



FISHERY ASSESSMENT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY:	Boarfish (<i>Capros aper</i>)
LOCATION:	UK, Denmark and Ireland
DATE OF REPORT:	20/1/21
ASSESSOR:	Sam Peacock

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1. Application Details and Summary of the Assessment Outcome			
Name:			
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification	
Assessor Name:	Peer Reviewer:	Assessment Days:	Initial/Surveillance/Re-certification:
Sam Peacock	Mike Platt	5	Initial
Assessment Period	16-20 January 2012		
Scope Details			
1. Scope of Assessment:		IFFO Global Standard for Responsible Supply	
2. Fishery		Boarfish (<i>Capros aper</i>)	
3. Fishery Location		UK, Denmark and Ireland. Faroe Islands vessels do not prosecute this fishery.	
4. Fishery Method		Pelagic trawl	
Outcome of Assessment			
5. Overall Fishery Compliance Rating		MEDIUM	
6. Sub Components of Low Compliance		NONE	
7. Information deficiency		NONE	
8. Peer Review Evaluation			
The reviewer agrees with the rating given to this fishery and the conditions stated below as being required if this fishery is to be an approved raw material for this standard			
9. Recommendation		Approve with conditions (see below)	

2. Quality of Information
Good; primarily governmental and ICES websites.

3. Compliance Level Achieved
MEDIUM

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Recommendation**Approved, with the following conditions:**

The Conditions that have been raised to maintain Fishery Approval are:

- 1.) Boarfish should be included in the new EU Data Collection Framework, from 2013.**
- 2.) ICES quota recommendations should continue to be adhered to, and any other recommended management actions should be applied.**
- 3.) The long-term management plan submitted at the RAC meeting July 11th 2012 is complied with by the participating fishers.**
- 4.) 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.
- 5.) By catch data collation of species other than the intended Boar Fish.** The applicant must support national scientific organizations 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.

4. Assessment Determination
The North-Eastern Atlantic boarfish fishery is at a very early stage of development, with limited scientific understanding and monitoring, and only an interim, non-binding management plan in place. There are two main reasons why the fishery is recommended for approval at this early stage. Firstly, the EU has in place a robust management and research system, which should allow the relatively rapid development of a legally binding international management plan and scientific monitoring regime. Secondly, the majority of fully developed EU fisheries are now prosecuted under strict, science-based management plans, and so it seems likely that the boarfish fishery will develop along these lines. To ensure this is the case, the assessment team recommend that this fishery be approved only on the strict conditions listed above, which outline the trajectory between the fishery in its current state and a high level of compliance.
HIGH COMPLIANCE
A1, D1, D2, E1, E2
MEDIUM COMPLIANCE
A2, A3, B1, B2, C1, D3

Background

The boarfish (*Capros aper*) is a deep bodied, laterally compressed, pelagic shoaling species distributed from Norway to Senegal, including the Mediterranean, Azores, Canaries, Madeira and Great Meteor Seamount. Boarfish recruit to the fishery at around three to four years of age, although the maximum age of boarfish is about 30 years. On the Celtic Sea shelf edge, spawning occurs during June and July. Boarfish are asynchronous batch spawners with indeterminate fecundity and thus, under optimal conditions, are capable of spawning over an extended period of time. Maturation occurs at 3.5 years, corresponding to a total length of about 10 cm. The maximum size of this species is about 15 cm. Boarfish length frequencies show a clear latitudinal distribution, increasing from south to north.

Since 2001 boarfish has been targeted in a pelagic trawl fishery for fish meal, to the southwest of Ireland. Landings fluctuated between 100 and 700 t per year. In 2006 the landings began to increase considerably, and cumulative landings since 2001 are now in excess of 270,000 t. From 2001 to 2006 only Ireland participated in the fishery. In 2007 UK-Scotland also participated, landing less than 1,000t. In all years the vast majority of catches have come from Division VIIj. Although some boarfish is landed to the Faroe Islands, Faroese vessels do not participate in the targeted fishery.

Prior to the development of the fishery, boarfish was a discarded bycatch in pelagic fisheries for mackerel in Subareas VII and VIII. One study found that boarfish may account for as much as 5% of the total catch of Dutch pelagic freezer trawlers.

