

DCF national correspondents

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Our Ref: L.27/ACB/SLM/av

08 October 2019

Subject: Data call for ICES benchmark workshop for flatfish stocks in the Celtic and North Sea (WKFlatCSNS)

Dear DCF national correspondents,

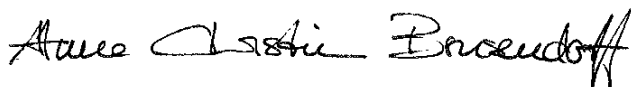
Please find enclosed a document describing the rationale, scope and technical details of this ICES data call on catches, biological samples, and survey data for the stocks: **Turbot (*Scophthalmus maximus*) in Subarea 27.3a (tur.27.3a), Sole (*Solea solea*) in Subarea 27.4 (sol.27.4), Sole (*Solea solea*) in Division 7d (sol.27.7d), Sole (*Solea solea*) in Divisions 7f and g (sol.27.7fg) and Sole (*Solea solea*) in Divisions 7h-k (sol.27.7h-k).**

The data will be used by the ICES benchmark workshop on flatfish stocks in the Celtic Sea and North Sea (WKFlatCSNS). The data can also be used for other future ICES activities in relation to fisheries management advice.

The data requested will be analysed and used only for scientific evaluation of the stock status and advice. For countries which are also EU Members States this data call is under the DCF regulation ((EC) No 199/2008). For support concerning InterCatch issues please contact: InterCatchsupport@ices.dk. In case of questions please contact the ICES Secretariat (advice@ices.dk and sarah-louise.millar@ices.dk) for clarification.

The data call is also available from the ICES website at: <http://ices.dk/marine-data/tools/Pages/Data-calls.aspx>

Sincerely,



Anne Christine Brusendorff
General Secretary

cc: Timothy Earl and Meaghan Bryan (WKFlatCSNS chairs), Venetia Kostopoulou (DG-Mare, DCF); Bas Drukker (DG-Mare, DCF); Laura Simonayte (Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania.

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Data call: Data submission for ICES benchmark of selected stocks under WKFlatCSNS 2020

1. Scope of the Data Call

Landings and discards (catches), sample and biological information, effort, survey, and potential additional data should be provided for turbot in 3a, sole in 4, sole in 7d, sole in 7f and g, and sole in 7h-k.

2. Rationale

This data call supports the work to be made during the ICES Benchmark Workshop for Celtic Sea and North Sea flat fish stocks (WKFlatCSNS). The end product of the benchmark workshop will be an agreed set of data and assessment methodology to be used in future update assessments to provide advice for this stock. The data will be used for exploratory analyses and stock assessment.

3. Legal framework

Generically, all governments and intergovernmental commissions requesting and receiving advice from ICES have signed international agreements under UNCLOS 1995 Fish Stocks agreement article 5 and 6 to incorporate fisheries impacts on other components of marine ecosystems and WSSD 2002 article 30 to implement an ecosystem approach in relation to oceans policy including fisheries.

For EU Member States, this data call is under the DCF Regulation ((EC) No 2017/1004 and Commission Decision 2016/1251/EU) and in particular, Article 17(3) of regulation (EC) No 2017/1004 which states *"...requests made by end-users of scientific data in order to serve as a basis for advice to fisheries management,*

¹ * United Nations (UN). 2011. Agreement related to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks. Available at: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N95/274/67/PDF/N9527467.pdf?OpenElement>

Member States shall ensure that relevant detailed and aggregated data are updated and made available to the relevant end-users of scientific data within the deadlines set in the request..."

4. Deadline

The deadline to deliver the data is 08 November 2019. **Data submitted after this date cannot be processed and will not be taken into account at the WKFlatCSNS meeting.**

5. Data to report

5.1. Stocks

Turbot (*Scophthalmus maximus*) in Subarea 27.3a (tur.27.3a), Sole (*Solea solea*) in Subarea 27.4 (sol.27.4), Sole (*Solea solea*) in Division 7d (sol.27.7d), Sole (*Solea solea*) in Divisions 7f and g (sol.27.7fg) and Sole (*Solea solea*) in Divisions 7h-k (sol.27.7h-k).

5.2. Geographical and temporal scope

Temporal scope for landings, discards, biological sample data, and effort data:

-sol.27.7fg, tur.27.3a, sol.27.4, and sol.27.7h-k: 2002-2018

-sol.27.7d: 2016-2018

Temporal scope for survey data;

-sol.27.7fg: 2002-2018.

-tur.27.3a, sol.27.4, and sol.27.7h-k: "as far back in time as possible".

-sol.27.7d: no survey data requested

Geographical scope is found in Table 1. Data are expected to be disaggregated by ICES Division. For turbot, data should be disaggregated by ICES Subdivision (i.e. divided into Skagerrak (3a.20) and Kattegat (3a.21).

