



FISHERY ASSESSMENT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY:	Blue whiting (<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>)
LOCATION:	Northeast Atlantic – Norway (ICES subdivisions I-IX, XII & XIV, combined stock)
DATE OF REPORT:	23 August 2011
ASSESSOR:	Sam Peacock

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Issue No; 2; Issue Date; Nov 09

Report Ref: Norway Blue Whiting

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1. Application Details and Summary of the Assessment Outcome			
Name:		Norwegian Seafood Federation	
Address:			
Country:		Norway	Zip:
Tel. No.		Fax. No.	
Email address:		Applicant Code	
Key Contact:		Title:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification Ltd	
Assessor Name:	Peer Reviewer:	Assessment Days:	Initial/Surveillance/Re-certification:
Sam Peacock	Dave Garforth	10	Initial
Assessment Period	22 Sep – 2 Aug 2011		
Scope Details			
1. Scope of Assessment:		IFFO RS approval of fishery	
2. Fishery		Norway Blue whiting (<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>)	
3. Fishery Location		Northeast Atlantic	
4. Fishery Method		Mid water trawl and Purse seine	
Outcome of Assessment			
5. Overall Fishery Compliance Rating		HIGH	
6. Sub Components of Low Compliance		NONE	
7. Information deficiency		NONE	
8. Peer Review Evaluation		Approve fishery, on the condition that PET and other species by-catch monitoring regime is improved, and that TACs continue to adhere to the management plan objectives.	
9. Recommendation		Approve fishery	

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Agreed Conditions for Approval

IFFO Norway Blue Whiting Fishery Assessment Report 2011.

- **The approved TAC must not be overshoot and this needs to conform to the fishery plan that has been approved by ICES.**
- **By catch data collation of species other than the intended Blue Whiting.** The applicant must support by taking part in the recording and collation of this data and help facilitate additional scientific research on the quantity and identification of these species for the future management of the stock
- **Interactions of gear with sea mammals/ sea turtles/sharks must be recorded and all this evidence used for future scientific research.** Evidence that captains and relevant crew have been trained in identification of marine mammals and sea turtle species and how to record interactions must be made available. Evidence can be in the form of taking part in training and the actual records of interactions observed.
- **Where sea mammals/ sea turtles/sharks are captured there must be documented procedures in place to establish an effective release of the animal without causing it damage.** Evidence of the release procedures and the training that captain's and crews have undertaken to ensure that these release procedures are implemented. Records of the success of releases (animals returned alive and undamaged) should also be made to demonstrate the effectiveness of release procedures

2. Quality of Information

Good; limited specific by-catch data available, but several sources report low incidence of by-catch in this fishery.

Most information was sourced from official fishery science and management organizations including ICES, Ministry of Fisheries Norway and independent NGO organizations such as Fishsource.

3. Compliance Level Achieved

MEDIUM-HIGH

Recommendation

Approve fishery, on the condition that PET and other species by-catch monitoring regime is improved, and that TACs continue to adhere to the management plan objectives.

4. Guidance for On-site Assessment
Based on High Compliance Findings
Based on Medium Compliance Findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess whether vessels retain or produce records of by-catch, and if so what information is recorded.
Key Stakeholders of the Fishery

5. Assessment Determination
<p>The North-Eastern Atlantic Blue Whiting Fishery is managed by an international agreement which has been evaluated by ICES as following the precautionary approach. Norway has adequate management and control measures in place, and information sourced confirms that it follows and enforces quotas and, where necessary, reduces fishing capacity. A possible contradiction to the otherwise consistent compliance to scientific advice is that despite recent spawning stock estimates being considerably below precautionary limits, a quota of 40,100 tonnes has been set as a total catch for the international fishery this year. While this represents a 93% reduction compared to 2010, and is in line with the ‘precautionary’ management plan, a strict adherence to the precautionary approach would close the fishery for this year.</p> <p>Additionally, this fishery could improve the quality of by-catch information, in relation to both non-target and PET species, and include this information in the decision-making process.</p>
HIGH COMPLIANCE
A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, D1, D2, E1, E2
MEDIUM COMPLIANCE
C1, D3

Background

Blue whiting is a small pelagic fish that lives most of its life at 200 to 600 meters depth. It is widely distributed in the North-East Atlantic and is therefore an important link in the marine food chain, feeding on plankton crustaceans and small fish and being itself prey to a wide range of predatory fish, squid and marine mammals.