In 2011, ICES was asked by the European Commission to provide advice for 2012. This was the first time that boarfish has been considered by ICES.

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	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance
Fisheries management should be concerned with the whole stock unit	Medium Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance
Management actions should be scientifically based	Medium Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance
Research in support of fisheries conservation and management should exist	Low Compliance	Medium Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance
Best scientific evidence available should be taken into account when designing conservation and management measures	Low Compliance	Medium Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance
The precautionary approach is applied in the formulation of management plans	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Medium Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance
The level of fishing permitted should be set according to management advice given by research organisations	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	High Compliance	Low Compliance
Where excess fishing capacity exist, mechanisms should be in established to reduced capacity	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	High Compliance	Low 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	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Medium Compliance	Low Compliance
A management system for fisheries control and enforcement should be established	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	High Compliance
A framework for sanctions of violation of laws and regulations should be efficiently exists	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	Low Compliance	High Compliance

KEY: Low Compliance Medium Compliance High Compliance:

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5. 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	<i>Determination: Fisheries in Ireland, Denmark and the UK are subject to robust national and international legal and administrative management frameworks.</i>	R1-4, R11	HIGH
MEDIUM	Fishery management framework (Europe):		
HIGH	<p>Ireland, Denmark and the UK are Member States of the European Union, and therefore in Community waters implement the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). In force since 1983, the CFP aims to reconcile resource conservation with the preservation of income and jobs in coastal zones that offer few alternatives in terms of production or employment. It therefore covers not just resources but also markets and structures.</p> <p>With regard to resource management, the CFP regulations comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A traditional management tool based on TACs and quotas; • Technical measures relating to gear or catch; • Effort-related management, based on vessel engine power and the number of days at sea. <p>The CFP also provides for the introduction of measures to rebuild, over a period of several years, stocks that are threatened in terms of sustainable harvesting, and for recourse to effort-related management rules to supplement TACs and quotas.</p> <p>Fishery management framework (Ireland):</p> <p>The Irish governmental department with responsibility for capture fisheries is the Department of Agriculture,</p>		

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	<p>Food and the Marine. The Department is responsible for, amongst other things, sea fisheries administration, seafood policy and development, harbour management, environmental assessment, and fisheries research.</p> <p>The Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) was established under the provisions of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 and is Ireland's competent authority for Seafood Safety and Sea-Fisheries Protection. The SFPA's mission is:</p> <p>“The Sea Fisheries Protection Authority is committed to the effective and fair regulation of the seafishing and seafood sectors that fall within our mandate. This means all fishing vessels operating within Irelands 200-mile limit, Irish fishing vessels wherever they operate, and all seafood produced in Ireland wherever it is marketed.”</p> <p>Fishery management framework (UK):</p> <p>The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and inshore fisheries and conservation authorities (IFCAs) work together to achieve sustainable fisheries management and marine conservation. The MMO is an executive non-departmental public body established by the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, with a wide range of responsibilities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implementing a new marine planning system designed to integrate the social requirements, economic potential and environmental imperatives of our seas • implementing a new marine licensing regime that is easier for everyone to use with clearer, simpler and quicker licensing decisions • managing UK fishing fleet capacity and UK fisheries quotas • working with Natural England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) to create and manage a network of marine protected areas (marine conservation zones and European marine sites) designed to preserve vulnerable habitats and species in UK marine waters • responding to marine emergencies alongside other agencies • developing an internationally recognised centre of excellence for marine information that supports 	
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	<p>the MMO’s decision-making process.</p> <p>Fishery management framework (Denmark):</p> <p>Once the TAC/quota agreement is adopted in December, the national management scheme is decided by Ministerial Order. The principles used in the management scheme are discussed with the fishermen’s organisation and the fishing industry before the conditions are finally assigned. The discussions take place in the Regulatory Committee at which the organisations and the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries are represented. The Regulatory Committee meets every month to evaluate the present catch/quota situation for possible changes. The Regulatory Committee was set up in 1979 to advise the Minister of Fisheries both on national administration of the allocated quotas and the national capacity policy.</p> <p>A series of national management schemes has been put into operation in order to achieve continued fishing opportunities, whilst at the same time ensuring that Danish quotas allocated under the CFP are not exceeded.</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><i>Determination: Current research suggests that this boarfish stock is distributed more widely than the area for which quotas are set. There is no directed fishery outside the TAC area, but boarfish are likely to be caught as bycatch in other fisheries. ICES advice includes consideration of both available survey indices; however it does not yet include consideration of bycatch.</i></p> <p>An analysis of bottom trawl survey data suggests a continuity of distribution spanning ICES Subareas IV, VI, VII and VIII. Isolated small occurrences appear in the North Sea in some years and an isolated landing in area Vb2 indicates spill-over into these areas. A hiatus in distribution is apparent between ICES Divisions VIIIc and IXa. Boarfish are considered very rare in northern Portuguese waters but are abundant further south. Based on these results, a single stock is considered to exist in ICES Subareas IV, V, VI, VII and VIII. This distribution is broader than the current EC TAC area: VI, VII and VIII. However, there is no directed fishery outside the TAC area, and the 2011 ICES advice considers both currently available survey indices.</p>	R5, R8	MEDIUM
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

