

## 12.4.6 Advice on catches and landings

ICES advice on fishing opportunities is provided in different forms, depending on the amount of information available on catches and landings.

**Table 12.4.6.1** Overview of when ICES advice is provided on catches and when on landings, depending on available data.

Advice on	Available data	Comments
Catches	Data on total catches	For stocks with data available on total catches, ICES provides catch advice. This may include stocks for which only landings data are available, but for which all available information indicates that discarding is negligible (less than 5% of the total catch).
Catches, with information on the corresponding landings and discard numbers	Data on landings and discards	For stocks with data available on landings and discards, ICES provides catch advice with information on the corresponding landings and discard numbers, assuming an unchanged fishing pattern. For stocks where a discard ban or landing obligation has been introduced recently ICES may use the terminology “wanted” and “unwanted” catch until reliable information on discards and landings becomes available. “Wanted catch” refers to the part of the catch that would be landed in the absence of a discard ban or landing obligation. “Unwanted catch” refers to the part of the catch that would be discarded in the absence of a discard ban or landing obligation.
Catches, with information on the corresponding landings numbers above and below the minimum conservation reference size/minimum catching size (MCS), and on discards*	Data on landings above and below MCS, and discards	For stocks subject to discard bans or landing obligations and with data available on landings above and below MCS and on discards, ICES provides catch advice with information on the corresponding landings above and below MCS, and on discard numbers.
Landings	Landings	For stocks with data available on landings only and with the possibility of discarding taking place, ICES provides advice on landings.

\* To date implemented only for *Nephrops* stocks in the North Sea.