

Cantabrian Sea purse seine anchovy fishery

PUBLIC CERTIFICATION REPORT
24th of March 2015



Client Group: OPEGUI & OPESCAYA

Fishermen: COFRADIA SAN MARTIN DE LAREDO
FEDERACIÓN COFRADÍAS
PESCADORES DE GIPUZKOA
FEDERACIÓN COFRADÍAS DE
PESCADORES BIZKAIA

BUREAU VERITAS CERTIFICATION

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Glossary

ACOM	ICES Advisory Committee
BMSY	Stock biomass at maximum sustainable yield
Bpa	Precautionary reference point for spawning stock biomass
Blim	Limit reference point for spawning stock biomass below which recruitment is expected to be impaired.
CFP	Common Fisheries Policy
CR	Council Regulation
DCF	Data Collection Framework
EC	European Commission
EFF	EU Fisheries Fund
EMFF	EU Maritime and Fisheries Fund
ETP	Endangered, threatened and protected species
EU	European Union
F	Fishing Mortality
FMSY	Target reference point for fishing mortality that is expected to drive the stock to levels consistent with BMSY.
Flim	Limit reference point for fishing mortality that is expected to drive the stock to the biomass limit
F _{pa}	Precautionary reference point of fishing mortality expected to maintain the SSB at the precautionary reference point
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation
HCR	Harvest Control Rules
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
MCS	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
MSY	Maximum Sustainable Yield
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PCDR	Public Comment Draft Report
P1	Principle 1 (MSC)
P2	Principle 2 (MSC)
P3	Principle 3 (MSC)

PI	Performance Indicator (MSC)
OPEGUI	Organización de productores de pesca de bajura de Guipuzcoa
OPESCAYA	Organización de Productores de pesca de bajura de Bizkaia
TED	Target eligibility date
SSB	Spawning Stock Biomass
STECF	Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries
TAC	Total Allowable Catch
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
VPA	Virtual Population Analysis

1. Executive Summary

This draft report provides details of the MSC assessment of the fishery process for the Cantabrian Sea purse seine anchovy fishery prepared by the team and the CAB provided to the client and afterwards to the peer reviewers. The client group covered by the certificate are two organizations of producers called: Organización de productores de pesca de bajura de Guipuzcoa (OPEGUI) & OPESCAYA (Organización de Productores de pesca de bajura de Bizkaia). Additionally, the purse seine vessels from Cofradía San Martín de Laredo & from the federations called: Federación de Cofradías de Guipuzcoa & Vizcaya are the boats included in the certificate. From now on we will use the term the client for short.

Moody Marine Limited was contracted to carry out a pre-assessment in 2009, which was not passed. The main issues of concern at the time involved the stock status and the fishery closure. It is now considered the company is very likely to meet the MSC Principles and Criteria, and even though the anchovy fishery in the Bay of Biscay was closed for 5 years from 2005 to 2009, anchovy catches have been increasing since it reopened in 2010. In addition, this is one of the most important sources of revenue for the Basque pelagic purse-seiner fleet. This led to the decision to carry out the Full-Assessment.

The audit team that conducted the assessment against the MSC standard was comprised of the following members from the accreditation body, BUREAU VERITAS CERTIFICATION: Macarena Garcia Silva, Seafood auditor from Bureau Veritas Iberia, in the role of project coordinator and team leader; and Capucine Rios, MSC Technical manager from Bureau Veritas Certification. The expert team, selected for their stock assessment, ecosystem interactions, and fishery management experience, comprised Lisa Maria Pontes Coelho Borges as expert assessor under Principle 1 & 2, and Luis Ambrosio as expert assessor under Principle 3. Moreover an assessor, but not part of the team, has been contracted for technical support called Dankert W. Skagen.

This assessment covers the activity of the vessels listed in Appendix 3 from 58 purse seine vessels from the Cofradía San Martín de Laredo & from the federations called: Federación de Cofradías de Guipuzcoa & Vizcaya targeting European anchovy in ICES Subarea VIII (Bay of Biscay).

Public notice regarding the launch of the MSC Certification Programme for the Cantabrian Sea purse seine anchovy fishery was published in June 2014. This was followed by a series of announcements posted on the MSC website reporting all the phases being undertaken.

The tasks schedule, identified as [Preliminary Assessment timeline](#), was published first, followed by the proposal and subsequent confirmation of the Assessment team. In the next stage of the assessment, Bureau Veritas announced the [use of the Default Assessment Tree](#), included in v1.3 of the MSC Certification Requirements.

One of the main steps when assessing fishery compliance with the International MSC Standard involves meeting with the stakeholders in order for the team to gather all the relevant information and become aware of any potential issues. The site was assessed from 1st to 4th of September 2014 with selected organisations and individuals with a direct interest in this fishery. The stakeholders involved in the fishery were contacted by telephone and a follow up email prior to the site visit in order to prepare the fishery information the experts required.

After the site visit, the team compiled and analysed all the relevant data, as well as the technical, written, and anecdotal resources collected during the visit. Each expert prepared a draft score and justification, and then discussed and weighed up the evidence. Lastly, the team used their judgement to agree on a final score in line with the MSC processes.

The main **strengths** and weaknesses of this assessment process are as follows:

- Stock has recovered from recent depletion and is healthy.
- The fishery has low environmental impact: low by-catch of commercial, non-commercial and no ETP, little contact with seabed, and very well studied ecosystem.
- Management plan developed and implemented.
- Adequate management system applied under EU CFP framework.

In the other hand the **weaknesses**:

- No at sea monitoring to show continues low environmental impact.
- Management plan not formally agreed by EU.

On completion of the assessment and scoring process, the assessment team **concluded** that the Cantabrian Sea purse seine anchovy fishery should be certified according to the Marine Stewardship Council Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fisheries

2. Authorship and Peer Reviewers

Macarena García Silva, assessment team leader.

Macarena's academic background includes a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Science from the Madrid Polytechnic University (Spain) and a Master degree in Sustainable Management of Marine and Coastal Systems from Barcelona University (Spain). She was a manager in Inemar (Association for innovation in marine resources and sea studies). She has worked as an assistant in the Spanish Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs, carrying out different projects involving human activities and sea resources.

She has participated in several scientific publications, such as the "Ecological framework for the management of the different habitats in Spain (Council Directive 92/43/CE)", "Supporting report accompanying the thematic cartography of the MedRAS Project", and "Draft of the Basis for Marine Planning in Spain". She was responsible for the scientific and technical coordination of the bilingual publication "The Seas of Spain" from the Spanish Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs, and responsible for the scientific and technical coordination of the bilingual publication "Human Activities in the Seas of Spain".

She has been working as seafood auditor for Bureau Veritas Iberia (Agrofood Department) since September 2011, which involves the technical development of private sustainable labels and seafood companies' policies. She is the lead auditor for Friends of the sea, MSC fisheries full assessment and pre-assessment, the chain of custody, and other quality labels (DOP, Mexillon de Galicia, Pesca de Rías).

To download a detailed CV click on the following [link](#).

Lisa Maria Pontes Coelho Borges, expert assessor under Principle 1 & 2.

Lisa is an experienced fishery scientist, with extensive knowledge and experience of assessing the environmental impact of fisheries, and discards and bycatch in particular, as well as fisheries management policies, including harvest control rules, management programmes, and discard policy development. She has experience in assessing pelagic and demersal stocks, and is familiar with MSC assessment procedures, having participated and led several Fisheries Improvement Projects over the last three years.

Lisa has a BSc in Marine Biology & Fisheries from the University of the Algarve (Portugal), an MSc in Fisheries from the University of Porto (Portugal), and a PhD on discards from demersal fisheries from the National University of Ireland.

She has worked for three national fisheries research institutes: IPIMAR (Portugal), the Marine Institute (Ireland), and IMARES (The Netherlands). Lisa also worked for the European Commission in Belgium, developing conservation policies for fish stocks in Atlantic waters. Lisa currently runs her own consulting firm, FishFix (www.fishfix.eu).

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Luis Ambrosio Blazquez, expert assessor under Principle 3.

Managing Director of Proyectos Biológicos y Técnicos s.l. (PROBITEC), since 1989 he has worked as a consultant on issues related to fisheries, aquaculture and marine biosphere. Regarding Fisheries and Aquaculture, he has collaborated with a variety of public administrations, private companies, and NGOs.

His main areas of knowledge are: assessment of international fisheries, marine protected areas, marine biodiversity and biotechnology, fisheries policies, commercialization and quality of fisheries products, labelling and certification, environmental interactions of fishing and socio-economic impact of fishing activities. Moreover, has participated in cooperation projects and assignments on issues related to fishing and aquaculture for the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), UNDP, the Latin American Organization for Fisheries Development (OLDEPESCA) and other international cooperation agents. He has worked as coordinator of the White Paper on fishing and aquaculture and he belongs to the Spanish Technological Platform on Fishing and Aquaculture (known as PTEPA for its acronym in Spanish), representing the firm PROBITEC.

Concerning his work on the marine environment, worth mentioning are the projects carried out for the Ministry of Environment, the Spanish National Research Council and Non Governmental Organizations, in particular WWF Spain, for whom he is an advisor on matters related to fishing, aquaculture, and marine protected areas.

To download a detailed CV click on the following [link](#).

The Peer Reviewers

Adolfo Merino, is a veteran of 17 years in the fisheries sector. He is the founder of ADOMER Internacional Consultores y Soluciones, SL (ADOMER), and he acts also as Director of International INDEMAR Fisheries, Spanish Consultant in the fields of fishery, aquaculture and agro-industry.

He has experience in developing reports and projects, both national and international, focused mainly on fisheries resource management, aquaculture, fishing fleet structures, organisations, marketing, fisheries policy in general and structural funds managing Mr. Merino has a deep knowledge of the fisheries sector in the EU and third world countries from Africa, America and the Middle East.

He has worked as a manager of strategic projects supporting the fisheries sector in Angola and Republic of Sao Tome and Principe. He has provided technical assistance regarding fishery and aquaculture issues and in the identification, formulation and management of development projects of the fisheries sector in different countries: Dominican Republic, Gabon, Ghana, Namibia, Russia, Seychelles, Vietnam and Yemen.

He has participated as Resident Adviser in Fisheries Projects, financed by the European Union, in Estonia, Poland and Croatia (2003 – 2007, 2012 - 2014) with the objective of supporting the fisheries administrations and sector of the new EU Member States to fulfil their obligations coming from the Common Fisheries Policy.

As director of INDEMAR, Mr. Merino has been involved on backstopping of several projects and coordinated a team of more than twenty employees. He collaborates with public



fisheries administrations and sector-based associations and companies in the identification and implementation of different projects."

Please click on the following [link](#) to download a detailed CV.

Hans Lassen: Independent consultant holds a cand. scient. (M.Sc.) from Copenhagen University and a HD (B.Sc.) from the Copenhagen School of Commerce. His background is in fish stock assessments, particularly in the application of computers and models. He joined the Danish Institute of Fisheries and Marine Research (DIFRES) in 1971. 1988-1992 he worked in the Greenland Fisheries Research Institute as Deputy Director and Director and returned to DIFRES in 1992. Between 1998 and 2003 he was in charge of the Fisheries Group in the ICES Secretariat as Fisheries Adviser who serves as secretary to the ICES Advisory Committee on Fishery Management. After 2004 he was head of the ICES Advisory Programme within the ICES Secretariat. He retired from the ICES secretariat in 2010 and has since worked on various projects within his expertise in advisory issues.

He has been a member and Chairman of numerous ICES committees and groups, has within the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization chaired STACFIS and the Scientific Council, been a member of STECF (EC, DG Fish), scientific adviser to Danish delegations to fisheries negotiations and chaired an internal EC expert group to provide input to the EC Multi-annual Guidance Program, within the Nordic Council of Ministers he chaired its Working Group on Fisheries and worked with the FAO/DANIDA project (1982-1998) on teaching fish stock assessment. In 2006 he was awarded the prestigious Swedish prize "Kungsfenan" for contributions to communication between science and the fishing industry. At his retirement from ICES he was awarded a Special Service Award.

He has been a member of MSC certification teams for westgreenland shrimp, and Barents Sea Demersal trawl fisheries (Greenland) and Westgreenland lumpfish. He has acted as reviewer for several MSC assessment reports.

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3. Description of the Fishery

3.1 Unit(s) of Certification and scope of certification sought

Bureau Veritas Certification confirms that the fishery falls within the scope of the requested MSC certification for assessment.

According to the MSC Guidance, the unit of certification is defined as “the fishery or fish stock (= biologically distinct unit) combined with the fishing method/gear, and practice (= vessel(s) pursuing that stock).”

The CAB has reviewed the information available, and concludes that one Unit of Certification (UC) is suitable and in accordance with MSC Principles. The purse seine anchovy fishery certification unit assessed is defined as follows:

Table 3-1 Unit of Certification 1

Target stock: common name & scientific name	European anchovy- <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>
Geographical area	ICES Subarea VIII (Bay of Biscay)
Gear	Purse seine
Practice (including vessels) pursuing the stock	58 purse seine vessels from the Cofradía San Martín de Laredo & from the federations called: Federación de Cofradías de Guipuzcoa & Vizcaya.

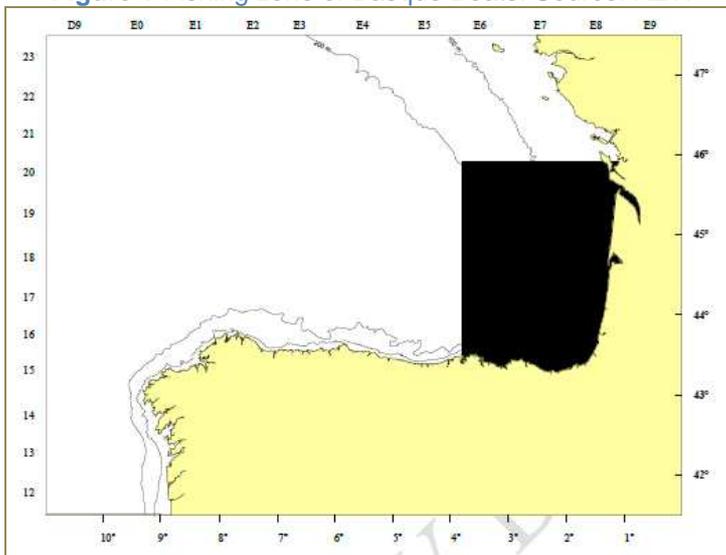
The UC was chosen as they encompass the client’s assessment requirements. As it stands, 58 purse seine vessels are covered by the certificate. All vessels are relatively homogenous insofar as their technical characteristics and concerned (Castro et al., 2007). The vessels within the UC are included in the purse seine fleet census from the Cantabrian Sea and the northeast of Spain. See Appendix 3 for details.

Description of eligible fishers

Two fleets used to operate on anchovy in the Bay of Biscay before the closure: Spanish purse-seines (operating mainly during spring) and the French fleet constituted of purse-seiners (the Basque ones operating mainly in spring and the Breton ones in autumn) and pelagic trawlers (mainly during the second half of the year).

As reported by AZTI, the Spanish and French fleets fishing for anchovy in Subarea VIII are spatially and temporally well separated. The Spanish fleet operates mainly in Divisions VIIIc and VIIIb in spring, while the French fleets operate in Division VIIIa in summer and autumn and in Division VIIIb in winter and summer. (Figure 1)

Figure 1 Fishing zone of Basque Boats. Source: AZTI



For the specific case of the Spanish fleet, the 2014 ICES WGHANSA report concludes that 176 Spanish boats had a permit to fish anchovies from the ICES VIII stock in 2013. According to the latest data in this report, there were 149 boats up to mid-June, distributed in the following manner:

Basque Country	Cantabria	Asturias	Galicia	Total
52	30	7	60	149

As already mentioned, the boats registered in the Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste (North-East Cantabrian National Fishing Grounds), and which comply with Order AAA/1307/2013, of 1 July, establishing a management plan for registered boats in the North-East Cantabrian National Fishing Grounds, are eligible vessels and therefore fishermen for this full assessment. The client has considered this possibility and has therefore left the certificate open to entry to those boats on completion of the assessment process as long as a compliant result is achieved. The Certificate sharing was published in the MSC website in August 2014.

Lastly, the client decided to only include the Basque and Laredo Association fleets at this point. We consider this an appropriate choice, as they represent a significant proportion of the Spanish fleet.

3.2 Overview of the fishery

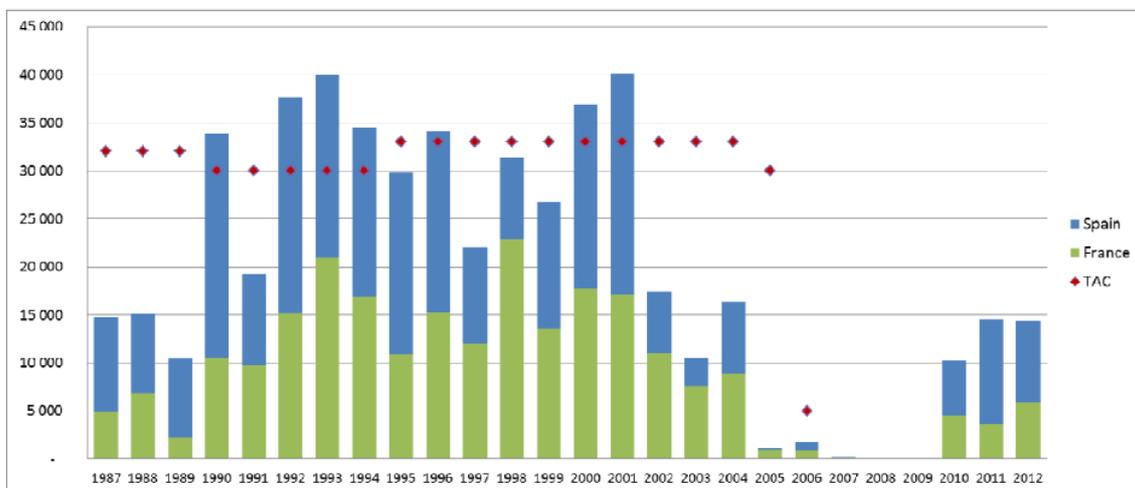
European anchovy is widely distributed along the Atlantic sea coast off Europe and Africa, into the Mediterranean, Adriatic and Aegean and further into the Black Sea. As it is a short-lived species (generally living up to 3 and almost 5 years), the population level depends strongly on the incoming year-class strength, which is highly variable and largely dependent on environmental factors (Motos *et al.*, 1996; Borja *et al.*, 1998; Allain *et al.*, 2003; Freón *et al.*, 2005).

The Spanish purse-seiner is the main anchovy catching fleet in the Bay of Biscay. The Spanish fishery developed in the 1950s and declined from the early 1970s until the mid-1980s, when a French fishery developed (Villamor *et al.*, 2007). This evolution coincided with a major change in the distribution of the fishery. The decline in the 1970s was associated with a progressive reduction in the distribution area of the spring fishery from west to east along the Spanish coast, and with a progressive disappearance of the autumn fishery (Junquera, 1984). This drop in numbers is illustrated by the fact there were around 600 Spanish purse seiners in 1966, about half of which were Basque. Ten years on and the fleet was about one-third smaller. By the end of the millennium, the Spanish purse seine fleet had shrunk even further – to around 260 vessels, more than half of which were Basque. This does not imply a reduction in fishing capacities, however – newer boats are bigger than traditional boats and better equipment increased fishing operation efficiency.

Landing volumes have varied greatly over the time series, which is probably derived from resource variability. Landings were very small or non-existent from 2005 to 2009 given the fishery closure. Anchovy landings recovered to levels similar to 2002-2004 afterwards.

The volume of anchovy landings in the Bay of Biscay has been on a downward trend from over 40,000 tonnes in 1993 to 14,500 tonnes in 2012 (after the 2005 - 2009 fishery closure) (Figure 2). The value of the landings after the fishery reopened amounted to 13.6 million Euros in 2012. The Spanish fleet accounted for the biggest share of landings by weight (56% - 75%). In value terms, the French fleet achieved 34% of the total landings in 2012.

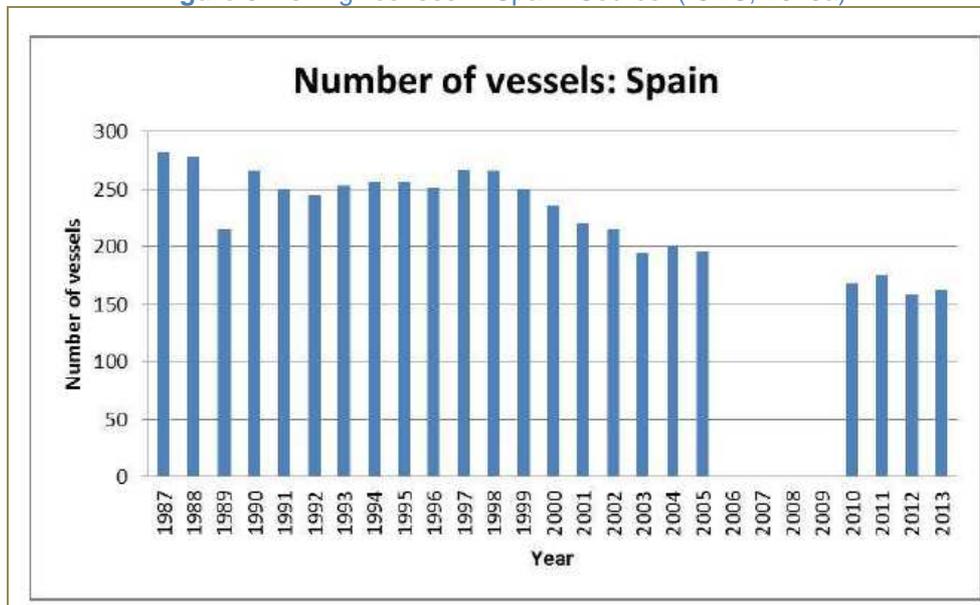
Figure 2 Anchovy landings and TAC in the Bay of Biscay (tonnes) from 1987 to 2012 from French and Spanish vessels. Source: ICES, 2013a & ICES, 2013c



When it comes to the evolution of the fleet over the time series, the number of licenses for the Spanish fleet has been decreasing (Figure 3). This downward trend began prior to the

anchovy closure, and from 2000 onwards in particular. This implies that the decrease in the fleet cannot be solely attributed to the closure of the anchovy fishery.

Figure 3 Fishing licenses in Spain. Source: (ICES, 2013a)



The Table below reflects the status of the fishery after, during and before the closure of the fishery. The agreed TACs usually did not consider biological advice. Between 1987 and 2001, landings (ICES) were below TAC for 8 years and above TAC for the other 7. The fishery started to fail at the start of the new millennium due to poor recruitment. The fishery was closed on the 1st July 2005. It was reopened in 2006, but closed again in 2007 up to the end of 2009. In December 2009, the EC proposed keeping the fishery closed until June 2010, but after it, and based on indications from a recruitment survey suggesting a good recruitment was happening, the Council decision was taken to reopen the fishery with a provisional total allowable catch (TAC) of 7,000 t.

Table 3-2 Anchovy in Subarea (Bay of Biscay). Advice, management and landings. Source: ICES Advice 2014, Book 7

Year	ICES advice	Predicted catch corresp. to advice	Agreed TAC	Official Landings	ICES catch
1987	Not assessed	-	32	14	15.0
1988	Not assessed	-	32	14	16.0
1989	Increase SSB: TAC	10.0 ¹	32	6	11.0
1990	Precautionary TAC	12.3	30	22	34
1991	Precautionary TAC	14	30	12	20
1992	No advice	-	30	25	38
1993	Reduced F on juveniles: Closed Area	-	30	29	40.0
1994	Reduced F on juveniles: Closed Area	-	30	28	35.0
1995	Reduced F on juveniles: Closed	-	33	29	30.0

	Area				
1996	Reduced F on juveniles: Closed Area	-	33	25	34.0
1997	Reduced F on juveniles: Closed Area	-	33	18	22.0
1998	Reduced F on juveniles: Closed Area	-	33	27	32
1999	Reduced F on juveniles: Closed Area	-	33	16	27
2000	Closure of the Fishery	0	33	35	37
2001	Preliminary TAC at recent exploitation	18.0	33	37	40
2002	Preliminary TAC at recent exploitation	33	33	19	18
2003	Preliminary TAC at recent exploitation	12.5	33	10	11
2004	Preliminary TAC at recent exploitation	11	33	16	16
2005	Rebuilding SSB	5	30	1	1
2006	Closure of the Fishery	0	5	2	2
2007	Closure of the Fishery	0	0	0.1	0.1 ²
2008	Closure of the Fishery	0	0	0	0
2009	Closure of the Fishery	0	0	0.1	0
2010	Closure of the Fishery	0	7	11	6.1 ³
2010/2011⁴	See scenarios	-	15.6	-	15.1
2011/2012	Risk of SSB falling below Blim < 5%	<47	29.7	-	12.2
2012/2013	Risk of SSB falling below Blim < 5%	<28	20.7	-	16.8
2013/2014	Risk of SSB falling below Blim < 5%	<18	17.1	-	16.7 ⁵
	Risk of SSB falling below Blim < 5%	<23			

Notes: Weights in thousand tonnes. ¹Mean catch of 1987–1989. ² Experimental fisheries. ³Catch from January 2011 to June 2011. ⁴ From 2011 onwards, advice, TAC, and landings are valid from 1 July to 30 June. ⁵ Provisional catch from 1 July 2013 to 15 June 2014. n/a: not available.

In order to increase anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay to a level permitting sustainable exploitation based on the maximum sustainable yield, long-term stock management measures were then required to ensure stock exploitation at high yields in accordance with maximum sustainable yield, which provides the best guarantee of both fishery stability and a low risk of stock collapse.

Therefore, the EU proposed in the Council Regulation 2009/0112(CNS) final the establishment of a long-term management plan for the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay and the fisheries exploiting that stock. The objective of the plan was to maintain the biomass of the stock of anchovy in the Bay of Biscay at a level that allows its sustainable exploitation in accordance with maximum sustainable yield, on the basis of scientific advice, and while ensuring as much stability and profitability for the fishing sector as is practicable.

They are specific measures establishing the TAC for each fishing season and allocation of fishing opportunities between the Member States in a manner complies with this management period and on the basis of the advice from the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF).

The anchovy TAC needs to be set around July each year. Under Council Regulation (EC) No 713/2013, the Council established the TAC for the fishery exploiting this stock applicable from 1 July 2013 until 30 June 2014. The TAC and its allocation to the Member States concerned must be fixed for the following 12 months. The assessment team has been informed that the EC has agreed with concerned Member States and stakeholders to revert the management back to the natural calendar year (from January to December), based on a revised Harvest Control Rule which generates a similar biological risk as the present one (STECF 2014).

For the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay, scientific advice is based on a fishing season running from 1 July 2014 until 30 June 2015. Preliminary advice from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) estimates that the Bay of Biscay anchovy 2014 spawning stock biomass, at the time of spawning, is 66,158 tonnes.

In the last proposal for the 2014/2015 fishing season, the Commission found appropriate to fix a TAC of 20,100 tonnes corresponding to approximately an 18% increase from the previous TAC. In the Article 1: Fishing opportunities for anchovy in the Bay of Biscay. The total allowable catch (TAC) and its allocation between Member States for the fishing season running from 1 July 2014 until 30 June 2015 for the stock of anchovy in ICES Subarea VIII, as defined in Regulation (EC) No 218/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, shall be as follows (in tonnes live weight): Europe 20100 tonnes distributed between Spain (18090 tonnes) and France (2010 tonnes).

3.3 Principle One: Target Species Background

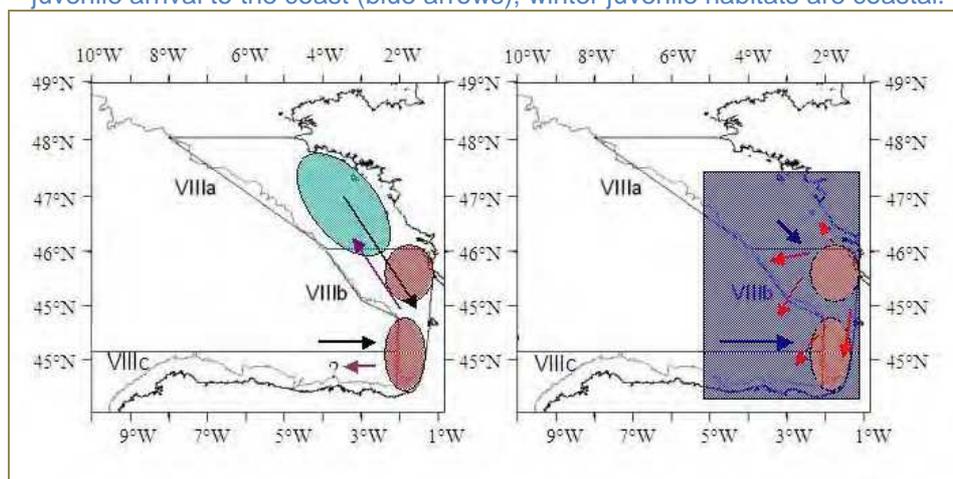
3.3.1 Spawning and growth

European anchovy is widely distributed along the Atlantic sea coast off Europe and Africa, into the Mediterranean, Adriatic and Aegean and further into the Black Sea. As it is a short-lived species (generally living up to 3 and almost 5 years), the population level depends strongly on the incoming year-class strength, which is highly variable and largely dependent on environmental factors (Motos *et al.*, 1996; Borja *et al.*, 1998; Allain *et al.*, 2003; Freón *et al.*, 2005).

Anchovies are fully mature as soon as they reach their first year of life, in spring the year after they hatch. The peak spawning season is in spring (May – June; Motos *et al.*, 1996). The onset of spawning is concurrent with the sharp seasonal increase in surface temperature. The duration of the spawning season is variable and depends on feeding (ultimately zooplankton production). In the last 20 years, major recurrent spawning grounds were identified by acoustic and egg surveys. These were coastal associated with the river plumes of the Adour and Gironde, as well as offshore near the shelf edge (south of 45°N at

2°W; Figure 4). Larger fish were distributed more offshore at greater depths (Motos et al., 1996; Petitgas et al., 2003).

Figure 4 Schematic drawing of the life-cycle organization of the current anchovy population in ICES Divisions VIIIa and b. Left: spring spawning grounds (red) and autumn feeding grounds (green), summer migration (purple arrows), and early winter migration (black arrows); wintering grounds are presumed to be located close to the spring spawning grounds. Right: spring spawning grounds (red) and area containing autumn juvenile habitats (blue), summer larval drift (red arrows), and early winter juvenile arrival to the coast (blue arrows); winter juvenile habitats are coastal.



3.3.2 Stock assessment

This fishing resource has been studied by a range of scientific institutions since 1970 in order to generate basic knowledge for its management. Regular catch monitoring has been undertaken since the 1970s by the IEO, and by AZTI-Tecnalia in the Basque Country since 1985, but historical sets of catch data are also available from much earlier. Anchovy stock size has also been studied by direct evaluation surveys using a range of methodologies. AZTI established a monitoring survey of the stock towards the end of the eighties (1987) and applied the Daily Egg Production Method (DEPM) to estimate the absolute biomass (tonnes) of anchovies in the Bay of Biscay. These surveys have been carried out in May-June every year since, and are the longest running and most consistent series of estimates of this stock. The results are combined with the acoustic surveys undertaken by IFREMER (French Marine Research Institute), which are then used as a relative abundance index and provided to ICES. AZTI has also carried out an acoustic survey in September-October annually since 2003, aimed at estimating recruitment to provide a better stock prediction and advice on an initial TAC to managers (Uriarte et al., 2005). Using data provided by the IEO, AZTI, and IFREMER, the ICES Southern Horse Mackerel, Anchovy, and Sardine (WGHANSA) Working Group undertakes a comprehensive evaluation of this resource.

As stated above, the Spanish Bay of Biscay anchovy purse-seine fishery is highly monitored. There are two port sampling programmes under the EU Data Collection Framework to collect biological information on landings (species, weight, length, sex, maturity and otoliths) carried out by IEO and AZTI. These programmes' data are available to national and international scientific institutions, and are submitted annually to WGHANSA to assess the sustainability of the stock. The official catch statistics (logbook information) is also collect by the Spanish national authorities. However, discards and incidental catches are not routinely sampled, either by observers, electronic monitoring or fishers, although they are considered negligible by AZTI and fishers for most species.

The assessment model used by ICES to assess the status of the Bay of Biscay anchovy is a two-stage Bayesian biomass dynamic model (CBBM) that takes uncertainty into account while giving probability intervals for each parameter estimate. The model provides estimates of the uncertainty of the data and prior assumptions expressed in probabilistic distributions. These distributions presumably represent more realistic estimates of the uncertainty than the assumptions underlying the distance between B_{lim} and B_{pa} in the common deterministic framework of ICES. Specifically, the assessment model provides the probability distribution for SSB, and thus the risk of SSB falling below B_{lim} can be estimated directly (ICES, 2014; Ibaibarriaga et al., 2011).

The input data entering into the assessment of the anchovy stock consist of (WGHANSA, 2014):

- total biomass estimated by DEPM and acoustics surveys with their corresponding coefficients of variation (CV);
- proportion of the biomass at age 1 estimated by the DEPM and acoustic surveys;
- juvenile abundance index from JUVENA;
- total catch by semester (discards are considered negligible);
- proportion (in mass) of the age 1 in the catch by semester;
- growth rates by age estimated from the weights at age of the stock;
- natural mortality is fixed at 0.8 for age 1 and 1.2 for older individuals (age 2+).

3.3.3 Stock status

There is a biomass limit reference point estimated by ICES for the Bay of Biscay anchovy stock. B_{lim} is defined as B_{loss} (minimum estimated biomass which still produced a substantial recruitment) based on the posterior median of the 1987 and 2009 SSB estimates (of 21425t and 20776 t respectively in the 2013 CBBM assessment), which are the third and fourth lowest values in the series. It is important to note that after a period of low biomass around B_{lim} between 2005-2009, these SSB abundances still produced a significant recruitment restoring the population to medium levels (WGHANSA, 2014).

Regarding target reference points, ICES MSY approach for short-lived stocks is aimed at achieving a target biomass escapement ($MSY B_{escapement}$, the amount of biomass left to spawn), which is more robust against low SSB and recruitment failure than the precautionary approach B_{pa} (ICES, 2014). However, in the case of the Bay of Biscay anchovy, $MSY B_{escapement}$ is no longer provided. As the ICES assessment model provides the probability distributions for SSB, it is possible to estimate directly the risk of the SSB falling below B_{lim} , which is ultimately the objective of any target reference point, i.e. minimize the risk of the stock being below a limit reference point. Furthermore, there is a target Harvest Rate of 0.3 when stock biomass is equal or above 33000 tonnes. This management target has been proven to be precautionary under several scenarios (STECF, 2014).

In the latest assessment, the 2014 SSB is estimated at around 66000 tonnes average (between 93000 and 47000 tonnes), which is three times more than B_{lim} (21000 tonnes), i.e. biomass under which recruitment is likely to be impaired. Even considering the lowest probabilistic range in the estimates of the 2014 stock biomass, it is still double B_{lim} . Furthermore, since the range does not reach B_{lim} , the probability of SSB in 2014 being below B_{lim} is zero. Stock biomass has been above B_{lim} since 2010 and it is presently at historical high levels (ICES, 2014).

3.3.4 History of fishing and management

The Basque purse-seiner fleet is a multispecies fleet that traditionally distributes its activity across three seasons: the mackerel season (from approximately February to May), the anchovy season (from approximately April to June) and the tuna season (from approximately June to November). Nevertheless, some fisheries overlap for certain periods of the year. The fleet also targets coastal species such as sardine, horse mackerel and chub mackerel, among others, during the tuna season. In the second semester the majority of the vessels change fishing gear from purse seine to bait boat, and to a lesser extent to trolling gear, to catch albacore and bluefin tuna (Andrés & Prelezo, 2012).

The fisheries targeting Bay of Biscay anchovy are managed through a TAC and technical measures such as gear and vessels specifications, minimum landings size and closed areas. A highgrading ban, i.e. prohibition to discard legally size fish to retain more valuable specimens, has been in legislation since 2010 (Council Regulation (EU) No 23/2010). The Landing Obligation (LO), contemplated in the recent reformed CFP (Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013), will start coming into force from 2015 for pelagic fisheries, where anchovy is included. However, as with the highgrading ban, its implementation is strongly dependent on high levels of at sea monitoring which are unlikely to be reached, at least in the short term.

The EC proposed a long-term management plan in 2009. This plan is yet to be formally adopted by the EU due to administrative delays. Nevertheless, the plan has been used to establish the TAC between 1st July and 30th June from 2010 onwards, since the consecutive fishery closures between July 2005 and December 2009. The plan's objective is to "maintain the biomass of the stock of anchovy in the Bay of Biscay at a level that allows its sustainable exploitation in accordance with maximum sustainable yield, on the basis of scientific advice, and while ensuring as much stability and profitability for the fishing sector as is practicable".