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		Discards are not considered to be important in the pelagic fishery, but there are indications that boarfish are discarded in demersal trawl fisheries. ICES intends for these data to be collated and analysed in future assessments.		
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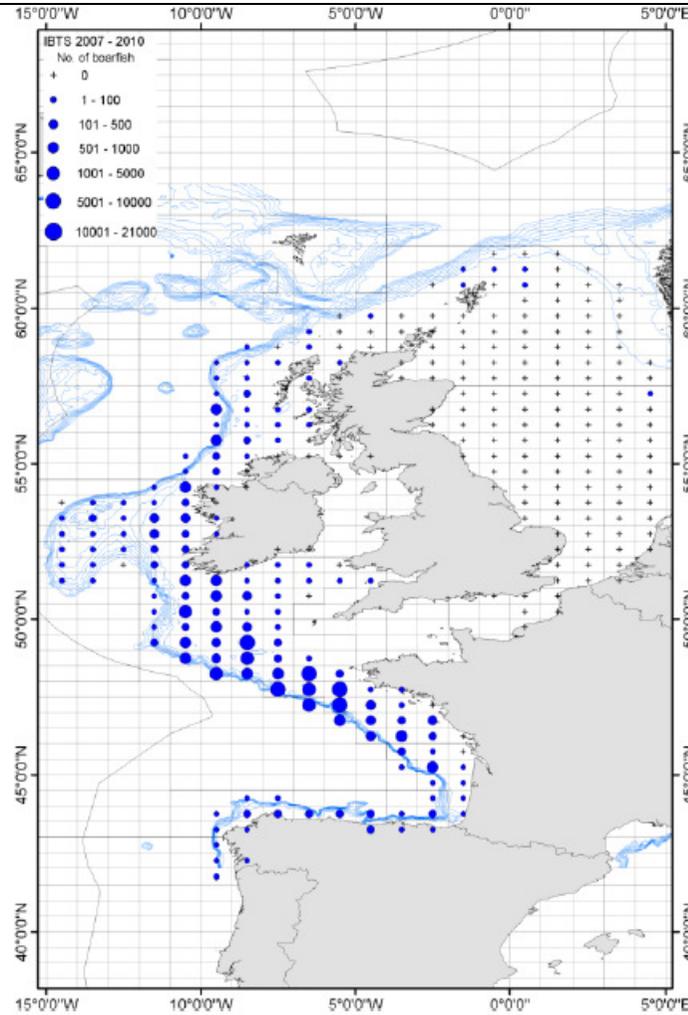
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Boarfish in ICES Subareas V, VI, VII, VIII. Distribution of boarfish in the NE Atlantic showing proposed EU management area.