The Norwegian blue whiting fishery consists of combined trawlers/purse seiners operating large mid-water trawls. Previously, almost all blue whiting landed in Norway has been processed into fish meal and oil, and used as animal feed. However, a new management agreement allows for proper management and the basis for a quota that will allow individual vessels to plan their operation and increase the value of their catches.

Blue whiting is currently one of the largest fishery industries in the North-East Atlantic, and all blue whiting in this area is treated as one stock. As a fishery resource, blue whiting is still young – the stock was only “discovered” in the late 1960s, and the fishery developed in the 1970s. During most of the 1980s and 1990s, the catches were rather stable. However, the catches increased rapidly in the late 1990s, and a new catch record was set almost every year - with catches over 2 million tons in 2003-2005. Recent poor recruitment to the stock has meant catches have decreased significantly since that time. Since 2008, a new management plan has produced significant annual quota reductions, and in the past few years quotas have begun to reflect the scientific advice.

References: R1

SUMMARY OF LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE					
	The Management Framework and Procedures	Stock assessment procedures and management advice	Precautionary approach	Management measures	Implementation
legal and administrative basis	High Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance
Fisheries management should be concerned with the whole stock unit	High Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance
Management actions should be scientifically based	High Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance
Research in support of fisheries conservation and management should exist	Medium Compliance	High Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance
Best scientific evidence available should be taken into account when designing conservation and management measures	Medium Compliance	High Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance
The precautionary approach is applied in the formulation of management plans	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Low Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance
The level of fishing permitted should be set according to management advice given by research organisations	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	High Compliance	Medium Compliance
Where excess fishing capacity exist, mechanisms should be in established to reduced capacity	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	High Compliance	Medium Compliance
Management measures should ensure that fishing gear and fishing practices do not have a significant impact on non-target species and the physical environment	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Low Compliance	Medium Compliance
A management system for fisheries control and enforcement should be established	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	High Compliance
A framework for sanctions of violation of laws and regulations should be efficiently exists	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	Medium Compliance	High Compliance

KEY: Low Compliance Medium Compliance High Compliance:

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6. Rationale of the Assessment Outcome

a. The Management Framework and Procedure

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	a.i. The management of the fishery must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the conservation of the fishery.	References	Rating	
LOW	<p>Determination: Fisheries management in Norway is subject to an iterative, stakeholder-driven management process, led by the Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs. There is an effective legal and administrative basis for the implementation of management measures.</p>	R2, R3	HIGH	
MEDIUM				<p>The Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs is responsible for, amongst other activities, ensuring long-term, optimal exploitation of living marine resources; ensuring sound management of the marine environment; and progressing towards a profitable, self-sustained fisheries industry.</p> <p>The regulatory system for fisheries management in Norway is an interactive and iterative process based on incremental changes, and is sometimes referred to as the regulatory chain. The chain has no set start or finish, but can rather be seen as a continuous process. The timeframe of the regulatory chain is approximately one calendar year.</p> <p>First, scientific research of the fish stocks is crucial in order to ensure that the quota allocation complies with the overarching principles of the Norwegian resource management regime. The International Council of the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the Institute of Marine Research (IMR) and others research institutions provide such scientific advice.</p>
HIGH				