The management plan follows a harvest control rule (HRC) that should ensure the exploitation of the anchovy at high yields, guarantee the stability of the fishery and have a low risk of stock collapse (EC, 2009). The TAC is set according to the table below:

SSB in May (rounded up to the nearest 1000 t):	TAC (for July to June):
$SSB \leq 24\ 000\ t$	0
$24\ 000 < SSB < 33\ 000\ t$	7000
$34\ 000 \leq SSB < 100\ 000\ t$	Between 10 200 t and 33 000 t $TAC = 0.3 * SSB\ t$
$SSB > 100\ 000\ t$	33 000 t

Therefore, the HCR has specific provisions when the stock is approaching B_{lim} , namely to close the fishery, and a moderate TAC (7000 t), consistent with a reduced harvest rate, when the stock is between B_{lim} and another reference point at 33000 t. The plan reference points used in the harvest control rule are generally more conservative than the current ICES reference points.

The harvest strategy of the anchovy long-term management plan has been tested by STECF when it was originally developed using the deterministic model, and also after the introduction of a Bayesian dynamic model. In both cases, several different HCR and assumptions were considered, namely changes to the harvest control rule, in-year TAC

revisions and TAC period. The HCR proved to be robust to low recruitment scenarios and limited changes in the quota uptake between semesters. STECF therefore concluded that the plan based on both stock assessment models, was precautionary (STECF, 2013, 2014).

Key Low Trophic MSC Criteria

Anchovy is considered according to the MSC criteria as a low trophic species due to its life history: feeds on plankton, short lived, rapid growth, early maturing, high fecundity, small body size and forms dense schools.

However, anchovy is not considered a MSC “key” LTL stock. This is because although in the Bay of Biscay ecosystem anchovy, together with sardine, sprat, mackerel and horse mackerel, are the dominant LTL species, and as such transfer a very large proportion of the total primary production through the lower part of the food web, the system is detritus-based and bottom-up controlled (Lassalle et al., 2011).

Although anchovy is the preferential prey to several high level trophic predators such as tuna (Goñi et al., 2012) and seabirds, in the Bay of Biscay ecosystem phytoplanktonic and zooplanktonic are the keystone species (Lassalle et al., 2011). Bottom-up processes play a significant role in the population dynamics of upper-trophic-levels and in the global structuring of this marine ecosystem. Finally, there is a marked bottom-up control of small pelagic fish by mesozooplanktonic prey and not by their predators (Lassalle et al., 2011).

3.4 Principle Two: Ecosystem Background

3.4.1 Retained species

According to MSC standard, retained species in Principle 2 are those parts of the retained catch that are not covered under Principle 1 because they are not included in the Unit of Certification. However the retained catch can still be a valuable catch in the fishery, whether it is targeted or taken incidentally, and there is thus an economic incentive for capture.

The Spanish Bay of Biscay purse seine fishery targets a variety of species depending on the season and area: sardine *Sardina pilchardus*, anchovy *Engraulis encrasicolus*, horse mackerel *Trachurus trachurus*, atlantic chub *Scomber colias* and mackerel *Scomber scombrus*, with all species representing more than 5% of the total catch of this fishery per year (Table 3-4.a).

Table 3-4.a Percentage of Total OTAL retained catch corresponding to the Spanish purse-seine vessels (under certification) from 2010 to 2013 (based on logbooks data by trip provided by AZTI)

Species (scientific name)	2010	2011	2012	2013
<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	7.5%	21.3%	49.2%	38.4%
<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	11.9%	28.0%	15.4%	24.2%
<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>	22.8%	23.7%	11.1%	15.1%
<i>Scomber colias</i>	5.8%	7.1%	9.2%	9.7%
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	47.8%	14.0%	11.2%	8.0%
<i>Trachurus mediterraneus</i>	1.1%	2.2%	1.1%	2.2%
<i>Oblada melanura</i>	0.6%	1.0%	0.6%	0.7%
<i>Boops boops</i>	0.8%	1.0%	0.6%	0.4%
Sparidae	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.3%

<i>Sarpa salpa</i>	0.4%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%
Osteichthyes	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
<i>Sarda sarda</i>	0.5%	0.5%	1.1%	0.1%
Other species	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%

However, when the vessels are targeting anchovy specifically (corresponding to 83.4% of landings), which is the fishery under certification, the main retained species are in average: horse mackerel (8.7%), sardine (5.4%) and Atlantic chub (1.4%) (Table 3.4.b). These percentages correspond to 423, 277 and 79 tonnes respectively for horse mackerel, sardine and Atlantic chub.

Table 3-4.b Percentage of retained catch for the Spanish Bay of Biscay anchovy purse-seine fishery under certification from 2010 to 2013 (based on logbooks data by trip provided by AZTI)

Species (scientific name)	2010	2011	2012	2013
<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	79.0	85.7	84.9	83.9
<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>	11.9	9.3	9.5	4.1
<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	8.3	3.8	1.5	7.9
<i>Scomber colias</i>	0.5	0.8	1.0	3.2
<i>Sarda sarda</i>	0.0	0.1	2.3	0.1
<i>Trachurus mediterraneus</i>	0.0	0.2	0.6	0.4
<i>Boops boops</i>	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Other species	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Considering the MSC definition of main retained species, i.e. over 5% of the total catch, or which can be considered as vulnerable, or of particularly high value; only horse mackerel and sardine are considered further for scoring this principle. However, the fishery catches represent on average 2010-2013 0.2% and 0.7% of total international stock catches for horse mackerel and sardine, respectively.

➤ **Sardine**

Since 2013 ICES assesses qualitatively the sardine stock in Divisions VIIIa,b,d and Subarea VII regularly. In its most recent advice, ICES concluded that recruitment in 2012 is the highest in the time-series. An analysis shows that F is just below natural mortality and is likely to be close to the maximum sustainable yield. Nevertheless, biomass indices indicate that the stock is decreasing in recent years to just below long term average (ICES, 2013), although within the range of the data variability.

The fisheries that target sardine in the Bay of Biscay are managed under the CFP with the global objective of the stock to be maintained at levels that can support MSY. Sardine is managed only through technical measures, such as a minimum landings size, gear and vessels specifications and closed areas.

➤ **Horse mackerel**

Regarding horse mackerel, ICES also evaluates the stock in Divisions IIa, IVa, Vb, VIa, VIIa-c, e-k, and Subarea VIII (Western stock) annually. In its most recent advice, ICES concludes that SSB, which has varied between 0.65 and 1.72 million tonnes during 1995–2012, is estimated to be at 0.64 million tonnes in 2014, one of the lowest in the time series and puts the stock at almost $B_{trigger}$ (0.63). Fishing mortality has been increasing since 2007 and is

now above F_{MSY} . Recruitment has been low from 2004 onwards. Since the 2014 stock biomass is the second lowest in the time series, and recruitment continues to be low, the stock is likely to be outside safe biological limits (ICES, 2013).

The fisheries targeting horse mackerel are managed under the CFP with the global objective of the stock to be maintained at levels that can support MSY. Western horse mackerel is managed through a TAC, minimum landings size and closed areas. It is also subjected to the Landing Obligation from 2015. Since 2008, a management plan has been used to set the horse mackerel EU TAC. The management plan was initially deemed precautionary by ICES in the short term only, because some relevant scenarios were not evaluated. Further evaluation in 2013 suggests that, in its current configuration, the HCR is not robust to more than 2 years of very low recruitment (ICES, 2013).

Although the general management approach is likely to work in the long term as the reductions of the TACs, associated to a Landing Obligation, should lead to a limit on fishing mortality, the TACs have been set above scientific advice for the last 2 years. A revised management plan is currently under development (ICES, 2014) which is likely to take into account periods of low recruitment in the HCR. However, until this revised management plan is not evaluated to be precautionary and used to set the TACs, the harvest strategy is not meeting its objectives of preventing the main targeted fisheries of hindering stock recovery and rebuilding.

3.4.2 Bycatch species

According to MSC standard, bycatch species are species in the catch that are not retained and that are discarded, as well as those that die as a result of unobserved fishing mortality where those species have not already been assessed under Principle 1 as target species or under the other components in Principle 2. In addition, “main” bycatch species are identified as those species which constitute over 5% of the total catch, or which can be considered as vulnerable, and are discarded.

In a 1994-1995 study of the discard pattern of the Spanish fisheries based on observers at sea programme, Perez et al. (1996) reported that the main discarded species by the purse-seine targeting anchovy (spring sampling) were: horse mackerel, blue whiting *Micromesistius poutassou*, sardine, chub mackerel and bogue *Boops boops* in terms of frequency and weight, although only horse mackerel was discarded more than 5% of total catch (8%). Other species that were also significantly although sporadically discarded were: mackerel, Mediterranean horse mackerel *Trachurus mediterraneus*, and invertebrates such as cnidarios and crustaceans (swimming crab *Polybius henslowii*). The percentage of discards estimated depends on the inclusion of slippage i.e. the act of opening the gear and releasing the catch in the water before hauling the gear and bring the catch onboard, since 50% of discards occurred through slippage. The total % of catch discarded changes from between 8.4% to 19.8%, corresponding to 1500 t and 3500 t respectively, if slippage is included.

The most abundant seabirds species in the Bay of Biscay are: gannets (*Sula bassana*), herring gull (*Larus argentatus*), black-backed gulls (*Larus focus* and *Larus miritimus*), kittiwakes (*Rissa tridactyla*) and auks (i.e. guillemot (*Uria aalge*), razorbills (*Alca torda*) and Atlantic puffins (*Fratercula arctica*) (Certain & Bretagnolle, 2008 in Lassale et al., 2011). Nevertheless, there was no bycatch of seabirds reported in Perez et al. (1996) study by the purse-seine fishery. Furthermore, in the SAILKA project in 2013, that had the objective of determining survival rates of discarded fish by the purse-seine fishery, 28 anchovy hauls were observed in normal fishing operations and again no bycatch of seabirds occurred (AZTI, personal communication).

Although it has been 20 years since the Perez et al. (1996) study, according to the information gathered at the site visit from AZTI and fishers, the fishery seems to continue to operate in a similar fashion and catches and discards are somewhat comparable. The main bycatch fish species associated with the purse-seine Bay of Biscay anchovy fishery are also those species that have commercial value and are often landed as retained species. The skippers of vessel interviewed described also catches of squid (likely *Loligo* sp.) that are normally consumed by the crew, and often sunfish *Mola mola* and blue shark *Prionace glauca* that are released alive. The blue shark is classified as Near Threatened by IUCN Red List but does not have any legal protection in European waters.

Considering the MSC definition of bycatch species, only blue whiting is likely to have significant discards over 5% of total catch, and therefore, for precautionary reasons, is going to be considered further as the main bycatch species.

➤ Blue whiting

Blue whiting has rebounded in recent years from the steep decline in biomass in 2010-2011 and is now a healthy stock that supports a sustainable fishery. SSB has almost doubled from 2010 (2.9 million tonnes) to 2013 (5.5 million tonnes) and is well above B_{trigger} (2.25 million tonnes). This increase is due to the lowest F s in the time-series in 2011 and 2012, in combination with increased recruitment since 2010 (ICES, 2013).

The blue whiting stock is managed under a management plan agreed in 2008 by Norway, the EU, the Faroe Islands, and Iceland. The plan uses i) a target fishing mortality ($F = 0.18$) if SSB is above $SSB_{\text{MP}} (= B_{\text{pa}})$, ii) a linear reduction to $F = 0.05$ if SSB is between B_{pa} and B_{lim} , and iii) $F = 0.05$ if SSB is below B_{lim} . ICES evaluated the plan in 2008 and concluded that it is in accordance with the precautionary approach (ICES, 2008, 2013). It is also subjected to the Landing Obligation from 2015.

3.4.3 ETP species

According to MSC standard, ETP (Endangered, Threatened or Protected) species are those that are recognised by national legislation and/or binding international agreements (e.g. CITES) to which the jurisdictions controlling the fishery under assessment are party.

The most likely ETP species affected by purse-seine in the Bay of Biscay are marine mammals and turtles. The most abundant marine mammal species in the Bay of Biscay are: the common dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*), the striped dolphin (*Stenella coeruleoalba*), the bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), the long-finned pilot whale (*Globicephala melas*) and the harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) (Lassale et al., 2011, 2012).

The following policy statements and regulation apply or are in force and relate to varying degrees to the protection of marine mammals in European waters: EC Regulation 812/2004 laying down measures concerning incidental catches of cetaceans, the EU Habitat Directive on the conservation of natural habitats and ASCOBANS (Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas). The EC Regulation 812/2004 obliges the use of deterrents (ex. pingers) in specific fisheries to avoid contact with cetaceans and also requires monitoring by observers of incidental catches in specific fisheries. The EU Habitats Directive also requires member states to undertake monitoring to determine the levels of incidental mortality for certain species. Finally, ASCOBANS aims to restore and/or maintain biological or management stocks of small cetaceans at the level they would reach when there is the lowest possible anthropogenic influence and proposes to

reach these aims through coordinating and implementing conservation measures for small cetaceans.

In an ecosystem study of the fisheries impacts on marine top predators in the Bay of Biscay, Lassale et al. (2012) concluded that fisheries, in addition to causing significant bycatch mortalities on the common dolphin and harbour porpoise (operational interactions), were demonstrated to affect the bottlenose dolphin through direct, and most probably indirect, competition for food (biological interactions). This study however, considered the totality of fisheries present in the Bay of Biscay, which included for example pelagic trawl that have a higher likelihood of cetacean's bycatch and prey catches.

The Bay of Biscay anchovy purse-seine fishery is not required to follow the provisions of EC Regulation 812/2004 described above since their impact is deemed low. In addition, any marine mammal that is eventually caught in a purse-seine is usually released alive by slippage, and the contact with the gear is minimized by the fishers as this can damage the gear and cause substantial costs. Furthermore, and although there have been occasional interactions between dolphins and purse-seines, there has never been reports of an incident of marine mammal bycatch. In a 1994-1995 study of the discard pattern of the Spanish fisheries based on observers at sea programme, Perez et al. (1996) reported that there was no bycatch of marine mammals or marine reptiles by the purse-seine fishery. Furthermore, in the SAILKA project in 2013, that had the objective of determining survival rates of discarded fish by the purse-seine fishery, 28 anchovy hauls were observed in normal fishing operations and again no bycatch of marine mammals or marine reptiles occurred (AZTI, personal communication).

Regarding ETP fish species, the ones that can be found in coastal waters could potentially be caught by purse seiners. These are adult shad, salmon and sea trout that move towards coastal waters in the spring (shad) and in the summer/autumn (salmon and sea trout). Juveniles are found along the coast in spring (MSC sardine assessment). Both species of shad (*Alosa alosa* and *Alosa fallax*), as well as the Atlantic salmon, are considered to be vulnerable at European level and are included in Appendix III of the Bern Convention (1992) and in Appendices II and V of the Habitats Directive (1994). Nevertheless, there has been no reporting of catches of these species by purse-seines, and considering that the fleet operates mainly in offshore areas, the assessment team considers that the likelihood of catching one of this species is very low.

3.4.4 Habitat

There are several areas that have special protection in the Bay of Biscay and Cantabrian Sea deriving from OSPAR or Natura 2000 obligations (Figure 5). The main areas are Iroise Marine Park and Arcachon Basin Marine Park in France¹ and El Cachucho Protected Area in Spain. These areas have been studied extensively and provided some knowledge on the seabed habitat of the Bay of Biscay.

Figure 5 Map of the Bay of Biscay showing the location of all Marine Protected Areas under national legislation, the OSPAR Convention and Natura 2000. Source: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and->

¹ [http://www.aires-marines.fr/Les-aires-marines-protgees/Carte-interactive/\(zone\)/Oc%C3%A9an+Atlantique](http://www.aires-marines.fr/Les-aires-marines-protgees/Carte-interactive/(zone)/Oc%C3%A9an+Atlantique)

maps/explore-interactive-maps/european-protected-areas-1

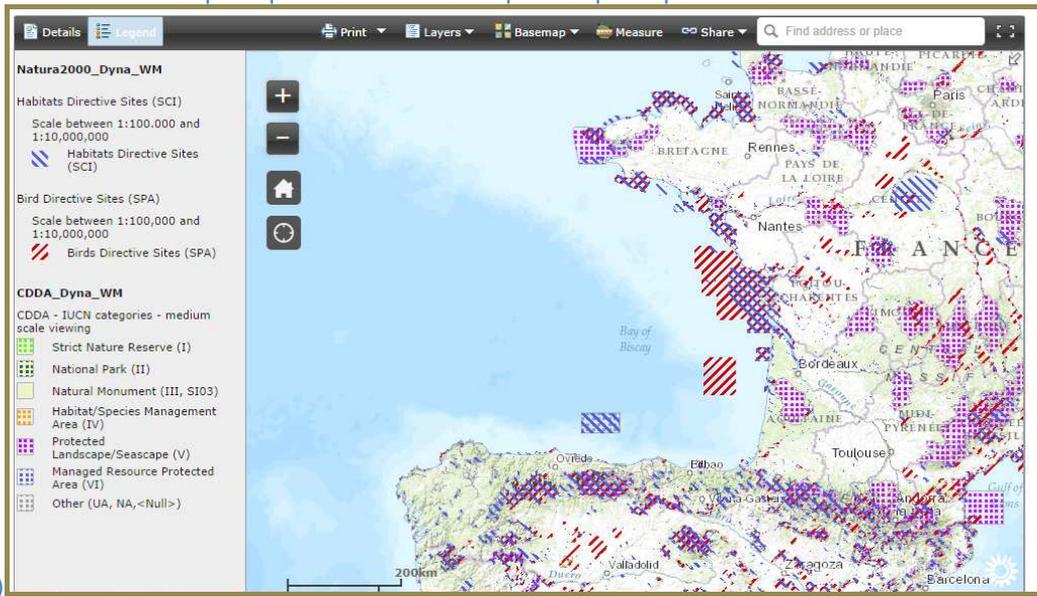
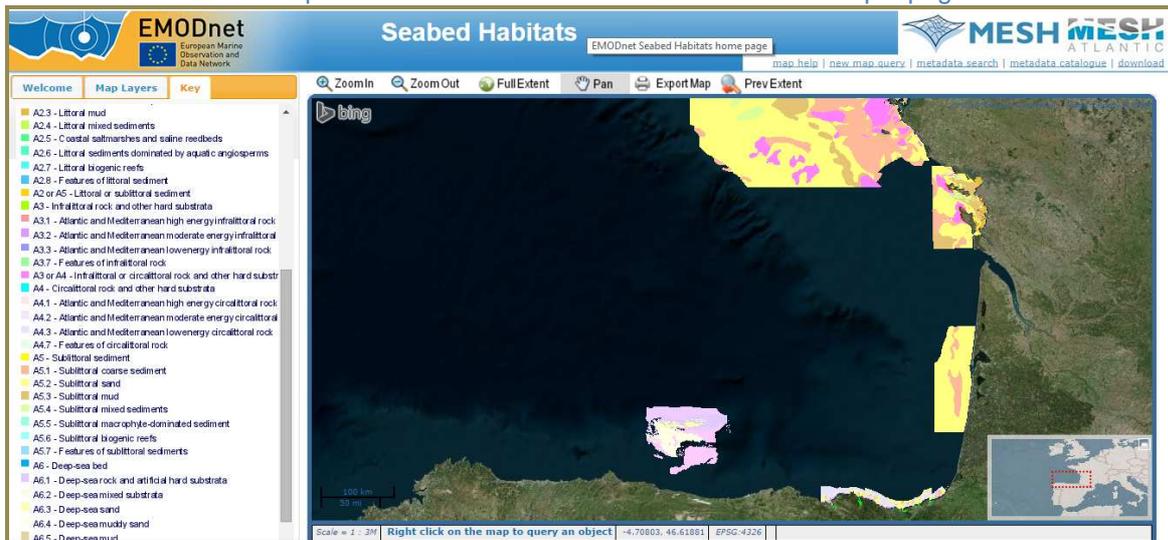
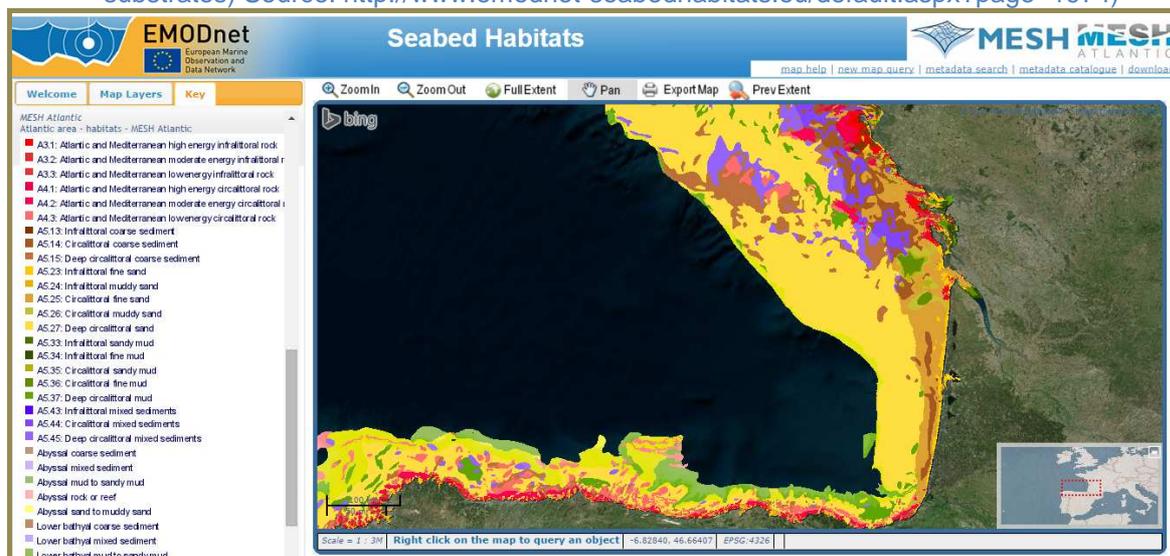


Figure 6 Map of the Bay of Biscay showing the habitat type of all Marine Protected Areas
Source: <http://www.emodnet-seabedhabitats.eu/default.aspx?page=1974>



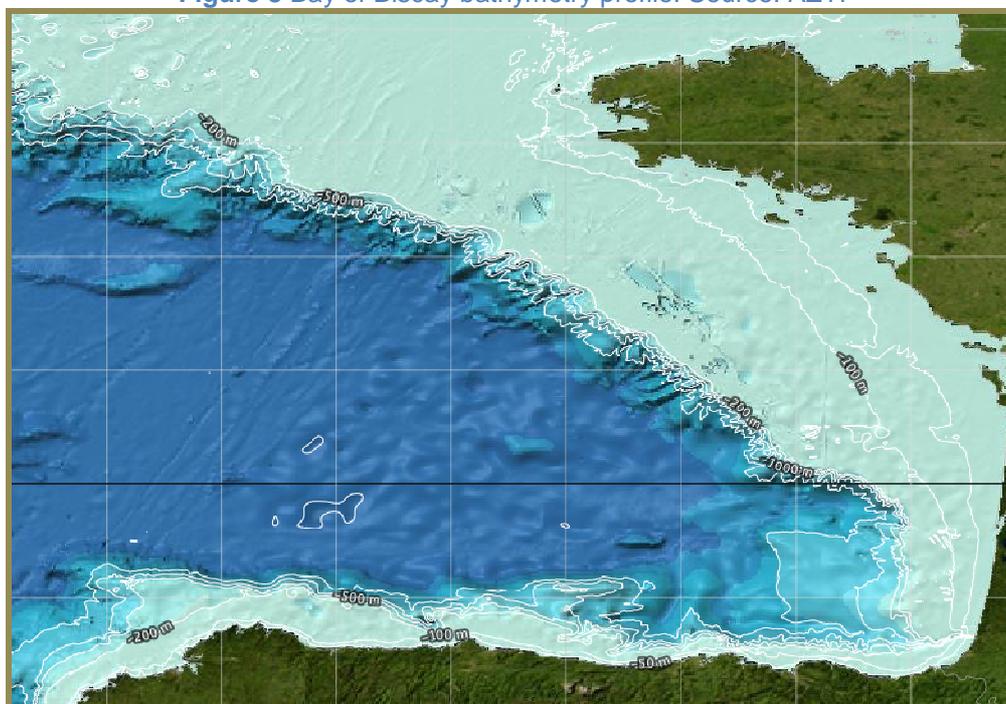
There is good also information regarding the habitat characteristics of many areas of the European seas, through several international projects and integrated efforts (EUSeaMap, EMODnet, MeshAtlantic), which can provide predicted habitats for many areas including the Bay of Biscay (Figures 6, 7, 8).

Figure 7 Map of the Bay of Biscay showing the seabed habitat type (yellow areas are sandy substrates) Source: <http://www.emodnet-seabedhabitats.eu/default.aspx?page=1974>



Although only 19% of the total EEZ area of the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Peninsula is mapped, most of the habitat mapping effort is located at 200 meters depths and shallower (Galparsoro et al., 2014). Since a large area of the Bay of Biscay is delimited by the 200 meters bathymetry, the percentage of seabed mapping coverage is significantly higher. In total, the Bay of Biscay encompasses 42 benthic habitats.

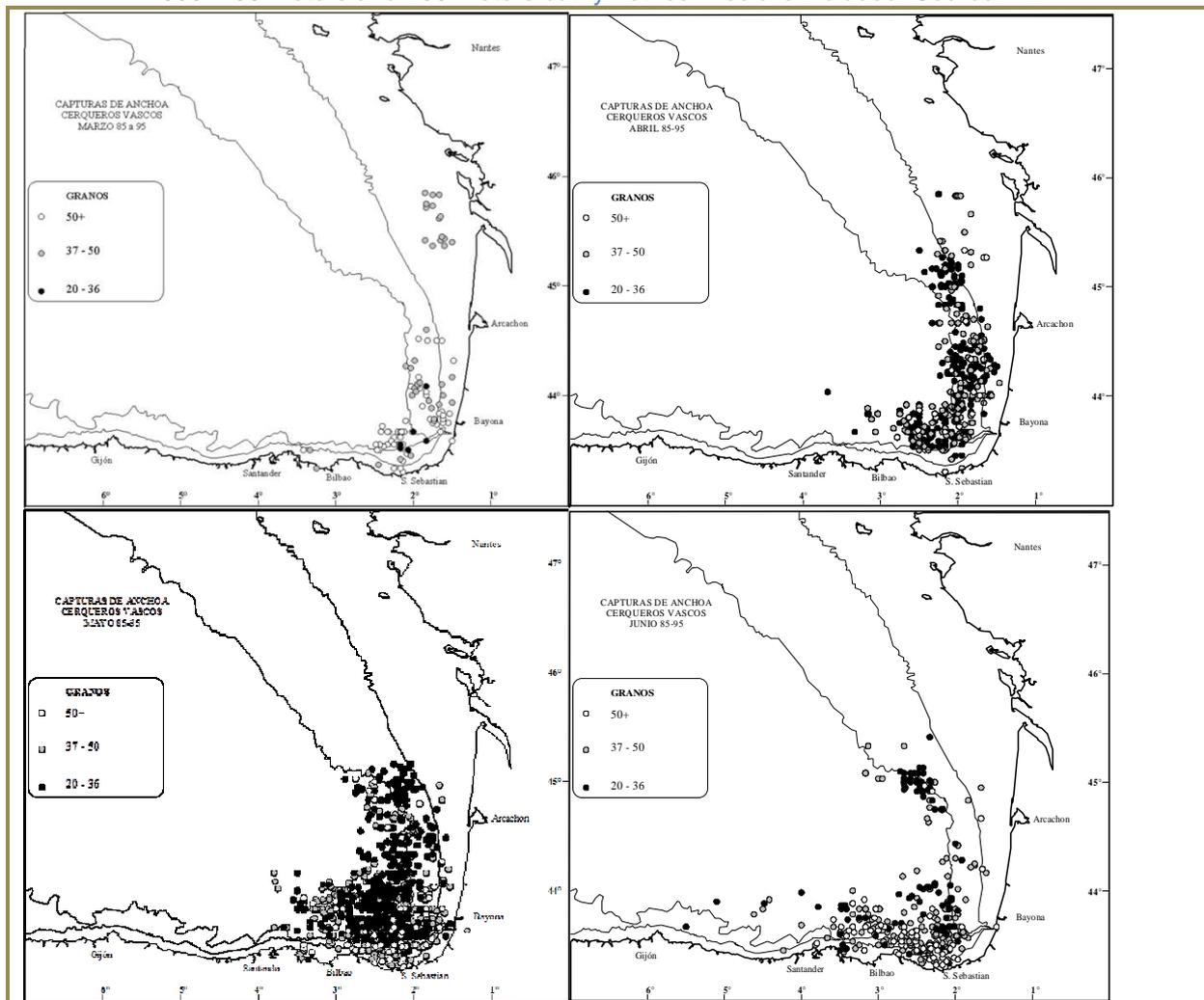
Figure 8 Bay of Biscay bathymetry profile. Source: AZTI



Since the fishery uses a gear designed to operate in mid-water and to catch pelagic species it is likely to have negligible impact on benthic habitats. The purse-seine used by the Spanish Bay of Biscay anchovy fishery is large (80 meters depth by 550 meters length) but only rarely comes into contact with the sea bottom as it can be damaged by it, incurring significant costs for fishers. Furthermore, the fishery operates usually over the same fishing grounds, over sandy bottoms and in offshore areas, areas that do not contain vulnerable

habitats such as cold-water coral reefs or sea fans, minimizing possible impacts in benthic communities (Figure 8 and Figure 9). Finally, VMS data from the fishing fleet is available to the Spanish authorities and there is no evidence that fishing occurred in protected areas.

Figure 9 Spatial distribution of purse-seine anchovy catches in the spring months between 1985 and 1995. 100 meters and 200 meters bathymetry lines are included. Source: AZTI



3.4.5 Ecosystem

The Ecosystem component considers the broad ecological community and ecosystem in which the fishery operates. Besides removing target species, fishing also affects the structure of the food-web by removing prey species, which may play an important role in regulating the upper trophic levels.

In the Bay of Biscay ecosystem anchovy, together with sardine, sprat, mackerel and horse mackerel, are the dominant low trophic level species, and as such they transfer a very large proportion of the total primary production through the lower part of the food web (Lassalle et al., 2011).

Although anchovy is the preferential prey to several high level trophic predators such as tuna (Goñi et al., 2012) and seabirds, and may control their abundance, in the Bay of Biscay



ecosystem phytoplanktonic and zooplanktonic are the keystone species (Lassalle et al., 2011). Bottom-up processes play a significant role in the population dynamics of upper-trophic-levels and in the global structuring of this marine ecosystem. There is also a marked bottom-up control of small pelagic fish by mesozooplanktonic prey and not by their predators (Lassalle et al., 2011).

3.5 Principle Three: Management System Background

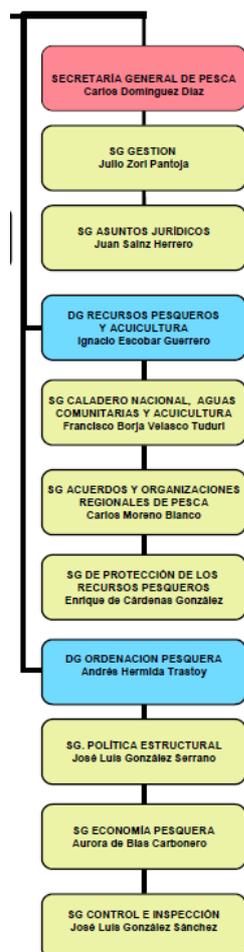
3.5.1 Fishery area of operation

The fishery area of operation is ICES Subarea VIII (Bay of Biscay) in European Union-managed waters, with only Spain and France allowed catching this species in this area.

As well as the relevant fishery organisations and associations, the main interest groups for this fishery are the Spanish central government, the relevant Autonomous Regions (Cantabria and the Basque Country), and the European Union.

The Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación, y Medio Ambiente (MAGRAMA, Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and the Environment) is responsible for managing fishing activity in Spain. The Secretaría General de Pesca (SGP, General Secretariat for Fishing) is part of this ministry and is responsible for carrying out this task.

The SGP organisation chart is shown below:



The **Dirección General de Ordenación Pesquera** (Directorate General for Fisheries Regulation) has the following roles relating to this particular fishing activity:

- Fleet planning and regulation.
- The management and monitoring of the registry of sea fishing vessels, the registry of fishing boats, and the Official Register of Fishery Companies in Third Countries.
- The management of the registry of the sector's professionals.
- The management and coordination of EU funds for fishing.
- To act as the authority for the management of the European Fisheries Fund and any other future Fund that replaces it.
- The planning of economic activity with respect to the marketing and processing of fish, shellfish, and aquaculture products.
- Promotion of the creation and control of the activity of both fish producer organisations and other sector representative institutions.
- The collection, processing, and verification of the information regarding the activities included in the area of Common Fishing Policy.
- Fisheries inspection and coordination of additional services required for the inspection.
- Those derived from EU regulation in terms of being a single liaison office responsible for applying the system of mutual assistance between Member States.

The following Subdirectorates are part of this directorate:

- Subdirección Gral. de Política Estructural (Subdirectorato General for Structural Policy)
- Subdirección Gral. de Economía Pesquera (Subdirectorato General for Fishery Economy)
- Subdirección Gral. de Control e Inspección (Subdirectorato General for Control and Inspection)

The **Dirección General de Recursos Pesqueros y Acuicultura** (Directorate General for Fishing Resources and Aquaculture) has the following roles in fishing activity:

- Those derived from exercising competency over sea fishing in national fishing grounds and EU waters.
- The coordination of all activities relating to the Common Fisheries Policy.
- To coordinate preparation for the European Union Council of Ministers in the Secretaría General de Pesca area of competency.
- The monitoring of the negotiation and execution of the fishing agreements between the European Union and third countries within the Secretaría General de Pesca area of competency.
- The search for new fishing possibilities and fishing investments in those countries.
- Those derived from European Union, and where appropriate, Spanish involvement in the regional fisheries management organisations and other international fishing organisations, without affecting the competencies of other central government departments.
- The planning of fishing research activity in coordination with other central government departments with relevant competencies.
- The monitoring of fishing resource status with the aim of providing advice on the adoption of measures aimed at protecting, managing, conserving, and regenerating fishing resources, within the framework of the Secretaría General de Pesca competencies.
- The planning of fishing research activity in coordination with other central government departments with relevant competencies.
- The monitoring of fishing resource status with the aim of providing advice on the adoption of measures aimed at protecting, managing, conserving, and regenerating fishing resources, within the framework of the Secretaría General de Pesca competencies.
- The protection and proposal to declare protected fishing areas in coordination with autonomous regions where relevant.

The following general Subdirectorates are part of this Directorate:

- Subdirección General de Caladero Nacional, Aguas Comunitarias y Acuicultura (Subdirectorato General of National Waters, EU waters, and Aquaculture).
- Subdirección General de Acuerdos y Organizaciones Regionales de Pesca (Subdirectorato General for Fishing Agreements and Regional Fishing Organisations).
- Subdirección General de Protección de los Recursos Pesqueros (Subdirectorato General for the Protection of Fishing Resources).

When it comes to Autonomous Regions and the specific case of Cantabria, the Consejería de Ganadería, Pesca y Desarrollo Rural (Livestock, Fishing, and Rural Development Council) is responsible for fishing. The Dirección General de Pesca y Alimentación



(Directorate General for Fish and Food) within the Council has the following main fishing related tasks:

- Promoting the fishing and food and agriculture industries.
- Providing guidance for the Fisherman Associations and their Federation.
- Proposing general regulations. Monitoring and controlling compliance of the current regulation, including the processing of inquiries, the corresponding proposals or resolutions, and ensuring they are applied effectively.

The Directorate is responsible for collecting fish market sales notes, and the Inspection Service shares responsibility with the SGP inspection and control services for controlling the landings and sizes.

At a national level, law 3/2001, of 26 March, on National Sea Fisheries, establishes the legal parameters for fishing activities, essentially covering the contents of European regulation.

The Departamento de Desarrollo Económico y Competitividad del Gobierno Vasco (Department of Economic Development and Competitiveness of the Basque Country Government) is responsible for issues related to fishing and aquaculture in the Autonomous Region. As well as similar inspection and control services to those used in Cantabria, this Department is responsible for applying for funding from the European Fisheries Fund.

The European Union fish management system is governed by the European Commission and, after Treaty of Lisbon, Parliament and Council are also involved in government with more powerful. The Commission, through the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) is responsible for proposing, approving, and applying EU fishing regulations throughout the European Union. The Common Fisheries Policy is the current European Union management framework, which was recently reformed and took effect through Regulation (EU) n° 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 11 December 2013.

On the Commission's proposal, TACs and quotas are set annually for each of the fisheries managed through this system.

The Council Regulation No 713/2013 also established that 90% of the Bay of Biscay anchovy TAC corresponded to Spain and 10% to France. However, due to a bilateral agreement, Spain transferred 10% of their corresponding TAC plus 100 t to France in exchange of access to certain areas for live-bait. This agreement included a fishing ban from December 2013 to February 2014. So, the purse-seine fishery started in March 2013 and the pelagic trawl fishery in June 2013.

In October 2013 the European Commission increased the 2013-2014 fishing quota for anchovy in the Bay of Biscay allocated to France by 70.9 tonnes and to Spain by 1.646 tonnes (Regulation No 1007/2013) based on Regulation (EC) No 847/96. The total allowable catch (TAC) and its allocation between Member States for the fishing season running from 1 July 2014 until 30 June 2015 for the stock of anchovy in ICES Subarea VIII, as defined in Regulation (EC) No 218/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, shall be as follows: Spain 18090 and France 2010 (Total TAC: 20100 tonnes live weight).