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	a.iii .Management actions should be based on long-term conservation objectives	References	Rating
LOW	<p><i>Determination: Boarfish has been subject to an interim management plan since 2010. The plan outlines quota calculations and closed seasons and areas until the development and evaluation of a science-based management plan. The plan has been and will continue to be superseded by improving scientific advice from ICES; however, because it is not currently based on robust science, and due to the interim nature of the plan, the fishery is awarded medium compliance in this section.</i></p> <p>In 2010, an interim management plan was proposed by Ireland for boarfish in ICES Divisions VI, VII and VIII. The plan was formulated by the Marine Institute Ireland, in association with National Institute of Aquatic Resources at the Technical University of Denmark. The plan was as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Until a long term management plan has been developed, and evaluated, the following interim TAC setting rule shall apply. 2. The TAC for 2011 (hereinafter referred to as the Reference TAC) shall be set in the range 22,000-33,000 t, 50%-75% of the Recent Average Yield 2007-2009. 3. The TAC for 2012 shall be based on the Reference TAC, adapted by the rule, below, based on the Exploitation Indicator (E) and Reproductive Capacity Indicator (R)*: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If the average of either E or R in the past two years is 20% or more lower than in the preceding three years, a 15% TAC decrease applies. b. If the average of either E or R in the past two years is 20% or more higher than in the preceding three years, a 15% TAC increase applies. c. If the average of either E or R in the past two years is less than 20% different than in the preceding three years, no TAC change applies. d. Notwithstanding 3.b above, in no case shall the TAC for a given year exceed the Reference 	R5 – R8	MEDIUM
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

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	<p>TAC.</p> <p>4. A precautionary closed season shall operate between the 15th March and the 31st August. This is because it is known that mackerel and boarfish are caught in mixed aggregations at these times.</p> <p>5. A closed area shall be implemented in VIIg from 1st September to 31st October, in order to prevent catches of Celtic Sea herring, known to form feeding aggregations in this region at these times.</p> <p>6. If catches of species covered by TAC, other than boarfish amount to more than 5% of the total catch by day by ICES statistical rectangle, then fishing must cease in that rectangle.</p> <p>7. Vessels participating in the fishery for boarfish shall only land in designated ports.</p> <p>8. Participating vessels already facilitate scientific studies, and observer cover-age, and this cooperation shall be further developed.</p> <p>This interim plan has already been adjusted – most notably, the quota for 2012 was set according to ICES precautionary advice rather than the rules described above. The management plan is likely to continue to be updated as the quantity of scientific data increases, historic series are built up, and reference points are set for the stock. At present the interim management plan is not binding, but closed seasons and the 2011 TAC were adhered to by fishers.</p> <p>A long-term, binding management plan based primarily on ICES advice is in development with the intention that it be published and put into force from July 2012.</p>	
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b. Stock Assessment Procedures and Management Advice

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	bi. Research in support of fisheries conservation and management should exist.	References	Rating
LOW	<p><i>Determination: Research in support of fishery conservation and management exists, but could be significantly improved. As this has only become a major directed fishery in the past few years, historical data is lacking. However, ICES will now provide annual advice for the stock and research is likely to develop according to the requirements of this advice.</i></p> <p>Prior to 2010, commercial sampling effort was poor, with sampling conducted by only a small number of Irish and Danish vessels. Since 2010 the Danish and Irish pelagic fleets have been actively involved in providing scientific samples of boarfish and funded a major acoustic survey in the summer of 2011. Sampling since 2010 has therefore been considered adequate, although boarfish is not currently included under the EU Data Collection Framework. A comprehensive and coordinated sampling scheme and a targeted survey are needed to provide the scientific basis for advice on this species. The analysis conducted by ICES on the stock in 2011 was considered “exploratory in nature and based on limited information”. It is the intention of the Irish Marine Institute and other member states that boarfish be included in the EU Data Collection Framework (DCF) from 2013 onwards.</p> <p>The July 2011 industry-funded acoustic survey resulted in a continuous coverage over 33 days, 90,000 nmi² and transect coverage over 4,500 nmi. 24 trawls were sampled and lengths, weights, maturity data and otoliths of boarfish were collected. Although no specific target strength (TS) exists for boarfish yet, a range of biomass values were estimated using known TS values for similar species.</p>	R6, R7	MEDIUM
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