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> criteria for participating in various fisheries <p>This is then presented to stakeholders in an open meeting held in late November or early December. A broad range of participants attend this open meeting – including representatives from the Norwegian Fishermen’s Association, Federation of Norwegian Fishing Industries, the Norwegian Seamen’s Union, The Norwegian Food and Allied Workers’ Union, The Sami Parliament, environmental NGOs, the regional counties, as well as recreational fishermen.</p> <p>After this meeting, the Directorate of Fisheries recommends next year’s fisheries regulations to the Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs. The Ministry bases its final decision on outcomes from the quota negotiations with other states, discussions from the open meeting, the recommendation from the Directorate of Fisheries, as well as input from various fisheries industry organisations.</p> <p>The regulations are normally valid for one calendar year at a time. It is common, however, that some adjustments to the regulations take place during the year. One such adjustment could be changes in by-catch regulations.</p> <p>It is important to note that the experiences from previous year’s fishing are of great importance in the decision process for the following year. One reason for this is to ensure predictability and stability for the fishing fleet. In order to exchange views on and evaluate the current fishing year, another open meeting is held in early summer.</p>		
	a.ii. Fisheries management should be concerned with the whole stock unit over its entire area of distribution and take into account fishery removals and the biology of the species	References	Rating
LOW	<p>Determination: <i>The fishery management plan considers what scientists currently consider to represent the entire stock, although it is possible that in future it will need to be managed as two stocks. While not all removals are directly factored into the management process, they are included indirectly by a highly precautionary approach.</i></p> <p>The management plan agreed by Norway, EU, The Faroe Islands and Iceland, and the North East Atlantic</p>	R4, R5	HIGH
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

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	<p>Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) in November 2008 considers the entirety of the Northeast Atlantic. Research by ICES suggests that based on the fish genetics and growth rate of the fishery there may be more than a single stock in the Northeast Atlantic. While more work is required to confirm the stock composition, the blue whiting populations in areas VIIk and VIIj and further south are likely to be one stock and are separate from the stock found in the Northeast Waters. However, at present ICES continues to provide advice based on a combined stock approach, and so the management plan adheres to the current scientific consensus.</p> <p>Discard and by-catch data is not factored into the ICES assessment, and therefore is not taken into account in the setting of quotas and management measures. Discarding is considered by ICES to be very minimal, and in fact is banned for Norwegian vessels. ICES consider the management plan to follow the precautionary approach, and so the lack of by-catch data is reflected in the cautiousness of quota recommendations.</p>		
a.iii .Management actions should be based on long-term conservation objectives		References	Rating
LOW	<p>Determination: <i>The internationally-agreed management plan is based on long-term objectives, which have been evaluated by ICES as adhering to the precautionary approach.</i></p> <p>The 2008 international management plan includes the following paragraphs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Parties agree to implement a long term management plan for the fisheries on the Blue Whiting stock, which is consistent with the precautionary approach, aiming at ensuring harvest within safe biological limits and designed to provide for fisheries consistent with maximum sustainable yield, in accordance with advice from ICES. 3. As a priority, the long term plan shall ensure with high probability that the size of the stock is maintained above 1.5 million tonnes (B_{lim}). 8. The Parties, on the basis of ICES advice, shall review this long term management plan at intervals not exceeding five years and when the condition specified in paragraph 4 is reached. <p>The management plan uses a target F at 0.18 if SSB is above B_{pa}, and a linear reduction to F=0.05 for SSB</p>	R4, R5	HIGH
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

between B_{pa} and B_{lim} and $F=0.05$ for SSB below B_{lim} . ICES evaluated the plan in 2008 and concluded that it is in accordance with the precautionary approach.