3.5.2 Details of the decision-making process or processes, including the recognised participants

The decision-making process can be considered to be well developed through the use of the ICES scientific council and its integrated advisory structure comprised of the STECF / RAC / Cantabrian Sea purse seine anchovy fishery: PCR
Date of issue: 24th March 2015

European Commission and the ACFA, as well as the different interested parties having the option to participate in the decision-making. The outcomes of the technical meetings and scientific councils are considered when taking decisions on fisheries management. The formula to calculate the TAC was changed last year after scientists provided new data and has been accepted by all parties.

The South Western Waters Regional Advisory Council (CCR.S) involves all interested parties in the management of Atlantic fisheries from southern Europe, including the Cantabrian Anchovy fishery, and has the following missions:

- Propose recommendations resulting from a consensus between the fisheries sector and civil organisations to the European Commission and the Member States.
- Respond to the various consultations (communications, Regulation proposals...) launched by the European Commission.

European fisheries management also involves taking decisions based on the best available scientific data. The European Commission receives advice from various scientific organisations. Also, in the event of data gaps, the EU has the means to fund studies and projects in the short, medium, and long term with the aim of rectifying the lack of data and, as such, fulfil the CFP objectives. The Commission's scientific advisory organisations for this fishery are the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES).

All the interested parties can generally access the relevant information on the status of the fishery with respect to both its technical and administrative management, as well as the available scientific data. ICES can be consulted for the annual stock assessment results and it is also possible to access the STECF and ACFA reports and recommendations. The outcomes of the deliberations of the EU Fisheries Commission are also available via their communications and regulations.

All the reports, regulations, and recommendations on this fishery are analysed and discussed in the CCR.S, meaning all interested parties have access to the majority of the available data.

The Spanish Government regularly convenes the sector to inform them of the resolutions and changes that affect or may affect the fishery, and they work hand in hand to find the best solution. This also means that the Government has first-hand knowledge of the sector's worries and concerns

A fisheries management plan is in place (Although not approved by the Commission, there is a management plan in place since 2010 with the general consensus of all stakeholders), which has the main objective of maintaining the biomass of the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay at a sustainable level for exploitation in accordance with the maximum sustainable yield on the basis of scientific advice, whilst also ensuring as much stability and profitability for the fishing sector as possible. This management plan is reviewed every three years in accordance with fishery developments.

When it comes to the fleets, Spanish purse-seiners fishing in the Bay of Biscay are between 14 and 38 m in length, and mainly catch pelagic species such as the European anchovy. This fleet also changes its fishing gear to pole and line in summer to target tuna (*Thunnus* spp.). The Basque purse seine fleet is a multispecies fleet that traditionally spreads its activity across three seasons: the mackerel season (approximately February to May), the anchovy season (approximately April to June) and the tuna season (approximately June to November) (Andrés & Prellezo, 2012).

General fishery framework: EU management based on ICES advice

Via the CFP, the European Union management system creates, respects, and ensures legal rights, which are expressly created or established for the practices of persons dependant on fishing for their food or livelihood

When it comes to current regulatory measures for anchovy fisheries, a specific management plan is in place that determines the annual TACs on condition they are approved each year by the EU Fisheries Council, as occurs with other fisheries subject to TACs.

Through the application of the most recent reforms of the Common Fisheries Policy, the EU has set quantifiable objectives over the long term to achieve and / or maintain secure levels of fish stocks in European waters, as well as the necessary measures to achieve those levels. As such, the annual TAC is part of a set of management tools within the framework of a multi-annual strategy to manage fisheries in the form of Management Plans.

The plans include a formula to calculate the TACs and annual quotas based on the received scientific advice. The Commission has, therefore, the option of prior wide-ranging consultation with all interested parties on the objectives to achieve with each plan and how they can be fulfilled. The TAC is split over three month periods, and reviewed as it is filled.

The proposal has considered the results of a consultation process in which the Commission consulted the Member States, as well as representatives of the interested parties in the regional advisory councils, and the CCR.S, in particular.

When it comes to the MCS activities, the EU Member States are responsible for complying with the agreed regulations within the CFP framework at an EU level. The European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) was set up in 2007. Its goal is to coordinate the fisheries inspection and control operational activities of Member States, and provide assistance to the Member States in their application of the Common Fisheries Policy.

In Spain, the Subdirección de Control e Inspección is part of the Secretaría General de Pesca, which is the competent authority for MCS activities both in sea and on land, for coordinating the different activities in this area, sometimes with support from the Autonomous Regions.

Also, since Regulation (EC) N° 1077/2008 took effect in 2008, laying down detailed rules on electronic recording and reporting of fishing activities and on means of remote sensing, it has become compulsory to use an Onboard Electronic Logbook (OEL) on the majority of fishing boats, through which the data on each boat's catch is reported to the control centres. In Spain, this data is sent to the Centro de Seguimiento de Pesca (CSP, Fisheries Monitoring Centre), located in the facilities of the Subdirección General de Control e Inspección of the Secretaría General de Pesca (Madrid).

In addition, boats over 15 metres long are obliged to use so-called blue or VMS boxes, which allow the boat to be monitored every two hours, indicating its precise position and the nature of the activity being undertaken at the time (fishing, sailing, etc.)

As well as in situ inspections, both in port and at sea, they are also subject to a specific Europe-wide control via a European Union monitoring plan for pelagic fisheries in the western waters of the North East Atlantic, which is coordinated by the EFCA.

There is a list of authorised ports for landing catches, which are subject to the control measures specified in the management plans.

The Autonomous Regions' roles in the management essentially involve coordination between Madrid and the Autonomous Regions with respect to the closure of the fishery and the sending of sales notes to the Secretaría General de Pesca for collation with the OEL data.

The Cantabrian anchovy fishery has a research programme that feeds into the current management plan. The available scientific data essentially comes from ICES working groups on this fishery. Scientists from the most important scientific institutions involved in fishery and marine research in each country participate in the ICES. When it comes to Spain and this fishery in particular, these are essentially scientists from the Instituto Español de Oceanografía (Spanish Oceanography Institute) and Azti-Tecnalia from the Basque Government.

The Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO) has a key role in ICES' work, and is the official Spanish representative in both this organisation and the working groups, and as such, contributes with resources and knowledge. The Institute's scientific research forms the basis for their advisory work with the Spanish government. The Institute provides the following data to the Secretaría General del Mar (General Secretariat of the Sea): the status of the fishery resources caught by Spanish fleets, where they operate; the fishing possibilities in the new area; the maintenance and improvement of coastal areas; the areas appropriate for the establishment of marine reserves or of aquaculture interest; and related issues. It also informs about issues involving marine pollution and environmental protection.

In addition, AZTI-Tecnalia, advisory body for the Basque Government, undertakes research in the Basque fisheries with collaboration from the sector and the main European research centres, within the framework of international organisations such as ICCAT, IOTC, ICES/CIEM, NAFO, STECF, etc. They are involved through preparing scientific advice on the different levels of fishery resource exploitation so the respective political authorities can establish the appropriate management measures to ensure the activity remains sustainable.

AZTI monitors all the landings in the Basque Country, comparing the fish market data with the data in the logbook. National coordination meetings are held twice a year during which data from scientific centres with delegated competencies is shared. These essentially include: AZTI, IEO, ICES, and CSIC.

Annual oceanographic campaigns are undertaken to assess the status of the small pelagic populations in the Cantabrian sea and the results are incorporated into the management plan.

All the data is used to update the management plan in accordance with the best available scientific data.

4. Evaluation Procedure

4.1 Harmonised Fishery Assessment

Considering the definition of overlapping fisheries from the MSC "Two or more fisheries which require assessment of some, or all, of the same aspects of MSC Principles 1, 2 and/or 3 within their respective units of certification" the anchovy fishery under assessment does not overlap with other fishery certifies or under assessment.

Nevertheless, BV announced and concurrently started an assessment of the Cantabrian sardine fishery at the same time as the anchovy fishery because the fleet and the client coincide (See the Certification Unit). This means the existence of some shared aspects, such as the European (ICES, EU), national (MAGRAMA), and regional (Basque Country and Cantabria) management bodies. When it comes to the Principle 2 components, although the same type of fishing gear is used and operations are similar, not all the results of the catches, whether retained as bycatch or ETP, may be the same in all cases and as such, cannot be combined in this case. Lastly, it wouldn't apply for P1 either given that they are two different species.

With the aim of optimising time-scales and resources for each assessment, the certification body decided to undertake both processes at the same time whenever possible. The site visit was one example, given that the stakeholders are the same. Data was collected on both fisheries during the visit for later analysis and scoring.

The processes are likely to differ at some point, however, but as the same assessment team is used for both fisheries, they will be combined whenever possible.

When it comes to other fisheries of different stocks of the same species, certification is only available for the Argentine anchoita. BV is unaware of the existence of a pre-assessment on the same stock.

4.2 Assessment Methodologies

This fishery was assessed using version 1.3 of the MSC Certification Requirements and version 1.3 of the MSC Full Assessment Reporting Template.

After the stakeholder consultation process, the assessment team decided to use the Default Assessment tree for all performance indicators.

4.3 Evaluation Processes and Techniques

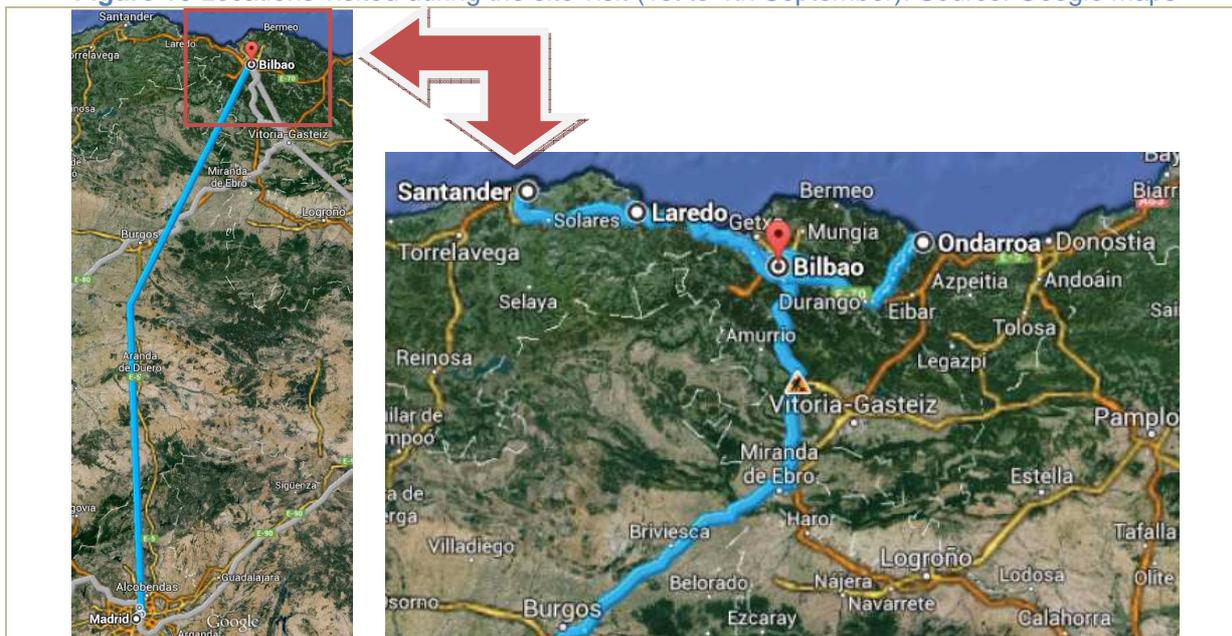
4.3.1 Site Visits and consultations

On-site consultation with the stakeholders took place in September 2014. This is a critical stage for collecting the necessary information in order to carry out a robust assessment of the fishery. A stakeholder in the fisheries certification process is any person, group, or organisation who:

- a) may affect, or be affected by a certification decision, or
- b) has expressed an interest in the fishery being considered for certification assessment, and/or in other potentially affected resources;
- c) or has information relevant to the assessment of the fishery for MSC certification.

The 3 members of the assessment team visited different sites in the Centre and North of Spain during the first week of September (Figure 10). The site visit was announced on the MSC website in August 2014.

Figure 10 Locations visited during the site visit (1st to 4th September). Source: Google maps



Initial contact via email explained the procedure for the assessment against the MSC standard and our interest in their participation as a process stakeholder in this information gathering stage. The following stakeholders were invited to participate:

Government agencies:

- MAGRAMA, Secretaría General de Ganadería, Pesca y Desarrollo Rural:
 - ✓ Dirección General de Protección de los Recursos Pesqueros.
 - ✓ Subdirección General de Control e Inspección.
 - ✓ Subdirección General de Caladero Nacional, Aguas Comunitarias y Acuicultura.
- Dirección General de Pesca y Alimentación Cantábrica.
- Dirección General de Pesca y Acuicultura del País Vasco.
- Instituto Español de Oceanografía.
- AZTI Tecnalia.
- ICES.

Non-governmental conservation or other public interest organisations:

- OCEANA.
- WWF.
- Ecologistas en Acción.
- SEO Birdlife.
- Greenpeace.

On agreeing to take part, they were emailed about the proposed visit to their facilities (date and location) and the information that would be required.

On confirming the date, time, and location, they received an official letter about the visit from the Bureau Veritas audit team, stating their participation as stakeholders in the fishery. The

letter included a request for more detailed information based on the specific agency and respondent role. The agenda was as follows. Please see Appendix 3 for attendance list:

Monday, 1 th September, 2014	
MAGRAMA. Subdirección General de Protección de los Recursos Pesqueros.	<p>Team members Carlos Montero (MSC) Enrique Cárdenas (MAGRAMA)</p> <p>Place: Madrid</p>
Tuesday, 2 th September 2014	
Dirección General de Pesca y Alimentación Cantabria	<p>Team members Pilar Pereda Borja Sanchez</p> <p>Place: Santander, Cantabria</p>
Cofradía de Laredo	<p>Team members Javier Montero (Client). Responsable of the Cofradía de Laredo</p>
Ondarroa harbour	<p>Team members Carlos Fernando San Martín (vessel Nuestro padre Tonino) Antonio San Martín (vessel Nuestra madre Juanita)</p>
Wednesday, 3 th September 2014	
AZTI, ICES & Client group	<p>Team members Andres Uriarte (AZTI): Anchovy assessment and ICES work group member. Responsible for monitoring pelagic fisheries in the Basque Country (AZTI). AZTI produces the reports on Spain for the EU. In coordination with the IEO. Leire Ibaibarriaga (AZTI): Coordinator of anchovy stock assessment from the ICES working group. Martín Aranda (AZTI): Demersal resources management area. Iñaki Artetxe (AZTI): Responsible for monitoring the data collected in port. Miren Garmendia (OPEGUI & OPESCAYA). Eusebio Arantzamendi: President of the Ondarroa Association. Josu Ezenarro: Secretary of the Getaria Association. Iñaki Zabaleta: The Bizkaia Federation of fishermen associations.</p>
Dirección de Pesca y Acuicultura del País Vasco	<p>Team members Koldo Arrese Xabier Berrojalbiz: Legal Department Mauri González: Fishing inspection Andoni Idoiaga: Fisheries structures</p> <p>Place: Bilbao, Vizcaya</p>
Thursday 4 th September 2014	
MAGRAMA: Subdirección General de Control e Inspección	<p>Team members Laura Rodriguez (MSC) Hector Villa González: Assistant Director-General Maria del Hierro: Control and inspection Borja Carmona: Electronic logbook Jaime Mayordomo: Electronic logbook Ana Arteaga: Pelagics Juan Leston: control and inspection</p>

	<p>Ignacio Fontaneda: National Fishing Ground, European Union waters, and aquaculture.</p> <p>Place: Madrid</p>
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The information obtained from people interviewed during the meetings with stakeholders was significantly wide-ranging and variable. Macarena García Silva, as team leader, introduced the MSC and the assessment process on the fishery at the start of each meeting. The assistants then presented themselves and the meeting got under way.

After the presentation, the MSC Principles experts asked pertinent questions about the queries arising after assessing the initial information and requested any other information or documentation that may help when scoring the fishery.

All the relevant information on stock status, ecosystem interactions, and fishery management practices was collected. The following main issues were discussed:

MAGRAMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries management overall framework. • ICES recommendations for setting the TACs. • Other management tools. • Scientific campaigns on the resources. • How the scientific studies are undertaken.
Departamento de pesca y acuicultura de Cantabria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of sales notes to send to Madrid. • Inspection service (13 inspectors). Fish market inspections checking the landing volumes do not exceed the individual boat levels and size controls. The inspectors step up the controls with support from the Secretaría during the fishing season. • Traceability (sales note). • Electronic logbook.
AZTI/ICES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific data on the stock. • Design and communication process behind the Management plans • Technical assistance tasks • Monitoring of compliance and poaching • Fishery assessment in terms of sustainability
MAGRAMA. Control system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General management system: TAC and quotas. • Control and surveillance system. • Sanction system and types of sanctions. • Species retained by the fishery. • The current regulation. • Registry of boats in the North East Cantabrian Fishing Ground. • Poaching control and monitoring actions • Studies on biomass, stock status • The profitability of the activity
FLEET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control and surveillance system. • Species retained by the fishery. • Uses of the gear

4.3.2 Evaluation Techniques

Email was used for all assessment process communications to all fishery stakeholders, along with the public announcements via the MSC website. CAB contacted several stakeholders but they had no specific cause for concern about the impact of the fishery given its small scale and good reputation. Team members were involved searching for stakeholders, and environmental NGOs and scientific researchers in particular, which were felt to be the most appropriate way to make the public announcements.

After compiling and analysing all the relevant technical, written, and anecdotal information, the team scored the fishery against the Performance Indicators and Scoring Guideposts in the final tree. The assessment team held two scoring meetings by conference call.

In order for the fishery to achieve certification, none of the Performance Indicators can be scored under 60. In order to achieve a score of 80, all of the 60 scoring issues and every one of the 80 issues must be compliant, with each scoring issue supported with justification. In addition, the fishery must obtain a score of 80 or more in each of the MSC's three Principles, which are based on the weighted average score for all Criteria and Sub-criteria under each Principle.

5 Traceability

5.1 Eligibility Date

The **Actual Eligibility Date** for this fishery is the **1st of May 2014**. This means that any fish caught by the certified fleet following that date will be eligible to enter the chain of custody as certified product. The rationale for this date is the strong seasonality of this resource allied with the main captures in the spring season. The measures taken by the client to account for risks within the traceability of the fishery – and therefore generating confidence in the use of this date for target eligibility – are detailed in the rest of this section.

5.2 Traceability within the Fishery

5.2.1 A description of the tracking, tracing, and segregation systems within the fishery. An evaluation of the robustness of the traceability system

The fleet being assessed usually fishes at night when anchovy move up to the surface to spawn. The fishermen reach the landing points at dawn and start the offloading process.

The fishermen at the auction points included in the certification offload the catches daily. The market staff weigh and enter it as lots into the computer system. The lots are traced from their origin. The auction staff ensures the anchovy weighing complies with the regulation.

European legislation is applicable to the first sale of fishing products, specifically Article 5 of **Regulation (EC) No 1966/2006** regarding the information to be transmitted by entities or persons responsible for first sale or take-over. They have to be registered and authorised by Member States as responsible for the first sale of fishery products and shall transmit information required to be recorded in a sales note by electronic means to the competent authorities of the Member State in whose territory the first marketing takes place.

The transposition into Spanish legislation was **Real Decreto 1822/2009** which regulates the first sale of fishing products, captured by European Union vessels, which land or unload in the national territory, as well as the first sales of fishing products captured by third country vessels that work in European Union waters.

These first sales for fishing products in Spain can be undertaken at points in authorised locations, and by auction, during which it is not possible to have second auctions, once the first has been adjudicated: a) Live, fresh, and refrigerated products: The first sale of fishing products is to be undertaken in port auction points, through organisations certified and authorised to undertake the aforementioned activity.

The same regulation establishes the requisites for the establishments where the first sale occurs, in order to comply with the monitoring obligations in the EU regulation. The requisites are as follows:

- a) Possess sufficient and adequate computer equipment for electronic gathering of all data within the required period for the transactions undertaken within them for their statistical monitoring and transmission to the competent body of the autonomous community and, if applicable, to the Government.
- b) Possess verified weighing systems for the characteristics of the fishery products being transacted.

- c) Publish the hours of operation and notify the first sales in advance, regardless of the location in which they occur.

The sales process continues with the labelled lots being put out to public auction. Any authorised buyer can participate in the public auctions at the fish market (by registering with the fish market and meeting the relevant legal requirements). An electronic Dutch auction system is used with buyers stopping it when they think the price is appropriate. The buyers select which lots they wish to take once the auction has been stopped. Any remaining unsold lots will be put back to auction until all the anchovies have been allocated (Figure 11).

The auction points have to issue an electronic document called a sales note, which must contain at least the following data:

- a) The commercial and scientific name of each species, as well as their zone of capture, in accordance with European Commission Regulation (EC) n.º 2065/2001, of 22nd October 2001, which establishes the provisions for the application of Council Regulation (EC) n.º 104/2000 as regards informing consumers about fishery and aquaculture products.
- b) The size or weight of fresh fish products, along with the presentation and freshness, in accordance with the provisions of Council Regulation (EC) n.º 2406/96, of 26 November 1996, laying down common marketing standards for certain fishery products for the species it regulates.
- c) The quantities of each species sold and the price per kilo.
- d) The destination of the products.
- e) Identification and the name and surname(s) or company name of the vendor and purchaser.
- f) Location and date of the sale.
- g) Reference to the sales contract in the case of contractual transactions.
- h) The name, external identification markings, and the flag of the vessel of the products unloaded from European Union vessels, as well as the internal vessel number in the European Union fishing vessel registry, if applicable.
- i) The name, external identification markings, the international call sign, and the flag of the vessel of the products unloaded from third country vessels.
- j) The name of the ship owner or captain of the fishing vessel.
- k) The landing port and date, or location and date of the unload, or location and date of the import.
- l) Reference to the transport document, the take-over declaration, or the T2M document, DUA (Unique Customs Document).

Figure 11 Fish auction Cofradía de Laredo. Source: Luis Ambrosio



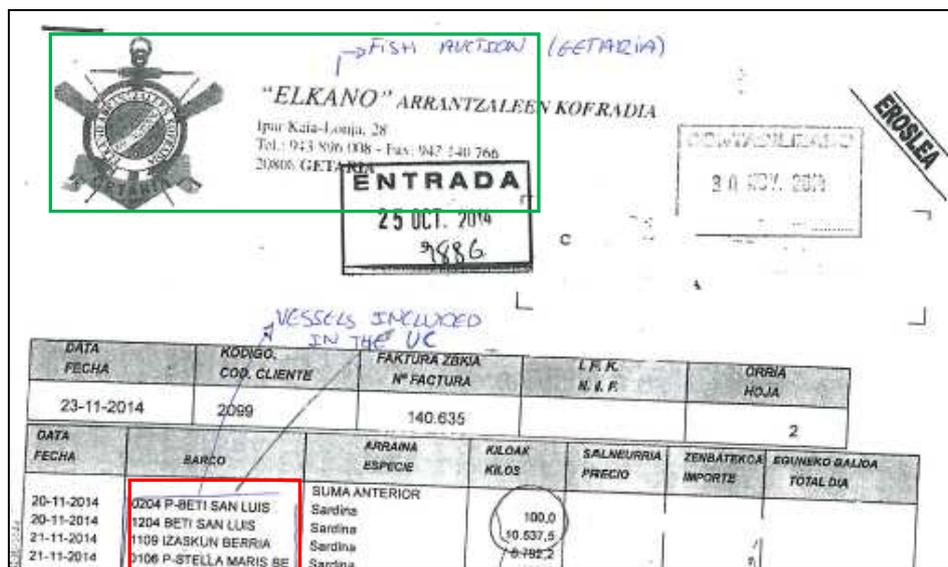
Figure 12 An example of a label issued by the Cofradía de Laredo fish auction: details of the vessel (red rectangle); lot number (blue rectangle); fish auction (green rectangle). Source: Cofradía de Laredo

Zona de captura:	Centro de expedición:	
FAO Num. 27	Nombre: Cofradía Pescadores San Martín Domicilio: Puerto Pesquero - LAREDO	
Denominación comercial: CHICHARRO		
Denominación científica: TRACHURUS TRACHURUS L. HOM		
Código FAO:	Metodo de producción:	Modo de presentación:
Peso neto Kgs.: 577,00	EXTRACTIVO	ENTERO
Numero de Lote: 1762	ES 12.06582/S CE	
Categoría fresca:	SAN ROQUE DIVINO	
Extra	Matricula: ST-2 Folio:3-98	
	TALLA 1	
	Brutos	
702,00	Pesada: 0/19	
2 TINA + 1 TRP (125,00)	Numero Tina	
19	Media: 0,000	
	Fecha: 02/09/2014 8:43:38	

In addition to the previously explained sales note, the sales point generates a label that is attached to the fish until it is bought (Figure 12). The data on the label includes the vessel name, the zone of capture, the species, and the auction point.

The final step involves the fish auction billing the buyer for the product, given that they initially purchased the anchovy to sell on to the buyers, whilst charging a commission to cover the facility costs. Product traceability is guaranteed throughout the process. Figure 13.

Figure 13 An example of a fish auction billing issued by the Cofradía de Getaria fish auction: name of the vessels (red rectangle); fish auction (green rectangle). Source: Cofradía de Getaria



FISH AUCTION (GETARIA)

"ELKANO" ARRANTZALEEN KOFRADIA
 Ipur. Kata-Lonja, 28
 Tel.: 943 896 038 - Fax: 943 140 766
 20805 GETARIA

ENTRADA
 25 OCT. 2014
 9886

EROSLIA
 30 NOV. 2014

VESSELS INCLUDED IN THE UC

DATA FECHA	KODIGO. COD. CLIENTE	FAKTURA ZBKIA N° FACTURA	L.F.K. N. I. P.	ORRIA HOJA
23-11-2014	2099	140.635		2

DATA FECHA	BARCO	ARRANA ESPECIE	KILOAK KILOS	SALNEURRIA PRECIO	ZENBATEROA IMPORTE	EGI/NEKO GALDA TOTAL DIA
20-11-2014	0204 P-BETI SAN LUIS	SUMA ANTERIOR				
20-11-2014	1204 BETI SAN LUIS	Sardina	100,0			
21-11-2014	1109 IZASKUN BERRIA	Sardina	30.637,6			
21-11-2014	0106 P-STELLA MARIS BE	Sardina	6.782,2			

The Directorate of the Autonomous Regions undertakes its monitoring responsibilities and duties in the port landing area and during the auction of the catch when it is first sold (fish markets). They may be there in an arbitrary capacity or to follow up specific complaints. Overall, they are responsible for collecting fish market sales notes, and both the Inspection Service and the SGP inspection and control services are responsible for controlling the landings and sizes.

5.2.2 An evaluation of whether vessels fish outside the unit of certification

The Unit of certification covers an extensive area, ICES Subarea VIII (Bay of Biscay), and this fleet offloads daily in the harbours. As such, it is unlikely vessels are operating in other areas.

In addition, there are many forces carrying out different control tasks and using effective tools with the fishery to record and report fishing activities as described in Table 3.2.3.

5.2.3 An evaluation of the opportunity for substituting certified fish for non-certified fish prior to and at the point of landing

The scope of the certificate includes the main auction points of the Basque Country and the Cofradía de Laredo within the UC (See 5.2.6). Consequently, certified fish from the vessels listed in Appendix 3 can only be sold through these sales points.

Council Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93 decrees that auction centres or other bodies or persons authorised by Member States, which are responsible for the first marketing of fishery products shall, upon first sale, submit a sales note to the competent authorities of the territory where the first marketing takes place. Article 19 of the same regulation requires Member States to create computerised databases and establish a validation system specifically including cross-checks and data verification.

Appendix (1), electronic information exchange format, states the message is in the form of a sales note (SAL) in which the following attributes need to be specified:

- The start of the sales record

- The vessel's Community fleet register number
- The vessel's call sign
- The vessel's external identification
- The country of registration
- The name of vessel
- The Sales Line Declaration (SLI): The date of the sale (YYYY-MM-DD); the country where the sale took place; the port code (PC) from a list at the EC website, specifying the location; the name of the auction centre, other body, or person selling the fish; the name of the body or person buying the fish; the sales contract reference number

As explained in point 5.2.1, the first auction point has to issue a sales note that has to include the landing data and owner, as well as the other information detailed in the same point. All the anchovy containers have to be labelled with the same information as the sales notes as shown in figure 12.

As such, once the risk of substituting a certified product for an uncertified product has been analysed, we consider the risk non-existent despite other vessels possibly unloading anchovy at the auction points. The product is labelled at all times.

As certificate owners, they are very involved and committed to having the correct knowledge of the MSC requirements. In addition, the identification system is perfectly traceable, ensuring the origin of the fish from the vessel to the buyer.

Once the fishery has been certified the person responsible for sales in the auction point will have a list of the vessels included in the certification, which will also be available to the public (See Appendix 3 for the vessel list).

5.2.4 A description of at-sea catch processing

No processing is undertaken at-sea. All catches are landed for processing operations.

5.2.5 Details of trans-shipping use in the fishery

All catches are landed in the authorised harbours and sold in the fish auction. No trans-shipping is undertaken.

5.2.6 Details of the number and/or locations of landing points

Having regard to EC No 1966/2006 of 21 December 2006 on electronic recording and reporting of fishing activities and on means of remote sensing, the EC No 1077/2008 detailed the rules for the implementation of the regulation previously appointed.

Each Member State shall establish a list of authorised registered buyers, registered auctions, or other entities or persons that are responsible for the first sale of fishery products.

Fishing products regulated by Royal Decree 1822/2009 can only be unloaded in Spanish ports designated by the Government or autonomous community competent authorities, when involving autonomous community or state ports, and in the docks or locations designated by the port authorities.

For the purposes of the royal decree, the first sale is understood to be the first sale undertaken in the European Union when the product price is documented.

The main ports in the Basque Country used to combine trade activities with fishing. However, the small ports have traditionally specialised in fishing, and inshore fishing in particular. Five ports are involved in the majority of the fishing: Guetaria, Ondárroa, Bermeo, Pasajes, and Fuenterrabía.

The landing ports and auction points also covered by the UC are:

- **The Basque Country: Bermeo, Lekeitio, Ondarroa, Getaria, Pasaia, Hondarribia.**
- **Cantabria: Laredo.**

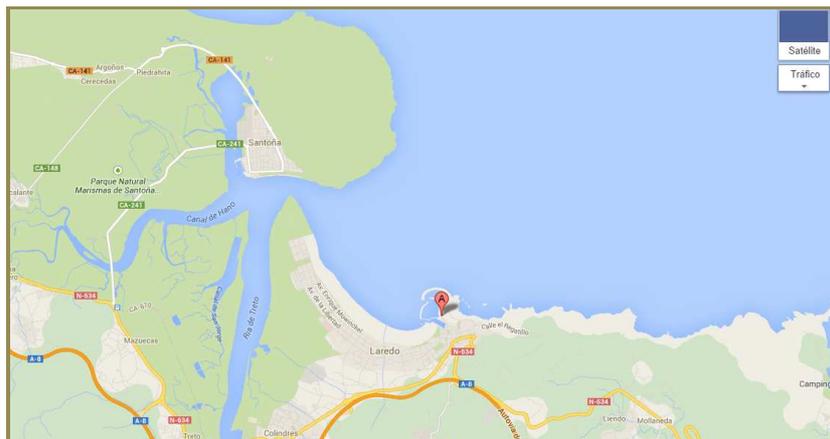
See Figures 15 and 16.

Figure 14 Getaria Harbour. Source: Luis Ambrosio



Figure 15 Landing ports within the UC: The Basque Country & Laredo ports (Cantabria)
Source: Google Maps





5.3 Eligibility to Enter Further Chains of Custody

CAB used the previous information to establish the systems are appropriate, and as such, the fish and fish products from the fishery may enter into further certified chains of custody.

The scope of the certificate includes all vessels listed in Appendix 3 (Tables 1 & 2) and the fish auction points identified in 5.2.6. The location of eligible landing points is shown in figure 16.

The change of ownership will start after the first sale at one of the seven auction points covered by the certificate:

- Cofradía de Bermeo
- Cofradía de Lekeitio
- Cofradía de Ondarroa
- Cofradía de Getaria
- Cofradía de Pasaia
- Cofradía de Hondarribia
- Cofradía de Laredo

That is, after the Cofradía issues the sales note before the next user, i.e. the company that purchases the fish, they will be required to have a valid chain of custody certificate whenever they want to market the product bought with an MSC certificate.

6 Evaluation Results

6.1 Principle Level Scores

Table 6.1: Final Principle Scores

PRINCIPLE	SCORE
Principle 1 – Target Species	96,9
Principle 2 – Ecosystem	88,0
Principle 3 – Management System	93,1

6.2 Summary of Scores

Principle	Component	PI No.	Performance Indicator (PI)	Score
One	Outcome	1.1.1	Stock status	90
		1.1.2	Reference points	100
		1.1.3	Stock rebuilding	NA
	Management	1.2.1	Harvest strategy	100
		1.2.2	Harvest control rules & tools	100
		1.2.3	Information & monitoring	95
		1.2.4	Assessment of stock status	100
Two	Retained species	2.1.1	Outcome	80
		2.1.2	Management	85
		2.1.3	Information	90
	Bycatch species	2.2.1	Outcome	90
		2.2.2	Management	95
		2.2.3	Information	75
	ETP species	2.3.1	Outcome	90
		2.3.2	Management	85
		2.3.3	Information	70
	Habitats	2.4.1	Outcome	100
		2.4.2	Management	90
		2.4.3	Information	90
	Ecosystem	2.5.1	Outcome	100
		2.5.2	Management	90
		2.5.3	Information	90
Three	Governance and policy	3.1.1	Legal & customary framework	95
		3.1.2	Consultation, roles & responsibilities	100
		3.1.3	Long term objectives	100
		3.1.4	Incentives for sustainable fishing	100
	Fishery specific management system	3.2.1	Fishery specific objectives	75
		3.2.2	Decision making processes	85
		3.2.3	Compliance & enforcement	100
		3.2.4	Research plan	100
		3.2.5	Management performance evaluation	90

6.3 Summary of Conditions

Table 6-3 Summary of Conditions

Condition number	Condition	Performance Indicator	Related to previously raised condition? (Y/N/N/A)
1	<p>This PI assesses if the information on the nature and the amount of bycatch is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage bycatch</p> <p>The client is required to ensure that sufficient data is available for the fishery to detect any increase in risk to main bycatch species.</p>	2.2.3	N
2	<p>This PI assesses the information collected to support the management of the fishery impacts on ETP species. The information should support the development of the management strategy, the assessment of the effectiveness of the management strategy; and the determination of the outcome status of ETP species.</p> <p>The client is required to ensure that sufficient information is available to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantitatively estimated the ETP species. Measure trends and support a full strategy to manage impacts on ETP species. 	2.3.3	N
3	<p>This PI assesses that the individual harvest or management strategies that are scored in PIs under P1 and P2 are consistent with the fishery-specific objectives being scored under P3.</p> <p>In summary, there are no explicit long and short objectives for the fishery's management system to know there are consistent with achieving the outcomes of the Principle 2</p>	3.2.1	N



6.4 Determination, Formal Conclusion and Agreement

The fishery assessed has achieved a score above 80 against each of the MSC Criteria.

It is therefore determined that the Cantabrian Sea purse seine anchovy fishery should be certified according to the Marine Stewardship Council Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fisheries.

The decision to uphold the determination was confirmed by BV decision making entity following a recommendation by the assessment team, and review by stakeholders and peer-reviewers.

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Council Regulation 768/2005 of 26 April 2005 establishing a Community Fisheries Control Agency and amending Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93 establishing a control system applicable to the common fisheries policy

Council Regulation (EC) n° 199/2008 of 25 February 2008 concerning the establishment of a Community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy.

