

UK European plaice & lemon sole - seine/trawl

Overview

FIP Description

Project UK is working towards an environmentally sustainable future for UK fisheries by running Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs) on 12 UK fisheries that have been selected by the UK seafood supply chain. They were selected due to their importance for the UK market.

Project UK has been developed in response to the demand from the supply chain, retailers, industry and NGOs. The project will commission an MSC pre-assessment to inform and develop an action plan for each fishery, which will identify improvements.

Plaice and Lemon sole are demersal flatfish species generally living on sandy substrates but may also be found on mud and gravel and stony bottoms. They are shallow water species found from the near coast as juveniles down to around 200m in northern waters. Plaice are widely distributed on the continental shelf from the Bay of Biscay in the south through the English Channel, North Sea and Irish Sea to the Baltic, Iceland, the Norwegian coast and Barents Sea in the north.

TACs are set for the North Sea Plaice fishery. Around 93% of this TAC was allocated to the EU. The UK share (initial allocation) accounts for around 26% of the total TAC.

TACs are set for the North Sea Lemon Sole fishery. In 2015 the TAC was 6,391 tonnes. 100% of this TAC was allocated to the EU. The UK share (initial allocation) accounts for around 61% of the total TAC.

The 3 Units of Assessment (Demersal Trawl, Beam Trawl and Seine) operate in different locations of the North Sea

How is this FIP Doing?

Current Status:

43%

57%

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

14%

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

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
29%	57%	14%	0%

FIP Progress Rating

A - Advanced Progress

FIP Objective(s)

By April 2022, the FIP aims to address the following:

- Meet the 80+ score for each MSC performance indicator within 5 years (April 2017- 2022) and be able to enter MSC full assessment.
- Support fisheries with the tools to implement changes and ensure their sustainable future as they move towards MSC certification
- Follow the step by step definition of a credible FIP involving four key stages, each with associated tools & support mechanisms:
 1. Undertake MSC pre-assessment
 2. Develop an action plan for improvement
 3. Implement actions & track progress
 4. Enter full MSC assessment
- Address and aim to improve all principle indicators scoring below 80 across the MSC as determined in the pre-assessments
- Use the model to establish a 'FIP conveyor belt' to identify, improve and certify UK fisheries
- Track progress consistently and transparently, producing review reports on an annual basis using a consultant body

FIP Type

Comprehensive

FIP Stage

Stage 4: Improvements in Fishing Practices or Fishery Management

Start and Projected End Dates

April, 2017 -

April, 2022

Species

Common Name

European Plaice

Scientific Name

Pleuronectes platessus

Common Name

Lemon Sole

Scientific Name

Microstomus kitt

Gear Type

[Bottom Trawl](#)

[Otter Trawl](#)

[Seine](#)

Location

FAO Major Fishing Area

[Area 27 \(Atlantic, Northeast\)](#)

Exclusive Economic Zones

Country

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the)

Geographic Scope

ICES area 3a, 4 and 7d

Estimated Total FIP Landings

1285 metric tons

FIP Leads

Organization Name

Facilitated by the Marine Stewardship Council

Organization Type

Other

Primary Contact

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Email

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Website Name

[Seafish - Project UK Fisheries Improvements](#)

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