**Paper No. 4.2 Paper for Discussion**

**Demersal Working Group**

**19th April 2018**

**NSAC Advice in Development**

**This is paper is NOT approved NSAC advice.**

**This paper will be discussed at the Demersal Working Group meeting on the 19th April 2019.**

**Note for Sch Tech Group meeting 11th April 2018**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Species** | **Choke Category** | **Measures within the Joint Recommendation** | **Choke can be resolved within the JR** | **Solution may be out with the JR** |
| **High Survival** | **De Minimis** | **Inter Species Flexibility** |
| **Cod** (*Gadus morhua*) Subarea 4, Division 7.d, and Subdivision 20 (North Sea, eastern English Channel, Skagerrak) | 2 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | Applicable – Depends on the biological status of the donor stock | Yes. Interspecies flexibility could be applied, although the NSAC remains unclear how this will operate in practice given issues of relative stability and MSY harvesting.  |  |
| **Cod** (in the Kattegat) | 2 or possibly 3 | Not Applicable | At this moment there is a De Minimis for cod in some limited fisheries. | Not Applicable | Perhaps not. If trend in stock increase continues, top up may not solve the problem | Yes |
| **Hake** (Merluccius merluccius - Union waters of IIa and IV (HKE/2AC4-C)) | 2 or 3 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | Applicable – Depends on the biological status of the donor stock | Perhaps yes.Interspecies flexibility would remain an option although NSAC is still unclear how this could operate without impinging on relative stability or MSY harvesting.  |  |
| **Species** | **Choke Category** | **Measures within the Joint Recommendation** | **Choke can be resolved within the JR** | **Solution may be out with the JR** |
| **High Survival** | **De Minimis** | **Inter Species Flexibility** |
| **Ling** (ICES area 3a-bcd and 4) | 3 | Not Applicable | At this moment there is no De Minimis for Ling in the North Sea fisheries. | Not Applicable | NoA quota top-up is unlikely to solve the problem as the current discards (and therefore the top-up to be expected in 2019) are lower than the current quota deficit | Yes |
| **Plaice** (PLE/2A3AX4) | 2 or 4 | Yes. Trials ongoing but results not yet available | There is no De Minimis for Plaice | Not Applicable | Perhaps yes.But is dependent on interim survival exemption | YesIf no survival exemption in place |
| **Saithe** (pollachius virens IIa and IV; Union waters of IIa) | 2 | Not Applicable | Applicable in the target fishery only | Applicable – Depends on the biological status of the donor stock | Yes.dependent of the level of exchanges between MS to optimize the TAC consumption |  |
| **Seabass** | Not applicable – No TAC | Not Applicable. May be an option in longer term but requires research | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | No | Yes |
| **Skates and rays** (covered by the skate group TAC) | 3 | The Dutch government has put forward a proposal for a temporary (3 year) high survival exemption which is conditional on additional research on all species in all metiers and an obligation for operators to implement measures on avoidance, selectivity and survival. | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | Yes.If Dutch government proposal is accepted |  |
| **Whiting** (Merlangius merlangus IV; Union waters of IIa) | 2 or 3 | Not Applicable | Yes | Not Applicable | Partially | Yes |