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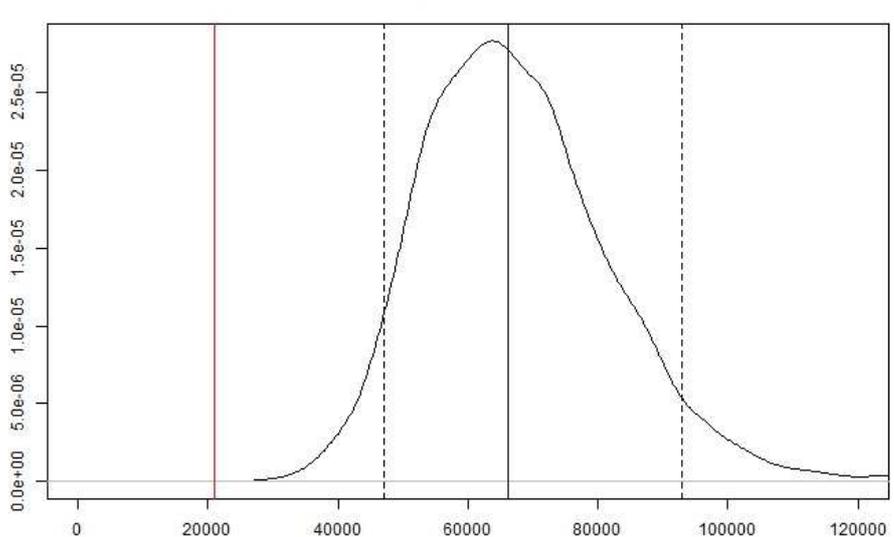
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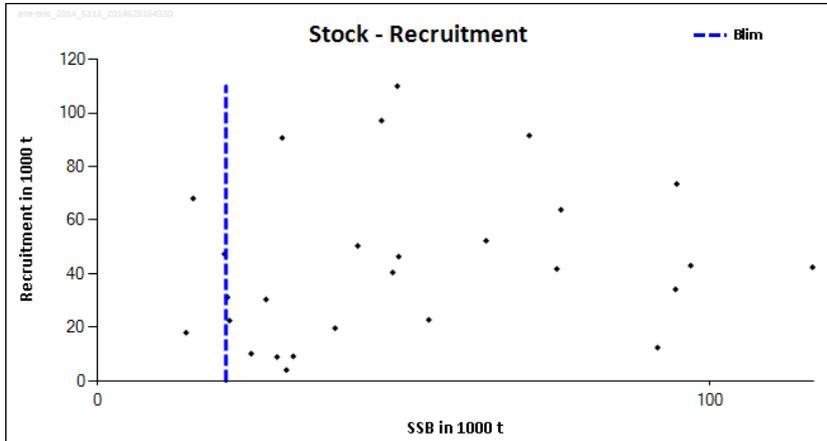
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Appendix 1 Scoring and Rationales

Appendix 1.1 Performance Indicator Scores and Rationale

PI 1.1.1		The stock is at a level which maintains high productivity and has a low probability of recruitment overfishing		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	It is likely that the stock is above the point where recruitment would be impaired.	It is highly likely that the stock is above the point where recruitment would be impaired.	There is a high degree of certainty that the stock is above the point where recruitment would be impaired.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	<p>In the latest assessment the 2014 SSB is estimated at around 66000 tonnes average (between 93000 and 47000 tonnes), which is three times more than Blim (21000 tonnes), i.e. biomass under which recruitment is likely to be impaired. Even considering the lowest probabilistic range in the estimates of the 2014 stock biomass, it is still double Blim. Furthermore, since the range does not reaches Blim, the probability of SSB in 2014 being below Blim is almost zero. Stock biomass has been above Blim since 2010 and it is presently at historical high levels. Therefore there is a high degree of certainty that the stock is above the point where recruitment would be impaired (ICES, 2014). Figures 16 & 17.</p> <p>Figure 16 Anchovy in Subarea VIII (Bay of Biscay). Posterior distribution of spawning biomass in 2014. Vertical dashed lines correspond to posterior median and 90% probability intervals. Source: ICES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SSB 2014</p> 		
b	Guidepost		The stock is at or fluctuating around its target reference point.	There is a high degree of certainty that the stock has been fluctuating around its target reference point, or has been above its target reference point, over recent years.
	Met?		Y	N

PI 1.1.1		The stock is at a level which maintains high productivity and has a low probability of recruitment overfishing	
Justification	<p>There are no specific MSY reference points estimated for this stock at present as they were considered inappropriate for precautionary advice. The 2014 SSB is estimated at around 66000 tonnes average which is three times more than Blim and it is one of the highest in the historical times series. The assessment model is a two-stage Bayesian biomass dynamic model that takes uncertainty into account while giving probability intervals for each estimate. Therefore there is a high degree of certainty that the stock has been fluctuating around its target reference point over recent years. However, since the stock was at very low level between 2004-2010, which cause the fishery to be closed between 2005 and 2009, the stock has not been fluctuating around its target reference point over a long period and thus does not reach a score of 100.</p> <p>Figure 17 Anchovy in Subarea VIII (Bay of Biscay). Stock–recruitment plot based on median values. Source: ICES</p> 		
	<p>ICES. 2014. ICES Advice 2014, Book 7.</p> <p>EC. 2009. Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a long-term plan for the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay and the fisheries exploiting that stock. COM(2009) 399 final. 25 pp. http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0399:FIN:EN:PDF</p>		
References			
Stock Status relative to Reference Points			
	Type of reference point	Value of reference point	Current stock status relative to reference point
Target reference point	management plan harvest rate	0.3 when SSB > 33000	0.3/0.22=1.36
Limit reference point	Blim	21000 tonnes	66000/21000=3.14
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:			90

PI 1.1.2		Limit and target reference points are appropriate for the stock		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Generic limit and target reference points are based on justifiable and reasonable practice appropriate for the species category.	Reference points are appropriate for the stock and can be estimated.	
	Met?	Y	Y	
	Justification	<p>There is a biomass limit reference point estimated by ICES for the Bay of Biscay anchovy stock. Blim is defined as Bloss (minimum estimated biomass which still produced a substantial recruitment) based on the posterior median of the 1987 and 2009 SSB estimates (of 21425t and 20776 t respectively in the 2013 CBBM assessment), which are the third and fourth lowest values in the series. It is important to note that after a period of low biomass around Blim between 2005-2009, these SSB abundances still produced a significant recruitment restoring the population to medium levels (WGHANSA, 2014)</p> <p>Regarding target reference points, ICES MSY approach for short-lived stocks is aimed at achieving a target biomass escapement (MSY Bescapement, the amount of biomass left to spawn), which is more robust against low SSB and recruitment failure than the precautionary approach Bpa (ICES, 2014). However, in the case of the Bay of Biscay anchovy, MSY Bescapement is no longer provided. As the ICES assessment model provides the probability distributions for SSB, it is possible to estimate directly the risk of the SSB falling below Blim, which is ultimately the objective of any target reference point, i.e. minimize the risk of the stock being below a limit reference point. Furthermore, there is a target Harvest Rate of 0.3 when stock biomass is equal or above 33000 tonnes. This management target that has been proven to be precautionary under several scenarios (STECF, 2014).</p> <p>In summary, limit and target reference points can be estimated and are specific to the stock</p>		
b	Guidepost		The limit reference point is set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity.	The limit reference point is set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity following consideration of precautionary issues.
	Met?		Y	Y
	Justification	<p>Blim, as estimated by ICES based on CCBM assessment (described above), is an appropriate limit reference point. At biomass levels above Blim (21000 tonnes) recruitment is not impaired. Furthermore, the Bayesian assessment model used by ICES provides estimates of the uncertainty of the data and prior assumptions expressed in probabilistic distributions. These distributions presumably represent more realistic estimates of the uncertainty than the assumptions underlying the distance between Blim and Bpa in the common deterministic framework of ICES. Specifically, the assessment model provides the probability distribution for SSB, and thus the risk of SSB falling below Blim can be estimated directly. Furthermore, environmental variability (including predation) is considered in the model by a changing natural mortality by age (WKPELA, 2013).</p>		

PI 1.1.2		Limit and target reference points are appropriate for the stock		
c	Guidepost		The target reference point is such that the stock is maintained at a level consistent with B_{MSY} or some measure or surrogate with similar intent or outcome.	The target reference point is such that the stock is maintained at a level consistent with B_{MSY} or some measure or surrogate with similar intent or outcome, or a higher level, and takes into account relevant precautionary issues such as the ecological role of the stock with a high degree of certainty.
	Met?		Y	N
	Justification	In the past target reference points were estimated for the Bay of Biscay anchovy stock. However, as stated above, B_{pa} and $MSY B_{escapement}$ are no longer provided. As the ICES Bayesian assessment model provides the probability distributions for SSB, it is possible to estimate directly the risk of the SSB falling below B_{lim} , which is ultimately the objective of any target reference point, i.e. minimize the risk of the stock being below a limit reference point. Further, the uncertainty of the data and prior assumptions are taken into account to formulate the probabilistic distributions associated to the estimated biomasses. Finally, environmental variability (including predation) is considered in the model by a changing natural mortality by age (WKPELA, 2013). However, recruitment predictions are not yet based on environmental variables and species interactions, as this needs further testing (WGHANSA, 2014)		
d	Guidepost		For key low trophic level stocks, the target reference point takes into account the ecological role of the stock.	
	Met?		Not relevant	

PI 1.1.2	Limit and target reference points are appropriate for the stock	
Justification		<p>Anchovy is listed according to the MSC criteria a low trophic species due to its life history (Table below). However, the Bay of Biscay anchovy is not considered a “key” LTL stock.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Ammodytidae (sandeels, sandlances) • Family Clupeidae (herrings, menhaden, pilchards, sardines, sardinellas, sprats) • Family Engraulidae (anchovies) • Family Euphausiidae (krill) • Family Myctophidae (lanternfish) • Family Osmeridae (smelts, capelin) • Genus <i>Scomber</i> (mackerels) • Order Atheriniformes (silversides, sand smelts) • Species <i>Trisopterus esmarkii</i> (Norway pout) </div> <p>This is because although in the Bay of Biscay ecosystem anchovy, together with sardine and sprat, and to a lower extent mackerel and horse mackerel, are the dominant LTL species, and as such transfer a very large proportion of the total primary production through the lower part of the food web, the system is detritus-based and bottom-up controlled (Lassalle et al., 2011). Although anchovy is the preferential prey to several high level trophic predators such as tuna (Goñi et al., 2012) and seabirds, and indeed control their abundance, in the Bay of Biscay ecosystem phytoplanktonic and zooplanktonic are the keystone species (Lassalle et al., 2011). Bottom-up processes play a significant role in the population dynamics of upper-trophic-levels and in the global structuring of this marine ecosystem. Finally, there is a marked bottom-up control of small pelagic fish by mesozooplanktonic prey and not by their predators (Lassalle et al., 2011).</p> <p>In summary, i) although a large proportion of the trophic connections in the ecosystem involves the Bay of Biscay anchovy, leading to significant predator dependency; ii) the Bay of Biscay anchovy it does not transfer a large volume of energy between lower and higher trophic levels; and iii) the Bay of Biscay ecosystem is not ‘wasp-waisted’. Since the Bay of Biscay anchovy does not meet two of the sub-criteria necessary, it is not considered as having a key role in the ecosystem.</p>
	References	
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:		90

PI 1.1.3		Where the stock is depleted, there is evidence of stock rebuilding within a specified timeframe		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Where stocks are depleted rebuilding strategies, which have a reasonable expectation of success, are in place.		Where stocks are depleted, strategies are demonstrated to be rebuilding stocks continuously and there is strong evidence that rebuilding will be complete within the specified timeframe.
	Met?	Not applicable		Not applicable
	Justification	In the latest assessment the 2014 SSB is estimated at around 66000 tonnes average (between 93000 and 47000 tonnes), which is three times more than Blim (21000 tonnes). Even considering the lowest probabilistic range in the estimates of the 2014 stock biomass, it is still double Blim, so the stock is not depleted and therefore this issue is not applicable. Nevertheless, the harvest strategy included in the management plan has a provision to close the fishery when the stock is depleted (< Blim), providing a mechanism to safeguard incoming year classes. This provision has proven effective in the past: the fishery was closed between 2005-2009 giving sufficient protection for incoming year classes and the stock increased in 2010 allowing for the fishery to re-open. Furthermore, in the simulations of the HCR carried out by STECF (2014), time for stock recovery was one of the performance criteria, and as stated above the HCR was considered precautionary.		
b	Guidepost	A rebuilding timeframe is specified for the depleted stock that is the shorter of 30 years or 3 times its generation time. For cases where 3 generations is less than 5 years, the rebuilding timeframe is up to 5 years.	A rebuilding timeframe is specified for the depleted stock that is the shorter of 20 years or 2 times its generation time. For cases where 2 generations is less than 5 years, the rebuilding timeframe is up to 5 years.	The shortest practicable rebuilding timeframe is specified which does not exceed one generation time for the depleted stock.
	Met?	(Y/N)	(Y/N)	(Y/N)
	Justification	Not applicable		
c	Guidepost	Monitoring is in place to determine whether the rebuilding strategies are effective in rebuilding the stock within a specified timeframe.	There is evidence that they are rebuilding stocks, or it is highly likely based on simulation modelling or previous performance that they will be able to rebuild the stock within a specified timeframe.	
	Met?	(Y/N)	(Y/N)	

PI 1.1.3		Where the stock is depleted, there is evidence of stock rebuilding within a specified timeframe
	Justification	Not applicable
	References	ICES. 2014. ICES Advice 2014, Book 7.
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:		NA

PI 1.2.1		There is a robust and precautionary harvest strategy in place		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	The harvest strategy is expected to achieve stock management objectives reflected in the target and limit reference points.	The harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and the elements of the harvest strategy work together towards achieving management objectives reflected in the target and limit reference points.	The harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives reflected in the target and limit reference points.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	<p>A long-term management plan was proposed by the EC in 2009. This plan has not yet been formally adopted by the EU due to administrative delays. Nevertheless, the plan has been used since 2010 for establishing the TAC for the period between 1st July and 30th June, while it's HCR has been extensively tested and proven precautionary (STECF, 2014). The plans objective is to <i>"maintain the biomass of the stock of anchovy in the Bay of Biscay at a level that allows its sustainable exploitation in accordance with maximum sustainable yield, on the basis of scientific advice, and while ensuring as much stability and profitability for the fishing sector as is practicable"</i>. The plan follows a harvest control rule that should ensure the exploitation of the anchovy at high yields, guarantee the stability of the fishery and have a low risk of stock collapse (EC, 2009). The HCR includes provisions to close the fishery when stock biomass falls under the limit reference point ($B_{trig} = 24000$ tonnes) and a minimum TAC when stock is between limit and target reference point ($B_{pa} = 33000$ tonnes). The plan reference points used in the harvest control rule are generally more conservative than the current ICES reference points.</p> <p>Additional management measures are also adopted, such as a highgrading ban, technical gear and vessels specifications, and closed areas.</p> <p>Therefore, the assessment team concludes that the harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives reflected in the target and limit reference points.</p>		
b	Guidepost	The harvest strategy is likely to work based on prior experience or plausible argument.	The harvest strategy may not have been fully tested but evidence exists that it is achieving its objectives.	The performance of the harvest strategy has been fully evaluated and evidence exists to show that it is achieving its objectives including being clearly able to maintain stocks at target levels.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	<p>The harvest strategy of the long-term management plan has been tested by STECF when it was originally developed using a deterministic models, and also after the introduction of a Bayesian dynamic model. In both cases, several different HCR and assumptions were considered and STECF concluded that the plan (STECF, 2013, 2014) based on both stock assessment models was precautionary. Furthermore, the harvest strategy included in the management plan has worked in the past by maintaining the fishery closed until stock recovered, and is presently maintaining a harvest rate that keeps the stock at high levels with zero probability of recruitment impairment.</p>		

PI 1.2.1		There is a robust and precautionary harvest strategy in place		
c	Guidepost	Monitoring is in place that is expected to determine whether the harvest strategy is working.		
	Met?	Y		
	Justification	Anchovy in the Bay of Biscay is strongly dependent on the abundance of the incoming year class which is highly variable and largely dependent on environmental factors. Therefore the population needs to be closely monitored by fishery-independent research surveys. The stock is therefore monitored by three independent surveys under the EU Data Collection Framework: the BIOMAN surveys (since 1987), the acoustic PELGAS surveys (since 1989), and the autumn acoustic JUVENA surveys (since 2003) (ICES, 2014). There is also a port sampling scheme in both Spain and France to collect biological information on landings (length, weights, sex, maturity and otoliths). All this information is used in the analytic assessment of stock status, which allows for an evaluation that the harvest strategy is working.		
d	Guidepost			The harvest strategy is periodically reviewed and improved as necessary.
	Met?			Y
	Justification	The management plan is regularly assessed by STECF and reviewed by the European Institutions whenever it is deemed necessary, and specifically when new scientific advice changes the plan targets, measures and assumptions. Following the new assessment methodology established in 2013, i.e. the introduction of a two-stage Bayesian biomass dynamic model, STECF has evaluated the plan (STECF, 2013, 2014) and considers it to be precautionary.		
References		<p>EC. 2009. Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a long-term plan for the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay and the fisheries exploiting that stock. COM(2009) 399 final. 25 pp. http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0399:FIN:EN:PDF</p> <p>ICES. 2014. ICES Advice 2014, Book 7.</p> <p>STECF. 2013. Advice on the Harvest Control Rule and Evaluation of the Anchovy Plan COM(2009) 399 Final (STECF-13-24). 71 pp.</p> <p>STECF. 2014. Evaluation/scoping of Management plans - Data analysis for support of the impact assessment for the management plan of Bay of Biscay anchovy (COM(2009)399 final). (STECF-14-05). 128 pp.</p>		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				100

PI 1.2.2		There are well defined and effective harvest control rules in place											
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100									
a	Guidepost	Generally understood harvest rules are in place that are consistent with the harvest strategy and which act to reduce the exploitation rate as limit reference points are approached.	Well defined harvest control rules are in place that are consistent with the harvest strategy and ensure that the exploitation rate is reduced as limit reference points are approached.										
	Met?	Y	Y										
	Justification	<p>The harvest control rule is explicitly detailed in the management plan proposed by the EC (EC, 2009), and although has not yet been formally adopted is still used to set the TAC:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="416 824 1013 1133"> <thead> <tr> <th>SSB in May (rounded up to the nearest 1000 t):</th> <th>TAC (for July to June):</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>$SSB \leq 24\,000$ t</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>$24\,000 < SSB < 33\,000$ t</td> <td>7000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>$34\,000 \leq SSB < 100\,000$ t</td> <td>Between 10 200 t and 33 000 t $TAC=0.3*SSB$ t</td> </tr> <tr> <td>$SSB > 100\,000$ t</td> <td>33 000 t</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Therefore, the HCR has specific provisions when the stock is approaching B_{lim}, namely to close the fishery, and a moderate TAC (7000 t), consistent with a reduced harvest rate, when the stock is between B_{lim} and another reference point at 33000 t.</p>			SSB in May (rounded up to the nearest 1000 t):	TAC (for July to June):	$SSB \leq 24\,000$ t	0	$24\,000 < SSB < 33\,000$ t	7000	$34\,000 \leq SSB < 100\,000$ t	Between 10 200 t and 33 000 t $TAC=0.3*SSB$ t	$SSB > 100\,000$ t
SSB in May (rounded up to the nearest 1000 t):	TAC (for July to June):												
$SSB \leq 24\,000$ t	0												
$24\,000 < SSB < 33\,000$ t	7000												
$34\,000 \leq SSB < 100\,000$ t	Between 10 200 t and 33 000 t $TAC=0.3*SSB$ t												
$SSB > 100\,000$ t	33 000 t												
b	Guidepost		The selection of the harvest control rules takes into account the main uncertainties.	The design of the harvest control rules takes into account a wide range of uncertainties.									
	Met?		Y	Y									
	Justification	<p>The HCR takes into account a wide range of uncertainties (for example: in recruitment estimates, catch-at-age data, variable natural mortality) as it is based on the current stock assessment. According to ICES (2014) the current Bayesian model used in the assessment of the Bay of Biscay anchovy provides a formal statistical estimate of the precision of the results and these are translated into risk that can be included in the harvest rules. Furthermore, the HCR has specific provisions when the stock is low and under B_{lim}, namely to close the fishery, and a moderate TAC when the stock is between B_{lim} and a target reference point. Furthermore, the HCR was tested twice by STECF under several scenarios and was proven to be precautionary. Specifically, assessment uncertainty was introduced as an error that was larger than experienced in recent years and the HCR was still found to be precautionary (STECF 2014).</p>											

PI 1.2.2		There are well defined and effective harvest control rules in place		
c	Guidepost	There is some evidence that tools used to implement harvest control rules are appropriate and effective in controlling exploitation.	Available evidence indicates that the tools in use are appropriate and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules.	Evidence clearly shows that the tools in use are effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	The TAC has been effectively implemented since the reopening of the fishery in 2010/2011 and the implementation of the long-term management plan. The TAC for 2010 was 15.6 thousand tones and catches were 15.1, 2011 TAC was 29.7 while catches were 12.2, 2012 TAC 20.7 catches 16.8 and finally 2013 TAC was 17.1 while catches were 16.7.		
References		EC. 2009. Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a long-term plan for the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay and the fisheries exploiting that stock. COM(2009) 399 final. 25 pp. http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0399:FIN:EN:PDF		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				100

PI 1.2.3		Relevant information is collected to support the harvest strategy		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Some relevant information related to stock structure, stock productivity and fleet composition is available to support the harvest strategy.	Sufficient relevant information related to stock structure, stock productivity, fleet composition and other data is available to support the harvest strategy.	A comprehensive range of information (on stock structure, stock productivity, fleet composition, stock abundance, fishery removals and other information such as environmental information), including some that may not be directly related to the current harvest strategy, is available.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	The anchovy stock is highly monitored. There are several sampling programmes and fishery independent surveys under the EU Data Collection Framework. There is a port sampling scheme to collect biological information on landings (length, sex, maturity and otoliths) carried out by IEO, AZTI and IFREMER. There are three fishery independent surveys: JUVENA, BIOMAN and PELGAS, carried out throughout the stock distribution to estimate recruitment and stock biomass, and include environmental information. These programmes data are available to national and international scientific institutions, and are submitted annually to ICES, to the Working Group on Southern Horse Mackerel, Anchovy, and Sardine (WGHANSA) to assess the sustainability of the stock. The official catch statistics (logbook information) is provided to the Spanish scientific institutions by MAGRAMA.		
b	Guidepost	Stock abundance and fishery removals are monitored and at least one indicator is available and monitored with sufficient frequency to support the harvest control rule.	Stock abundance and fishery removals are regularly monitored at a level of accuracy and coverage consistent with the harvest control rule, and one or more indicators are available and monitored with sufficient frequency to support the harvest control rule.	All information required by the harvest control rule is monitored with high frequency and a high degree of certainty, and there is a good understanding of inherent uncertainties in the information [data] and the robustness of assessment and management to this uncertainty.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	The existing sampling programmes collect different level of information according to the requirements of the EU Data Collection Framework and provide the required information in the necessarily frequency (daily) and are representative of the fisheries involved. Discards however are not routinely sampled, either by observers or fishers. Nevertheless, ICES considers discarding by these fisheries negligible and seemly have no significant effect on stock status assessment. Discards are likely included in the assumptions considered for the prior distributions in the Bayesian model. Therefore there is a good understanding of inherent uncertainties in the information and the robustness of assessment and management to this uncertainty. However, discards are not routinely sampled, either by observers or fishers, although they are considered negligible.		

PI 1.2.3		Relevant information is collected to support the harvest strategy		
c	Guidepost		There is good information on all other fishery removals from the stock.	
	Met?		Y	
	Justification	All fisheries that catch anchovy are sampled consistently through the Data Collection Framework (ICES, 2014). Both Spanish and French anchovy fisheries are sampled. In addition, all the fisheries that are likely to have bycatch anchovy, such as pelagic fisheries that operate in the same area for mackerel and sardine are also required and indeed sample anchovy under the EU DCF. However, discards are not routinely sampled, either by observers or fishers, although they are considered negligible. Finally, live bait catches for the tuna fisheries are considered low (past estimates of 1% total catch, WGHANSA, 2014) and not included in the assessment and advice (ICES, 2014).		
References		<p>ICES. 2014. ICES Advice 2014, Book 7.</p> <p>WGHANSA. 2014. Report of the Working Group on Southern Horse Mackerel, Anchovy and Sardine (WGHANSA), 20-25 June 2014, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2014/ACOM:16. 599 pp.</p> <p>Information gathered during the audit visit.</p>		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				90

PI 1.2.4		There is an adequate assessment of the stock status		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost		The assessment is appropriate for the stock and for the harvest control rule.	The assessment is appropriate for the stock and for the harvest control rule and takes into account the major features relevant to the biology of the species and the nature of the fishery.
	Met?		Y	Y
	Justification	The Bay of Biscay anchovy stock is assessed annually by ICES based on routine and systematic sampling of catches and three independent fishery surveys. The two-stage Bayesian biomass dynamic model used by ICES provides estimates of the uncertainty of the data and prior assumptions expressed in probabilistic distributions. These distributions presumably represent more realistic estimates of the uncertainty than the assumptions underlying the distance between Blim and Bpa in the common deterministic framework of ICES. Specifically, the assessment model provides the probability distribution for SSB, and thus the risk of SSB falling below Blim can be estimated directly (ICES, 2014, 2013; Ibaibarriaga et al., 2011).		
b	Guidepost	The assessment estimates stock status relative to reference points.		
	Met?	Y		
	Justification	The ICES Bayesian assessment model provides the probability distributions for SSB. Therefore it is possible to estimate directly the risk of the SSB falling below Blim. It also estimates harvest rates that can then be compared with the management plan target reference point.		
c	Guidepost	The assessment identifies major sources of uncertainty.	The assessment takes uncertainty into account.	The assessment takes into account uncertainty and is evaluating stock status relative to reference points in a probabilistic way.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	Most of the major sources of uncertainty are known, namely in the survey index which can give conflicting signals. There is no (or minimal) misreporting, underreporting and discarding is considered negligible. The Bayesian assessment model used by ICES provide estimates of the uncertainty which are expressed as posterior distributions of the interest parameters, i.e. biomass. The posterior distributions express the uncertainty of the results given the uncertainty of the data and the prior assumptions, and as stated above presumably represent more realistic estimates of the uncertainty than the assumptions underlying the distance between Blim and Bpa in the common deterministic framework (ICES, 2013, 2014).		

PI 1.2.4		There is an adequate assessment of the stock status		
d	Guidepost			The assessment has been tested and shown to be robust. Alternative hypotheses and assessment approaches have been rigorously explored.
	Met?			Y
	Justification	The assessment went through a benchmark process in 2013 where several models and assumptions such as low recruitment and implementation error were tested. The chosen two-stage Bayesian biomass dynamic model has proven to be (more) robust to the several hypotheses tested and this is the reason why the deterministic model used until then was changed (ICES, 2013).		
e	Guidepost		The assessment of stock status is subject to peer review.	The assessment has been internally and externally peer reviewed.
	Met?		Y	Y
	Justification	The stock assessment is reviewed internally in the normal advisory process of ICES annually and every three years bench marks exercises, trough STECF annual advice evaluations and management plans evaluation, and externally in scientific papers published (ex: Ibaibarriaga et al., 2011).		
References		<p>Ibaibarriaga, L., Fernandez, C., and Uriarte, A. 2011. Gaining information from commercial catch for a Bayesian two-stage biomass dynamic model: application to Bay of Biscay anchovy. ICES Journal of Marine Science, 68: 1435–1446.</p> <p>ICES. 2013. Report of the Benchmark Workshop on Pelagic Stocks (WKPELA 2013), 4–8 February 2013, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2013/ACOM: 46. 483 pp.</p> <p>ICES. 2014. ICES Advice 2014, Book 7.</p>		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				100

PI 2.1.1		The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the retained species and does not hinder recovery of depleted retained species		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Main retained species are likely to be within biologically based limits (if not, go to scoring issue c below).	Main retained species are highly likely to be within biologically based limits (if not, go to scoring issue c below).	There is a high degree of certainty that retained species are within biologically based limits and fluctuating around their target reference points.
	Met?	N, go to issue c	N, go to issue c	N
	Justification	<p>The seine fishery under certification targets a variety of species during the year depending on the season and area: <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>, <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>, <i>Trachurus trachurus</i>, <i>Scomber colias</i>, <i>Scomber scombrus</i>, with all species representing more than 5% of the total landings of this fishery per year. However, when the vessels are targeting anchovy (corresponding to 83.4% of landings), the main retained species are: <i>Trachurus trachurus</i> (8.7%), <i>Sardina pilchardus</i> (5.4%) and <i>Scomber colias</i> (1.4%) (AZTI, 2014). Considering the MSC definition of main retained species, i.e. over 5% of the total catch, or which can be considered as vulnerable, or of particularly high value; only horse mackerel and sardine are considered further for scoring this principle.</p> <p>ICES evaluates the sardine stock in Divisions VIIIa,b,d and Subarea VII and concludes that recruitment in 2012 is the highest in the time-series. An analysis shows that F is just below natural mortality and is likely to be close to the maximum sustainable yield. Nevertheless, biomass indices indicate that the stock is decreasing in recent years to just below long term average, although within the ranges of data variability (ICES, 2013).. Therefore sardine is likely to be within biologically based limits. However as the assessment is only qualitative one cannot determine if there is a very low risk of recruitment impairment, or if it is highly likely the stock is within biologically based limits. Therefore SG80 is not met.</p> <p>Regarding horse mackerel, ICES also evaluates the stock in Divisions IIa, IVa, Vb, VIa, VIIa-c, e-k, and Subarea VIII (Western stock) and concludes that SSB, which has varied between 0.65 and 1.72 million tonnes during 1995–2012, is estimated to be at 0.64 million tonnes in 2014 which puts the stock at almost Btrigger (0.63). Fishing mortality has been increasing since 2007 and is now above FMSY. Recruitment has been low from 2004 onwards. Since the 2014 stock biomass is the second lowest in the time series, recruitment continues to be low and F is above Fmsy, the stock is likely to be outside safe biological limits (ICES, 2014). Therefore SG60 is not met and go to scoring c.</p>		
b	Guidepost			Target reference points are defined for retained species.
	Met?			N
	Justification	There are no target reference points defined for all retained species. For the main retained species, sardine and horse mackerel, while these species are now routinely assessed by ICES, the advice given is qualitative for sardine with no reference points estimated. Nevertheless, for horse mackerel both Fmsy and MSY Btrigger are estimated (ICES, 2014).		

PI 2.1.1		The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the retained species and does not hinder recovery of depleted retained species		
c	Guidepost	If main retained species are outside the limits there are measures in place that are expected to ensure that the fishery does not hinder recovery and rebuilding of the depleted species.	If main retained species are outside the limits there is a partial strategy of demonstrably effective management measures in place such that the fishery does not hinder recovery and rebuilding.	
	Met?	Y	Y	
	Justification	<p>As stated above sardine stock in Divisions VIIIa,b,d and Subarea VII is likely to be within biologically based limits, as recruitment is strong, F is probably around F_{MSY}, and stock biomass is decreasing in recent years to just below long term average, although within the ranges of data variability (ICES, 2013). Nevertheless, the harvest strategy is implied under the CFP for all European stocks: to be maintained at levels that can support MSY, and there are specific management measures: a minimum landing size and closed areas. These measures, associated to the fact that the fishery accounts for only 0.7% of international landings, are expected to ensure that the fishery does not hinder recovery and rebuilding if the sardine stock was depleted. Therefore SG80 is met.</p> <p>Therefore only horse mackerel is outside safe biological limits. The harvest strategy is implied under the CFP for all European stocks: to be maintained at levels that can support MSY. In addition, since 2008 a management plan for horse mackerel has been used to set the EU TAC. The management plan was initially deemed precautionary by ICES in the short term only, because some relevant scenarios were not evaluated. Further evaluation in 2013 suggests that, in its current configuration, the HCR is not robust to more than 2 years of very low recruitment (ICES, 2013). Considering that the horse mackerel western stock is experience overfishing and close to being overfished indicates that this strategy has not been responsive to stock status, as also indicated by ICES evaluation. However, the general management approach is likely to work in the long term as the reductions of the TACs, associated to a Landing Obligation, should lead to a limit on fishing mortality, the TACs have been set above scientific advice for the last 2 years. Furthermore, a revised management plan is currently under development (ICES, 2014) which is likely to take into account periods of low recruitment in the HCR. Until this revised management plan is evaluated to be precautionary and used to set the TACs, the harvest strategy will not meet its objectives of preventing the <u>main targeted fisheries</u> of hindering stock recovery and rebuilding. However, since the fishery under assessment only contributes to 0.2% of the catches at stock level, it is the conclusion of the assessment team that the fishery will not hinder stock recovery and rebuilding. Therefore SG80 is met.</p>		
d	Guidepost	If the status is poorly known there are measures or practices in place that are expected to result in the fishery not causing the retained species to be outside biologically based limits or hindering recovery.		
	Met?	Y		

PI 2.1.1		The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the retained species and does not hinder recovery of depleted retained species
	Justification	Horse mackerel stock status is quantitatively assessed by ICES, so only the status of the sardine stock is not determined with a low risk. As stated above, there are specific management measures to safeguard the sardine stock at the moment: a minimum landing size and closed areas. These measures, associated to the fact that the fishery accounts for only 0.7% of international landings, are nevertheless expected to prevent the fishery of causing the retained species to be outside biologically based limits or hindering their recovery.
	References	AZTI. 2014. Logbook information provided by AZTI. Unpublished results. ICES. 2013. Report of the Workshop to evaluate the EU management plan for Western horse mackerel (WKWHMAC), 18–19 June 2013, ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2013/ACOM:59, ICES 2014
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:		80
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant):		

PI 2.1.2		There is a strategy in place for managing retained species that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to retained species		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	There are measures in place, if necessary, that are expected to maintain the main retained species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not hinder their recovery and rebuilding.	There is a partial strategy in place, if necessary, that is expected to maintain the main retained species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not hinder their recovery and rebuilding.	There is a strategy in place for managing retained species.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	There is a strategy in place for managing all retained species that includes TACs (set for several species annually), closed areas and seasons and minimum landings sizes, and these measures are likely to impact on all retained species catches. There is also a management plan implemented for horse mackerel, and although it is not robust to very low recruitment scenarios as it is the present case, it does provide for a long term management framework for the fishery.		
b	Guidepost	The measures are considered likely to work, based on plausible argument (e.g., general experience, theory or comparison with similar fisheries/species).	There is some objective basis for confidence that the partial strategy will work, based on some information directly about the fishery and/or species involved.	Testing supports high confidence that the strategy will work, based on information directly about the fishery and/or species involved.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	There is some confidence that the strategy in place for managing sardine and horse mackerel will work. The TACs are, and have been in the past, set less than actual landings to limit fishing activity. In addition, with the introduction of the LO, TACs effectiveness will be strengthened if the LO is implemented at a significant level. However, the horse mackerel TAC has been overshooting in recent years, including the Spanish fleet. Fishing mortality, although is increasing in recent years for horse mackerel is associated to TACs increases and has diminished in the years before 2007. Minimum landing sizes provide a disincentive to catch and land juvenile fish, and this is also the information team gathered at the audit visit. Furthermore, fishing season closures by limiting fishing pressure are also likely to reduce both species catches.		
c	Guidepost		There is some evidence that the partial strategy is being implemented successfully.	There is clear evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully.
	Met?		Y	N

PI 2.1.2		There is a strategy in place for managing retained species that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to retained species		
	Justification	There is some evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully since there is information that misreporting or underreporting does not occur (or rarely) and that the TACs limit fishing mortality. However, discarding does occur and while the LO may be strengthen this issue from 2015 onwards, it strongly depends on high levels of at sea monitoring which are unlikely to be reached, at least in the short term. Furthermore, the management plan implemented for horse mackerel is not robust to very low recruitment scenarios as it is the present case in this stock.		
d	Guidepost			There is some evidence that the strategy is achieving its overall objective.
	Met?			N
	Justification	Horse mackerel stock is being overfished since fishing mortality is above F_{msy} , therefore the strategy is not achieving its goal of reducing and maintaining the stock at MSY .		
References		ICES. 2013. Report of the Workshop to evaluate the EU management plan for Western horse mackerel (WKWHMAC), 18–19 June 2013, ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2013/ACOM:59.		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				85

PI 2.1.3		Information on the nature and extent of retained species is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage retained species		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Qualitative information is available on the amount of main retained species taken by the fishery.	Qualitative information and some quantitative information are available on the amount of main retained species taken by the fishery.	Accurate and verifiable information is available on the catch of all retained species and the consequences for the status of affected populations.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	The Bay of Biscay anchovy purse-seine fishery is highly monitored. There are two port sampling programmes under the EU Data Collection Framework to collect biological information on landings (species, weight, length, sex, maturity and otoliths) carried out by IEO and AZTI. These programmes data are available to national and international scientific institutions, and are submitted annually to ICES, to the Working Group on Southern Horse Mackerel, Anchovy, and Sardine (WGHANSA) to assess the sustainability of the stocks. The official catch statistics (logbook information) is also collect by the Spanish national authorities. However, discards are not routinely sampled, either by observers, electronic monitoring or fishers, although they are considered negligible for all retained species.		
b	Guidepost	Information is adequate to qualitatively assess outcome status with respect to biologically based limits.	Information is sufficient to estimate outcome status with respect to biologically based limits.	Information is sufficient to quantitatively estimate outcome status with a high degree of certainty.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	There is lack of information on discards of horse mackerel at stock level, and although it not hinders a quantitative assessment of the stock status, total predicted catch cannot be quantified. For sardine the assessment of the stock is based solely on information available from the Bay of Biscay, on biomass indices from two surveys PELGAS (acoustics) and BIOMAN (eggs), used as indicators of stock size. However the available data is not sufficient to allow for a quantitative stock assessment.		
c	Guidepost	Information is adequate to support measures to manage main retained species.	Information is adequate to support a partial strategy to manage main retained species.	Information is adequate to support a strategy to manage retained species, and evaluate with a high degree of certainty whether the strategy is achieving its objective.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	The EU Data Collection Framework sampling schemes provide information to support a strategy to manage the main retained species: sardine and horse mackerel. However, as stated above, there is lack of information on discards of both species, which inhibits an evaluation if the strategy is achieving its objective.		