Table 1: List of ICES areas and species

Area	Area code	Species
Skagerrak	27.3a.20	Turbot
Kattegat	27.3a.21	Turbot
North Sea	27.4	
Eastern English Channel	27.7.d	Sole
Bristol channel	27.7.f	Sole
Celtic Sea North	27.7.g	Sole
Celtic Sea South	27.7.h	Sole

Southwest of Ireland - East	27.7.j	Sole
Southwest of Ireland - West	27.7.k	Sole

5.3. Catch and biological data

1. Time series of landings, discards, and effort data should be provided on a quarterly basis and imported into InterCatch if not already imported. For sol.27.7d, only French data from 2016-2018 is requested on all ages, not combining any of the older ages.
2. Sample information: the number, mean weight at age and length should be imported to InterCatch. The number of length and age measurements should also be imported (including the fields: SampledCatch, NumSamplesLngt, NumLngtMeas, NumSamplesAge, NumAgeMeas) per quarter.
3. Any **tagging data/information** or genetic analysis available to differentiate stocks in the North Atlantic and exchange rates between them (any format). The files should be sent directly to data.call@ices.dk. The file should be named "WKFlatCSNS_STOCK_CODE_tagging".
4. Time series of maturity at age and maturity at length (ogives) data which are not already included in DATRAS. (Proportion of mature individuals per age/length class per year and quarter). The information on which maturity stage key has been used should also be provided. The data file should be sent directly to data.call@ices.dk. The file should be named "WKFlatCSNS_STOCK_CODE_maturity". Maturity at age/length data based on commercial samplings can also be uploaded in InterCatch together with other age based information. See: <https://vocab.ices.dk/?ref=361>.

a. Indices

Indices from national surveys (see Table 2) that can be used to derive relative abundance indices (by age). One file per survey should be submitted to data.call@ices.dk with the name "WKFlatCSNS_STOCK_CODE_[SURVEY_NAME]". The associated information on the survey design and index calculations can also be included in this file.

Table 2: Survey indices required

Stock	Survey
sol.27.4	Dutch BTS
	Belgian BTS
	SNS-Q3
tur.27.3a	NS-IBTS
	BITS
sol.27.7fg	UK_Q1SWBeam
	UK-BTS-Q3
sol.27.7h-k	Any available

National commercial CPUE indices (Table 3) that can be used to derive relative abundance and biomass trends (by age). Alternative standardized and non-standardized indices should also be submitted based on different effort units (e.g., kw-days, fishing hours, days at sea). One file per survey should be submitted to data.call@ices.dk with the name “WKFlatCSNS_STOCK_CODE_[NATIONAL_INDEX_NAME]”. The associated information on the survey design and index calculations can also be included in this file.

Table 3: Commercial CPUE indices required

Stock	CPUE index
sol.27.4	Any available
tur.27.3a	Any available
sol.27.7fg	UK-CBT
	BE-CBT
sol.27.7h-k	Any available

b. Additional data

1. Stock weights from fisheries-independent sources are required if available. The name of the file to be submitted to data.call@ices.dk should be “WKFlatCSNS_STOCK_NAME_stock_weights”.
2. If landings, discards, sample information and effort data exists prior to 2002 and has not previously been submitted to ICES, this would be useful information for the benchmark and should be submitted to InterCatch where possible.
3. Any data on natural mortality per age (e.g., from tagging studies) are beneficial if available. The name of the file to be submitted to data.call@ices.dk should be “WKFlatCSNS_STOCK_NAME_nat_mort”.

6. Data submission

Data on landings and discards (catches) and biological sample data should be uploaded to InterCatch, which is available at this link: <https://intercatch.ices.dk/Login.aspx>. Please see the ‘InterCatch Exchange Format Manual’ on the ICES website for information on the required exchange format and used codes at <http://www.ices.dk/marine-data/data-portals/Pages/InterCatch.aspx>. For discard data, the data source should also be provided (e.g. “information from fishery”, “expert judgment”, “sampling”, “self-sampling” etc.) using the SI comment field, field number 23 “InfoStockCoordinator”. Use the following link: <http://intercatch.ices.dk> for uploading to InterCatch.

Survey, effort and additional data should be submitted to the ICES Secretariat via email (data.call@ices.dk). Survey data are requested as excel files without specific format, although explicit headers and an accompanying description of the data format or working documents are requested.

7. Contact information

For support concerning the data call please contact: WKFlatCSNS chair Timothy Earl (timothy.earl@cefas.co.uk) and the ICES Advisory Department (advice@ices.dk).

For support concerning InterCatch issues please contact: InterCatchSupport@ices.dk

For support concerning other data issues, please contact: data.call@ices.dk

IMPORTANT:

- If discard data are unavailable, there should be no entry for discards. A value of “zero” should only be entered when zero discards have been observed.