



**Scientific, Technical and Economic
Committee for Fisheries (STECF)**

**REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC ADVICE FOR 2011
Part 2**

CORRIGENDUM

Advice on the stock of sole ICES Divisions VII_f and VII_g (Celtic Sea)

ADOPTED BY THE STECF BY WRITTEN PROCEDURE ON 12 AUGUST 2010

Edited by John Casey, Willy Vanhee & Hendrik Dörner

EUR 24534 EN - 2010

The mission of the Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen (IPSC) is to provide research results and to support EU policy-makers in their effort towards global security and towards protection of European citizens from accidents, deliberate attacks, fraud and illegal actions against EU policies.

The Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) has been established by the European Commission. The STECF is being consulted at regular intervals on matters pertaining to the conservation and management of living aquatic resources, including biological, economic, environmental, social and technical considerations.

European Commission
Joint Research Centre
Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen

Contact information

Address: TP 051, 21027 Ispra (VA), Italy
E-mail: stecf-secretariat@jrc.ec.europa.eu
Tel.: 0039 0332 789343
Fax: 0039 0332 789658

<https://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/home>
<http://ipsc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>
<http://www.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

Legal Notice

Neither the European Commission nor any person acting on behalf of the Commission is responsible for the use that might be made of this publication.

This report does not necessarily reflect the view of the European Commission and in no way anticipates the Commission's future policy in this area.

Europe Direct is a service to help you find answers to your questions about the European Union

Freephone number (*):

00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11

(*): Certain mobile telephone operators do not allow access to 00 800 numbers or these calls may be billed.

A great deal of additional information on the European Union is available on the Internet. It can be accessed through the Europa server <http://europa.eu/>

JRC62197
EUR 24534 EN
ISSN 1831-9424

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union

© European Union, 2010

Reproduction is authorised provided the source is acknowledged

Printed in Italy

SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES (STECF)

REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC ADVICE FOR 2011 Part 2

CORRIGENDUM

The text below should replace the corresponding sections in the Part 2 of the STECF Review of advice for 2011 for stocks of Community interest (STECF 2010. Review of scientific advice for 2011 – Part 2. Luxembourg, Publications Office of the European Union, EUR 24534 EN, JRC 59837).

3.17. Sole (*Solea solea*) in Divisions VIIIf,g (Celtic Sea)

FISHERIES: The sole fishery is concentrated on the north Cornish coast off Trevoze Head and around Lands End. Reported landings have generally declined since the mid 1980s, up to 1998. Since then they increased to around 1,300 t in the early 2000's. Landings in 2009 were 800 t.

Sole are taken mainly in a beam trawl fishery that started in the early 1960s and, to a lesser extent, in the longer established otter trawl fisheries. In the beam trawl fishery sole is mainly taken as part of a mixed demersal fishery with plaice and, to a lesser extent, cod. Both of the latter stocks require a reduction in fishing mortality.

In the 1970s, the fishery was mainly carried out by Belgian beam trawlers and Belgian and UK otter trawlers. The use of beam trawls (to target sole and plaice) increased during the mid-1970s, and the Belgian otter trawlers have now been almost entirely replaced by beam trawlers. Effort in the Belgium beam trawl fleet increased in the late 1980s as vessels normally operating in the North Sea were attracted to the west by improved fishing opportunities. Beam trawling by UK vessels increased substantially from 1986, reaching a peak in 1990 and decreasing thereafter. In the Celtic Sea, the beam and otter trawl fleets also take other demersal species such as plaice, cod, rays, brill, turbot, and anglerfish.

Currently the fisheries for sole in the Celtic Sea and Bristol Channel involve vessels from Belgium, taking around 65%, the UK around 25%, France around 5% and Ireland also around 5% of the total landings.

The Celtic Sea is an area without days-at-sea limitations for demersal fisheries. In the past this has resulted in increased effort in the Celtic Sea as a direct result of restrictive effort in other areas. This was particularly the case in 2004–2005 when effort in the sole fishery increased because of restrictive days at sea in the eastern channel (Division VIIId).

SOURCE OF MANAGEMENT ADVICE: The advice is based on an analytical age-based assessment using landings, two commercial cpue series, and one survey index.

