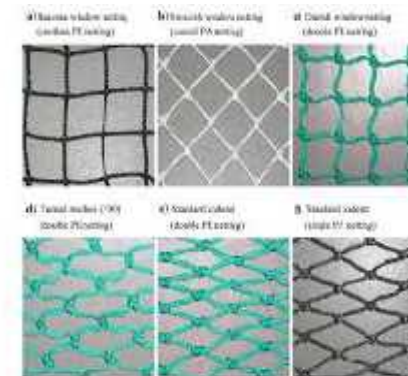
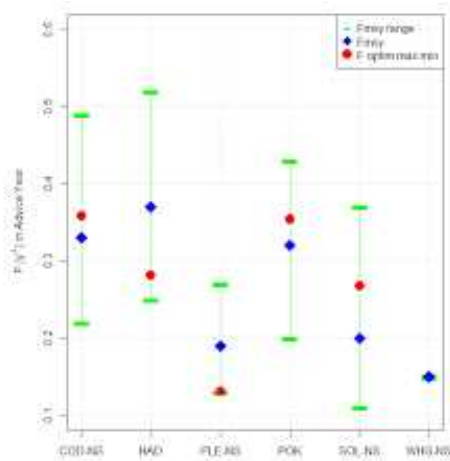
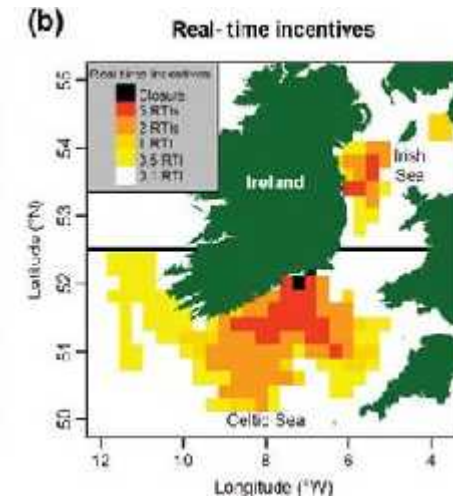
3. Other issues

- Pelagic bycatch in demersal fisheries
- Demersal bycatch in pelagic fisheries
- Deepsea species
 - 6 species
 - Mostly bycatch
 - Swaps
- Restricted TACs
 - Spurdog
 - Prohibited species
 - Bycatch programme



4. Effectiveness of available tools

- Avoidance – Temporary/Permanent/Real-time
- Selectivity – Species and Size selectivity
- Exemptions – De minimis & High survivability
- Quota flexibilities – Swaps, ISF, Fmsy ranges



4. Effectiveness of available tools

Avoidance/Selectivity and exemptions:

Tools	Effective	Currently used
Avoidance	Unknown	Limited extent – voluntary actions
Selectivity	Yes	Limited extent - national measures
De minimis	Partial/short term	Yes - 7 in place
High survivability	Yes	Yes - 2 in place

4. Effectiveness of available tools

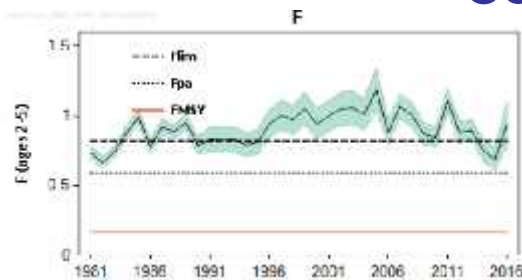
Quota flexibilities:

Tools	Effective	Currently used
TAC uplifts	Partial/short-term	Yes
Quota swaps	Yes – dependent on MS having quota to swap	Partial – no observed change in swapping patterns
Inter Species Flexibility	Unknown – risk of overfishing	No
Inter Annual Flexibility	Partial	Yes
Removal of TACs	Yes – risk of overfishing without alternative measures	No
Others quota	Unknown	No
Bycatch quota/Footnotes	Limited extent – risk of overfishing	Limited extent mainly in pelagic fisheries
Inter Area flexibility	Unknown	Limited extent
Fmsy ranges	Yes	No

5. Post 2020 - Fmsy 2020

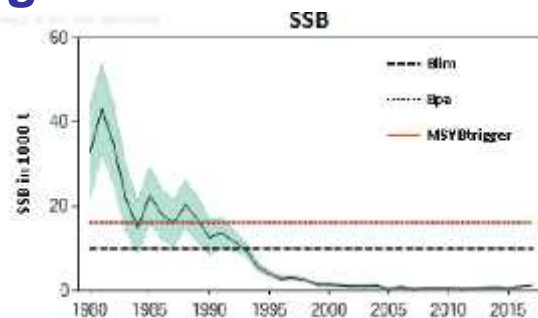
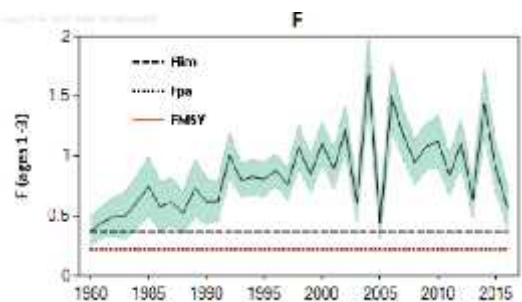
- Article 2(2) of the CFP:
“Maximum sustainable yield exploitation rate shall be achieved by 2015 where possible and, on a progressive, incremental basis at the latest by 2020 for all stocks

Cod in VIIa



Zero TAC (2004) 1.5% bycatch
 Total catches (2017) = 1745 t
 $F_{msy} = 0.17$
 $F_{2017} = 0.79$
 Available tools – very limited;
 prohibited species; remove TAC

Whiting in VIIa



TAC – 80 t (zero catch advice)
 Total catches (2017) = 780 t
 $F_{msy} = 0.22$
 $F_{2017} = 0.97$
 Available tools = selectivity;
 remove TAC

5. Post 2020 - BREXIT

- Still in negotiation
- Access and quota allocation “big ticket” items
- Technical detail last part of negotiation
- But....
- Potential for huge confusion & curtailment of fishing
- Landing Obligation



5. Post 2020 - BREXIT

- The principle of a “discard ban”
- Norway type discard ban?
- Transboundary Fishing - Skagerrak
- Different flexibilities & scope
- Accompanying measures
- Quota implications (e.g. uplifts, swaps)
- Control Measures
- Regionalisation
- Conflicts at sea



5. Post 2020 - Climate Change

- Longer term issue
- Clear evidence of distributional shifts in fish populations
- ICES looked at 21 species
- 7 relevant to NWW
 - Cod
 - Hake
 - Sole
 - Megrin
 - Whiting
 - Haddock
- Cod, hake and megrim – “Big movers”
- More precautionary regulation & uncertainty in assessments
- Possibility of new choke species high



Summary

- NWW numerous and complex fisheries making implementation of the landing obligation difficult
- CMT provides insight into choke problems but....
- Not a crystal ball – chokes are dynamic
- Based on 2016 data – 9 high risk choke species
- At least 3 require radical measures
- All MS impacted
- No one fits all solution
- Combination of measures needed

Summary

- FMSY 2020 in combination with landing obligation will create serious choke problems (e.g. cod in VIa & whiting in VIIa)
- Different discard bans under BREXIT likely to cause confusion and disruption to fishing
- Transboundary areas hard to manage
- Climate change a longer-term issue
- Likely need for more precautionous regulations due to distribution shifts in fish populations