PI 2.1.3		Information on the nature and extent of retained species is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage retained species		
d	Guidepost		Sufficient data continue to be collected to detect any increase in risk level (e.g. due to changes in the outcome indicator score or the operation of the fishery or the effectiveness of the strategy)	Monitoring of retained species is conducted in sufficient detail to assess ongoing mortalities to all retained species.
	Met?		Y	Y
	Justification	The EU Data Collection Framework continues to support the routine sampling programmes that collect information on catch, but also on fishing operations. Therefore these programmes would be able to detect any increase in risk level e.g. due to changes in the outcome indicator score or the operation of the fishery or the effectiveness of the strategy and provides data in sufficient detail to assess ongoing mortalities to all retained species.		
References		[List any references here]		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				90

PI 2.2.1		The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the bycatch species or species groups and does not hinder recovery of depleted bycatch species or species groups		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Main bycatch species are likely to be within biologically based limits (if not, go to scoring issue b below).	Main bycatch species are highly likely to be within biologically based limits (if not, go to scoring issue b below).	There is a high degree of certainty that bycatch species are within biologically based limits.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
		<p>In the MSC context, “main” bycatch species are identified as those species which constitute over 5% of the total catch, or which can be considered as vulnerable, and are discarded. In a 1994-1995 study of the discard pattern of the Spanish fisheries based on observers at sea programme, Perez et al. (1996) reported that the main discarded species by the purse-seine targeting anchovy (spring sampling) were: horse mackerel <i>Trachurus trachurus</i>, blue whiting <i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>, sardine <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>, chub mackerel <i>Scomber colias</i> and bogue <i>Boops boops</i> in terms of frequency and weight, although only horse mackerel was discarded more than 5% of total catch (8%). Other species that were also significantly although sporadically discarded were: mackerel <i>Scomber scombrus</i>, Mediterranean horse mackerel <i>Trachurus mediterraneus</i>, and invertebrates such as cnidarios and crustaceans (swimming crab <i>Polybius henslowii</i>). The % of discards estimated depends on the inclusion of slippage i.e. the act of opening the gear and releasing the catch in the water before hauling the gear and bring the catch onboard, since 50% of discards occurred through slippage. The total % of catch discarded changes from between 8.4% to 19.8%, corresponding to 1500 t and 3500 t respectively, if slippage is included. Since the practice of slippage was significant when the sampling was carried out, slippage was included in the final % of discards used to determine main bycatch species.</p> <p>The most abundant seabirds species in the Bay of Biscay are: gannets (<i>Sula bassana</i>), herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>), black-backed gulls (<i>Larus focus</i> and <i>Larus miritimus</i>), kittiwakes (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) and auks (i.e. guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), razorbills (<i>Alca torda</i>) and Atlantic puffins (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>) (Certain & Bretagnolle, 2008 in Lassale et al., 2011). Nevertheless, there was no bycatch of seabirds reported in Perez et al. (1996) study by the purse-seine fishery. Furthermore, in the SAILKA project in 2013, 28 anchovy hauls were observed in normal fishing operations and again no bycatch of seabirds occurred (AZTI, personal communication).</p> <p>Although it has been 20 years since the Perez et al. (1996) study, according to the information gathered at the site visit from AZTI and fishers, the fishery seems to continue to operate in a similar fashion and catches and discards are somewhat comparable. The main bycatch fish species associated with the purse-seine Bay of Biscay anchovy fishery are also those species that have commercial value and are often landed as retained species. These species have been assessed under Principle 1 (anchovy) and under Retained Species (horse mackerel and sardine).</p>		

PI 2.2.1		The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the bycatch species or species groups and does not hinder recovery of depleted bycatch species or species groups		
	Justification	<p>For the remaining species, perhaps only blue whiting is likely to have significant discards over 5% of total catch, and therefore, for precautionary reasons, is going to be considered further. The skippers of vessel interviewed described also catches of squid (likely <i>Loligo sp.</i>) that are normally consumed by the crew and often sunfish (<i>Mola mola</i>) and blue shark (<i>Prionace glauca</i>) that are released alive. The blue shark is classified as Near Threatened by IUCN Red List but does not have any legal protection in European waters.</p> <p>Blue whiting has rebounded in recent years from the steep decline in biomass in 2010-2011 and is now a healthy stock that supports a sustainable fishery. SSB has almost doubled from 2010 (2.9 million tonnes) to 2013 (5.5 million tonnes) and is well above $B_{trigger}$ (2.25 million tonnes). This increase is due to the lowest F_s in the time-series in 2011 and 2012, in combination with increased recruitment since 2010 (ICES, 2013).</p> <p>In summary, since there is no updated information on the discard patterns of the fishery, and although deemed not significant by AZTI and fishers, the assessment team cannot assess if all main bycatch species at present are within biologically based limits with a high degree of certainty. Therefore, SG100a is not fully met.</p>		
b	Guidepost	If main bycatch species are outside biologically based limits there are mitigation measures in place that are expected to ensure that the fishery does not hinder recovery and rebuilding.	If main bycatch species are outside biologically based limits there is a partial strategy of demonstrably effective mitigation measures in place such that the fishery does not hinder recovery and rebuilding.	
	Met?	Not applicable	Not applicable	
	Justification	Blue whiting is considered to be the only other main bycatch species, jointly with sardine and horse mackerel that were dealt under retained species. Blue whiting has rebounded in recent years from the steep decline in biomass in 2010-2011 and is now a healthy stock that supports a sustainable fishery. SSB has almost doubled from 2010 (2.9 million tonnes) to 2013 (5.5 million tonnes) and is well above $B_{trigger}$ (2.25 million tonnes). This increase is due to the lowest F_s in the time-series in 2011 and 2012, in combination with increased recruitment since 2010 (ICES, 2013). Furthermore, since the blue whiting catches of the fishery under assessment are negligible considering stock biomass, the fishery will not hinder stock recovery and rebuilding.		
c	Guidepost	If the status is poorly known there are measures or practices in place that are expected to result in the fishery not causing the bycatch species to be outside biologically based limits or hindering recovery.		
	Met?	Not Applicable		

PI 2.2.1		The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the bycatch species or species groups and does not hinder recovery of depleted bycatch species or species groups
	Justification	The status of blue whiting is assessed annually by ICES, where an age-based analytical assessment is carried out and stock status is determined in relation to biological reference points. Furthermore, the stock assessment was reviewed in a benchmark process in 2012.
	References	ICES 2013 Lassale et al., 2011 Perez et al. (1996)
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:		90

PI 2.2.2		There is a strategy in place for managing bycatch that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to bycatch populations		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	There are measures in place, if necessary, that are expected to maintain the main bycatch species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not hinder their recovery and rebuilding.	There is a partial strategy in place, if necessary, that is expected to maintain the main bycatch species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not hinder their recovery and rebuilding.	There is a strategy in place for managing and minimizing bycatch.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	<p>The blue whiting stock is managed under a management plan agreed in 2008 by Norway, the EU, the Faroe Islands, and Iceland. The plan uses i) a target fishing mortality ($F = 0.18$) if SSB is above SSBMP (= Bpa), ii) a linear reduction to $F = 0.05$ if SSB is between Bpa and Blim, and iii) $F = 0.05$ if SSB is below Blim. ICES evaluated the plan in 2008 and concluded that it is in accordance with the precautionary approach (ICES, 2008, 2013).</p> <p>There is also a strategy in place for managing and minimizing discards in general that includes closed areas and seasons and minimum landings sizes. Furthermore, the Landing Obligation contemplated in the recent reformed CFP, that will start being implemented from 2015 onwards starting with pelagic fisheries, was included as it can be a powerful management tools to reduce discards. However, it is strongly dependent on high levels of at sea monitoring which are unlikely to be reached, at least in the short term.</p> <p>Nevertheless, the blue whiting catches that the purse-seine anchovy fishery takes are negligible considering the size of the blue whiting stock. In addition, at stock level, ICES considers discarding to be negligible, so the anchovy fishery does not hinder a future recovery or rebuilding effort.</p>		
b	Guidepost	The measures are considered likely to work, based on plausible argument (e.g. general experience, theory or comparison with similar fisheries/species).	There is some objective basis for confidence that the partial strategy will work, based on some information directly about the fishery and/or species involved.	Testing supports high confidence that the strategy will work, based on information directly about the fishery and/or species involved.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	<p>The strategy adopted to minimize discards is based on past knowledge and studies that the changes to fishing operations are likely to generally reduce discards, namely by avoidance of unwanted catch hotspots and not operating in shallower water where discards are more likely to occur. Discards of horse mackerel, and to a lesser degree sardine, are mainly due to low commercial value compared to anchovy and that the catch size is under minimum landings size, therefore the avoidance strategy is likely to work. For blue whiting the main reason for discarding is however the lack of quota which will require a different management strategy. The introduction of the Landing Obligation can be a powerful management tool to reduce discards of blue whiting particularly. However, it is strongly dependent on high levels of at sea monitoring which are unlikely to be reached, at least in the short term. Nevertheless, as stated above, the blue whiting catches that the purse-seine anchovy fishery takes are negligible considering the size of the blue whiting stock.</p>		

PI 2.2.2		There is a strategy in place for managing bycatch that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to bycatch populations		
c	Guidepost		There is some evidence that the partial strategy is being implemented successfully.	There is clear evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully.
	Met?		Y	Y
	Justification	There is evidence provided by the Spanish control agencies that landings under minimum landings sizes do not take place, and that closed areas and seasons are respected, and therefore the strategy is being implemented successfully.		
d	Guidepost			There is some evidence that the strategy is achieving its overall objective.
	Met?			Y
	Justification	As the blue whiting stock, the main bycatch species considered, is healthy with biomass and fishing mortality well above and below MSY targets respectively, and particularly after a period of steep decrease in stock abundance, there is clear evidence that the strategy is achieving its overall objective.		
References		ICES 2013 Information gathered through the site visit		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				95

PI 2.2.3		Information on the nature and the amount of bycatch is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage bycatch		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Qualitative information is available on the amount of main bycatch species taken by the fishery.	Qualitative information and some quantitative information are available on the amount of main bycatch species taken by the fishery.	Accurate and verifiable information is available on the catch of all bycatch species and the consequences for the status of affected populations.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	Under the EU Data Collection Framework there is an obligation to monitor discard levels every three year for species were discards in the past were not assessed to be significant. However, the discarding practices of the anchovy purse-seine fishery have not been regularly reviewed. In fact the only observers at sea programme that collected detailed biological information on discards occurred only in 1996, 20 years ago and discard have seemingly only observed (not sampled) sporadically. Therefore, the discard rates estimate in the past provide a general insight on the selectivity of the gear and likely discards, but may not reflect present fishery activity and discard behavior, and thus only qualitative information is available on the amount of main bycatch species taken by the fishery.		
b	Guidepost	Information is adequate to broadly understand outcome status with respect to biologically based limits	Information is sufficient to estimate outcome status with respect to biologically based limits.	Information is sufficient to quantitatively estimate outcome status with respect to biologically based limits with a high degree of certainty.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	The status of blue whiting is assessed annually by ICES, where an age-based analytical assessment is carried out and stock status is determined in relation to biological reference points. Furthermore, the stock assessment was reviewed in a benchmark process in 2012, and presents confident intervals in the estimations produced by the model. Finally, discarding of blue whiting catches by all fisheries is considered negligible by ICES (2014) and does not impact on the estimation of stock status.		
c	Guidepost	Information is adequate to support measures to manage bycatch.	Information is adequate to support a partial strategy to manage main bycatch species.	Information is adequate to support a strategy to manage retained species, and evaluate with a high degree of certainty whether the strategy is achieving its objective.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	Information is adequate to support measures to manage main bycatch species. As stated above, historical discard information is available from the Bay of Biscay anchovy purse-seine fishery which may be used to set up a management strategy such as under a Landing Obligation. Furthermore, the blue whiting stock is analytically assessed and future catches are forecasted following the HCR of the management plan, while the catches of the purse-seine anchovy fishery are negligible considering the size of the blue whiting stock. However, without monitoring at sea the strategy cannot be evaluated.		

PI 2.2.3		Information on the nature and the amount of bycatch is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage bycatch		
d	Guidepost		Sufficient data continue to be collected to detect any increase in risk to main bycatch species (e.g., due to changes in the outcome indicator scores or the operation of the fishery or the effectiveness of the strategy).	Monitoring of bycatch data is conducted in sufficient detail to assess ongoing mortalities to all bycatch species.
	Met?		N	N
	Justification	The Bay of Biscay anchovy purse-seine fishery has been monitored by observers at sea for discards in the past. However, a routine and comprehensive monitoring at sea programme to collect information on discards does not exist in this fishery at the present time and therefore there is insufficient data to detect any increase in risk to main bycatch species. As a result SG80 is not met and a condition has been set.		
References		ICES 2014 Information gathered through the site visit		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				75
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant):				1

PI 2.3.1		The fishery meets national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species		
		The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP species and does not hinder recovery of ETP species		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Known effects of the fishery are likely to be within limits of national and international requirements for protection of ETP species.	The effects of the fishery are known and are highly likely to be within limits of national and international requirements for protection of ETP species.	There is a high degree of certainty that the effects of the fishery are within limits of national and international requirements for protection of ETP species.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	<p>The main ETP species that can possibly be impacted by purse-seine in the Bay of Biscay are marine mammals and turtles. The most abundant marine mammal species are: the common dolphin (<i>Delphinus delphis</i>), the striped dolphin (<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>), the bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>), the long-finned pilot whale (<i>Globicephala melas</i>) and the harbor porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) (Lassale et al., 2011).</p> <p>Although there have been occasional interactions with dolphins and purse-seines, there has never been reports of an incident of marine mammal bycatch. In a 1994-1995 study of the discard pattern of the Spanish fisheries based on observers at sea programme, Perez et al. (1996) reported that there was no bycatch of marine mammals, marine reptiles or seabirds by the purse-seine fishery. Furthermore, in the SAILKA project in 2013, 28 anchovy hauls were observed in normal fishing operations and again no bycatch of marine mammals and turtles occurred (AZTI, personal communication).</p> <p>Regarding ETP fish species, the ones that can be found in coastal waters could potentially be caught by purse seiners. These are adult shad, salmon and sea trout that move towards coastal waters in the spring (shad) and in the summer/autumn (salmon and sea trout). Juveniles are found along the coast in spring (MSC sardine assessment). Both species of shad (<i>Alosa alosa</i> and <i>Alosa fallax</i>), as well as the Atlantic salmon, are considered to be vulnerable at European level and are included in Appendix III of the Berne Convention (1992) and in Appendices II and V of the Habitats Directive (1994). Nevertheless, there has been no reporting of catches of these species by purse-seines, and considering that the fleet operates mainly in offshore areas, the assessment team considers that the likelihood of catching one of this species is very low.</p> <p>However, since the only observers at sea programme that collected information on discards and bycatch occurred only in 1996, 20 years ago, and since then the fishery was sampled sporadically, the information provides insight on the likely impacts of the fishery, but may not reflect present fishery activity. So the effects of the fishery are highly likely, but there is no certainty, to be within limits of national and international requirements for protection of ETP species</p>		
b	Guidepost	Known direct effects are unlikely to create unacceptable impacts to ETP species.	Direct effects are highly unlikely to create unacceptable impacts to ETP species.	There is a high degree of confidence that there are no significant detrimental direct effects of the fishery on ETP species.
	Met?	Y	Y	N

PI 2.3.1		The fishery meets national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species		
		The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP species and does not hinder recovery of ETP species		
	Justification	Both AZTI and fishers accounts gathered during the site visit acknowledged that the direct impact of the fishery on ETP species is very low. All parties interview assume some bycatch may sporadically occur but they are for the most part released alive, and are rare occurrences. Further, since the fishery operates offshore the likelihood of capturing coastal species is very low. However, without a monitoring at sea data that shows that ETP species bycatch are indeed rare, one cannot state with a high degree of confidence that that there are no significant detrimental direct effects of the fishery on ETP species.		
c	Guidepost		Indirect effects have been considered and are thought to be unlikely to create unacceptable impacts.	There is a high degree of confidence that there are no significant detrimental indirect effects of the fishery on ETP species.
	Met?		Y	Y
	Justification	AZTI acknowledged during the site visit that the indirect impact of the fishery on ETP species is very low. Anchovy is the preferential prey to several high level trophic predators such as tuna (Goñi et al., 2012) and seabirds and may control their abundance, but in the Bay of Biscay ecosystem phytoplanktonic and zooplanktonic are the keystone species (Lassalle et al., 2011). Furthermore, the catches of anchovy are now sustainable and the stock is well above any target reference point that takes into account any dependent species interaction.		
References		Lassalle et al., 2011		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				90

PI 2.3.2		The fishery has in place precautionary management strategies designed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet national and international requirements; • Ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious harm to ETP species; • Ensure the fishery does not hinder recovery of ETP species; and • Minimise mortality of ETP species. 		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	There are measures in place that minimise mortality of ETP species, and are expected to be highly likely to achieve national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.	There is a strategy in place for managing the fishery's impact on ETP species, including measures to minimise mortality, which is designed to be highly likely to achieve national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.	There is a comprehensive strategy in place for managing the fishery's impact on ETP species, including measures to minimise mortality, which is designed to achieve above national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	<p>As stated above the main ETP species that could potentially be impacted by the purse-seine fishery are marine mammals. The following policy statements and regulation apply or are in force and relate to varying degrees to the protection of marine mammals in European waters: EC Regulation 812/2004 laying down measures concerning incidental catches of cetaceans, the EU Habitat Directive on the conservation of natural habitats and ASCOBANS (Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas). The EC Regulation 812/2004 obliges the use of deterrents (ex. pingers) in specific fisheries to avoid contact with cetaceans and also requires monitoring by observers of incidental catches in specific fisheries. The EU Habitats Directive also requires member states to undertake monitoring to determine the levels of incidental mortality for certain species. Finally, ASCOBANS aims to restore and/or maintain biological or management stocks of small cetaceans at the level they would reach when there is the lowest possible anthropogenic influence and proposes to reach these aims through coordinating and implementing conservation measures for small cetaceans.</p> <p>The Bay of Biscay anchovy purse-seine fishery is not required to follow the provisions of EC Regulation 812/2004 described above since their impact is deemed low. In addition, any marine mammal that is eventually caught in a purse-seine is usually released alive by slippage, and the contact with the gear is minimize by the fishers as this can damage the gear and cause substantial costs.</p> <p>Therefore the assessment team concludes that there is a strategy in place for managing the fishery's impact on ETP species which is designed to be highly likely to achieve national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.</p>		
b	Guidepost	The measures are considered likely to work, based on plausible argument (e.g. general experience, theory or comparison with similar fisheries/species).	There is an objective basis for confidence that the strategy will work, based on information directly about the fishery and/or the species involved.	The strategy is mainly based on information directly about the fishery and/or species involved, and a quantitative analysis supports high confidence that the strategy will work.
	Met?	Y	Y	N

PI 2.3.2		The fishery has in place precautionary management strategies designed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet national and international requirements; • Ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious harm to ETP species; • Ensure the fishery does not hinder recovery of ETP species; and • Minimise mortality of ETP species. 		
	Justification	As stated above, any marine mammal that is eventually caught in a purse-seine is usually released alive by slippage, and the contact with the gear is minimize by the fishers as this can damage the gear and cause substantial costs. This information has been corroborated by the information provided by AZTI and the skipper interviewed during the site visit. However, there is no data available to support a quantitative analysis that the strategy is working.		
c	Guidepost		There is evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully.	There is clear evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully.
	Met?		Y	N
	Justification	None of the national and international organization contacted through the assessment process has stated that there is a problem with regard to the impact of purse-seine fisheries on ETP species. Based on information described previously directly about the fishery and the biology of the ETP species in the area, there is evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully.		
d	Guidepost			There is evidence that the strategy is achieving its objective.
	Met?			Y
	Justification	As the capture of ETP species has been reported to be minimum to inexistent by Perez et al. (1996) and by all parties interviewed in the assessment process there is evidence that the strategy to minimize impact and mortality of ETP species by purse-seines in the Bay of Biscay is achieving its objective.		
References		[List any references here]		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				85

PI 2.3.3		Relevant information is collected to support the management of fishery impacts on ETP species, including:		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information for the development of the management strategy; • Information to assess the effectiveness of the management strategy; and • Information to determine the outcome status of ETP species. 		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Information is sufficient to qualitatively estimate the fishery related mortality of ETP species.	Sufficient information is available to allow fishery related mortality and the impact of fishing to be quantitatively estimated for ETP species.	Information is sufficient to quantitatively estimate outcome status of ETP species with a high degree of certainty.
	Met?	Y	N	N
	Justification	<p>EC Regulation 812/2004 concerning the incidental catches of cetaceans in fisheries obliges the monitor of cetacean bycatches by several fisheries. Although some of its provisions are not applicable to purse-seine fisheries as the risk of catching a marine mammal is deemed low, the fishers are required to record and report all cetaceans incidental catches. Furthermore, the EU Habitats Directive also requires member states to undertake monitoring to determine the levels of incidental mortality for certain species. Under Article 12(4) of the Habitats Directive “Member States shall establish a system to monitor the incidental capture and killing of the animal species listed in Annex IV (a), where cetaceans are included. However, fishers are reluctant to report marine mammal by caught as they perceive this information will cause them problems with the control authorities.</p> <p>Top predators in the Bay of Biscay are, and continue, to be monitored by PELGAS survey, while the information from the fishery is that no marine mammals have been caught in 1994-1995 based on observers at sea and no bycatch has been reported to the authorities. However, since a monitoring at sea programme to collect information on ETP species bycatch does not exist in this fishery at the present time, there is insufficient data for the impact of fishing to be quantitatively estimated for ETP species. Therefore the SG80 is not met and a condition has been set.</p>		
b	Guidepost	Information is adequate to broadly understand the impact of the fishery on ETP species.	Information is sufficient to determine whether the fishery may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP species.	Accurate and verifiable information is available on the magnitude of all impacts, mortalities and injuries and the consequences for the status of ETP species.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	<p>As stated before, any marine mammal that is eventually caught in a purse-seine is usually released alive by slippage, and the contact with the gear is minimize by the fishers as this can damage the gear and cause substantial costs. Considering this information regarding the fishing operation, associated to the monitoring of top predators carried out by the PELGAS survey, there is sufficient to determine whether the fishery may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP species. However, accurate and verifiable information is not available at the present time so SG100 is not met.</p>		

PI 2.3.3		Relevant information is collected to support the management of fishery impacts on ETP species, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information for the development of the management strategy; • Information to assess the effectiveness of the management strategy; and • Information to determine the outcome status of ETP species. 		
c	Guidepost	Information is adequate to support measures to manage the impacts on ETP species.	Information is sufficient to measure trends and support a full strategy to manage impacts on ETP species.	Information is adequate to support a comprehensive strategy to manage impacts, minimize mortality and injury of ETP species, and evaluate with a high degree of certainty whether a strategy is achieving its objectives.
	Met?	Y	N	N
	Justification	The information available is adequate to support measures to manage the impacts on ETP species. In addition, the PELGAS survey is likely to detect trends in top predator's abundances. However, the information from the fishery is insufficient to measure trends, since it is only sporadically monitored for any contact with bycatch species, and to support a full strategy to manage impacts on ETP species. Therefore the SG80 is not met and a condition has been set.		
References		EC Regulation 812/2004 EU Habitats Directive Information gathered at the site visit		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				70
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant):				2

PI 2.4.1		The fishery does not cause serious or irreversible harm to habitat structure, considered on a regional or bioregional basis, and function		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	The fishery is unlikely to reduce habitat structure and function to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm.	The fishery is highly unlikely to reduce habitat structure and function to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm.	There is evidence that the fishery is highly unlikely to reduce habitat structure and function to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	<p>There is good information regarding the habitat characteristics of many areas of the European seas, through several international projects and integrated efforts (EUSeaMap, EMODnet, MeshAtlantic), which can provide predicted habitats for many areas including the Bay of Biscay. Although only 19% of the total EEZ area of the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Peninsula is mapped, most of the habitat mapping effort is located at 200 meters depths and shallower (Galparsoro et al., 2014). Since a large area of the Bay of Biscay is delimited by the 200 meters bathymetry, the percentage of seabed mapping coverage is significantly higher. In total, the Bay of Biscay encompasses 42 benthic habitats. Furthermore, there are several areas that have special protection in the Bay of Biscay and Cantabrian Sea deriving from OSPAR or Natura 2000 obligations. The main areas are Iroise Marine Park and Arcachon Basin Marine Park in France and El Cachucho Protected Area in Spain. These areas have been studied extensively and provided further knowledge on the seabed habitat of the Bay of Biscay.</p> <p>Since the fishery uses a gear designed to operate in mid-water and to catch pelagic species it is likely to have negligible impact on benthic habitats. The purse-seine used by the Spanish Bay of Biscay anchovy fishery is large (80 meters depth by 550 meters length) but only rarely comes into contact with the sea bottom as it can be damaged by it, incurring significant costs for the fishers. Furthermore, the fishery operates usually over the same fishing grounds, over sandy bottoms and in offshore areas, areas that do not contain vulnerable habitats such as cold-water coral reefs or sea fans, minimizing possible impacts in benthic communities. Finally, VMS data from the fishing fleet is available to the Spanish authorities and there is no evidence that fishing occurred in protected areas.</p> <p>In summary, there is evidence that the Spanish Bay of Biscay anchovy purse-seine fishery is highly unlikely to reduce habitat structure and function to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm.</p>		
References		<p>Information gathered at the site visit</p> <p>http://www.emodnet-seabedhabitats.eu/default.aspx</p>		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				100

PI 2.4.2		There is a strategy in place that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to habitat types		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	There are measures in place, if necessary, that are expected to achieve the Habitat Outcome 80 level of performance.	There is a partial strategy in place, if necessary, that is expected to achieve the Habitat Outcome 80 level of performance or above.	There is a strategy in place for managing the impact of the fishery on habitat types.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	<p>There is a partial strategy to manage the fishery habitat impact. The fishery is managed through closed areas and seasons, among other management measures. Although these closures are not specific to protect habitat, they reduce the opportunity for the gear to enter into contact with the bottom and thus limits its impact. For the same reason, the MPAs established in the Bay of Biscay also contribute to minimize the fishery impact to the habitat.</p> <p>In addition, the fishing operation in itself is also considered to be a strategy the impact of the fishery on habitat types. The purse-seine only rarely comes into to contact with the sea bottom as it can be damage incurring significant costs for the fishers, which is a powerful incentive to minimize contact with the bottom.</p>		
b	Guidepost	The measures are considered likely to work, based on plausible argument (e.g. general experience, theory or comparison with similar fisheries/habitats).	There is some objective basis for confidence that the partial strategy will work, based on information directly about the fishery and/or habitats involved.	Testing supports high confidence that the strategy will work, based on information directly about the fishery and/or habitats involved.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	There is high confidence that the strategy will work based on the normal fishing operation method of the fishery in question, but also on the effectiveness of closed areas and MPAs of restoring benthic habitats.		
c	Guidepost		There is some evidence that the partial strategy is being implemented successfully.	There is clear evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully.
	Met?		Y	Y
	Justification	Through the VMS data and stakeholders interviews (inspection authorities, AZTI and fishers) there is clear evidence that the fishery not only does not change considerably its fishing grounds, but also that the close areas and seasons and MAPs are being respected.		

PI 2.4.2		There is a strategy in place that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to habitat types		
d	Guidepost			There is some evidence that the strategy is achieving its objective.
	Met?			Y
	Justification	Through the VMS data and stakeholders interviews (inspection authorities, AZTI and fishers) there is evidence that the fishery only very rarely goes in to contact with the sea bottom.		
References		[List any references here]		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				95

PI 2.4.3		Information is adequate to determine the risk posed to habitat types by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage impacts on habitat types		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	There is basic understanding of the types and distribution of main habitats in the area of the fishery.	The nature, distribution and vulnerability of all main habitat types in the fishery are known at a level of detail relevant to the scale and intensity of the fishery.	The distribution of habitat types is known over their range, with particular attention to the occurrence of vulnerable habitat types.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	There is good information regarding the habitat characteristics of many areas of the European sea, through several international projects and integrated efforts (EUSeaMap, EMODnet, MeshAtlantic), which can provide predicted habitats for many areas including the Bay of Biscay. Although only 19% of the total EEZ area of the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Peninsula is mapped, most of the habitat mapping effort is located at 200 meters depths and shallower (Galparsoro et al., 2014). Since a large area of the Bay of Biscay is delimited by the 200 meters bathymetry, the percentage of seabed mapping coverage is significantly higher. In total, the Bay of Biscay encompasses 42 benthic habitats. Furthermore, there are several areas that have special protection in the Bay of Biscay and Cantabrian Sea deriving from OSPAR or Natura 2000 obligations. The main areas are Iroise Marine Park and Arcachon Basin Marine Park in France and El Cachucho Protected Area in Spain. These areas have been studied extensively and provided further knowledge on the seabed habitat of the Bay of Biscay.		
b	Guidepost	Information is adequate to broadly understand the nature of the main impacts of gear use on the main habitats, including spatial overlap of habitat with fishing gear.	Sufficient data are available to allow the nature of the impacts of the fishery on habitat types to be identified and there is reliable information on the spatial extent of interaction, and the timing and location of use of the fishing gear.	The physical impacts of the gear on the habitat types have been quantified fully.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	There is sufficient data on the fishing operations, namely on effort, time and area fished through VMS and catch data, to determine the impacts of the fishery on the habitat. There is also stakeholder information on seabed habitats where the fishing takes place. However, the impact of the fishery has not been fully quantified.		

PI 2.4.3		Information is adequate to determine the risk posed to habitat types by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage impacts on habitat types		
c	Guidepost		Sufficient data continue to be collected to detect any increase in risk to habitat (e.g. due to changes in the outcome indicator scores or the operation of the fishery or the effectiveness of the measures).	Changes in habitat distributions over time are measured.
	Met?		Y	N
	Justification	The fishery continues to be monitored at port through the Data Collection Framework, but also through routine surveillance and control inspections. The seabed habitat continues also to be monitored and mapped at a finer scale. However, the seabed habitat is not systematically monitored and therefore changes in habitat distributions over time will not be detected.		
References		EUSeaMap, EMODnet, MeshAtlantic.		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				90

PI 2.5.1		The fishery does not cause serious or irreversible harm to the key elements of ecosystem structure and function		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	The fishery is unlikely to disrupt the key elements underlying ecosystem structure and function to a point where there would be a serious or irreversible harm.	The fishery is highly unlikely to disrupt the key elements underlying ecosystem structure and function to a point where there would be a serious or irreversible harm.	There is evidence that the fishery is highly unlikely to disrupt the key elements underlying ecosystem structure and function to a point where there would be a serious or irreversible harm.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	<p>In the Bay of Biscay ecosystem anchovy, together with sardine, sprat, mackerel and horse mackerel, are the dominant low trophic level species, and as such they transfer a very large proportion of the total primary production through the lower part of the food web (Lassalle et al., 2011). Although anchovy is the preferential prey to several high level trophic predators such as tuna (Goñi et al., 2012) and seabirds, and may control their abundance, in the Bay of Biscay ecosystem phytoplanktonic and zooplanktonic are the keystone species (Lassalle et al., 2011). Bottom-up processes play a significant role in the population dynamics of upper-trophic-levels and in the global structuring of this marine ecosystem. There is also a marked bottom-up control of small pelagic fish by mesozooplanktonic prey and not by their predators (Lassalle et al., 2011).</p> <p>Considering the above, i.e. that the system is bottom-up controlled and detritus based, but also that the anchovy stock is healthy, while the fishery is localized and through its normal operation have negligible impact on habitats and ETP species, with small quantities of species retained and discarded, there is clear evidence that the fishery is highly unlikely to disrupt the key elements underlying ecosystem structure and function to a point where there would be a serious or irreversible harm.</p>		
References		Lassalle et al., 2011		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				100

PI 2.5.2		There are measures in place to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ecosystem structure and function		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	There are measures in place, if necessary.	There is a partial strategy in place, if necessary.	There is a strategy that consists of a plan, in place.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	As stated above, there is a partial strategy in place to manage ETP, habitat and bycatch species, comprising of limitation of discards, closed areas, minimum landings sizes, and minimizing bycatch frequency and mortality, specifically by slippage. Limits on the size and scale of the fishery represent also an effective strategy restraining any other impacts from the fishery that would affect ecosystem structure and function.		
b	Guidepost	The measures take into account potential impacts of the fishery on key elements of the ecosystem.	The partial strategy takes into account available information and is expected to restrain impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem so as to achieve the Ecosystem Outcome 80 level of performance.	The strategy, which consists of a plan, contains measures to address all main impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem, and at least some of these measures are in place. The plan and measures are based on well-understood functional relationships between the fishery and the Components and elements of the ecosystem. This plan provides for development of a full strategy that restrains impacts on the ecosystem to ensure the fishery does not cause serious or irreversible harm.
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justification	The partial strategy takes into account information on fishing locations, effort and fishing operations, but also on any possible bycatch, ETP species or habitats impacts and it is the opinion of the managers and the assessment team that the impact of the fishery will be restrain if necessary.		
c	Guidepost	The measures are considered likely to work, based on plausible argument (e.g., general experience, theory or comparison with similar fisheries/ecosystems).	The partial strategy is considered likely to work, based on plausible argument (e.g., general experience, theory or comparison with similar fisheries/ecosystems).	The measures are considered likely to work based on prior experience, plausible argument or information directly from the fishery/ecosystems involved.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y

PI 2.5.2		There are measures in place to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ecosystem structure and function		
	Justification	It is the opinion of the managers and the assessment team based on the previous criteria evaluation that the strategy is effective in avoiding serious or irreversible harm to ecosystem structure and function.		
d	Guidepost		There is some evidence that the measures comprising the partial strategy are being implemented successfully.	There is evidence that the measures are being implemented successfully.
	Met?		Y	Y
	Justification	There is clear evidence from all stakeholders that the strategy of fishing efforts limits and closed areas is implemented successfully.		
References		Information gathered during the site visit		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				90

PI 2.5.3		There is adequate knowledge of the impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Information is adequate to identify the key elements of the ecosystem (e.g., trophic structure and function, community composition, productivity pattern and biodiversity).	Information is adequate to broadly understand the key elements of the ecosystem.	
	Met?	Y	Y	
	Justification	Information is adequate to broadly understand the key elements of the ecosystem. Key elements include the trophic structure of the Bay of Biscay ecosystem such as key prey, predators and competitors; community composition, productivity patterns and characteristics of biodiversity. This information is collected and available through different scientific survey carried out in recent years and used by Lassalle et al., 2011 to model the food web in the Bay of Biscay continental shelf.		
b	Guidepost	Main impacts of the fishery on these key ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information, and have not been investigated in detail.	Main impacts of the fishery on these key ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information and some have been investigated in detail.	Main interactions between the fishery and these ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information, and have been investigated.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	Main interactions between the fishery and these ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information, and have been investigated. A number of studies have modelled the food web in the Bay of Biscay (Lassalle et al., 2011, 2012).		
c	Guidepost		The main functions of the Components (i.e., target, Bycatch, Retained and ETP species and Habitats) in the ecosystem are known.	The impacts of the fishery on target, Bycatch, Retained and ETP species are identified and the main functions of these Components in the ecosystem are understood.
	Met?		Y	Y
	Justification	The Bay of Biscay has been studied extensively, and as shown above, the main function of each component in the ecosystem is known and understood through food web modeling (Lassalle et al., 2011). The main impact of the fishery on each component has been identified in PI 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4.		

PI 2.5.3		There is adequate knowledge of the impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem		
d	Guidepost		Sufficient information is available on the impacts of the fishery on these Components to allow some of the main consequences for the ecosystem to be inferred.	Sufficient information is available on the impacts of the fishery on the Components and elements to allow the main consequences for the ecosystem to be inferred.
	Met?		Y	N
	Justification	There is little up-to-date and quantitative information on discards and incidental catches of top predators. Although these effects are considered for the most part negligible, the impact of the fishery in all components cannot be inferred.		
e	Guidepost		Sufficient data continue to be collected to detect any increase in risk level (e.g., due to changes in the outcome indicator scores or the operation of the fishery or the effectiveness of the measures).	Information is sufficient to support the development of strategies to manage ecosystem impacts.
	Met?		Y	N
	Justification	The monitoring programmes of the fishery and top predators and the environmental research of the Bay of Biscay continue. However, the lack of data on the fishery likely impact on unwanted catch precludes the development of strategies to manage ecosystem impacts.		
References		Lassalle et al.2011 Lassalle et al. 2012		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				90

PI 3.1.1		<p>The management system exists within an appropriate legal and/or customary framework which ensures that it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is capable of delivering sustainable fisheries in accordance with MSC Principles 1 and 2; and • Observes the legal rights created explicitly or established by custom of people dependent on fishing for food or livelihood; and • Incorporates an appropriate dispute resolution framework. 		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	There is an effective national legal system and <u>a framework for cooperation</u> with other parties, where necessary, to deliver management outcomes consistent with MSC Principles 1 and 2	There is an effective national legal system and organised and effective cooperation with other parties, where necessary, to deliver management outcomes consistent with MSC Principles 1 and 2.	There is an effective national legal system and <u>binding procedures governing cooperation with other parties</u> which delivers management outcomes consistent with MSC Principles 1 and 2.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
		<p>The EU is a Contracting Party to UNCLOS. In the national domain, Spain ratified the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in 1996, and adopted the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in 1995. Spain also forms part of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR).</p> <p>The fisheries in European waters are managed within the European Union CFP The last reform taking effect on 1 January 2014. Based on the general framework of the CFP, the EU establishes suitable management and control measures for each fishery operating in their waters, or implies the participation of boats with the European flag, or even EU citizens in fisheries in non-European waters. It must be considered that the CFP is in accordance with the objectives of MSC principles 1 and 2.</p> <p>The Spanish Government, through the Secretaría General de Pesca (SGP), part of the Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente (MAGRAMA) is responsible for applying the management measures to the national fisheries sector. The 2001 Fishing Law covers the directives of the European Common Fisheries Policy, adapts them to the specific circumstances of Spanish fishing sector.</p> <p>European fisheries management also involves taking decisions based on the best available scientific data. The European Commission receives advice from various scientific organisations. Also, in the event of data gaps, the EU has the means to fund studies and projects in the short, medium, and long term with the aim of rectifying the lack of data and, as such, fulfil the CFP objectives. The Commission's scientific advisory bodies are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF), the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES). • The Scientific Advisory Committee of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM.) 		