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	<p>There are currently no reference points or biomass projections for this stock, due to the lack of historical data.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p>Boarfish in the Northeast Atlantic. Recruitment estimates (age 1) from two surveys: EVOE-WIBTS-Q4 (French Celtic Sea and Biscay Survey, 1997 to 2010) and SpGFS-WIBTS-Q4 (Spanish North Coast Survey, (Q3/Q4) 1992 to 2010). Both are international bottom trawl surveys. From the ICES advice, Sep 2011.</p>		
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: Scientific information is sparse for this species, and advice has only been provided by ICES since 2011. For these reasons current management measures such as closed seasons and areas appear to be based on precautionary principals and not scientific research. However, ICES quota recommendations have already been implemented, and it is likely that as scientific evidence improves, management measures will be</p>	R5, R8	MEDIUM
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

	<p><i>adapted to take this into account.</i></p> <p>In 2010, the interim management plan was proposed by Ireland, which included a number of measures to mitigate potential bycatch of other TAC species in the boarfish fishery. A closed season from the 15th March to 31st August was proposed, as anecdotal evidence suggests that mackerel and boarfish are caught in mixed aggregations during this period. A closed season was proposed in Division VIIg from 1st September to 31st October, in order to prevent catches of Celtic Sea herring, which is known to form feeding aggregations in this region at these times. Finally, if catches of a species covered by a TAC, other than boarfish, amount to more than 5% of the total catch by day by ICES statistical rectangle, then fishing must cease in that rectangle. While these measures were developed in the light of available scientific information at the time, they were not a direct response to ICES advice as none was published until 2011. Now that ICES advice has become available for the first time, the contents of the management plan have begun to be adapted, most notably in the setting of the 2012 quota in accordance with ICES advice.</p>	
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c. The Precautionary Approach

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	c.i The precautionary approach is applied in the formulation of management plans.	References	Rating
LOW	<p><i>Determination: The interim management plan has not been evaluated by ICES for adherence to the precautionary approach; however it does appear to be highly precautionary compared to previous landings data and initial ICES advice. A risk-based assessment would improve the compliance of the fishery whilst scientific information remains so sparse.</i></p> <p>During the period 2008–2010, boarfish do not appear to have been overfished. However, landings have increased rapidly during these years, reaching almost 140,000t in 2010. As information on the exploitation of</p>	R5, R8	MEDIUM
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

	<p>boarfish is preliminary, ICES has stated that it would be cautious for catches not to increase above the average of landings (82,000t) recorded during that period.</p> <p>High catches in 2010 are associated with relatively low estimated F, suggesting that this is a large stock. The considerable catches in the past two years do not appear to have significantly truncated the size or age structure of the stock. Though the estimated TS is considered to result in underestimated biomass, it is assumed that there may be a minimum biomass of 603,000 t in the area from 48°N to 57°N in 2011, and the true estimate could be considerably higher. Estimated fishing mortality has increased from a negligible rate in 2007 to about 0.12 in 2010, below M. The large reduction in landings in 2011 is expected to result in a reduction in F, to levels below any candidate reference point.</p> <p>The mechanism that was used to set the TAC for 2011 (33,000 t) was based on the FAO code of practice for new and developing fisheries. Marine Institute Ireland scientists proposed the mechanism to provide for a much lower TAC than recent catches had been. The closed season was developed in conjunction with fishermen and scientists. Information from scientific sources shows that spawning mackerel are present in the second and third quarters in the boarfish fishery area. This was confirmed by fishermen who recorded bycatch at these times. The closed area was based on based on scientific data that shows the Celtic Sea herring stock to be distributed in this area at the specified time.</p>		
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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><i>Determination: Levels of fishing were subject to quota restrictions for the first time in 2011, the same year in which ICES provided its first quota advice. The 2012 TAC has been set at the level recommended by ICES as ‘cautious’.</i></p> <p>The initial proposed TAC for 2012 was 28,050t, but was increased to 82,000t in the light of ICES advice. Although this represents a substantial increase from the 2011 TAC of 33,000t, it is in line with the ICES advice which states “During the period 2008–2010, boarfish do not appear to have been overfished. However, landings have increased rapidly during these years, reaching almost 140 000 tonnes in 2010. As information on the exploitation of boarfish is preliminary, it would be cautious for catches not to increase above the average of landings (82,000 t) recorded during that period.”</p> <p>Prior to the September 2011 ICES advice, there was no advice provided by research organisations, and 2011 was the first time a quota was set for the stock. As the quota has been set at the level recommended by ICES in the one year that advice was available, the assessment team considers this stock to be highly compliant under this category. Surveillance assessments will ensure that this adherence to scientific advice continues as the fishery develops in future years. The official landings for 2011 for Denmark were 7797t and Ireland 20685t total landings 28482t with an official TAC of 33,000t</p>	R5, R8	HIGH
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