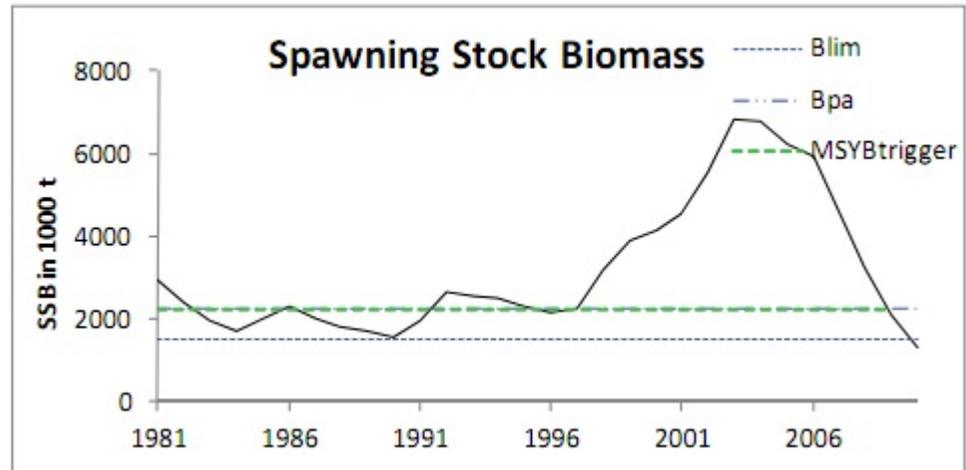


Figure 1 - Blue Whiting Spawning Stock Biomass in areas I-IX, XII & XIV. From ICES advice, October 2010.

b. Stock Assessment Procedures and Management Advice

		bi. Research in support of fisheries conservation and management should exist.	References	Rating
LOW		<p>Determination: <i>There is considerable scientific research into the Blue Whiting fishery, including catch data and acoustic surveys.</i></p> <p>ICES produces scientific recommendations for quotas and management measures in October each year. The 2010 assessment was based on catch-at-age data from commercial catches from 1981–2009 and three acoustic surveys (Norwegian spawning ground survey 1993–2003, international ecosystem survey in the Nordic Seas 2000–2010, and International Blue Whiting Spawning Stock Survey (IBWSSS) 2004–2010). The IBWSSS survey is the only survey that covers almost the entire distributional area of the spawning stock.</p> <p>The stock assessment procedure uses a Stochastic Multi-Species model (SMS) applied to data including commercial catch-at-age statistics and data from the IBWSSS. IBWSSS data were included for the first time in 2007 and have been accorded greater weight since the 2008 assessment as the survey covers the entire distribution area of the spawning stock and the time series is increasingly longer. The survey incorporates Norwegian spawning stock survey data already used in previous assessments but the Norwegian data from 2007 onwards was excluded due to a change in area covered. A further international ecosystem survey in the Nordic Seas also contributes to the assessment and, in conjunction with data from a Norwegian bottom trawl survey, to recruitment forecasts.</p>	R4, R5, R7	HIGH
MEDIUM				
HIGH				

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LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	b.ii Best scientific evidence available should be taken into account when designing conservation and management measures	References	Rating
LOW	<p>Determination: <i>The current management plan, which was agreed in 2008, was reviewed by ICES and found to be satisfactory. The available evidence suggests that Norway undertakes a variety of additional research to ensure management measures have a firm scientific basis.</i></p>	R4, R7, R10	HIGH
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

c. The Precautionary Approach

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	c.i The precautionary approach is applied in the formulation of management plans.	References	Rating
LOW	<p>Determination: <i>The level of precaution employed in the management of the fishery is ambiguous. ICES has reviewed the current management plan and found it to follow the precautionary approach; however, SSB is currently below B_{pa} (and indeed B_{lim}), yet the TAC has not been set at 0 as should occur under the precautionary approach.</i></p> <p>The previous management plan was in 2002 but catch allocations were not agreed upon until 2005, during which time advised catch limits were frequently overshoot. Increased recruitment before this period of intense over-fishing saved the stock from collapse but catches continued to exceed recommended levels and the stock was considered to be at risk. The former management plan was evaluated by ICES in 2006 and found not to be in accordance with the precautionary principle as at the target fishing mortality a decrease in recruitment to historically low levels, as occurred for the 2005 and 2006 year classes, presented an increased risk of SSB falling below B_{pa}. ICES also warned that defining B_{pa} as the trigger for F reduction would lead to a significant risk of SSB falling below B_{lim} at the target F, and that the actions for recovery, should SSB fall below B_{pa}, needed to be defined. The 2008 management plan has considered this in specifying a HCR which sets F according to the state of the biomass, although B_{pa} has been kept as the trigger value. However, ICES' advice that only a greater initial reduction in F would make the plan precautionary was not followed when the annual 35% reduction was opted for. Nonetheless, ICES continues to consider the plan to be consistent with the precautionary approach.</p> <p>ICES October 2010 advice suggested that to fully satisfy the precautionary approach and minimise risk to impaired recruitment there should be no landings of Blue Whiting in 2011, as SSB in 2012 will remain below B_{pa} with any fishery in 2011; the recommended TAC of 40,100 tonnes takes into account the other</p>	R4, R5	MEDIUM
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