	Justification	<p>Member states are also obliged to collect data on their fleets, and via national research organisations or in conjunction with organisations from other countries, they carry out the research that will provide the basis for decision-making.</p> <p>Therefore, in Spain, the Instituto Español de Oceanografía, Instituto AZTI, the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Advanced Council for Scientific Research), as well as a range of universities and other regional research centres undertake the research projects that form essential aspects of fisheries management.</p> <p>Based on the above, it is considered that there is an effective national legal system and binding procedures governing cooperation with other parties, which delivers management outcomes consistent with MSC Principles 1 and 2. Therefore, this PI reaches SG100.</p>		
b	Guidepost	<p>The management system incorporates or is subject by law to a mechanism for the resolution of legal disputes arising within the system.</p>	<p>The management system incorporates or is subject by law to a transparent mechanism for the resolution of legal disputes which is considered to be effective in dealing with most issues and that is appropriate to the context of the fishery.</p>	<p>The management system incorporates or subject by law to a transparent mechanism for the resolution of legal disputes that is appropriate to the context of the fishery and has been tested and proven to be effective.</p>
	Met?	Y	Y	Y

		<p>At a European level when the Commission considers the national authorities are not suitably compliant in their fishing governance:</p> <p>The first thing they try is to resolve issues through consultations, or in certain circumstances they can temporarily cancel access to the European Fishing Fund until the issue has been resolved, or reduce quotas, which can be deducted from future quotas, or in extreme cases, the Commission can place the Member State in question before the Court of Justice of the European Union.</p> <p>At a national level, the Spanish legal system is used as the main mechanism to resolve legal disputes. When it comes to fishing infractions, the disciplinary procedures will invariably be open as a result of the resolution adopted to that effect by the Delegate of the Regional Government in the Spanish Autonomous Region in question.</p> <p>The procedures will be initiated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) by initiative of the Government Delegate; b) through an order from a higher authority; c) by petition of the Director General de Recursos Pesqueros y Acuicultura, or other sea fishing authorities or bodies; d) as a result of a request against any action or conduct that could constitute a violation; e) as a result of a procedure initiated by sea fishing inspectors or other governmental employees or agents. <p>The management system is subject by law to apply a transparent mechanism for resolving legal disputes:</p> <p>The sea fishing disciplinary procedures will be undertaken in accordance with the principle of transparency in the procedures.</p> <p>To those effects, the interested parties will have the right to receive updated data on the current status of their procedures, and to access and obtain copies of the relevant documents. In the same way, and prior to the hearing, the interested parties could present allegations and provide documents they consider relevant.</p> <p>Access to documents related to the concluded disciplinary procedures is governed by the contents of article 37 of Law 30 of 26 November.</p>
	Justification	<p>With the aim of ensuring a completely transparent procedure and the efficacy of the government itself, and to also ensure the due defence of the accused and the interests of all the other parties that may be affected, each initiated disciplinary procedure will follow a systematic course, successively incorporating all the documents, statements, acts, administrative applications, notifications, and other appropriate procedures in the correct order. A procedure initiated as such will be completed and will continue to be the responsibility of the competent body throughout. The fishermen, or industry representatives can use the complete legal process.</p> <p>This transparent mechanism for resolving legal disputes is considered effective in dealing with the majority of issues in the context of fisheries, although some weaknesses have been detected, including the complexity of the procedure, the geographical spread and diversity of the inspectors, and the insufficient regulation of the provisional measures during disciplinary procedures.</p> <p>Both existing legal mechanisms of the European Union, such as those included in the Spanish national legislation should be considered effective by continually applied in the context of the management of fisheries.</p>

d	Guidepost	The management system has a mechanism to generally respect the legal rights created explicitly or established by custom of people dependent on fishing for food or livelihood in a manner consistent with the objectives of MSC Principles 1 and 2.	The management system has a mechanism to observe the legal rights created explicitly or established by custom of people dependent on fishing for food or livelihood in a manner consistent with the objectives of MSC Principles 1 and 2.	The management system has a mechanism to formally commit to the legal rights created explicitly or established by custom of people dependent on fishing for food and livelihood in a manner consistent with the objectives of MSC Principles 1 and 2.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	Via the CFP, the European Union management system creates, respects, and ensures legal rights, which are expressly created or established for the practices of persons dependant on fishing for their food or livelihood in a manner consistent with MSC Principles 1 and 2 objectives. The implementation of the CFP by Spain, as a member country of the EU, ensures that these legal rights are taken into account in the national context of the fishery.		
References	<p>FAO Council 1993. The Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission. Hundred and Fifth Session in Rome on 25 November 1993. http://www.iotc.org/English/info/mission.php</p> <p>United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (UNCLOS). http://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/unclos_e.pdf</p> <p>FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries adopted in the FAO Conference 1995. http://www.fao.org/docrep/005/v9878e/v9878e00.HTM</p> <p>The United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (in force as from 11 December 2001): http://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/convention_overview_fish_stocks.htm</p> <p>REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC</p> <p>LAW 3/2001, of 26 March, of National Maritime Fishing</p>			
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				100

PI 3.1.2		The management system has effective consultation processes that are open to interested and affected parties.		
		The roles and responsibilities of organisations and individuals who are involved in the management process are clear and understood by all relevant parties		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Organisations and individuals involved in the management process have been identified. Functions, roles and responsibilities are generally understood.	Organisations and individuals involved in the management process have been identified. Functions, roles and responsibilities are explicitly defined and well understood for key areas of responsibility and interaction.	Organizations and individuals involved in the management process have been identified. Functions, roles and responsibilities are explicitly defined and well understood for all areas of responsibility and interaction.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
		<p>The European Union fisheries management system has tools available in order for all the involved parties to be represented and consulted during the decision-making processes. As such, the Advisory Councils are organisations directed by interested parties that provide recommendations on fishery management to both the European Commission and the EU countries, which can include advice on socio-economic and conservation aspects, as well as the simplification of the guidelines. They discuss issues affecting the sector, and the issues and possible solutions are conveyed to the European Union Fisheries Commission.</p> <p>The South Western Waters Regional Advisory Council (CCR.S) covers the Atlantic fisheries from southern Europe, including the Cantabrian Anchovy fishery, and has the following missions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Propose recommendations resulting from a consensus between the fisheries sector and civil organisations to the European Commission and the Member States. - Respond to the various consultations (communications, Regulation proposals...) launched by the European Commission. <p>The CCR.S brings together 2/3 of the representatives of the fishing sector (fishermen, ship owners, producer and processor organisations, and fish market organisations) from five Member States (Portugal, Spain, France, Belgium, and the Netherlands). The remaining 1/3 of its members are from civil society (aquaculture, consumer associations, environmental NGOs, fishermen's wives, and recreational fishing).</p> <p>Also, on a national level, Spanish fishermen are grouped locally and regionally into associations and are represented nationally by fishing federations or the large fisheries associations. Fisheries federations and associations are usually proactively involved in forums and sector meetings when it comes to putting forward and working on the solutions to issues alongside the regional, national, or European governments.</p> <p>The key roles and responsibilities in the Spanish fishery management process include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management / administration: EU DG Mare, Spanish Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs, General Secretariat of the Sea • Scientific Advice: ICES, EU's STECF & ACOM, Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO) 		

PI 3.1.2		<p>The management system has effective consultation processes that are open to interested and affected parties.</p> <p>The roles and responsibilities of organisations and individuals who are involved in the management process are clear and understood by all relevant parties</p>		
	Justification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control & Enforcement: EU Community Fisheries Control Agency (CFCA) , International Network of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance, Spanish Deputy Directorate of Fisheries Inspection Industry Representation: National Federation of Fishermen Cofradías www.fncp.eu/, Producers Organizations, Spanish Federation of Fishing Shipowners, Spanish Federation of Fisheries Organizations www.feope.com, Spanish Federation of Fisheries Associations Industry / NGO / Scientific liaison: Sectorial Social Dialogue Committee on Sea Fisheries, North Sea RAC, National Advisory Committee for the Fishery Sector <p>Based on the above, it can be concluded that the roles and functions of all the players involved in fisheries are clear, well defined, and understood by all parties.</p>		
b	Guidepost	The management system includes consultation processes that obtain relevant information from the main affected parties, including local knowledge, to inform the management system.	The management system includes consultation processes that regularly seek and accept relevant information, including local knowledge. The management system demonstrates consideration of the information obtained.	The management system includes consultation processes that regularly seek and accept relevant information, including local knowledge. The management system demonstrates consideration of the information and explains how it is used or not used.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y

PI 3.1.2		<p>The management system has effective consultation processes that are open to interested and affected parties.</p> <p>The roles and responsibilities of organisations and individuals who are involved in the management process are clear and understood by all relevant parties</p>	
Justification	<p>The Management system includes consultation processes that provide relevant data on the status of the fisheries via technical and scientific knowledge from all the involved parties, including local knowledge from fishermen and all parts of society that wish to take part. The Reform of the Common Fisheries Policy, approved in 2013, which forms the basis for fisheries management in the European Union, was undertaken using an open consultation process with all interested parties and civil society so they could forward their concerns and provide their knowledge with the aim of reaching the best consensus on the management tool between all parties.</p> <p>The consultation mechanisms are usually used for decision-making that affects the range of interested parties for each fishery.</p> <p>The European Union Advisory Councils are the main tool for conveying the concerns and issues of the fisheries sector to the European Commission, as well as industry fisheries management proposals for consideration.</p> <p>The Advisory Councils are stakeholder-led organisations that provide the Commission and EU countries with recommendations on fisheries management matters. This may include advice on conservation and socio-economic aspects of management, and on simplification of rules. Advisory Councils are consulted in the context of regionalisation. Advisory Councils should also contribute to data for fisheries management and conservation measures.</p> <p>In the national context, the General Secretariat of Fisheries holds regular meetings with the fishing industry in order to obtain their views on the fishery status and meet their specific needs.</p> <p>The management system means all interested parties can express opinions and proposals via consultation mechanisms or specific forums.</p> <p>However, whether these opinions are accepted as commitments by the competent government during decision-making is less clear although, this is not mandatory.</p>		
c	Guidepost	The consultation process provides opportunity for all interested and affected parties to be involved.	The consultation process provides opportunity and encouragement for all interested and affected parties to be involved, and facilitates their effective engagement.
	Met?	Y	Y

<p>PI 3.1.2</p>	<p>The management system has effective consultation processes that are open to interested and affected parties.</p> <p>The roles and responsibilities of organisations and individuals who are involved in the management process are clear and understood by all relevant parties</p>	
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Justification</p>	<p>There are consultation processes that allow all interested parties effective involvement based on different mechanisms of representation. The EU Advisory Councils are one of the main mechanisms, but at a national level, the fishermen are also represented by fishermen's associations and federations in the different forums and consultation mechanisms, whether they are general in nature or specific to each fishery.</p> <p>On a national level, the Spanish government regularly meets with the sector to tackle shared interest issues and learn of their opinions on the issues that affect their activity.</p> <p>There are different levels of consultation that embrace all the interested and affected parties in fisheries management and include the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Advisory Committee for the Fishery Sector • EFF Monitoring Committee • Spanish Technology Platform on Fisheries and Aquaculture • IEO (Spanish Institute of Oceanography) Advisory Board <p>The Consejo Asesor de Medio Ambiente (CAMA, Environment Advisory Council) of the Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente has been formed as a forum where environmental NGOs and players in the fishing sector have the opportunity to discuss environmental issues, including those related to the health of the seas and the existing issues, and where action measures are proposed to try to improve the identified negative aspects. Fishing activity related aspects are discussed in CAMA.</p> <p>The Common Fisheries Policy Reform process allowed all the interested parties, including the civil society, to provide their comments to the Green Paper on Fishing in Europe that formed the basis for the new CFP.</p>	
<p>References</p>	<p>REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC</p> <p>LAW 3/2001, of 26 March, of National Maritime Fishing</p> <p>Council Decision 2004/585/EC of 19 July 2004 establishing Regional Advisory Councils under the Common Fisheries Policy</p> <p>2007/222/EC: Commission Decision of 4 April 2007 declaring operational the Regional Advisory Council for the south-western waters under the common fisheries policy</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) No 768/2005 of 26 April 2005 establishing a Community Fisheries Control Agency and amending Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93 establishing a control system applicable to the common fisheries policy</p>	
<p>OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:</p>		<p>100</p>

PI 3.1.3		The management policy has clear long-term objectives to guide decision-making that are consistent with MSC Principles and Criteria, and incorporates the precautionary approach		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Long-term objectives to guide decision-making, consistent with the MSC Principles and Criteria and the precautionary approach, are implicit within management policy	Clear long-term objectives that guide decision-making, consistent with MSC Principles and Criteria and the precautionary approach are explicit within management policy.	Clear long-term objectives that guide decision-making, consistent with MSC Principles and Criteria and the precautionary approach, are explicit within and required by management policy.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	<p>The main objective of the new European Union Fisheries Policy is to ensure high long term yields of all stocks in 2015 if possible, and by 2020 at the latest. A range of control and management actions are being used to that end, including fishing effort regulation, access to waters, technical measures such as minimum sizes or gear selectivity, and the imposition of TACs and quotas for the majority of the fisheries.</p> <p>Currently, almost all the stocks and important fishing grounds in EU waters are managed using multiannual plans, which establish the objective of stock management in terms of fish mortality and size. Some plans also establish detailed and specific route maps to achieve the objective, or include fishing effort limits to complement the total allowable catches (TAC) and specific control regulations.</p> <p>With the new CFP, the multiannual plans will include the objective of maximum sustainable yield and a deadline in which to achieve it, measures to apply for compulsory landings and, among other things, guarantees to apply corrective measures if necessary and a review of the clauses. Technical measures can also be included.</p> <p>Currently 11 management plans have been approved for the main European fisheries, which include long term management objectives.</p> <p>A long-term management plan for the stock of anchovy in the Bay of Biscay (ICES Sub-area VIII) has been in existence and applied since 2010. Based on the closure of the fishery in 2005 due to low catches, different measures were put into place to recover and manage the anchovy fishery. It was reopened in 1 Jan 2010 with the application of a long term management plan, which had been developed by scientists.</p> <p>The main objectives of this management plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to ensure the exploitation of the stock at high yields consistent with maximum sustainable yield; to guarantee the stability of the fishery, as far as possible, and with a low risk of stock collapse. <p>It must also be considered that the common fisheries policy ensures coherence with fishery objectives, which are established in the Decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties relating to the Convention on Biological Diversity of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and through the biodiversity objectives adopted by the European Council in 2010 and considers the sustainable exploitation of marine biological resources should be based on the precautionary approach, which derives not only from the precautionary principle referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 191(2) of the Treaty, but also the best scientific evidence available.</p>		
References		REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC)		

PI 3.1.3	The management policy has clear long-term objectives to guide decision-making that are consistent with MSC Principles and Criteria, and incorporates the precautionary approach	
	No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC LAW 3/2001, of 26 March, of National Maritime Fishing	
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:		100

PI 3.1.4		The management system provides economic and social incentives for sustainable fishing and does not operate with subsidies that contribute to unsustainable fishing		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	The management system provides for incentives that are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principles 1 and 2.	The management system provides for incentives that are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principles 1 and 2, and seeks to ensure that perverse incentives do not arise.	The management system provides for incentives that are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principles 1 and 2, and explicitly considers incentives in a regular review of management policy or procedures to ensure they do not contribute to unsustainable fishing practices.
	Met?	Y	Y	Partial
	Justification	<p>The objective of the CFP is to undertake sustainable exploitation of live aquatic resources and aquaculture in the context of sustainable development, taking a balanced approach to the environmental, economic, and social aspects.</p> <p>Since the 2002 review of the CFP, the subsidies contributing to unsustainable fishing have been stopped. Direct grants or funding to increase capacity, exportation, or compensate for low yields are no longer available.</p> <p>Using the new European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF), EU structural funding to the fishing sector provides special financial support for the measures that contribute to promote sustainable fishing from an environmental, efficient resource use, innovative, competitive, and knowledge based standpoint, and as such, achieve the results expressed in MSC Principles 1 and 2.</p> <p>The specific objectives of the EMFF include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a reduction in the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, which would include avoiding and reducing unwanted catches as much as possible; b) the protection and recovery of the biodiversity and aquatic ecosystems; c) the balance between fishing capacity and the available fishing possibilities; d) the improvement and provision of scientific knowledge as well as improvement in collecting and managing data; <p>No harmful subsidies currently contribute to unsustainable fishing practices within the European Union fisheries framework.</p> <p>The new CFP recently approved, established that the Member States must promote responsible fishing, offering incentives to operators that fish using the least damaging techniques to the environment and which provide the highest benefits to society. The CFP expects the criteria for allocating fishing opportunities for the Member States to be transparent and objective, and to provide incentives, even financial in nature, if the boats use selective fishing gear or fishing techniques with a lower environmental impact, such as low energy consumption or causing less damage to the habitat. However, currently, these incentives are not clear and, of course, they are not regularly reviewed yet. For example, the system of quota allocation creates uncertainties for fishers and weak sense of stewardship of the resources which does not act as a positive incentive. Increases of 90% of the quota in one year followed by a reduction in 70% next year does not contribute to the long term planning of the fishermen activities.</p>		
References		REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC		

PI 3.1.4	The management system provides economic and social incentives for sustainable fishing and does not operate with subsidies that contribute to unsustainable fishing
	LAW 3/2001, of 26 March, of National Maritime Fishing REGULATION (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF).
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:	
90	

PI 3.2.1		The fishery has clear, specific objectives designed to achieve the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Objectives, which are broadly consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2, are implicit within the fishery's management system	Short and long-term objectives, which are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2, are explicit within the fishery's management system.	Well defined and measurable short and long-term objectives, which are demonstrably consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2, are explicit within the fishery's management system.
	Met?	Y	Partial	N
<p>A management plan for the anchovy was applied in 2010, called "the long-term management plan for the stock of anchovy in the Bay of Biscay (ICES Sub-area VIII)", which despite being applied and respected by all parties, has yet to be approved by the European Commission, which puts a question mark over future anchovy management.</p> <p>Based on the closure of the fishery in 2005 due to low catches, different measures were put into place to recover and manage the anchovy fishery. It was reopened from 1 Jan 2010 with the application of a long term management plan developed by scientists from the Commission's Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF).</p> <p>The main objectives of this management plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to ensure the exploitation of the stock at high yields consistent with maximum sustainable yield; to guarantee the stability of the fishery, as far as possible, and with a low risk of stock collapse. <p>The objectives of sustainable development of this plan is consistent with the Community's environmental policy, especially the elements of that policy dealing with protecting natural habitats and preserving natural resources. But no specific management measures to meet the objectives of MSC Principle 2 are included.</p> <p>This plan is periodically reviewed to adapt it to the status of the fishery. The formula to calculate the TAC was modified after 4 years but has not been applied yet. The TAC is applied on a yearly basis, which starts on the 1st June every year. The recalculated TAC using the new formula will be applied on 1st June 2015.</p> <p>The rule has been modified given that the autumn evaluation campaign results are now considered as well as those from spring. This plan also includes specific control, surveillance, and monitoring measures for this fishery.</p> <p>In addition, through Order AAA/1307/2013, a management plan is established for registered boats in the Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste, later modified under Order AAA/417/2014. Among other obligations, this Management plan establishes that boats involved in purse seine fishing will handle a maximum catch and landing limit of 10,000 kg of anchovies/calendar day. It will also allow for up to 5% in live weight from the total anchovy catch below minimum size to be kept on board.</p> <p>Although the plan is already being applied, it should be approved in order to be formally included as a management tool for this fishery.</p> <p>The management plan includes well-defined and measurable short and long-term objectives that are shown to be consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principle 1, whereas the information is not so clear for P2.</p> <p>MSC principle 2 analyses the environmental impact of fisheries, and specifically, this impact on ETP, bycatch, and retained species, as well as the ecosystem and habitat among others.</p> <p>European fisheries Management Plans have focused on the ecosystem up to now, but they usually only consider the impact of fishing on the target species. The management plans do not include</p>				

<p>PI 3.2.1</p>	<p>The fishery has clear, specific objectives designed to achieve the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2</p>
	<p>references on the impact on the ecosystem and mitigation measures, but they are based on the CFP, and consequently, the MD.</p> <p>The new Common Fisheries Policy (REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013) refers to the need for fisheries management to dovetail with the Marine Strategy, in order to achieve a healthy marine ecosystem and consequently, fish populations. Section (11) of the CFP establishes the following:</p> <p>"The CFP should contribute to the protection of the marine environment, to the sustainable management of all commercially exploited species, and in particular to the achievement of good environmental status by 2020, as set out in Article 1(1) of Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 17 June 2008, establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy (Marine Strategy Framework Directive)". Member States are obliged to develop strategies to achieve and maintain Good Environmental Status (GES) in all their marine waters.</p> <p>Article 1 (3) of the Marine Directive considers that: "Marine strategies shall apply an ecosystem-based approach to the management of human activities, ensuring that the collective pressure of such activities is kept within levels compatible with the achievement of good environmental status and that the capacity of marine ecosystems to respond to human-induced changes is not compromised, while enabling the sustainable use of marine goods and services by present and future generations."</p> <p>This will cover marine waters under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of Member States, with the specificities of a particular zone taken into account by the use of subdivisions when appropriate. In accordance with the division established in this Directive, anchovy fishing is undertaken in the following marine subregions: The North East Atlantic-Gulf of Vizcaya and the Iberian coasts,</p> <p>In accordance with Article 5 (1) of this Directive, each Member State shall, in respect of each marine region or subregion concerned, develop a marine strategy for its marine waters in accordance with a plan of action summarised below, which is to be completed by 2016:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) undertake an initial evaluation, which should be completed by 15 July 2012 ii) establish a definition of the good environmental status of those waters by 15 July 2012 iii) establish a set of environmental objectives and associated indicators by 15 July 2012 iv) develop and apply a monitoring programme for ongoing evaluation and regular updating of the objectives by 15 July 2014, unless otherwise provided in the current community legislation, v) develop a programme of measures to achieve or maintain good environmental status by the end of 2015 vi) initiate the aforementioned programme by the end of 2016 at the latest <p>In accordance with that schedule and using Law 41/2010 on marine environment protection (Transposition of the MD to Spain), Spain has developed the environmental objectives for the North Atlantic Boundary, which covers the entire the Spanish Cantabrian coast and the Atlantic up to the border with Portugal, as well as currently developing a monitoring programme in accordance with section iv) above. Each overall objective is broken down into specific and environmental objectives for each marine boundary, which can be consulted in the following document:</p> <p>http://www.magrama.gob.es/es/costas/temas/estrategias-marinas/em_noratlantica_objetivos_tcm7-203229.pdf</p> <p>Based on the above, the fishery is considered to have defined management objectives within the overall scope of European Union regulation that are consistent and integral to the results required by the MSC for Principles 1 and 2. However, given that the management measures will not apply until 2016, it cannot be considered as a current specific management tool. The specific fishery management plan contains detailed short and long-term objectives for P1, but that is not the case for P2. As such, although this indicator may surpass SG80 for P1, it fall shorts for P2 objectives. Therefore, the overall evaluation gives a maximum score of SG75, and a condition has been set.</p>
<p>References</p>	<p>COM(2009) 399 final 2009/0112 (CNS) Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION establishing a long-term plan for the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay and the fisheries exploiting that stock {SEC(2009) 1076 final} {SEC(2009) 1077 final}</p> <p>Order AAA/1307/2013, of 1 July, establishing a Management plan for the registered boats</p>

PI 3.2.1	The fishery has clear, specific objectives designed to achieve the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2
	<p>in the Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste.</p> <p>Order AAA/417/2014, of 17 March, modifying Order AAA/1307/2013, of 1 July, establishing a Management plan for the registered boats in the Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste.</p> <p>Directive 2008/56/EC of 17 June 2008 establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy (Marine Strategy Framework Directive)</p> <p>REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC</p>
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:	75
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant):	3

PI 3.2.2		The fishery-specific management system includes effective decision-making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the objectives, and has an appropriate approach to actual disputes in the fishery under assessment.		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	There are some decision-making processes in place that result in measures and strategies to achieve the fishery-specific objectives.	There are established decision-making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the fishery-specific objectives.	
	Met?	Y	Y	
	Justification	<p>Given a specific management plan is in place for the anchovy, the annual TACs are set on condition they are approved each year by the EU Fisheries Council, as occurs with other fisheries subject to TACs.</p> <p>On occasion, the mechanism for establishing annual TACs has not contributed to the sustainability of neither the fisheries nor the fishermen, given they could plan their activity better based on the existing fluctuations.</p> <p>Through the application of the most recent reforms of the Common Fisheries Policy, the EU has set quantifiable objectives over the long term to achieve and / or maintain secure levels of fish stocks in European waters, as well as the necessary measures to achieve those levels. As such, the annual TAC is part of a set of management tools within the framework of a multi-annual strategy to manage fisheries in the form of Management Plans.</p> <p>The plans include a formula to calculate the TACs and annual quotas based on the received scientific advice. The Commission has, therefore, the option of prior wide-ranging consultation with all interested parties on the objectives to achieve with each plan and how they can be fulfilled.</p> <p>The proposal has considered the results of a consultation process in which the Commission consulted the Member States, as well as representatives of the interested parties in the regional advisory councils.</p> <p>The Commission, based on the Scientific Committee's advice and the previous regional advisory council advice, evaluates the impact of the plan on the anchovy stock and fisheries every three years and, if necessary, will propose suitable measures to modify the plan.</p>		
b	Guidepost	Decision-making processes respond to serious issues identified in relevant research, monitoring, evaluation and consultation, in a transparent, timely and adaptive manner and take some account of the wider implications of decisions.	Decision-making processes respond to serious and other important issues identified in relevant research, monitoring, evaluation and consultation, in a transparent, timely and adaptive manner and take account of the wider implications of decisions.	Decision-making processes respond to all issues identified in relevant research, monitoring, evaluation and consultation, in a transparent, timely and adaptive manner and take account of the wider implications of decisions.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y

PI 3.2.2		The fishery-specific management system includes effective decision-making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the objectives, and has an appropriate approach to actual disputes in the fishery under assessment.		
	Justification	The decision-making process can be considered to respond to requirements for this indicator, integrating the scientific knowledge, the monitoring, the evaluation, and the consultation processes of the interested parties through the use of the ICES scientific council and its integrated advisory structure comprised of the STECF / RAC / European Commission and the ACFA. The outcomes of these activities are considered when taking decisions on fisheries management. The formula to calculate the TAC was changed last year after scientists provided new data and has been accepted by all parties.		
c	Guidepost		Decision-making processes use the precautionary approach and are based on best available information.	
	Met?		Y	
	Justification	<p>All the EU management plans are based on a precautionary approach that aims to ensure the fishing is sustainable and reduces its impact on the marine environment to a minimum. The Commission's proposals are always in line with the CFP, which clearly establishes the commitment to the precautionary approach.</p> <p>The Cantabrian anchovy plan is based on a precautionary approach, given that it considers a minimum biomass of 24,000 tonnes in order to issue a TAC and a maximum TAC of 33,000 tonnes.</p> <p>The decision-making processes are based on the best scientific and technical data on the fishery. Several scientific monitoring campaigns are undertaken over a year, with the data integrated into the management system, which is modified if required. Cantabrian anchovy assessment campaigns are coordinated via a range of scientific bodies in Spain and France. (AZTI, IEO, and IFREMER)</p> <p>Also, via the IEO Basic Fishing Data National Programme with the monitoring of landings and catch control with onboard logbooks, the scientific data for this fishery should be considered optimal for decision-making based on scientific advice.</p>		
d	Guidepost	Some information on fishery performance and management action is generally available on request to stakeholders.	Information on fishery performance and management action is available on request, and explanations are provided for any actions or lack of action associated with findings and relevant recommendations emerging from research, monitoring, evaluation and review activity.	Formal reporting to all interested stakeholders provides comprehensive information on fishery performance and management actions and describes how the management system responded to findings and relevant recommendations emerging from research, monitoring, evaluation and review activity.
	Met?	Y	Y	N

PI 3.2.2		The fishery-specific management system includes effective decision-making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the objectives, and has an appropriate approach to actual disputes in the fishery under assessment.		
	Justification	<p>All the interested parties can generally access the relevant information on the status of the fishery with respect to both its technical and administrative management, as well as the available scientific data. ICES can be consulted for the annual stock assessment results and it is also possible to access the STECF and ACFA reports and recommendations. The outcomes of the deliberations of the EU Fisheries Commission are also available via their communications and regulations.</p> <p>All the reports, regulations, and recommendations on this fishery are analyzed and discussed in the CCR.S, meaning all interested parties have access to the majority of the available data.</p> <p>The Spanish Government regularly convenes the sector to inform them of the resolutions and changes that affect or may affect the fishery, and they work hand in hand to find the best solution. This also means that the Government has first-hand knowledge of the sector's worries and concerns.</p> <p>Although the data is clear and abundant on occasion, it is neither easy to find nor expressed in clearly understandable language given the scientific vocabulary, meaning some of the data may not be properly understood.</p> <p>The data from the VMS system is transmitted from the boats to the Secretaría General de Pesca Control Centre. This data would sometimes have been useful to help the corresponding departments in the relevant Autonomous Regions maintain better control over the fishery. However, this data cannot always be obtained quickly in order to take more effective action.</p>		
e	Guidepost	Although the management authority or fishery may be subject to continuing court challenges, it is not indicating a disrespect or defiance of the law by repeatedly violating the same law or regulation necessary for the sustainability for the fishery.	The management system or fishery is attempting to comply in a timely fashion with judicial decisions arising from any legal challenges.	The management system or fishery acts proactively to avoid legal disputes or rapidly implements judicial decisions arising from legal challenges.
	Met?	Y	Y	N

<p>PI 3.2.2</p>	<p>The fishery-specific management system includes effective decision-making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the objectives, and has an appropriate approach to actual disputes in the fishery under assessment.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Justification</p>	<p>The specific management system for this fishery does not explicitly consider mechanisms to resolve disputes or implement legal rulings, given that they are resolved within a wider framework both at European and national level.</p> <p>As such, at a European Union level, the issues must initially be resolved through consultations, or access to the European Fisheries Fund can be temporarily suspended until the problem is resolved in some circumstances.</p> <p>In the event fishing quotas are surpassed, they may be deducted from future quotas or in extreme cases, the Commission may place the Member State in question before the Court of Justice of the EU.</p> <p>At a national level, the Spanish legal system is used as the main mechanism to resolve legal disputes. When it comes to fishing infractions, the disciplinary procedures will invariably be open as a result of the resolution adopted to that effect by the Delegate of the Regional Government in the Spanish Autonomous Region in question.</p> <p>The procedures will be initiated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) by initiative of the Government Delegate; b) through an order from a higher authority; c) by petition of the Director General de Recursos Pesqueros y Acuicultura, or other sea fishing authorities or bodies; d) as a result of a request against any action or conduct that could constitute a violation; e) as a result of a procedure initiated by sea fishing inspectors or other governmental employees or agents <p>The management system is subject by law to apply a transparent mechanism for resolving legal disputes:</p> <p>The sea fishing disciplinary procedures will be undertaken in accordance with the principle of transparency in the procedures.</p> <p>To those effects, the interested parties will have the right to receive updated data on the current status of their procedures, and to access and obtain copies of the associated documents. In the same way, and prior to the hearing, the interested parties could present allegations and provide documents they consider relevant.</p> <p>Access to documents related to the concluded disciplinary procedures is governed by the contents of article 37 of Law 30 of 26 November.</p> <p>With the aim of ensuring a completely transparent procedure and the efficacy of the government itself, and to also ensure the due defence of the accused and the interests of all the other parties that may be affected, each initiated disciplinary procedure will follow a systematic course, successively incorporating all the documents, statements, acts, administrative applications, notifications, and other appropriate procedures in the correct order. A procedure initiated as such will be completed and will continue to be the responsibility of the competent body throughout. The fishermen, or industry representatives can use the complete legal process.</p> <p>This transparent mechanism for resolving legal disputes is considered effective in dealing with the majority of issues in the context of fisheries, although some weaknesses have been detected, including the complexity of the procedure, the geographical spread and diversity of the inspectors, and the insufficient regulation of the provisional measures during disciplinary procedures.</p>
<p>References</p>	<p>REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No</p>

<p>PI 3.2.2</p>	<p>The fishery-specific management system includes effective decision-making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the objectives, and has an appropriate approach to actual disputes in the fishery under assessment.</p>	
	<p>2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC LAW 3/2001, of 26 March, of National Maritime Fishing COM(2009) 399 final 2009/0112 (CNS) Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION establishing a long-term plan for the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay and the fisheries exploiting that stock {SEC(2009) 1076 final} {SEC(2009) 1077 final} http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0399:FIN:EN:PDF Order AAA/1307/2013, of 1 July, establishing a Management plan for the registered boats in the Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste. Order AAA/417/2014, of 17 March, modifying Order AAA/1307/2013, of 1 July, establishing a Management plan for the registered boats in the Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste.</p>	
<p>OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:</p>		<p>85</p>

PI 3.2.3		Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms ensure the fishery's management measures are enforced and complied with		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms exist, are implemented in the fishery under assessment and there is a reasonable expectation that they are effective.	A monitoring, control and surveillance system has been implemented in the fishery under assessment and has demonstrated an ability to enforce relevant management measures, strategies and/or rules.	A comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance system has been implemented in the fishery under assessment and has demonstrated a consistent ability to enforce relevant management measures, strategies and/or rules.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
		<p>The EU Member States are responsible for complying with the agreed regulations within the CFP framework at an EU level. The European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) was set up in 2007. Its goal is to coordinate the fisheries inspection and control operational activities of Member States, and provide assistance to the Member States in their application of the Common Fisheries Policy. Their commitment has been strengthened by the publication of the new EU control regulation, which took effect on 1 January 2010, with the main aim to promote compliance of the current regulation in accordance with the rules of the CFP (Regulation nº 1224/2009).</p> <p>In Spain, the Subdirección de Control e Inspección is part of the Secretaría General de Pesca, which is the competent authority for MCS activities both in sea and on land, for coordinating the different activities in this area, sometimes with support from the Autonomous Regions.</p> <p>A very high number of forces carry out the different control tasks (the number is confidential), belonging to different law enforcement bodies: SEPRONA, the Civil Guard, the Navy, and Customs. Each one has their own area of competence. They mainly use aeroplanes and boats to undertake control measures on both land and sea.</p> <p>Also, since Regulation (EC) Nº 1077/2008 took effect in 2008, laying down detailed rules on electronic recording and reporting of fishing activities and on means of remote sensing, it has become compulsory to use an Onboard Electronic Logbook (OEL) on the majority of fishing boats, through which the data on each boat's catch is reported to the control centres. In Spain, this data is sent to the Centro de Seguimiento de Pesca (CSP, Fisheries Monitoring Centre), located in the facilities of the Subdirección General de Control e Inspección of the Secretaría General de Pesca (Madrid).</p> <p>The CSP is active 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. From the CSP MAGRAMA over 2,000 boats being the major control center fisheries in Europe are controlled. The data given are those related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily on board (DEA). For ships > 15 m in electronic form. • VMS data and sent on a daily basis and vessels are operating or not. They have to send at least one message a day even if they are not fishing. <p>Other information to be completed by the fleet is the Declaration of landing and notices of entry into port.</p> <p>Therefore the information that the MAGRAMA is real time which gives them an almost immediate reaction capability.</p> <p>The control system has implemented a system of alarms that are active in the areas where you can not fish either because they are protected areas, areas of special permission or other reasons.</p> <p>The OEL data sent via one message a day allows for almost immediate catch control. This</p>		

PI 3.2.3		Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms ensure the fishery's management measures are enforced and complied with		
		<p>data can be used to control the use of fishing quotas, among other issues.</p> <p>In addition, boats over 15 metres long are obliged to use so-called blue or VMS boxes, which allow the boat to be monitored every two hours, indicating its precise position and the nature of the activity being undertaken at the time (fishing, sailing, etc.)</p> <p>As well as in situ inspections, both in port and at sea, they are also subject to a specific Europe-wide control via a European Union monitoring plan for pelagic fisheries in the western waters of the North East Atlantic, which is coordinated by the EFCA. It is a 3 year programme that began in 2013. It obliges each Member State to carry out a minimum number of inspections each year on 5 species, one of which is the anchovy.</p>		
	Justification	<p>There is a list of authorized ports for landing catches, which are subject to the control measures specified in the management plans.</p> <p>The European management plan for the anchovy in the Bay of Biscay includes a monitoring, control, and surveillance system of the activity of the fleets in this fishery.</p> <p>A system of onboard observers has not been implemented for this fishery, mainly due to the low number of the discards from this purse seine fishery.</p> <p>The Autonomous Regions' roles in the management essentially involve coordination between Madrid and the Autonomous Regions with respect to the closure of the fishery and the sending of sales notes to the Secretaría General de Pesca for collation with the OEL data. In the Basque Country, the anchovy is subject to very exhaustive control, with a lot of interaction between both local and Secretaría de Pesca inspectors. There are 14 inspectors in the B.C. (7 in Guipúzcoa and 7 in Vizcaya) and they have a specific inspection programme for the anchovy.</p> <p>In Cantabria and Basque Country, there are no sanctions of any kind in general in fishery assessment as was highlighted during the site visit.</p>		
b	Guidepost	Sanctions to deal with non-compliance exist and there is some evidence that they are applied.	Sanctions to deal with non-compliance exist, are consistently applied and thought to provide effective deterrence.	Sanctions to deal with non-compliance exist, are consistently applied and demonstrably provide effective deterrence.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y

PI 3.2.3	Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms ensure the fishery's management measures are enforced and complied with		
	Justification	<p>The Commission has the power to take Member States to the courts in the event of non-compliance, potentially resulting in substantial economic sanctions.</p> <p>The sanction system in Spain is clearly developed in the Fisheries Law. The Regional Government Delegate of the Spanish Autonomous Region in which the allegedly offensive behaviour occurred is responsible for deciding on the convenience of initiating a disciplinary procedure in light of the facts presented in the corresponding infraction report prepared by the fishing inspectors. In addition, the agriculture and fishing division personnel from the Government's delegate office should prepare the disciplinary procedures and, once the preliminary hearing has been undertaken (in accordance with Royal Decree 1398/1993), they will present the proposal for resolution, which will be sent with the file to the Secretaría General de Pesca in the event of serious or very serious infractions. In the event of minor infractions, the Government delegate will decide on the appropriate fine / sanction.</p> <p>Article 102 of the Spanish Government Maritime Fishing Law dictates the applicable quantities for each type of sanction, establishing a distinction between those classified as minor, serious, and very serious.</p> <p>In the event of an infraction, the competent authorities of the Member State will, without delay and in compliance with the procedure in the national legislation, notify the Member State of which the accused is a citizen, of criminal proceedings or any other measures taken as well as any definitive legal decision relating to the infraction.</p> <p>The specific control and inspection programme of the pelagic fisheries in the western waters of the North East Atlantic establishes a framework for sanctions due to non-compliance in accordance with the rules of Regulation 404/2011 that develops Regulation 1224/2009, establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy. The Anchovy Management Plan in the Bay of Biscay establishes the control mechanisms that should be implemented by the Member States to fulfil the Plan's objectives, and therefore, the conditions that should be respected by the operators to avoid infractions and sanctions are well defined.</p> <p>There is no past record of sanctions for this fishery overall, although special cases can occur through surpassing catches by 10%, surpassing landing quotas, or OEL errors.</p>	
c	Guidepost	Fishers are generally thought to comply with the management system for the fishery under assessment, including, when required, providing information of importance to the effective management of the fishery.	Some evidence exists to demonstrate fishers comply with the management system under assessment, including, when required, providing information of importance to the effective management of the fishery.
	Met?	Y	Y
			There is a high degree of confidence that fishers comply with the management system under assessment, including, providing information of importance to the effective management of the fishery.

