

# NORWEGIAN SPRING-SPAWNING HERRING

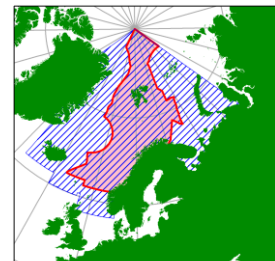
(The Northeast Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean)

Sub-areas 1, 2 and 5 and in Divisions 4.a and 14.a



## ADVICE FOR 2024

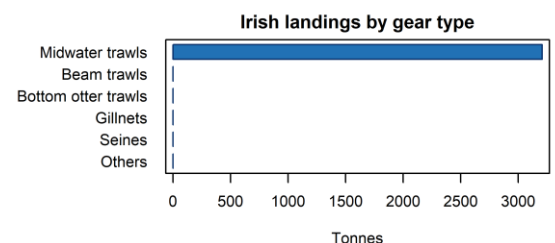
ICES advises that when the long-term management strategy agreed by the UK, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, and the European Union is applied, catches in 2024 should be no more than 390,010 t.



□ TAC/Management area  
▨ Assessment area

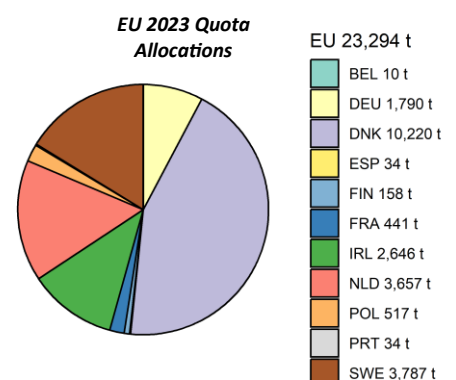
## KEY POINTS

ICES Assessment Category	I (Quantitative Assessment)	
Management Plan	Yes (EU, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, and Russia in 2018 and subsequently by the UK in 2020).	
Advice Basis	Management plan	Catch = 390,010 t
Ranges	$F_{MSY}$ Range Lower	Not Appropriate
	$F_{MSY} = F_{PA}$	Catch = 487,686 t
	$F_{MSY}$ Range Upper	Not Appropriate
Landing Obligation	From 2015	No derogations or exemptions relevant to Ireland



## MANAGEMENT IN 2023

- A long term management strategy (LTMS) was agreed by Coastal States; the EU, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, and Russia in 2018 and subsequently by the UK in 2020.
- ICES considers that the HCR proposed for the LTMS is consistent with the precautionary approach.
- Since 2013, there has been no agreement by the Coastal States on TAC sharing. This has led to unilaterally set quotas, which together are higher than the TAC indicated by the management plan.
- In 2023, the sum of the declared national quotas is 692,942 t, which is above the ICES advice of 511,171 t.
- The Irish quota is allocated to a small number of vessels on a lottery basis.
- EU access to the Norwegian sector where the most fishable aggregations occur is negotiated on a yearly basis. The Irish quota is not useable without EU access to the Norwegian EEZ.



## KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- The stock is showing a declining trend since 2008; SSB is estimated to be above  $MSY B_{trigger}$  in 2023 but is projected to decline below  $MSY B_{trigger}$  in 2024. SSB is also predicted to remain below  $MSY B_{trigger}$  in 2025 even if the management plan is applied in 2024.
- Fishing mortality has increased since 2015 and is estimated to be above  $F_{MSY}$  in 2022.
- The advice is based on the target fishing mortality in the long-term management strategy, but it does not take into account the deviations from the plan as evident from the sum of declared unilateral quotas.

- The 2016 year-class is expected to dominate the catches in 2024 and the subsequent year classes recruiting to the fishery are estimated to be weak.

**Herring (*Clupea harengus*) in subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a, Norwegian spring-spawning herring (the Northeast Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean)**

**ICES advice on fishing opportunities**

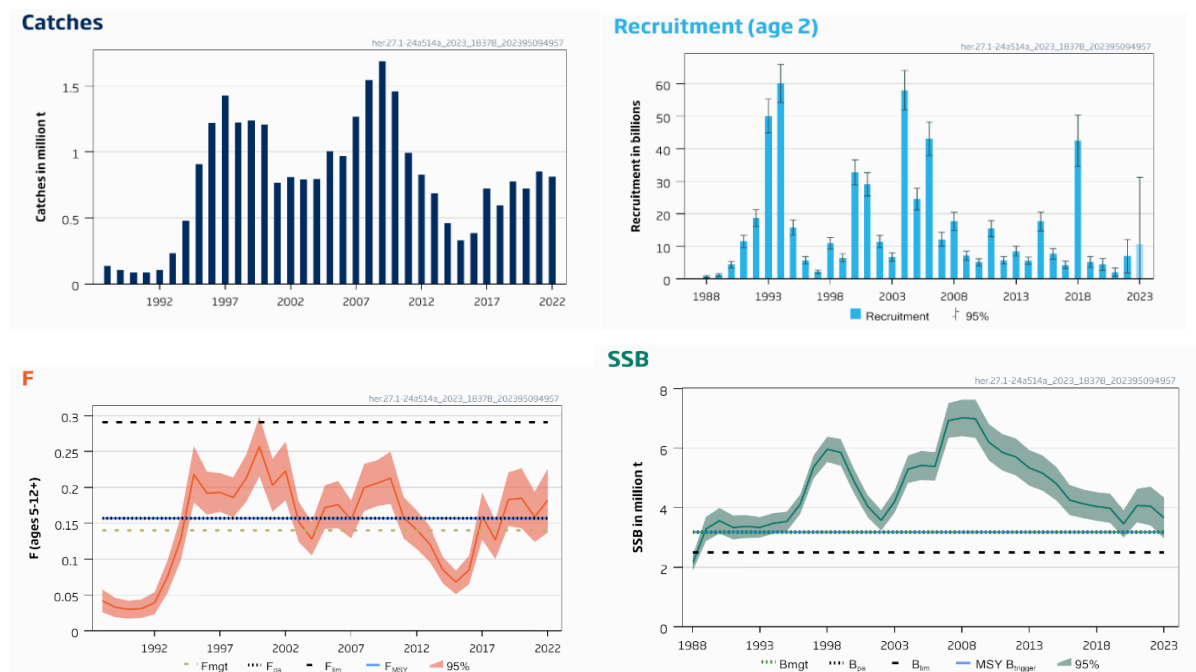
ICES advises that when the long-term management strategy agreed by the UK, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, and the European Union is applied, catches in 2024 should be no more than 390 010 tonnes.

**ICES advice on conservation aspects**

ICES has not identified any conservation aspects.

**Stock development over time**

Fishing pressure on the stock is above  $F_{MSY}$  and between  $F_{pa}$  and  $F_{lim}$ , and spawning-stock size is above  $MSY B_{trigger}$ ,  $B_{pa}$ , and  $B_{lim}$ .



**Figure 1** Herring in subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a (Norwegian spring-spawning herring). Summary of the stock assessment. The assumed recruitment value for 2023 is shaded in a lighter colour.