	requirements of the management plan such as catch stability. Therefore, the fishery does not fully meet the criteria for precautionary approach based on 2012 proposed harvest levels, although ICES has confirmed that the overall plan is precautionary.	
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d. Management Measures

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	d.i The level of fishing permitted should be set according to management advice given by research organisations.	References	Rating
LOW	<p>Determination: TACs in recent years have been consistent with ICES scientific advice designed to reflect the aims of the management plan.</p> <p>Historically, the total TACs and landings agreed by the members of the management plan have been considerably higher than the ICES recommendations. When it was agreed in 2008, the management plan was intended to take full effect from 2011, with a 35% reduction in TAC each year until then. Quotas have seen significant annual reductions since 2008 (TAC was 1.8 million tonnes in 2007, 1.25 million tonnes in 2008; 606,000t in 2009), and have recently begun to accurately reflect the management plan. In 2010 the agreed TAC (548,000t) was only slightly higher than the recommended TAC (540,000t), and the 2011 TAC for Blue Whiting was set in accordance with the ICES advice for adhering to the management plan objectives, at 40,100t across all member states. This represents a 93% reduction on the 2010 TAC. However, strict implementation of the HCR would result in a zero TAC for 2012 hence there is some inconsistency within criteria <i>d.i.</i> between the science derived FMP and the decisions taken on the level of fishing permitted. ICES estimate that under this TAC, SSB will increase by 1% by 2012. Future surveillance reports should ensure that the agreed TACs continue to reflect the scientific advice, as they have done in recent years.</p>	R4, R10	HIGH
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

Basis: $F(2010) = [\text{catch constraint}] = 0.51$; $SSB(2011) = 796$; $\text{Catch}(2010) = 548$ (Coastal States TAC + NEAFC allocation); $F_{2009} = 0.40$; $R(2011, 2012) = \text{lowest observed} = 1.759$ billion at age 1.

Rationale	Catch (2011)	Basis	F (2011)	SSB (2012)	%SSB change ¹	% TAC change ²
MSY framework	50.7	$F_{MSY} * SSB_{(2011)}$ MSY $B_{trigger}$	0.06	790	-1%	-91%
MSY transition	223	F_{pa}	0.32	621	-22%	-59%
Precautionary approach	0	$SSB(2012) < B_{pa}$	0.00	840	6%	-100%
Management plan	40.1	$F=0.05$ for $SSB(2011) < B_{lim}$	0.05	800	1%	-93%
Zero catch	0	$F=0$	0.00	840	6%	-100%
<i>Status quo</i>	32.2	$F_{2009} * 0.1$	0.04	808	2%	-94%
	78.0	$F_{2009} * 0.25$	0.10	763	-4%	-86%
	148	$F_{2009} * 0.50$	0.20	694	-13%	-73%
	211	$F_{2009} * 0.75$	0.30	633	-20%	-62%
	267	$F_{2009} * 1$	0.40	579	-27%	-51%

Weights in '000 tonnes.

¹⁾ SSB 2012 relative to SSB 2011

²⁾ Catch 2011 relative to TAC 2010.