PI 3.2.3		Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms ensure the fishery's management measures are enforced and complied with	
	Justification	<p>The closure of the fishery in the past caused significant socio-economic upheaval and since its re-opening, the operators have made greater efforts to fulfil the current regulations and as such, avoid not only sanctions, but also another collapse in the stock.</p> <p>To that end, the fishermen are maintaining high levels of commitment in complying with the management system requirements and the fishery regulations. The control system is very effective and hardly any cases of non-compliance have been reported and as such, the fishermen can be said to be fulfilling their obligations.</p> <p>The data provided by the fishery activity can be considered essential for monitoring the status of the anchovy stock. The catch and landing data is essential for understanding the quota situation at any given time and deciding whether it is necessary to bring the closure of the fishery forward on reaching the set limit.</p> <p>Fishermen have to complete the onboard logbooks and the catches are compared to the sales notes in the port, as well as the landing declaration and the notifications of entry to the port.</p> <p>Currently there is a discard plan presented to European Commission seeking non-implementation of the discard ban proposed in the new CFP, for this fishery because the discard percentage is very small. The adoption or not, of this application will determine changes in this fishery MCS mechanisms.</p>	
d	Guidepost		There is no evidence of systematic non-compliance.
	Met?		Y
	Justification	There is no evidence of systematic non-compliance in this fishery. Based on the MCS team's meetings with both Central and Autonomous Region Governments, there have been hardly any infractions since the Management Plan was put into place, and all the interested parties are aware of the current regulations, in particular the allocated quotas and current management measures.	
References	<p>Council Regulation (EC) n° 1224/2009, of 20 November 2009, establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy</p> <p>Commission Regulation (EC) N° 1077/2008 of 3 November 2008 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) no 1966/2006 on electronic recording and reporting of fishing activities and on means of remote sensing and repealing Regulation (EC) n° 1566/2007</p> <p>Order ARM/3145/2009, of 19 November, regulating the implementation of the registry and electronic reporting of data from the activity of Spanish fishing boats</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) n° 768/2005 of 26 April 2005 establishing a Community Fisheries Control Agency and amending Regulation (EEC) n° 2847/93 establishing a control system applicable to the common fisheries policy</p> <p>COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION of 19 December 2012 establishing a specific control and inspection programme for pelagic fisheries in the Western Waters of the North East Atlantic (2012/807/EU)</p> <p>COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No 404/2011 of 8 April 2011 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) no 1224/2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy</p>		

PI 3.2.3	Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms ensure the fishery's management measures are enforced and complied with	
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:		100

PI 3.2.4		The fishery has a research plan that addresses the information needs of management		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	Research is undertaken, as required, to achieve the objectives consistent with MSC's Principles 1 and 2.	A research plan provides the management system with a strategic approach to research and reliable and timely information sufficient to achieve the objectives consistent with MSC's Principles 1 and 2.	A comprehensive research plan provides the management system with a coherent and strategic approach to research across P1, P2 and P3, and reliable and timely information sufficient to achieve the objectives consistent with MSC's Principles 1 and 2.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
		<p>The Cantabrian anchovy fishery has a research programme that feeds into the current management plan. The available scientific data essentially comes from two ICES working groups on this fishery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICES Working Group on Anchovy and Sardine and Southern Horse Mackerel (WGHANSA) • Working Group on Acoustic and Egg Surveys for Sardine and Anchovy in ICES Areas VIII and IX (WGACEGG) <p>The ICES sets up working groups based on the need for scientific data identified by the delegates from the different member states, and even when required by other interested parties.</p> <p>The research is undertaken around the specific requisites, which generally come from the working group's recommendations on assessment of the relevant stocks. Scientists from the most important scientific institutions involved in fishery and marine research in each country participate in the ICES. When it comes to Spain and this fishery in particular, these are essentially scientists from the IEO and AZTI. In addition, the EU occasionally funds other organisations' research, such as universities, (e.g. through the EU) to complement the scientific understanding of interest for the fishery and the related ecosystem.</p> <p>At a European Union level, the Regulation on data collection 199/2008, establishes a framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy. The main aims of this Regulation are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The collection and management of biological, technical, environmental and socio-economic data relating to the fisheries sector within the framework of multi-annual programmes; • The use of data relating to the fisheries sector in the framework of the Common Fisheries Policy for scientific analysis purposes. <p>The Spanish National Programme is coordinated by the Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO) and the Secretaría General del Mar.</p> <p>Under the terms of this Regulation, each Member State must implement a national programme to collect biological and economic data on their fisheries. The European Commission JRC periodically collects this data on the Member States, in aggregated form, for analysis by independent experts.</p>		

PI 3.2.4	The fishery has a research plan that addresses the information needs of management
Justification	<p>The data obtained is used to feed into the CFP. The data is collected in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial fishing data on catches and efforts • Economic fishing data • Scientific study data • Biological data <p>The IEO has a key role in ICES' work, and is the official Spanish representative in both this organisation and the working groups, and as such, contributes with resources and knowledge.</p> <p>The Institute's scientific research forms the basis for their advisory work with the Spanish government. The Institute provides the following data to the Secretaría General del Mar (General Secretariat of the Sea): the status of the fishery resources caught by Spanish fleets, where they operate; the fishing possibilities in the new area; the maintenance and improvement of coastal areas; the areas appropriate for the establishment of marine reserves or of aquaculture interest; and related issues. It also informs about issues involving marine pollution and environmental protection.</p> <p>In addition, AZTI-Tecnia, part of the Basque Government, undertakes research in the Basque fisheries with collaboration from the sector and the main European research centres, within the framework of international organisations such as ICCAT, IOTC, ICES/CIEM, NAFO, STECF, etc. They are involved through preparing scientific advice on the different levels of fishery resource exploitation so the respective political authorities can establish the appropriate management measures to ensure the activity remains sustainable.</p> <p>AZTI monitors the all landings in the Basque Country, comparing the fish market data with the data in the logbook. National coordination meetings are held twice a year during which data from scientific centres with delegated competencies is shared. These essentially include: AZTI, IEO, ICES, and CSIC.</p> <p>Annual oceanographic campaigns are undertaken to assess the status of the small pelagic populations in the Cantabrian sea and the results are incorporated into the management plan. These campaigns are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The JUVENA campaign, which aims to determine the abundance and spatial distribution of juvenile anchovies, to study their status, and to analyse the environmental factors affecting their survival, all of which is aimed at predicting the quantity of biomass that will reach adulthood the following year. This is undertaken through a collaboration between the IEO and AZTI • The goal of the Bioman scientific campaign is to evaluate the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay at the end of spring, and it is undertaken by AZTI. The estimation from this campaign serves as a reference for the ICES working group. • The PELGAS campaigns, undertaken by the French research institute, IFREMER, which have the main objective of estimating the biomass of anchovy available in spring to approach the fishery assessment as required by the EU and to study how the entire pelagic ecosystem functions to understand the interactions between the anchovy and its environment. <p>Based on all the above, it is considered that a comprehensive research programme, supported by scientific institutions, is in place well if there is no written plan containing all the above actions. There is normally no written plans for European fisheries in the ICES and other research organizations have the task of the scientific monitoring of the same and provide recommendations to management bodies year after year. It must be considered that the existing scientific monitoring is sufficient for this indicator reaches the SG100.</p>

PI 3.2.4		The fishery has a research plan that addresses the information needs of management		
b	Guidepost	Research results are available to interested parties.	Research results are disseminated to all interested parties in a timely fashion.	Research plan and results are disseminated to all interested parties in a timely fashion and are widely and publicly available.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	<p>The ICES stock assessment advice is an essential part of decision-making and are distributed to all the interested parties prior to discussion meetings in order for Member States to develop their strategies with respect to setting annual fishing. The ICES advice is publicly available to all the interested parties in a simplified version (called "popular advice") through the organization's website. The ICES working groups annual reports are also publicly available to all the interested parties through the organization's website, but they require prior knowledge in fisheries science to be fully understood.</p> <p>The different scientific groups working in the anchovy fisheries periodically publish studies based on the data collected during the campaigns, or on catch data, which help to better understand the behavior of this species. The results of those studies are considered when it comes to reviewing the management plan.</p>		
References		<p>Council Regulation (EC) n° 199/2008 of 25 February 2008 concerning the establishment of a Community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy.</p> <p>REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC.</p>		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				100

PI 3.2.5		There is a system of monitoring and evaluating the performance of the fishery-specific management system against its objectives		
		There is effective and timely review of the fishery-specific management system		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guidepost	The fishery has in place mechanisms to evaluate some parts of the management system.	The fishery has in place mechanisms to evaluate key parts of the management system	The fishery has in place mechanisms to evaluate all parts of the management system.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	In accordance with the management plan, the Commission, based on the Scientific Committee's advice and the CCR.S' advice will evaluate the impact of the plan on the anchovy stock and fisheries of this stock every three years this Regulation is applied and, if necessary, will propose suitable measures to modify the plan. Although it is yet to be applied, the plan has been updated in accordance with the best available scientific data and the proposed changes will take effect from 1st June 2015.		
b	Guidepost	The fishery-specific management system is subject to occasional internal review.	The fishery-specific management system is subject to regular internal and occasional external review.	The fishery-specific management system is subject to regular internal and external review.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justification	The management plan is regularly assessed by STECF and reviewed by the European Institutions whenever it is deemed necessary, and specifically when new scientific advice changes the plan targets, measures and assumptions. There are continuous reviews in the ICES WG or by the different involved research institutions that could be considered as an external review out of the EC scope.		
References		<p>[List any references here]</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) n° 199/2008 of 25 February 2008 concerning the establishment of a Community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy.</p> <p>REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC</p> <p>COMMISSION DECISION of 9 March 2012 on appointment of three new members of the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (2012/C 72/06)</p> <p>COMMISSION DECISION of 19 November 1993 relating to the institution of a Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (93/619/EC)</p> <p>Convention for The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea 12 September 1964</p>		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:				100

Appendix 1.3 Conditions

Condition 1

2.2.3	Information on the nature and the amount of bycatch is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage bycatch
Score	75
Rationale	<p>This PI assesses if the information on the nature and the amount of bycatch is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage bycatch</p> <p>The Bay of Biscay anchovy purse-seine fishery has been monitored by observers at sea in the past. However, a routine and comprehensive monitoring at sea programme to collect information on discards and incidental catches does not exist in this fishery at the present time, and therefore there is insufficient data to detect any increase in risk to main bycatch species.</p>
Condition	The client is required to ensure that sufficient data is available for the fishery to detect any increase in risk to main bycatch of commercial and non-commercial species.
Milestones	<p>Year 1. The fishery shall demonstrate that a monitoring programme is being planned to record bycatch of commercial and non-commercial species. No changes to score anticipated at this stage.</p> <p>Year 2. The fishery shall demonstrate that vessels are engaged in the monitoring programme. No changes to score anticipated at this stage.</p> <p>Year 3. Have available summarised data from first year of recording of bycatch (commercial and non-commercial). Score: 80</p>
Client action plan	<p>1- The client will <u>formulate a code of conduct</u> in which it commits the vessels associated to the certification to record the bycatch incidences species in an ad-hoc created form to be filled on a daily basis, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. All the species discarded, including slipping incidences, with their approximate weight. ii. Any interaction with ETP species, with the numbers per species. <p>The monitoring on the filled forms will be made by the different local fishermen organisations (Cofradías) in the fish markets. Collection and Verification of the form being filled will be made on weekly basis by the respective Cofradía.</p> <p>2- Annual reports on the incidence of general bycatch species will be prepared and made available to the certifier in order to be analysed in the annual audits to determine if the information on bycatch is sufficient to determine the risk posed by the fishery.</p> <p>3- The client will <u>require to the organisations in charge of the implementation of National Plans (SGPesca and scientific institutes) for the monitoring of their fishing activities</u> through an on board observer sampling program to assess the amount of bycatch, including slipping incidences and rough quantitative estimates, with a minimum frequency of one every two years, beginning in 2015, so that the results should be available during the following year after the sampling program.</p>

	<p>Actions 1st year. The following information will be presented in the first audit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Conduct as adopted • Letter or minutes of the meeting where the client transmits to the vessels listed in the unit of certification the need to collect accurate information on bycatch species, in accordance with the code of conduct drawn up and along with instructions on how to collect this information in the ad-hoc created forms. • Letter sent to the Secretaría General de Pesca and other scientific bodies (AZTI, IEO) to request the bycatch monitoring through a monitoring program with observers, along with the reply obtained from SGPESCA and the institutes contacted. <p>Actions 2nd year. The following information will be presented in the second audit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the bycatch coming from the analysis of the data collected in the ad-hoc created forms. • Conditioned to a positive reply of an authoritative body, the client will ask the institute for a report on the results of the observers' survey programme on by catch species of his fishery. Otherwise a new request will be submitted every year to the authoritative bodies for such on board monitoring system of theirs bycatch practices.
<p>Consultation on condition</p>	<p>AZTI Tecnalia.</p>

Condition 2

2.3.3	Relevant information is collected to support the management of fishery impacts on ETP species
Score	70
Rationale	<p>This PI assesses the information collected to support the management of the fishery impacts on ETP species. The information should support the development of the management strategy, the assessment of the effectiveness of the management strategy; and the determination of the outcome status of ETP species.</p> <p>Only anecdotal information is available of the bycatch of ETP species by the purse seine anchovy fishery in recent years. The only at-sea monitoring data (observers programme) available relates to 20 years ago. The level of information is sufficient to qualitatively estimate the fishery related mortality of ETP species. However it is insufficient to quantitatively estimate the impact of fishing on ETP species, to measure trends and to support a full strategy to manage impacts on ETP species.</p>
Condition	<p>The client is required to ensure that sufficient information is available to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantitatively estimated bycatch of ETP species. • Measure trends and support a full strategy to manage impacts on ETP species.
Milestones	<p>Year 1. The fishery shall demonstrate that a monitoring programme is being planned to record bycatch of ETP species. No changes to score anticipated at this stage.</p> <p>Year 2. The fishery shall demonstrate that vessels are engaged in the monitoring programme. No changes to score anticipated at this stage.</p> <p>Year 3 and 4. Have available summarised data from first and second year of recording of interactions with ETP species. Score: 80</p> <p>Before the end of the five year fishery certification period the fishery must demonstrated that sufficient information is available to measure trends and support a full strategy to manage impacts on ETP species.</p>
Client action plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The client will <u>formulate a code of conduct</u> in which it commits the vessels associated to the certification to record the incidental catches of ETP species in an ad-hoc created form to be filled on a daily basis, as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. All the species discarded, including slipping incidences, with their approximate weight. ii. Any interaction with ETP species, with the numbers per species. <p>The monitoring on the filled forms will be made by the different local fishermen organisations (Cofradías) in the fish markets. Collection and Verification of the form being filled will be made on weekly basis by the respective Cofradía.</p> 2. Annual reports on the incidence of ETP species will be prepared and made available to the certifier in order to be analysed in the annual audits to determine if the information is sufficient to determine the risk posed by the fishery. 4- The client will <u>require to the organisations in charge of the implementation of National Plans (SGPesca and scientific institutes) for the monitoring of their fishing activities</u> through an on board observer sampling program to assess the amount of ETPs, including slipping incidences and rough quantitative estimates, with a minimum frequency of one every two years, beginning in 2015, so that the results should be available during the

	<p>following year after the sampling program.</p> <p>Actions 1st year. The following information will be presented in the first audit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Conduct as adopted • Letter or minutes of the meeting where the client transmits to the vessels listed in the unit of certification the need to collect accurate information on the interaction with ETP species, in accordance with the code of conduct drawn up and along with instructions on how to collect this information in the ad-hoc created forms. • Letter sent to the Secretaría General de Pesca and other scientific bodies (AZTI, IEO) to request the ETP monitoring through a monitoring program with observers, along with the reply obtained from SGPESCA and the institutes contacted. <p>Actions 2nd year. The following information will be presented in the second audit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the bycatch coming from the analysis of the data collected in the ad-hoc created forms. • Conditioned to a positive reply of an authoritative body, the client will ask the institute for a report on the results of the observers' survey programme on ETP species of his fishery. Otherwise a new request will be submitted every year to the authoritative bodies for such on board monitoring system of their practices.
Consultation on condition	AZTI Tecnalia.

Condition 3

3.2.1	The fishery has clear, specific objectives designed to achieve the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2
Score	75
Rationale	<p>This PI assesses that the individual harvest or management strategies that are scored in PIs under P1 and P2 are consistent with the fishery-specific objectives being scored under P3.</p> <p>The fishery is considered to have defined management objectives within the overall scope of European Union regulation that are consistent and integral to the results required by the MSC for Principles 1 and 2. However, given that the management measures will not apply until 2016, it cannot be considered as a current specific management tool. The specific fishery management plan contains detailed short and long-term objectives for P1, but that is not the case for P2. As such, although this indicator may surpass SG80 for P1, it fall shorts for P2 objectives. Therefore, the overall evaluation gives a maximum score of SG75, and a condition is introduced.</p> <p>In summary, there are no explicit long and short objectives for the fishery's management system to know there are consistent with achieving the outcomes of the Principle 2</p>
Condition	Within four years, the fishery shall provide explicit elaboration of short and long term fishery specific objectives that are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principle 2. These objectives need to be transparent and incorporated in the management system. There should also be a clear means of assessing performance relative to these objectives.
Milestones	<p>The following elements can be verified during annual surveillance audit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By the first annual audit there is documented evidence of explicit fishery specific objectives that are agreeable to all the vessels within the certificate, and consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principle 2. SG80 - By the second annual audit a surveillance of the achievement of the objectives has to be done.
Client action plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The client will propose and agree with the vessels listed in the unit of certification a statement of principles and objectives for the certified fishery for an environmentally friendly use of the sea ecosystem in agreement with MSC Principle 2 and consistent with the Spanish environmental policy. 2. In order to achieve those objectives a code of conduct for sustainable fishing practices will be elaborated aiming at minimizing the impacts on the serval ecosystem components such as by-catch species, ETP species or the benthic habitats. 3. In order to assess the relative performance of the objectives a monitoring system of the interaction of the fishery with the sea ecosystem components will be established, coupled with monitoring system developed for recording by-catch and ETP species developed for satisfying the conditions 1 and 2 raised before, being expanded to account for registration of eventual interaction with the sea bottom (benthonic habitat). <p>Actions 2nd year. The following information will be presented in the second audit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the degree of fulfilment of the bycatch and ecosystem interaction form by associated vessels. • Summary report on the bycatch and ETP and bottom interactions from analysis of the bycatch and ecosystem interaction forms, merged with the reports foreseen in the actions for conditions 1 and 2.
Consultation on	AZTI Tecnalia.

condition	
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Appendix 2. Peer Review Reports

Peer Review 1

Overall Opinion

<i>Has the assessment team arrived at an appropriate conclusion based on the evidence presented in the assessment report?</i>	Yes	Conformity Response	Assessment	Body
<i>Justification:</i> With few minor exceptions, the assessment team has clearly provided detailed information on the main issues under evaluation. The overall scoring in this assessment is justified by the evidence presented				

<i>Do you think the condition(s) raised are appropriately written to achieve the SG80 outcome within the specified timeframe?</i>	Yes	Conformity Response	Assessment	Body
<i>Justification:</i> The conditions are clear and they are properly written to achieve the SG80 outcome on schedule.				

If included:

<i>Do you think the client action plan is sufficient to close the conditions raised?</i>	Yes	Conformity Response	Assessment	Body
<i>Justification:</i> The proposed code of conduct includes the obligation of recording bycatch incidences and incidental catches of ETP which will provide sufficient data and information to achieve the SG80 for both PIs 2.2.3 and 2.3.3. Evaluation of the implementation level of the actions contained in the CoC should be carried out in future audits.				

General Comments on the Assessment Report (optional)

Some information is repeated in several parts of the report under different titles (including scoring table different PIs). It would be useful to simplify the report avoiding it. There are missing references.

Performance Indicator Review

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
1.1.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score.	

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
1.1.2	No	No	NA	<p>In general, the rationale supports the SG80 but for SG100 a few details should be deeply explained.</p> <p>SI_b: The mention to the "consideration of precautionary issues" appears in the previous SI_a but not mention to the consideration of environmental variability. Is it included in the "precautionary issues"? If yes, please, mention it here.</p> <p>SI_c: No mention to the consideration of the trophic position of the Anchovy in the "precautionary issues".</p> <p>SI_d: <i>Please avoid the contradiction between the two sentences: "Anchovy is considered according to the MSC criteria as a low trophic species" and the next one "However, anchovy is not considered a "key" LTL stock". It would be more correct to mention that "the team do not consider anchovy as key LTL stock". Anyway, as said in the "any other comments" section of this PR report (number 6) it would be more useful to link the explanation used by the team to do not consider this anchovy as LTL, to the MSC requirements (CB 2.3.13)</i></p>	We agree with the reviewer. More information was added to improve interpretation.

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
1.1.3	NA	NA	NA		
1.2.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score.	
1.2.2	Yes	Yes	NA	<p>The rationale supports the given score. Justification of the SI_b is clear but would it be possible to mention any of the considered uncertainties?</p> <p>SI_c: The exploitation levels (catches) seem to be more stable than TACs. What is the reason for almost duplicating the TAC from 2010 to 2011 and obtaining less catches? Are there other tools in use (apart from TACs) that show to be effective?</p>	<p>We agree with the reviewer. More information was added to improve interpretation:</p> <p>SG100b: uncertainties added.</p> <p>SG100c: the reason for almost duplicating the TAC from 2010 to 2011 is an incoming strong year-class. Catches did not follow the increase in TAC probably due to market reasons. OnlyTAcS are used.</p>

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
1.2.3	Yes	No	NA	The team gave SG100 to SI_a but the justification is focused on the stock information and no reference is included to the environmental information. Please complete it. SI_c, information on all other fishery removals from the stock. Does the justification include the use of the small anchovy as bait for other fisheries (which normally is not counted against quota nor landed)? Any information on this regard? Is it relevant?	We agree with the reviewer. The information was completed for SG100a. Justification added to SG100c: live bait catches for the tuna fisheries are considered low (past estimates of 1% total catch, WGHANSA, 2014) and not included in the assessment and advice (ICES, 2014).
1.2.4	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score. In SI_a it would be desirable a major reference in the justification to the main features relevant to the biology of the species and nature of the fishery considered by the assessment.	The assessment team considers that ICES is a relevant reference for the biology of the species and nature of the fishery.
2.1.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score.	

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.1.2	Yes	No	NA	SI_a. SG100 does not include the word "main" and all retained species should be considered in the assessment (not only sardine and horse mackerel). Please, review it or provide details of the general managing strategy for all the retained species..	SG100a: the general strategy referred to in the table is applicable to all retained species.
2.1.3	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score. SI_a justification mention "Sardine stock" and SG100 should be referred to "all retained species"	Text changed accordingly to reviewer suggestion.
2.2.1	Yes	No	NA	Please, review or justify the scoring. Only one SI is applicable and it meets SG80. Therefore 90 is not justified. No needed to repeat the main part of the report here. Please review the wording in the last paragraph of the SI_a "one cannot assess". It could be understood like this PI cannot be assessed, but I guess this was not the intention of the team. Please, clarify it.	We agree with the reviewer. The SG100a is not fully met therefore it only meets SG80. Moreover, the text was clarified following reviewer suggestion.

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.2.2	Yes	No	NA	<p>I understand that, again, SG 100 is referring to bycatch not to "main" bycatch. The second paragraph of the SI_a (LO) could be enough justification to demonstrate strategy for managing and minimising bycatch.</p> <p>In SI_b, the LO can also be a powerful management tool to reduce discards of small sized catches (juveniles).</p> <p>SI_c: The fact that the small-sized fish is not landed can be the evidence that it is discarded...(not necessarily that it is not caught). The other justification seems appropriate (closed areas and seasons respected).</p> <p>SI_d: The good conditions of blue whiting stock is the evidence that the fishers are very lucky and their main bycatch is not in problems. The evidence of the strategy should be a decrease in the bycatch or a proper management of these bycatches (recording, detailing,...).</p>	<p>Agree as stated by reviewer in comments: information is already provided to justify score.</p> <p>SI-c The justification is not based on the fact if juveniles are caught or not, the point is that MLS are enforced. MLS can be a powerful tool to reduce juvenile catch as it impacts its commercial value associated to fines.</p> <p>SI_d the bycatch strategy is part of the global management strategy of the blue whiting stock and it has been effective in recovering the recent stock decline.</p>

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.2.3	Yes	No	Yes	<p>SI_b and SI_c: No clear references to SG100. No clear strategy to manage retained species has been described and the bycatch information from this fishery does not seem to be relevant for the blue whiting assessment.</p> <p>There is not accurate and verifiable information therefore it seems difficult to justify that the information is adequate to support a strategy to manage retained species.</p> <p>Please, check "peers-seine" (instead of "purse" in SI_a) and complete references.</p>	<p>SI_b: reference to negligible discards assumed by ICES added.</p> <p>SI_c: there is a scoring mistake as this SI only reaches 80.</p> <p>More references added.</p>
2.3.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score.	
2.3.2	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score.	
2.3.3	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p><i>Please, check SI_b: "However, accurate and verifiable information is not available at the present time so SG80 is not met" (SG100?). Please complete references.</i></p>	Mistake corrected (SG100) and references added
2.4.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score.	

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.4.2	Yes	No	NA	The SI_a justification seems to indicate that it meets SG100. Please, clarify. Please, complete references.	
2.4.3	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score.	
2.5.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score.	
2.5.2	Yes	No	NA	In SI_d: fishing effort limits and closed areas could be considered only as "partial strategy". Please complete the justification or review the scoring. Please, complete references.	SI_d We agree with reviewer that fishing effort limits and closed areas are considered only as "partial strategy". This scoring however refers to evidence or some evidence that the strategy is being and not if the strategy is partial or not. Therefore the justification provided supports the given score. References added
2.5.3	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score. Please, complete references.	References added

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.1.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score. Some issues were already described in the report so, maybe, the justification of this PI could be shortened including references. Please, check SI_b, SG100 "Y" is not in line with the justification "This is the reason behind the non-compliance of the SG100"	The justification of this PI has been shortened. The error mentioned in the justification scoring has been corrected.
3.1.2	Yes	No	NA	<i>SI_b: The last sentence of the justification "However, whether these opinions are accepted as commitments by the competent government during decision-making is less clear" seems to indicate that SG100 is not met. Please review it.</i>	Text changed accordingly. PI reached SG100
3.1.3	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score.	

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.1.4	No	Yes	NA	<p><i>The rationale support the given score but, maybe, not all the information has been considered. "The The new CFP recently approved, established that the Member States must promote responsible fishing, offering incentives to operators [...]". This is true but these incentives are not clear and, of course, they are not regularly reviewed yet. For example, the system of quota allocation creates uncertainties for fishers and weak sense of stewardship of the resources which does not act as a positive incentive. Increases of 90% of the quota in one year followed by a reduction in 70% next year does not contribute to the long term planning of the fishermen activities. The delay in the official approval of the management plan creates instability too. Besides that, the role of certain subsidies (fuel, research,...) is also controversial and should be considered here. Considering all the above, maybe SG100 is too high.</i></p>	Text changed accordingly. PI scores 90.

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.2.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score. As far as I know, the management plan includes well defined and measurable objectives referring the stock (MSC Principle 1) but I have no clear idea of objectives under Principle 2 (habitat). Is there any?. Please include this in the justification.	It is considered that the existing management plan for anchovy fishery in the Cantabrian and being applied carries implicit, according to the Common Fisheries Policy of the EU, the preservation of natural resources and protection of habitats but it's not clearly defined. Consequently this PI scores 90.
3.2.2	Yes	Yes	NA	The rationale supports the given score. The SI_e justification is more focused on general disputes (PI 3.1.1. SI-b) and not in the fishery-specific management system. "[...]system for this fishery does not explicitly consider mechanisms to resolve disputes [...]" the idea of public debate and discussion is to achieve the maximum possible consensus and avoid further disputes. Anyway, the given score seems appropriate; I agree that after five years for the formal approval of a management plan which is already implemented, I would not dare to say the system acts "proactively" to anything...	SI-e It is considered that the dispute resolution system for this fishery is included in the general framework of the EU and Spain and therefore the rationale is adequate.

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.2.3	Yes	No	NA	<p>SI_a: It is clear that the MCS system in place is well defined but, in order to check if it is comprehensive it would be useful to mention few details about its independence, internal checks and balances. A summary of the main findings of those inspections would also be useful to demonstrate that the system is effective (as mentioned in the next SI – b, with the sanctions).</p> <p>SI_c: Justification seems clear but this is not in line with the doubts about the future implementation of the landing obligation in other chapters of the report due to lack of inspections on board. Please, consider those comments if there is no evidence of non-compliance (Please, see "any other comments" section of this PR report, comment number 5).</p>	<p>SI_a is corrected with addition of text related with details of MCS system in force in Spain.</p> <p>SI_c. Currently there is a discard plan presented to European Commission seeking exemptions to the Landing Obligation for this fishery because the discard percentage is very small. The adoption or not, of this application will determine changes in this fishery MCS mechanisms. This comment is added to justification.</p>

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.2.4	Yes	No	NA	<p><i>The rationale supports partially the given score. According with the MSC certification requirements CB4.10.3 "Teams shall interpret a "research plan" in both SG80 and SG100 to mean a written document that includes a specific research plan for the fishery under assessment, relevant to the scale and intensity and the issues requiring research". The justification shows several "plans". Could you please clarify more this issue?</i></p> <p>SI_b: If reports "are not easy to access" maybe, SG100 should be reviewed.</p>	<p>There is normally no written plans for European fisheries in the ICES and other research organizations have the task of the scientific monitoring of the same and provide recommendations to management bodies year after year. It must be considered that the existing scientific monitoring is sufficient for this indicator reaches the SG100.</p> <p>SI_b The information was clarified in the table.</p>
3.2.5	Yes	Yes	NA	<p>The rationale supports the given score. Maybe the continuous review in the ICES WG or by the different involved research institutions could be considered as an external review (out of the EC scope). Please, complete references.</p>	<p>We agree with the reviewer, the text was changed in accordance. References added.</p>

Any Other Comments

Comments	Conformity Assessment Body Response
<p>Minor comments per page (questions and issues for consideration):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Page 11. One before the last paragraph. <i>...the boats registered in the Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste [...] are eligible fishermen for this full assessment.</i> Fishermen or vessels? Page 12. Second paragraph. <i>... This drop in numbers is illustrated by [...]. <u>This does not imply a reduction in fishing capacities, however – newer boats are bigger than traditional boats and better equipment increased fishing operation efficiency.</u></i> Therefore, the decrease in the number of vessels does not illustrate the drop in catches, isn't it? Page 15 3.3.1 - <i>Spawning and growth</i> <i>European anchovy is widely distributed along the Atlantic sea coast off Europe and Africa,</i> of Page 18 First paragraph <i>[...] and to a lesser extend to trolling gear,...</i> Does trolling gears mean trolling lines (in Spanish "pesca a la cacea") or recreational troll? Page 18 Second paragraph <i>A highgrading ban, [...], has been in legislation since 2010.</i> Please, include reference to the legislation. <i>The Landing Obligation (LO), contemplated in the recent reformed CFP, will [...]</i> Please, include reference (Article 15 of the Regulation (EU) 1380/2013 of...) <i>However, as with the highgrading ban, its implementation is strongly</i> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The vessels are the ones registered in the census. However, the fishermen operating these vessels are the eligible fishermen that could be included. It was clarified in the text. In somehow is justified because a reduction from 600 Spanish purse seiners in 1966 to around 260 vessels in this millennium is a significant reduction even though the vessels are better equipped and the operation is more efficient. It is off (as in off-shore) Yes, it means trolling lines Reference to legislation included. The non-implementation of the LO is common to all fisheries, so the comment is relevant. It is to be seen in future audits if this fishery follows the LO. The text provided based on the ecosystem modelling studies provide sufficient information to support the conclusion and address all three questions. Titles reviewed Rebounced in this text means recover again. Both sentences were reviewed. Text reviewed The aim of this comment was to explain that the assessment processes for sardine and anchovy started at the same time. In addition the site visit was done together because the stakeholders consulted were common. The information was reviewed to avoid misinterpretation. The fishery has the obligation to land all catches in the authorised harbours and sold in the fish auction. Mistake was corrected.

dependent on high levels of at sea monitoring which are unlikely to be reached, at least in the short term.

This comment appears in several chapters of the report. Most of the sector and stakeholders are aware of the difficulties of the implementation of the landing obligation. Anyway, the assessed fleet is not under suspicious of "non-compliance" and therefore this comment is not relevant.

6. Page 19

Key Low Trophic MSC Criteria

The comment on this page is appropriate for the chapter 3.4.5.Ecosystem (page 26), but here it would be desirable the explanation of the team decision direct linked to the MSC certification requirements CB 2.3.13 and CB 2.3.14. The team *shall provide evidence specifically addressing each of the subcriteria in CB 2.3.13 to justify any decision to not define the stock as key LTL species in the ecosystem:*

- *Is there a large proportion of the trophic connections in the ecosystem involve this stock, leading to significant predator dependency?*
- *Does a large volume of energy passing between lower and higher trophic levels pass through this stock?*
- *Are there few other species at this trophic level through which energy can be transmitted from lower to higher trophic levels?*

7. Page 20

Table 3-4.b

The difference between table 3-4.a and 3-4.b is clear when reading the text ("targeting anchovy fleet") but the table titles are a bit confusing (only anchovy purse-seine is under assessment/certification). Please, review it.

8. Page 22

Blue whiting

*Blue whiting has **rebounded** in recent years*

Rebounded?

9. Page 30

Mid page

*The European Union fish management system is essentially **governed by the European Commission**. The **Commission**, through the Directorate-General for*

Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DGMARE) is responsible for proposing, approving, and applying EU fishing regulations [...]