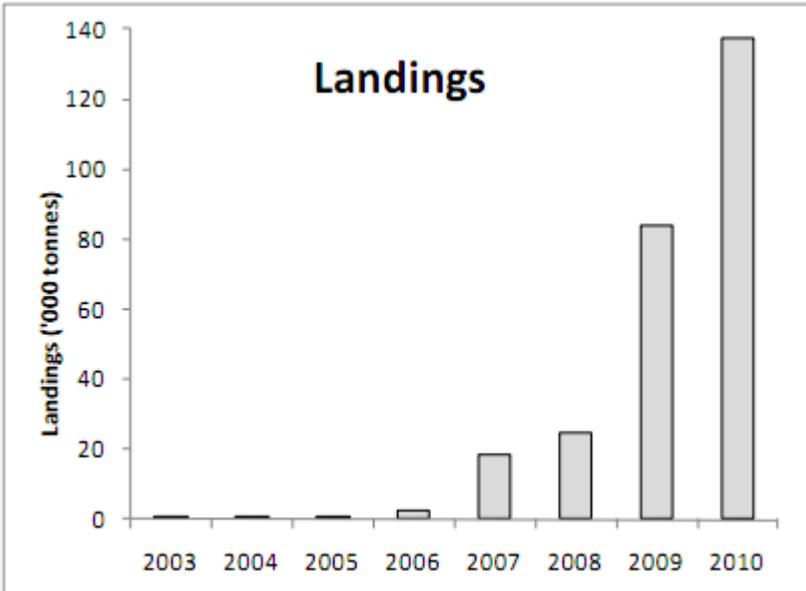
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	 <p>Landings</p> <p>Landings ('000 tonnes)</p> <p>2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010</p>	<p>Boarfish in the Northeast Atlantic. Landings (000' tonnes) from 2003 – 2010. No quotas were set for any of these years. From the ICES advice, Sep 2011.</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><i>Determination: Landings of this stock increased substantially between 2006 and 2010, while no quota was in place. The application of quotas from 2011 onwards will be the main management instrument ensuring that fishing capacity does not exceed a level sustainable by this stock. Additional EU-wide capacity reducing mechanisms also apply to this fishery.</i></p> <p>In 2011 a notional TAC was set for this stock for the first time. This quota of 33,000t was allocated</p>	R5, R8, R9	HIGH
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

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	<p>primarily to Ireland (22,227t), but also Denmark (7,900t) and the UK (1,223t). The 2012 TAC was set at 82,000t in line with ICES advice, and future quotas are likely to continue to reflect the developing science.</p> <p>The entry-exit regime, which applies to the majority of EU Member State vessels, is one of the main pillars of the European-wide fishing capacity management system. The entry-exit regime applies separately to the capacity measured in terms of tonnage and power. Any entry of capacity into the fleet of a Member State has to be compensated by the previous exit of at least the same amount of capacity. As a general rule, the capacity of the national fleets cannot increase with respect to its levels on 1 January 2003, for 'EU 15' Member States and on the accession date for Member States which acceded to the Community after 2003. The second pillar of the fishing capacity management system is the rule that capacity leaving the fleet with public aid cannot be replaced. Such capacity, expressed both in tonnage and power, is subtracted directly from the maximum fleet capacity of each Member State. Capacity reductions supported with public aid are therefore permanent.</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><i>Determination: Management measures general to EU fisheries and specific to the boarfish fishery are in place to attempt to minimise the impact on non-target species and the physical environment. At present, due to the recent development of the fishery, there is insufficient information on bycatch of non-target and PET species such as cetaceans.</i></p> <p>Pelagic trawling is considered to have virtually no impact on the benthic habitat, and additionally is generally considered highly species-specific when combined with fish-finding gear. However, several studies have reported the interaction of dolphins with midwater/pelagic trawl fisheries in the NE Atlantic, and a European Commission study group considered monitoring for cetacean by-catch to be a priority issue in other pelagic fisheries The information on the overall impact of this fishery on PET species is still insufficient, although 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</p>	R5-R8	MEDIUM
MEDIUM			
HIGH			