Figure 2 - ICES outlook for 2011 (Reference R4)

Quotas in Norway

There are three types of quotas which are integral to the Norwegian regulatory system. The Norwegian national

	<p>quotas are allocated to different groups of vessels; these quotas are then allocated to each vessel, either by individual vessel quotas (IQVs) or by maximum quotas. With IVQs, the group quota is shared amongst the participating vessels with a fixed and “guaranteed” portion. Using the system of maximum quota an upper limit is set to the annual catch. As the sum of the allocated maximum quotas is higher than the group quota, the participating vessels of the group have no “guarantee” that they will be allowed to fish the quota before the total group quota is taken, and the fishery is stopped.</p> <p>Vessel quotas and maximum quotas give a fixed maximum quantity of a certain species, and this quantity must not be exceeded by any vessel participating in the fishery for that species.</p>		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	d.ii Where excess fishing capacity exist, mechanisms should be in established to reduced capacity to allow for the recovery of the stock to sustainable levels.	References	Rating
LOW	<p>Determination: <i>Norway has a demonstrably functional system for reducing fishing capacity when it is demanded by fishery management conclusions.</i></p> <p>Licenses in Norway</p> <p>The law on trawling, which dates back to 1951, prohibits all use of trawls without a license issued by the fisheries authorities. Since then the license has been transformed from a kind of general rights document into several sub-categories where each sub-category grants the right to trawl for identified species only.</p> <p>However, the most important reform to license regulation was the introduction of vessel quotas for the coastal fleet in the fishery for Northeast Arctic cod, in the late 1980s. The cod stock was at a serious state and in 1989, the coastal fishery was closed after only three and a half months. Because of this, an individual vessel quota system was established in the costal fleet. This represented exclusive rights to fish distributed to a limited number of fishermen based on tradition. More than 3000 vessels were excluded from the vessel quota arrangement. This caused upheaval in fishing communities and provoked public debate on fisheries management. Today all fisheries of importance require every vessel to hold a license that allows it to participate in the fishery. Limitations on access to fisheries are critical to management as well as to the economics of the</p>	R3, R9	HIGH
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

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	<p>fleet.</p> <p>Registration requirements</p> <p>Other measures of access limitation are certain registration requirements set out in the annual regulation for each fishery. The most common requirements relate to the vessel and/or the owner/master of the vessel. The annual regulation requires the vessel to be listed in the official register of fishing vessels, and similarly require the master of the vessel to be officially registered as a fisherman. These mandatory registrations were introduced in order to reserve fishing rights for professional fishermen and thereby reduce effort.</p>		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	d.iii Management measures should ensure that fishing gear and fishing practices do not have a significant impact on non-target species and the physical environment.	References	Rating
LOW	<p>Determination: <i>The available evidence suggests that the fishery has a minimal impact on non-target species and the physical environment. By-catch information is somewhat lacking, and an improvement in this respect would be useful.</i></p> <p>Blue whiting is known to be a very clean fishery with very little by-catch of non-target species.</p> <p>Gear Selectivity</p> <p>In order to limit the catch of fish under the minimum size which may result in increased risk of juvenile fishing mortality, legislation was introduced at the end of the 1990s requiring the use of a sorting grid when fishing with large-mesh trawls in an area north and east of a line drawn in the Barents Sea. This requirement was subsequently extended to cover all fishing with large mesh trawls north of 62°N in the Norwegian economic zone, in the fishery protection zone around Svalbard, and in Svalbard’s territorial waters and internal waters.</p> <p>The Directorate of Fisheries plays a key role in the work of developing and introducing more selective fishing gear, working closely with the fishing gear producing industry and a number of research institutions both in Norway and internationally. In the coming years the directorate intends to continue to develop more selective</p>	R6, R7	MEDIUM
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

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	<p>fishing gear.</p> <p>PET Species</p> <p>The broadness of blue whiting’s distribution implies a habitat overlap with many species of Northeast Atlantic seabirds and marine mammals. Data on effects of the fishery on PET species is sparse but a European Commission study group considered blue whiting pelagic trawling a fishery where monitoring for cetacean by-catch is a priority. Several studies have reported the interaction of dolphins with midwater/pelagic trawl fisheries in the NE Atlantic, The information on the overall impact of this fishery on PET species is still insufficient, but no critically endangered species appear to be impacted.</p> <p>Marine mammals and seabirds in EU waters are currently protected by a set of directives, conventions (e.g. Bern Convention and the Habitats Directive) and multilateral agreements between countries (ICES, 2010b).</p> <p>Other Target and By-catch Species</p> <p>Overall, most of the blue whiting is caught in directed fisheries for reduction purposes, and by-catch is considered to be small. The Norwegian fishery reports little by-catch during the spawning season, although catches of juveniles, as well as saithe and redfish, increase when this fishery has continued later in the season. By-catch of saithe, silver smelt and cod was been reported at below 1% in the Icelandic blue whiting fishery in 2004. An average saithe by-catch rate of 3.5% was reported by Faroese monitoring of the blue whiting fleet. Dutch fleets also report almost no by-catch of other species.</p> <p>Habitat</p> <p>Direct effects on habitat and seafloor are typically minimal for pelagic gears, although occasional contact is known to occur and, in these cases, can potentially cause damage to fragile ecosystems (e.g. corals).</p>		
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e. Implementation