After Treaty of Lisbon, Parliament and Council are also involved in government with more powerful. Approving must be done by the Parliament and Council too. EC just propose policy.

Last paragraph

[...]Regulation (EC) No 847/96 according to which Member States may ask the Commission, before 31 October of the year of application of a fishing quota allocated to them, to withhold a maximum of 10 % of that quota to be transferred to the following year.

Ask for an advance of the quota? Please, clarify the sentence.

10. Page 31

One before last paragraph.

A fisheries management plan is in place, [...]

As mentioned before in the report, the management plan has not been officially approved yet and it would be advisable to indicate it also here to avoid the idea of two different management plans.

11. Page 34

4.1.- Harmonised Fishery Assessment

[...] anchovy fishery and the sardine fishery, both of which are being assessed, can be said to overlap and require assessment as such.

Taking the definition of a Unit of Certification as the group "stock/gear/practice", the Cantabrian Sardine fishery and current assessment are different. They are focused on different stocks even if they are using the same gears and almost identical management systems. Do you want to consider it as a multi-species fishery assessment?

Engraulis anchoita is not the same specie that *E. encrasicolus*.

12. Page 41

5.2.5.- Details of the use of trans-shipping in the fishery.

Is trans-shipping allowed in this fishery? If yes, please, explain how to ensure there is no mix between certified and non-certified fish.

13. Page 126

Attendance site visit "[Latvia](#)"? ☺

Peer Review 2

Overall Opinion

<i>Has the assessment team arrived at an appropriate conclusion based on the evidence presented in the assessment report?</i>	Yes	Conformity Response	Assessment	Body
The status of the anchovy stock is properly referred to ie through ICES assessments. There is sufficient information available to support judgements presented by the assessment team including the conditions 1 and 2. The management system is embedded in general administration of the EU Common Fisheries Policy and the evaluation presented is as much assessing the EU Common fisheries policy as it is a specific evaluation of the situation in the anchovy fishery. There is significant research conducted on anchovy. Compliance is now good perhaps <i>inter alia</i> as a result of the experience with the period with a closed anchovy fishery.				

<i>Do you think the condition(s) raised are appropriately written to achieve the SG80 outcome within the specified timeframe?</i>	Yes	Conformity Response	Assessment	Body
The conditions aim at assuring documentation of the incidental catches and the discards. To meet this objective sampling not necessarily needs to be continuous but may be aimed at assuring that the present catch structure does not change.		Note that condition requires a monitoring programme, but it does not specify the intensity of the monitoring.		

If included:

<i>Do you think the client action plan is sufficient to close the conditions raised?</i>	Yes	Conformity Response	Assessment	Body
<i>Justification:</i> The action plan provides for self-registration of the catch (all species) and in particular ETP species. The action plan furthermore provides for a request to the Laboratory responsible for sampling the anchovy fishery for an observer programme. This programme is to be evaluated at the first audit. The conditions will only be met if this audit based on the sampling programme finds that sufficient documentation on the impact on the catches (all species) is available including documentation that the self-registration is reliable. The review below proposes a process to achieve formal adoption of the management plan. It is understood that this formalization will be through the adoption of the code of conduct; also this point is to be reviewed at the first audit.				

General Comments on the Assessment Report

- 1. Missing Condition:** Section 3.5 informs that a fisheries management plan is in place and that this management plan is implemented de facto but is not formally adopted at the EU level. This makes the plan less than robust and a condition to get this plan adopted at a formal level should be considered. **The Team do not agree with the peer reviewer the justification has been explained in the report.**
- 2. PI 2.1:** The distinction between 'main retained species' and 'retained species' is unclear in the scoring. The 'main retained species' are deemed to be sardines

and horse mackerel which judgement seems to be well justified by the available information. Table 3-4.b informs that there are small amounts of Chub mackerel *Scomber colias* (1.4% from the text) and a series of other species constitute minor amounts. Among those species very few are subject to regular scientific assessments. It is not demonstrated that there is a strategy in place that assures that these species prevent these species from being overexploited by the anchovy fishery, e.g. that the fishery under the umbrella of the anchovy fishery develops a directed fishery for one of these species. [The expert has reviewed all P2 tables to ensure that the differences between main and all species are clearly understood and therefore the SG have been correctly scored.](#)

3. [Condition 1 \(PI 2.2.3\) and Condition 2 \(PI 2.3.3 \(ETP species\)\)](#) addresses discards and incidental catches. The conditions will provide relevant information. Given the expected low level of both incidental catches and of discards and the minimal impact these are likely to have on stocks there may not be basis for continuous monitoring but occasional inspections/sampling may suffice to demonstrate sustainable exploitation.
4. The abbreviation 'ACFM' appears in the Acronym list but is not used in the text. The text correctly refers to ACOM (ICES Advisory Committee) which does not appear in the acronym list. [CAB: The ACOM acronym was added to the glossary and ACFM was deleted.](#)

Performance Indicator Review

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
1.1.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The justification is satisfactory except that (a) the probability that $SSB < Blim$ is not zero but only very low. (b) the sentence "The assessment model is..... Therefore there is a high degree of certainty" The conclusion is based on results obtained by the model not as a consequence of the application of this specific model.	SG100a: text rephrased according to reviewer suggestion. SG100b: the reviewer comment is a semantic issue. Models results are referred to in the previous sentence.
1.1.2	Yes	(No)	NA	The justification (b) should be based on that the $Blim$ is an appropriate limit, ie that the recruitment at $SSB > 21kt$ is not impaired. This follows from the ICES calculation of $Blim$ that is referred to in (a)	Text rephrased according to reviewer suggestion.
1.1.3	Yes	Yes	Yes		

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
1.2.1	(No)	(No)	NA	The justification refers to a proposed Management plan and the harvest strategy behind this plan. The key point is that this plan has been a de facto plan since 2010 as noted in the justification for 1.2.2. Consider a condition to have this plan formally embedded in the regulatory framework for anchovy in the G. Biscay	Although a not formally adopted management plan should usually require a condition as there might be a risk of missmanagement if conditions change, the assessment team believes that in this case the risk is minimum and it is just a matter of time for the EU admin machine to get it adopted. After much fierce debate, the management plan was agreed and has been use for several years now, (which requires annual TAC agreement by EU Fisheries Council). Is is extremely unlikely that any party will not follow the plan.
1.2.2	Yes	Yes	NA		
1.2.3	Yes	Yes	NA	It seems illogical to require (implicitly) a routine discard and incidental catch monitoring if it can be demonstrated that discards are minimal and inconsequential.	We disagree with the reviewer as not only a routine sampling is not being required (just updated information on discards and incidental bycatch), the issue is not related to anchovy discards but to other species discards and bycatch of ETP species.

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
1.2.4	Yes	Yes	NA		
2.1.1	Yes	No	NA	SG 100(a) discusses the 'retained' species ie all species that are found in the catch, while SG 60(a) and SG 80(a) consider the 'main retained species'. Based on the justification SG 100(a) is not met	Agree with reviewer and a score of 80 is given instead of 100. Rephrased in SG100b
2.1.2	Yes	Yes	NA	CHECK Language in 2.1.2c Until this revised management plan is not evaluated to be precautionary and used to set the TACs, the harvest strategy will not meet its objectives of preventing the <u>main targeted fisheries</u> of hindering stock recovery and rebuilding	We think the reviewer is referring to scoring 2.1.1. c. Deleted 'not' as it is a typing mistake.
2.1.3	Yes	Yes	NA	See general comment on the distinction between 'main retained' and 'retained' species	Text changed accordingly to reviewer suggestion.
2.2.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The discussion of the blue whiting should consider that the discards is estimated at a maximum of 3,500 t (several species) compared to the biomass of 5.5 mill t of blue whiting	Sentence added to scoring 2.2.1c according to reviewer suggestion.

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.2.2	Yes	Yes	NA		
2.2.3	Yes	Yes	Yes (Condition 1)		Note that condition requires a monitoring programme, but it does not specifies the intensity of the monitoring.
2.3.1	Yes	Yes	NA		
2.3.2	Yes	Yes	NA		
2.3.3	Yes	Yes	Yes (Condition 2)		Note that condition requires a monitoring programme, but it does not specifies the intensity of the monitoring.
PI 2.4 (Habitat impact)					
2.4.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The purse seine has no bottom contact	
2.4.2	Yes	Yes	NA		
2.4.3	Yes	Yes	NA		

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
PI 2.5 (Ecosystem impact)					
2.5.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The fishery has minimal effect at the ecosystem level	
2.5.2	Yes	Yes	NA		
2.5.3	Yes	Yes	NA		
3.1.1 (effective management)	Yes	Yes	NA	The EU fisheries policy and the management associated with it – including the implementation by Spain - form the basis for managing the anchovy stock	This PI makes reference to the legal framework for fisheries management of the waters in which they operates the analyzed fishery but not the fishery itself. Therefore, it is considered that the PI includes sufficient explanation for the overall administration of both the EU and Spain.
3.1.2 (Consultation process)	Yes	Yes	NA		

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.1.3 (Objective)	Yes	Yes	NA	The Objective is laid down in a management plan that is not adopted at the EU level nor at the national level.	It is considered that, in the general scope of the fisheries policy of the EU, there are legal parameters, based on the common fisheries policy, to meet the objectives of MSC P1 and P2.
3.1.4 Incentives for sustainable fisheries , no subsidies)	Yes	Yes	NA		
3.2.1 (Objectives achieving PI 1 & 2)	Yes	No	NA	SG 100(a) is not met as the plan is focused on the anchovy exploitation only and PI 2 objectives are not 'well defined and measurable' in this plan. Furthermore, the management plan should be adopted at the EU level to assure that management is robust. A Condition would be appropriate at this point	It is considered that the existing management plan for anchovy fishery in the Cantabrian and being applied carries implicit, according to the Common Fisheries Policy of the EU, the preservation of natural resources and protection of habitats but it's not clearly defined The SG for this PI reached 90.

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.2.2 (Effective decision-making processes)	Yes	Yes	NA	See comment on the need for a condition on adopting the management plan at the EU level. The justification fails to scores SG 100(d) as fulfilled based on missing an 'easy-read' version and an effective search engine among the heap of advice and administrative texts. It would appear that virtually all fisheries on that basis would fail this scorepost. Besides there is no standards that I am aware of to meet what would be appropriate.	It is considered that although it can be a standard situation for all fisheries, in the case of anchovy occurs and therefore should be taken into account. Therefore does not reach the SG100
3.2.3 (MSC and compliance)	Yes	Yes	NA	SG 100(e) is not addressed in the justifications and it is surprising that this point is not met by the Spanish legal system.	There is not a PI_e for PI3.2.3 Maybe is a mistake but It's no possible to know what it relates the PR
3.2.4 (Control and Compliance)	Yes	Yes	NA	PI 3.2.4 (a) refers to a 3 year ECFA coordinated programme for the western waters pelagic fisheries (2013-2015). The certification period is however, 2015-2019 and the programme unless continued has little bearing on the certified fishery	Existing legislation is considered in the time of the certification process. The continuity of the referral agreement will be reviewed in the first certification audit.



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.2.5 (Monitoting and evaluation the performance)	Yes	Yes	NA		

Appendix 3. Stakeholder submissions

During the period of thirty days for public comments, the MSC send the next Review on Compliance with the scheme requirements.

Ref	Type	Page	Requirement	Reference	Details	PI	Conformity assessment body response
91790	Major	53	CR-27.10.6.1 v.1.3	Rationale shall be presented to support the team's conclusion	For PI 1.1.2 and scoring issue d, the rationale presented on how to determine Key-LTL species does not follow the requirements in CB 2.3.12. The three sub-criteria in CB 2.3.13 need to individually be shown to be met or not met. If 2 out of the 3 are met, then a species is KEYLTL. The current provided rationale does not follow this process. For assistance, the team should look at Essington T and Pláganyi EE (2013) which is available as part of the MSC science series. The SURF calculation has been done for the Bay of Biscay for Sardine, where it was shown to presumably be KEY based on the SURF score. The same matrix can be used for anchovy.	1.1.2	The MSC comments have been taken into account and the justification as to why anchovy is not a Key LTL species has been set out in more detail, as stated in CB 2.3.12

Ref	Type	Page	Requirement	Reference	Details	PI	Conformity assessment body response
9183	Major	96, 98, 100, 104, 106, 113- 116, 118, 121	CR-27.10.6.1 v.1.3	Rationale shall be presented to support the team's conclusion	<p>The rationale does not support the score for the following P3 PIs:</p> <p>PI 3.1.1 - scoring issue b, SG100. The rationale states that the "transparent mechanism for resolving legal disputes is considered effective in dealing with the majority of issues in the context of fisheries" (which meets SG80) but no information was provided on how the mechanism has been "tested and proven to be effective" in line with SG100 requirement.</p> <p>PI 3.1.1 - scoring issue d. No information is provided in the rationale about how the Spanish system has a mechanism to generally respect/observe/formally commit to the legal rights for people dependent on fishing for food or livelihood.</p> <p>PI 3.1.2 - scoring issue b. To meet SG100 the rationale needs to include some consideration of how the management system explains how information provided is used or not used. Also, the rationale only provides information on the EU level but consultation processes need to be considered at both the EU and national levels in line with CBA4.3.4.</p> <p>PI 3.1.4, SG80. Rationale is not provided on how the management system seeks to ensure that perverse incentives do not arise.</p> <p>PI 3.2.1 - scoring issue a. The rationale states that "no specific management measures to meet the objectives of MSC Principle 2 are included" and explains this is one of the reasons that SG100 is not fully met. However, there is a requirement for the management system to have implicit (60), explicit (80) or well defined and measurable (100) objectives for both P1 and P2 at all levels. Rationale needs to be provided on how the SG60 and SG80 levels are met with respect to P2.</p> <p>PI 3.2.3 - with regard to CB4.9.2 and related guidance, the team has not provided any information on whether the absence of non-conformities is due to there being effective compliance or to an absence of detection. This is particularly important given the reported lack of objective information about extent of slippage/discards. On this point, it is clear from the report that slippage does occur frequently, but no rationale is provided how this relates to highgrading ban and how the control systems enforce that highgrading does not occur when</p>	3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.4, 3.2.1, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.2.5	<p>The reviewer's comments have been taken into account leading to a review of all the referenced Performance Indicator tables. To sum up:</p> <p>PI 3.1.1b The existing mechanisms within the EU legislation framework are considered effective and to have been sufficiently tested given the large European Union fleet allied with the minimal number of infractions that have occurred. The EU can improve or change the procedures to make them more effective if necessary.</p> <p>PI 3.1.1d The effective implementation of the EU Common Fisheries Policy in 2014 guarantees the legal rights of fishermen in all Member States including Spain.</p> <p>PI 3.1.2b The Advisory Councils are stakeholder-led organisations that provide the Commission and EU countries with recommendations on fisheries management matters. This may include advice on conservation and socio-economic aspects of management, and on simplification of rules. Advisory Councils are consulted in the context of regionalisation. Advisory Councils should also contribute to data for fisheries management and conservation measures. In the national context, the General Secretariat of Fisheries holds regular meetings with the fishing industry in order to obtain their views on the fishery status of the fishery and meet their specific needs.</p> <p>PI 3.1.4 The application of the new Common Fisheries Policy limits the concession of financial grants or other incentives that may be damaging to fishery sustainability. The EMFF includes a monitoring and evaluation system (arts.</p>

				<p>catches are slipped.</p> <p>PI 3.2.4 - scoring issue a. As one of the peer reviewer also notes, there needs to be a written research plan specific to the fishery under assessment in order to meet SG80 or SG100, in line with requirement CDB4.10.3. The rationale provided indicates that there is no written research plan, so it is not clear how this fishery meets the SG80 (or SG100) level.</p> <p>PI 3.2.5 - scoring issue a. The rationale makes reference to review of the management plan. However this PI refers to there being a review of some/key/all parts of the 'management system' - which in the guidance GCB4.11 can include: monitoring, control and surveillance, research plan, feedback and response and monitoring systems. It is not clear whether the review includes review of these aspects of the system.</p>	<p>107, 108, and 109) for the funds to enable the European Commission to estimate the overall incidence and evaluate the effectiveness, efficiency, and suitability of EMFF operations, and therefore prevent incorrect fishery grants being awarded, among other issues.</p> <p>PI 3.2.1 The management plan includes well-defined and measurable short and long-term objectives that are shown to be consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principle 1, whereas the information for P2 is not so clear. With respect to P2, the management plan does not specify established measures for meeting the objectives of this principle, but there is extensive European legislation that ensures the conservation of marine species targets or non-targets in fisheries, as well as the marine environment.</p> <p>PI 3.2.3 The information used is derived from interviews with the national and regional authorities that control fishery activity in accordance with the CB4.9.2. requisite. Given the opinions expressed by both parties during the interviews, a high level of compliance and control can be considered to exist. With respect to slippage/discards, these are mainly non quota or low economic value species, which are not for high-grading. The expert considers high-grading doesn't occur with anchovy or sardine. It is known to happen with herring and mackerel, but this fishery does not catch herring and has low catch of mackerel, which is probably covered by their quota. Furthermore, blue whiting is the main bycatch species, which is of low value. As such, the absence of non-conformities is based on effective</p>
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							<p>compliance, given that discarding for motives other than high-grading is legal up to 2015. The data will need to be reviewed once the full discard ban is in force from 2015 onwards.</p> <p>PI 3.2.4 The Directorate General for Fishing Resources and Aquaculture delivers its annual Research Plan, which includes the activities undertaken by AZTI at the request of the Basque Government.</p> <p>The Basque Government is responsible for monitoring the Basque Fisheries and Oceanography Research in Spain. In addition, its Department of the Environment, Territorial Planning, Agriculture and Fisheries contracts AZTI to undertake research, development, and innovation work in sea and food related areas. This contract includes three projects supporting the monitoring and the assessment of the anchovy fishery, which are: Fisheries Monitoring, MPDH (BIOMAN DEPM survey), and PELAGICS.</p> <p>P3.2.5 a The anchovy management plan allows for a review of the fisheries situation. This management plan incorporates control and monitoring measures for fishery activities. It takes the biological aspects of fisheries into account to establish new measures that adapt to the stock status, based on the best scientific data provided yearly by the evaluation campaigns, statistics from the Member States involved in the fishery, and the results of the ICES evaluation committees, among others.</p>
9187	Major	72	CR-27.10.6.1 v.1.3	Rationale shall be presented to support the team's	Under 2.2.1 and the teams designation of 'Main' species, the rationale states that the percentage of discards will vary greatly	2.2.1	The text was clarified given that slippage was included. Total discard estimates

				conclusion	depending on whether slippage is included or not. But the rationale does not then go on to clarify what approach the team took to this, i.e. is slippage included and if so, does this change the percentages for the individual species. Also note that it is the mortality of species that will account for the percentage threshold for determining main. If all slipped catches are dead, then that weight should be part of the main calculation.		(including slippage) were considered in the analysis as the assessment team prefers to adopt a more precautionary approach and considers slippage fish as 100% mortality.
9189	Guidance	6	CR-27.5.1 v.1.2		On 10th July, Dankert W. Skagen was confirmed as part of the assessment team, as technical assessor with responsibility for Principle 1. However the PCDR (page 6) states that although he provides technical support, he is not part of the team. It is suggested to clarify whether or not he is part of the assessment team so requirements in sections CR6.1, CR27.5.1 and Annex CM can be considered adequately met.		We acknowledge that the announcement of the assessment team could have been misunderstood. However, Dankert W. Skagen was designated as technical assessor and not as one of the experts for the MSC Principles. The information was clarified in the PCDR. Dankert W. Skagen's role was to provide technical support for Lisa Borges during the reading and the justification of the draft scoring of Principle 1. He was not involved in the experts' main tasks (site visit and scoring).
9190	Guidance	6, 7, 8, 9	*N/A v.1.3	(blank)	The team states in: page 6, that announcement of the fishery was published in June 2013. However, actual year of announcement is 2014. page 6, that they use of the Default Assessment Tree included in v1.2 of the MSC CRs. However, actual CR version used is 1.3, as required and announced in MSC website. Page 7, that details of the conditions are provided in Section 6.3.1 of this report. Correct reference seems to be 6.3 (6.3.1 does not exist). Hyperlinks (pages 8-9) to CVs of assessment team and peer-reviewers do not work		We agree with the MSC reviewers. The mistakes have been corrected.
9191	Guidance	50	CR-27.10.6.1 v.1.3	Rationale shall be presented to support the team's conclusion	In PI1.1.1 SG(a), the team states that stock biomass has been above Blim since 2010 and it is presently at historical high levels. Although reference is adequately provided, there is not detailed information showing biomass trends. The MSC suggests to include some table or graphics showing biomass trends, as this would help to understand and support the conclusions of the team.	1.1.1	Biomass trends can be found at the ICES website. Some graphs has been added in PI 1.1.1 http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2014/2014/ane-bisc.pdf
9192	Minor	12,41	CR-27.12.1.3	27.12.1 The CAB shall	Section 5.2.3 does not consider the fact that other Spanish		Their traceability system is perfectly

			v.1.3	determine if the systems of tracking and tracing in the fishery are sufficient to make sure all fish and fish products identified and sold as certified by the fishery originate from the certified fishery. The CAB shall consider the following points and their associated risk for the integrity of certified products: 27.12.1.3 The opportunity of substitution of certified with noncertified fish prior to or at landing fraudulent claims from within and outside ther certified fishery.	vessels (as tabulated on page 12) not in the UoC are also fishing in the same area, or whether these vessels are also landing at the same ports and auctions. If vessels not included in the UoC are also landing at these ports and auctions, segregation systems need to be in place.		defined and implemented in the auction points included in the UC, which ensures the identification of the different vessels, and avoids any risks when it comes to whether or not they are included in the certification. This entire traceability section has been reviewed in order to provide a clearer picture of the tracking and tracing systems and their associated risks.
9193	Minor	41	CR-27.12.1.1 v.1.3	27.12.1 The CAB shall determine if the systems of tracking and tracing in the fishery are sufficient to make sure all fish and fish products identified and sold as certified by the fishery originate from the certified fishery. The CAB shall consider the following points and their associated risk for the integrity of certified products: 27.12.1.1 The systems in use.	The information on the label shown in Figure 12 does not specify whether the vessels are part of the MSC UoC, nor does the report mention a publicly available list that is updated to reflect any changes to the vessels in the UoC, so that buyers can find this information.		The label in figure 12 shows the name of a vessel that has unloaded at one of the auction points included in the certification (Cofradía de Laredo) The list of all the vessels that will be included in the certificate (Table 1 & 2 in this Appendix) will be published and available at all the auction points in the Cofradías included in the certificate. It is worth pointing out that the client group for this evaluation agrees on the auction points where the future MSC fish will be unloaded. The auction points are located at the same Cofradías where the assessed vessels are registered. That is, the same people manage the Cofradías and auction points.
9194	Guidance	42	CR-27.12.1.5 v.1.3	27.12.1 The CAB shall determine if the systems of tracking and tracing in the fishery are sufficient to	In clause 5.2.5 it should be mentioned that no transshipment is taking place.		The comment was added.



				<p>make sure all fish and fish products identified and sold as certified by the fishery originate from the certified fishery. The CAB shall consider the following points and their associated risk for the integrity of certified products:</p> <p>27.12.1.5 Any transshipment activities taking place.</p>		
9195	Minor	43	CR-27.12.2.1 v.1.3	<p>27.12.2 If the CAB determines the systems are sufficient, fish and fish products from the fishery may enter into further certified chains of custody and be eligible to carry the MSC ecolabel. The CAB shall determine:</p> <p>27.12.2.1 The scope of the fishery certificate, including the parties and categories of parties eligible to use the certificate and the point (s) at which chain of custody is needed. a. Chain of custody certification shall always be required following a change of ownership of the product to any party not covered by the fishery certificate. b. Chain of custody certification may be required at an earlier stage than change of ownership if the team determines that the systems</p>	<p>The last paragraph of section 5.3 should clearly define where the CoC commences. The current wording is confusing. Please clarify.</p>	<p>It has been rewritten to make the information clearer.</p>



				<p>within the fishery are not sufficient to make sure all fish and fish products identified as such by the fishery originate from the certified fishery. c. If the point where chain of custody certification is required is covered by the fishery certificate, the team shall determine the parties or category of parties covered by the fishery certificate that require chain of custody certification.</p>			
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Before Bureau Veritas published the **Final Report** we received the MSC TO review and report on compliance with the requirements:

Ref	Type	Page	Requirement	Reference	Details	PI	Conformity assessment body response
11218	Major	110	CR-27.10.6.1 v.1.3	Rationale shall be presented to support the team's conclusion	<p>The previously raised TO for PI 3.2.1 asked for further clarifications how the fishery specific management system had implicit (60), explicit (80) or well defined and measurable (100) objectives for both P1 and P2 at all levels.</p> <p>Although the amended rationale provides justification how the SG 100 level is not met, the rationale is still not sufficient to justify the SG80 levels with respect to P2. The current rationale specifically states that the overarching EU legislation has short and long term objectives defined for P2 but that the fishery specific management plan does not include those objectives.</p> <p>In order to meet SG 80, the fishery specific anagement plan needs to have explicit short and long term objectives defined consistent with achieving outcomes in P2.</p>	3.2.1	<p>The assessment team has re-considered the MSC comments reaching to the following conclusion: <i>Even though the management plan includes well-defined and measurable short and long-term objectives that are shown to be consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principle 1, but that is not the case for P2. As such, although this indicator may surpass SG80 for P1, it fall shorts for P2 objectives. Therefore, the overall evaluation gives a maximum score of SG75, and a condition is introduced.</i></p> <p>The justification of Table 3.2.1 has changed and a new condition (3) with an agreed action plan has been established.</p>

Appendix 4. Surveillance Frequency

The surveillance level has been determined following the MSC CR Requirements. The following criteria have been taken into consideration in order to calculate the surveillance score:

Criteria	Surveillance Score	Anchovy Fishery
1. Default Assessment tree used?		
Yes	0	X
No	2	
2. Number of conditions		
Zero conditions	0	
Between 1-5 conditions	1	X
More than 5	2	
3. Principle Level Scores		
≥ 85	0	X
< 85	2	
4. Conditions on outcome PIs?		
Yes	2	
No	0	X
TOTAL		1

The surveillance level (score of 1) has been evaluated as remote, following option 2, and the first surveillance audit will be conducted on site in one year.

Score from CR Table C3	Surveillance Category	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
1	Remote surveillance	On-site surveillance audit	Off-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit & recertification site visit

Appendix 5. Client Agreement

 OPEGUI <i>GIPUZKOAKO BAJURA ARRANTZA PRODUKTOREEN ERAKUNDEA</i>	 OPESCAYA BIZKAIKO BAJURAKO ARRAIN EKIZILEEN ELKARTEA	ORGANIZACIÓN DE PRODUCTORES DE PESCA DE BAJURA DE BIZKAIA
<hr/> <i>ORGANIZACIÓN DE PRODUCTORES DE PESCA DE BAJURA DE GIPUZKOA</i>	<hr/> <small>Báilén 7 bis, Isp. - Teléfono (94) 415 40 11 - 415 40 37 - Fax (94) 415 40 75 - C.I.F. 04821008 48013 BILBO / BILBAO</small>	

Donostia, 23 de marzo de 2015

Estimado Sr.:

En referencia a la propuesta de la Evaluación a presentar ante MSC para la certificación de la Pesquería de anchoa de cerco del Cantábrico, le comunico en nombre de OPEGUI y OPESCAYA la aceptación del informe público – Public Certification Report.

Atentamente,


OPEGUI

Fdo.: Miren Garmendia
Directora OPEGUI

Mirakontza Pasealekua, 9 20007 DONOSTIA. Telf: 943 451782 Fax: 943 455835 @: opegui@pegui.com

Appendix 6. List of vessel within the certificate

Tabla 1 List of vessels from Cofradía de Laredo (Cantabria)

Codigo buque	Nombre Embarcación	Matrícula	Folio	Población	Provincia
300	AITANA DEL MAR	ST.4	05-1,	LAREDO	CANTABRIA
303	BRAULIN	ST.2	03-96	LAREDO	CANTABRIA
305	JOSE Y TOMASA	ST.2	01-95	LAREDO	CANTABRIA
307	MADRE LUCIA	ST.2	01-02	LAREDO	CANTABRIA
310	NUESTRA MADRE JUANITA	ST.2	04-97	LAREDO	CANTABRIA
311	NUESTRO PADRE TONINO	ST.2	01-04	LAREDO	CANTABRIA
314	NUEVO PANELO VILLA	ST.2	06-97	LAREDO	CANRABRIA
315	NUEVO VIRGEN PODEROSA	GI-6	02-99	LAREDO	CANTABRIA

Tabla 2 List of vessel from Federación Cofradías de Pescadores Bizkaia & Federación Cofradías Pescadores de Gipuzkoa

Codigo buque	Nombre Embarcación	Matrícula	Folio	Población	Provincia
23.244	AMATXO	BI-2	01 96	BERMEO	BIZCAYA
21.353	BETI EUSKAL HERRIA	BI-1	3127	BERMEO	BIZCAYA
25.115	DEBA	ST-3	1 01	BERMEO	BIZCAYA
25.901	LEKANDA	BI-2	4 03	BERMEO	BIZCAYA
21.708	GOROSTIAGA HERMANOS	FE-1	1914	CIERVANA	BIZCAYA
24.977	GOROSTIAGA HERMANOS DOS	BI-3	3 01	CIERVANA	BIZCAYA
25.287	KALAMUA BI	BI-1	2 01	LEKEITIO	BIZCAYA
25.216	ONDARZABAL	BI-1	1 01	LEKEITIO	BIZCAYA
23.089	OSKARBI	BI-2	4 95	LEKEITIO	BIZCAYA
26.211	ONGI ETORI	BI-4	1 04	ONDARROA	BIZCAYA
26.157	GURE IMANOL	BI-3	2 04	SANTURCE	BIZCAYA
24.946	LAURA Y CRISTINA	BI-3	2 01	SANTURCE	BIZCAYA
25.315	AGUSTIN DEUNA	SS-3	1 02	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
25.608	AZKOITIA	SS-3	1 03	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
23.227	BERRIZ IRIGOIEN	SS-3	2 96	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
25.888	BERRIZ PATXIKU	SS-3	4 03	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
25.229	BETI PIEDAD	SS-3	4 01	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
22.332	IRIGOYEN BERRIA	SS-3	1 92	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
25.604	IZASKUN BERRIA	SS-3	2 02	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
25.233	KAXIMIRONA	SS-3	1 01	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA

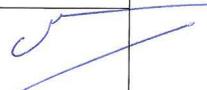
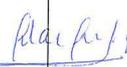
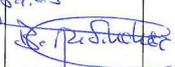
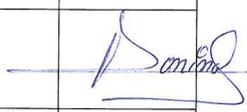
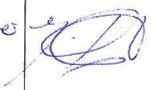
Codigo buque	Nombre Embarcación	Matrícula	Folio	Población	Provincia
25.616	MATER BI	SS-3	2 03	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
15.219	PEDRO JOSE BERRIA	SS-3	1406	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
24.179	SAN PRUDENTZIO BERRIA	SS-3	3 98	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
24.178	SANTA LUZIA HIRU	SS-3	4 98	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
24.170	SANTANA BERRIA	SS-3	5 98	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
25.234	STELLA MARIS BERRIA	SS-3	3 01	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
24.515	ALMIRANTE BERRIA	BI-2	6 99	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
25.232	ARRANTZALE	SS-1	3 01	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
25.606	ATTONA DOMINGO	SS-1	2 03	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
23.394	BERRIZ MATUTINA	SS-1	1 96	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
1677	GUADALUPECO AMA	SS-1	1378	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
25.568	GURE AITA JOXE	SS-1	3 02	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
24.653	GURE AMUITZ	SS-1	2 00	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
24.518	ITSAS EDER	SS-1	5 99	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
26.370	ITSAS LAGUNAK	SS-1	2 05	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
23.529	ITSASOAN	SS-1	1 97	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
23.467	LUIS BARRANKO	SS-1	3 96	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
23.830	NUEVO HORIZONTE ABIERTO	ST-3	2 98	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
22.639	NUEVO ROBER	ST-2	1 93	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
24.561	PITTAR	SS-1	4 99	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
25.996	SAN FERMIN BERRIA	SS-1	6 03	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
25.231	TUKU TUKU	SS-1	4 01	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
25.540	TXINGUDI	SS-1	1 03	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
25.310	BERRIZ AVE MARIA	SS-1	1 02	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
25.321	BETI AINGERU	SS-3	2 01	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
10.863	BETI SAN LUIS	SS-2	1868	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
26.064	GURE GOGOA	SS-1	2 04	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
24.630	MONTSERRAT BERRIA	SS-1	1 00	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
25.320	SAN ANTONIO BERRIA	SS-1	5 01	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
26.388	ANSIA	SS-1	1 05	PASAIA	GIPUZKOA

Appendix 7. Site visit attendances



1 al 4 de Septiembre 2014

LISTA DE ASISTENTES VISITA IN SITU

NOMBRE Y APELLIDOS	ORGANIZACIÓN Y POSICIÓN	EMAIL	FIRMA
Enrique de Cárdenas	SGP	edecarde@magrama.es	
Pilar Pareda	D.G.PA.	pareda_mpi@caubaiun.es	
Begoña Sánchez	TRAGSARZEC PESCAD CANTABRIA	b.sanchez@tragsar.es	
SAVIER LOUREIRO	COTADIA PROMOCIONES LABEDO	secretario@cpstanmarino.es	
CARLOS FERNANDO SAN MARTIN	NUFSTAO.PADRE TONINO		
ANTONIO SAN MARTIN SANCHEZ	NUFSTAO MADRE MUNICIPA		
LEIRE IBAIBARRIAGA	AZTI-TECNALIA	leibarrriaga@azti.es	
MARTIN ARANDA	AZTI-TECNALIA	maranda@azti.es	
ANDRES URIARTE	AZTI-TECNALIA	aurarte@azti.es	

CANTABRIAN SEA PURSE SEINE ANCHOVY FISHERY & BAY OF BISCAY PURSE SEINE SARDINE FISHERY



BUREAU
VERITAS

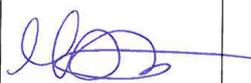
1 al 4 de Septiembre 2014

ATTENDANCE SITE VISIT LATVIA

NOMBRE Y APELLIDOS	ORGANIZACIÓN Y POSICIÓN	EMAIL	FIRMA
EUSEBIO ARANTZAMENDI	PRESIDENTE DE COFRADIA ONDARROA		
IRATZEN GARRIGONA CEBERIO	DIRECTORA OREGUI		
JOSU EZENARRO	SECRETARIO COFRADIA GETARIA		
2 IÑAKI ZUBULETA	Pt. Fidei. NERGA		

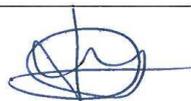
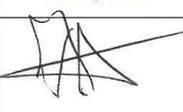
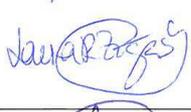
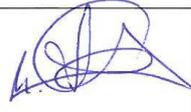
CANTABRIAN SEA PURSE SEINE ANCHOVY FISHERY & BAY OF BISCAY PURSE SEINE SARDINE FISHERY

ATTENDANCE SITE VISIT LATVIA

NOMBRE Y APELLIDOS	ORGANIZACIÓN Y POSICIÓN	EMAIL	FIRMA
Kaldo Arrese	Pesca Acuicultura	k-arrese@ej-gv.es	
Xabier Berrojalbiz	Área Jurídica Dirección Pesca	x-berrojalbiz@ej-gv.es	
Mauri González de Trabam.	Inspección Pesca	m-trabam@ej-gv.es	
ANDONI IDOIAGA	ESTRUCTURAS PESQUERAS	a-idoiaga@ej-gv.es	
MARIA DEL HICRO	S. General. de Contid. en Pesca	mdhiero@magrama.es	
JANE MATORRANO	S.º Genl de Control e Inspección (Dicho electrónico)	jmatorrano@magrama.es	
ANA ARTEAGA	S.G. DE CONTROL E INSPECCIÓN (PELAGICOS)	aarteaga@magrama.es	
BORJA CARMONA	S.G. DE CONTROL E INSPECCIÓN (DORADO)	bcarmona@magrama.es	

CANTABRIAN SEA PURSE SEINE ANCHOVY FISHERY & BAY OF BISCAY PURSE SEINE SARDINE FISHERY

ATTENDANCE SITE VISIT LATVIA

NOMBRE Y APELLIDOS	ORGANIZACIÓN Y POSICIÓN	EMAIL	FIRMA
JUAN LESTOJA	SUBD. GRAL. CONTROL E INSPECCION	jlestoj@wafpaua.es	
IGNACIO FONTANEDA	SQ CALADERO NACIONAL, AGUAS COMUNITARIAS Y AGRICULTURA	ifontane@mgc.mex.es	
HECTOR VILLA	SUBDIRECTOR GENERAL CONTROL E INSPECCION	hvillag@mgpaua.es	
4 LISA BONES	FISHFIX	INFO@FISHFIX.EU	
Luis Ambrosio	PROBITEC	lambrosio@probitec.es	
Laura Rodriguez	MSC	laura.rodriguez@msc.org	
Marcos Garcia	BVC	mcccrna.garcia@es.bureauveritas.com	

CANTABRIAN SEA PURSE SEINE ANCHOVY FISHERY & BAY OF BISCAY PURSE SEINE SARDINE FISHERY