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	<p>between countries</p> <p>The ecological role and significance of boarfish in the NE Atlantic is largely unknown. However, in the south-east North Atlantic, in Portuguese waters, they are considered to have an important position in the marine food web. Boarfish appear an unlikely target of predation given their array of strong dorsal and anal fin spines and covering of ctenoid scales. However, there is evidence to suggest that they may be an important component of some species' diets. In the Azores, boarfish was found to be one of the most important prey items for tope, thorn-back ray, conger eel, forkbeard, bigeye tuna, yellowmouth barracuda, swordfish, blackspot seabream, axillary seabream, and blacktail comber.</p> <p>In 2010 an interim management plan, proposed by Ireland, included a number of measures to mitigate potential bycatch of other TAC species in the boarfish fishery. A closed season from 15 March to 31 August was proposed, as anecdotal evidence suggested that mackerel and boarfish are caught in mixed aggregations during this period. A closed season was proposed in Division VIIg from 1 September to 31 October to prevent catches of Celtic Sea herring, known to form feeding aggregations in this region at these times. If catches of a species other than boarfish but covered by TAC, totalled more than 5% of the total catch, by day and by ICES statistical rectangle, then fishing must cease in that rectangle.</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	<p>Determination: A framework of sanctions exists and is effective at national and international levels.</p> <p>Infringements of CFP rules are dealt with by the Member State concerned. Monitoring the number of cases detected and the nature and the level of the sanctions imposed is a key part of the Commission's task of ensuring a level playing field for all EU fishers.</p> <p>2008 Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 established a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. Through EU Fishery Policy and Regulations, Member States must apply effective, proportionate and dissuasive sanctions against natural or legal persons engaged in IUU activities. A maximum sanction of at least five times the value of the fishery products obtained is provided for with regard to the committing of the said infringement.</p> <p>In the event of a repeated infringement within a five-year period, the Member States shall impose a maximum sanction of at least eight times the value of the fishery products obtained by committing the serious infringement.</p>	R1-R4, R10, R11	HIGH
MEDIUM			
HIGH			
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	e.ii A management system for fisheries control and enforcement should be established.	References	Rating
LOW	<p>Determination: Fisheries control and enforcement is largely the responsibility of individual EU Member States, with oversight at the European level. Denmark, Ireland and the UK all have in place robust</p>	R1-R4, R10, R11	HIGH
MEDIUM			

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HIGH	<p><i>management systems for fisheries control and enforcement.</i></p> <p>The rules of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) are decided by the Council of European Fisheries Ministers, and it is then the responsibility of each Member State to see that these rules are implemented by their own operators and in their national waters. This means not only ensuring that operators know what the rules are, but controlling whether they are following those rules in practice, and where this is not the case, taking effective action to enforce the law.</p> <p>In practice, CFP control as carried out by the Member States' control authorities can be broken down into three broad areas: conservation, structures, and markets. Conservation measures cover issues such as quota management or the implementation of technical measures (e.g. mesh sizes). Inspections are used to ensure that the fishing gear on board vessels meets official norms and that the information entered in log-books. Structural policy plays a key role in the search for a balance between the fishing capacity of Member States, the fishing effort actually deployed, and the available fish resources. Checks are therefore necessary to establish that allocated days-at-sea have not been exceeded. Finally, national inspections are not limited to the catching sector, but also include all operations from landing and marketing to storage and transportation. Operators must, at all times, be in possession of proper documentation detailing the origin, nature, quantity and quality of fish involved in transactions, so that it can be cross-checked with data in log-books and from other sources, such as fish auctions.</p> <p>The Danish Directorate of Fisheries, UK Marine Management Organisation, and Irish Sea Fisheries Protection Authority are the competent authorities with responsibility of enforcement of sanctions and penalties with respect to the prosecution of fishery rules in each country. National fishing control systems apply EU access regulations in combination with regulations of the total fleet capacity measured by tonnage and engine power. Vessels must be registered and authorised through individual licensing. Legal instruments are brought into force through Ministerial Orders and largely reflect EU Regulations within the CFP framework.</p>	
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