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	e.i There should be a framework for sanctions of violation of Laws and regulations.	References	Rating
LOW	Determination: <i>Norway has a robust system of sanctions in place for those violating laws, regulations, quotas and international agreements.</i>	R3, R8, R9	HIGH
MEDIUM	Norway constantly seeks to regulate its own fisheries sustainably and ensure efficient control of resources both on landing and at sea through the Coast Guard. Moreover, a number of measures have been implemented to deter Norwegian vessels from participating in IUU fishing and to prevent illegally caught fish from entering the Norwegian market. The Norwegian Government’s Plan of Action on Economic Crime has been used in order to enforce measures against Norwegian actors in IUU activities.		
HIGH	<p>There is a full list of Norwegian fisheries regulations available at http://www.fiskeridir.no/english/fisheries/regulations</p> <p><i>Black list of vessels</i></p> <p>Norway adopted a black list of vessels that had been engaged in IUU activities in Northeast Atlantic waters in 1994, and banned such vessels from fishing in Norwegian waters. The concept of a black list has later been adopted by several regional fisheries management organizations where Norway is a member.</p> <p>Vessels that have taken part in fishing outside quota arrangements in international waters for a stock which is subject to regulations in waters under Norwegian fisheries jurisdiction or take part in fishing operations that contravene regulatory measures laid down by regional or sub regional fisheries management organisations or arrangements are blacklisted. The consequences of being listed are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refusal of a licence to fish/ tranship in the Norwegian Economic Zone and the Fishery Zone around Jan Mayen. • Refusal of being registered as a fishing vessel under Norwegian flag. 		

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LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	e.ii A management system for fisheries control and enforcement should be established.	References	Rating
LOW	Determination: <i>Norway has a robust system for the management of fisheries control and enforcement.</i>	R9	HIGH
MEDIUM	Norwegian fisheries regulations are enforced at sea, when the fish is landed and when it is exported. At sea, the Coast Guard is responsible for inspecting fishing vessels and checking their catch against their log books.		
HIGH	<p>Both Norwegian and foreign fishing vessels are subject to stringent controls in all Norwegian fishing waters. The activity of the Coast Guard is generally considered vital for the functioning of the management regime as a whole. The Coast Guard performs more than 1800 inspections of Norwegian and the foreign vessels that fish in Norwegian waters annually. Vessels over 24 meters (15 meters for vessels from EU) are required to carry satellite transponders that makes it possible to track their activity 24 hours a day all around the year.</p> <p>The Directorate of Fisheries also inspects activities on the fishing grounds. When catches are landed, the landing data are checked against the fishing rights of the vessel. This task is performed by the fish sales organisations and the Directorate of Fisheries. The Directorate also performs physical inspections of landings. The Directorate also performs physical inspections of landings. When irregularities are detected, at sea or on landing or through later controls, serious cases are referred to the courts.</p> <p>Cooperation between the affected states</p> <p>Controlling the fishing on shared fish stocks requires close cooperation between the affected states. Norway currently has co-operative agreements with Russia, Iceland, England, Ireland, Scotland, Sweden, Denmark, Faroe Islands, Netherlands, Germany, Portugal, Canada and Poland. Also the Directorate of Fisheries inspects activities on the fishing grounds.</p>		

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