

## Argentina hake - bottom trawl

### Overview

#### FIP Description

The Argentine hake (*Merluccius hubbsi*) bottom trawl - freezing fleet - FIP is being implemented by **Pedro Moscuzza e Hijos S.A, Estrella Patagonica S.A., Grupo Iberconsa de Argentina S.A., Giorno S.A., Pescasol S.A., Costa Marina S.A. and Pesquera Comercial S.A.** with the technical support of **CeDePesca**. The FIP aims to achieve a certifiable status for the fishery against the MSC standard in the shortest timeframe possible.

Argentine hake (*Merluccius hubbsi*) is a demersal-pelagic species that inhabits cold waters related to sub-antarctic currents. It is one of the leading fishing resources in the Argentine Sea. The Southern stock of the species is distributed between 41°S and 48°S. The industrial fishery is comprised of two main fleets: the freezing fleet and the chilling fleet. Both fleets use bottom trawls as fishing gear. The fishery is managed by the Fisheries Federal Council (Consejo Federal Pesquero) and the National Secretariat for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería y Pesca de la Nación), while research and stock assessments are undertaken by the National Institute of Fisheries Research and Development (Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo Pesquero).

The harvest strategy consists of different elements including management measures related to the control of fishing effort (e.g. fishing quotas, fishing zones, closures), surveillance and control measures (e.g. vessel satellite monitoring, inspection of landings, catch certificates), fishery monitoring (e.g. landing statistics, onboard observer programs, scientific research campaigns) and assessments of the status of the stock through mathematical models.

### How is this FIP Doing?

**Current Status:**

28%

38%

34%

**Actions Progress** This shows the proportion of actions in the workplan that the FIP has completed.

0%

**Actions Overview** This shows the proportion of actions that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
0%	100%	0%	0%

**Red Indicator Progress** This shows the proportion of actions specifically addressing red indicators that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started. This helps users understand the progress the FIP is making on the biggest challenges in the fishery.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
0%	100%	0%	0%

#### FIP Progress Rating

A - Advanced Progress

#### FIP Objective(s)

The main objective of the Argentine hake (*Merluccius hubbsi*) bottom trawl - freezing fleet - FIP is to achieve a certifiable status of the fishery against the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) standard by March 2025. To this end, the FIP has the following specific objectives:

- Achieve the establishment of explicit, well-defined harvest control rules.
- Achieve the definition of a limit reference point for the southern stock of Argentine hake and the periodic peer review of the stock assessment.
- Promote the continuity and regularity of research campaigns directed at the Argentine hake stock.
- Collect additional data on the interactions of the Argentine hake fishery with other components of the ecosystem through the implementation of a Private On-Board Observer Program.
- Support the development of research activities related to the improvement of the selectivity of fishing gears to reduce bycatch.
- Promote the adoption of a Recovery Plan for pink cuskeel.
- Ensure the improvement of the fishery-specific management system, including the periodic evaluation of its performance.
- Promote the bilateral cooperation between Argentina and Spain within the framework of the existing Memorandum of Understanding for the Sustainable Management of the Argentine hake fishery in the area adjacent to the Argentine EEZ.

**FIP Type**

Comprehensive

**FIP Stage**

Stage 4: Improvements in Fishing Practices or Fishery Management

**Start and Projected End Dates**

April, 2022 -

March, 2027

**Species****Common Name**

Argentine Hake

**Scientific Name**

Merluccius hubbsi

**Gear Type**

[Bottom Trawl](#)

**Location****FAO Major Fishing Area**

[Area 41 \(Atlantic, Southwest\)](#)

**Exclusive Economic Zones****Country**

Argentina

**Geographic Scope**

south of parallel 41°S

**Country Flag of Vessel**

Argentina

**Estimated Total FIP Landings**

82285 metric tons

**FIP Leads**

**Organization Name**

CeDePesca

**Organization Type**

NGO

**Primary Contact**

Ángel DIAZ LUGO

**Email**

[angel.diaz@cedepesca.net](mailto:angel.diaz@cedepesca.net)

**Website Name**

[www.cedepesca.net](http://www.cedepesca.net)

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