REFERENCE POINTS:

	<i>Type</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Technical basis</i>
MSY	MSY $B_{trigger}$	2200 t	B_{pa}
Approach	F_{msy}	0.31	Provisional proxy based on stochastic simulations
Precautionary	B_{lim}	Not defined	
	B_{pa}	2200 t	There is no evidence of reduced recruitment at the lowest biomass observed and B_{pa} can therefore be set equal to the lowest observed SSB.
Approach	F_{lim}	0.52	F_{lim} : F_{loss} .
	F_{pa}	0.37	This F is considered to have a high probability of avoiding F_{lim} and maintaining SSB above B_{pa} in 10 years, taking into account the uncertainty of assessments. F_{pa} : $F_{lim} \times 0.72$ implies a less than 5% probability that ($SSB_{MT} < B_{pa}$).

STOCK STATUS:

F (Fishing Mortality)			
	2007	2008	2009
MSY (F_{msy})	+	+	+
Precautionary approach (F_{pa}, F_{lim})	+	+	+

SSB (Spawning Stock Biomass)			
	2008	2009	2010
MSY ($B_{trigger}$)	+	+	+
Precautionary approach (B_{pa}, B_{lim})	+	+	+

The spawning-stock biomass has been above B_{pa} since 2001. Fishing mortality has decreased from F_{lim} in 2003 to the lowest levels in the time series. The 2007 and 2008 year classes are estimated to be above average.

RECENT MANAGEMENT ADVICE:

Advice summary for 2011

Management Objective (s)	Landings in 2011
Transition to an MSY approach with caution at low stock size	Less than 1400 t
Cautiously avoid impaired recruitment (Precautionary Approach)	Less than 1700 t
Cautiously avoid impaired recruitment and achieve other objective(s) of a management plan (e.g., catch stability)	n/a

3

Outlook for 2011

MSY approach

Following the ICES MSY framework implies fishing mortality to be 0.31, resulting in landings of 1400 t in 2011. This is expected to lead to an SSB of 4900 t in 2012.

PA approach

The fishing mortality in 2011 should be no more than F_{pa} corresponding to landings of less than 1700 t in 2011. This is expected to keep SSB above B_{pa} in 2012.

Policy paper

In light of the EU policy paper on fisheries management (17 May 2010, [COM\(2010\) 241](#)) this stock is classified under category 1. Fishing at F_{msy} would result in a 45% TAC increase for 2011 however there is a 25% TAC constraint applied to category 1 stocks resulting in a 2011 TAC of 1200 t.

STECF COMMENTS: STECF agrees with the ICES assessment of the state of the stock and the advised forecast catch options for 2011.

With reference to the Communication from the Commission (COM (2010) 241 FINAL), STECF advises that sole in Division VIIIf,g falls under Category 1. Accordingly STECF notes that the rules for the above category imply a TAC in 2011 of 1,241 t on the basis of a 25% increase in the 2010 TAC. STECF notes that this will result in exploitation below F_{MSY} in 2011.

European Commission

EUR 24534 EN – Joint Research Centre – Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen

Title: Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries. Review of Scientific advice for 2011 – Part 2. Corrigendum.

Author(s): Casey, J., Abella, J. A., Andersen, J.L., Bailey, N., H., Daures, F., Di Natale, A., Dobby, H., Döring, R., Figueiredo, I., Graham, N., Gascuel, D., Gustavsson, T., Hatcher, A., Kirkegaard, E., Kraak, S., Kuikka, S., Martin, P., Parkes, G., Sabatella, E., Somarakis, S., Stransky, C., Vanhee, W., Van Hoof, L. & Van Oostenbrugge.

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union
2010 – 4 pp. – 21 x 29.7 cm
EUR – Scientific and Technical Research series – ISSN 1831-9424

Abstract

This corrigendum should replace the corresponding sections in the Part 2 of the STECF Review of advice for 2011 for stocks of Community interest (STECF 2010. Review of scientific advice for 2011 – Part 2. Luxembourg, Publications Office of the European Union, EUR 24534 EN, JRC 59837).

How to obtain EU publications

Our priced publications are available from EU Bookshop (<http://bookshop.europa.eu>), where you can place an order with the sales agent of your choice.

The Publications Office has a worldwide network of sales agents. You can obtain their contact details by sending a fax to (352) 29 29-42758.

The mission of the JRC is to provide customer-driven scientific and technical support for the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of EU policies. As a service of the European Commission, the JRC functions as a reference centre of science and technology for the Union. Close to the policy-making process, it serves the common interest of the Member States, while being independent of special interests, whether private or national.

LB-NA-24534-EN-K



The Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) has been established by the European Commission. The STECF is being consulted at regular intervals on matters pertaining to the conservation and management of living aquatic resources, including biological, economic, environmental, social and technical considerations.