ClientEarth

Annex V: Historical changes to the TAC analysis¹

TAC codes are based on the relevant TAC Regulations, advice codes are based on the pdf-file names of the ICES advice.

Throughout the update of the analysis for the 2024 edition of the Taking stock report a number of small errors in the historical time series were discovered and corrected, resulting in changed values for some of the metrics in some of the years. Previous corrections already applied in the 2023 edition of the report can be found in Annex V to that report.² However, the overall trends and conclusions remain unaffected by these corrections.

The main changes made for the present report compared to previous editions of this report are listed in this Annex. None of the corrections were retrospectively applied to previous editions of this report.

Corrections regarding TAC or advice figures

- Irish Sea common sole (SOL/07A.): One entry regarding the direction of the advised TAC change for 2021-2022 was corrected from "increase" to "rollover", since the advised increase was smaller than +2.5% (any changes between -2.5% and +2.5% were considered a "rollover" throughout the analysis).
- Common sole in the Cantabrian Sea and Atlantic Iberian waters (SOO/8CDE34): One entry
 regarding regarding the direction of the agreed TAC change for 2020-2021 was corrected from "rollover"
 to "cut".
- Celtic Sea cod (COD/7XAD34): An error in the 2019 entry for the TAC level was corrected (from 1717 t to 1610 t).
- Celtic Sea whiting (WHG/7X7A-C):
 - An error in the calculation of the advice figure for 2023 corresponding to this TAC was discovered and corrected. The 8450 t referring to area 7d which was derived from the trilateral agreed written record had erroneously been added on top of the TAC figure for WHG/7X7A-C, even though this amount was already included that figure (which had also been the case in previous years, 2023 merely being the first year in which this split was explicitly specified in the agreed written record). The advice figure was corrected from 18100 t (= 9650 t + 8450) to just 9650 t. This has not affected the number of TACs above versus in line with/below the advice, but may have slightly improved percentage-based metrics for 2023.
 - One entry regarding the direction of the agreed TAC change for 2022-2023 was corrected from "increase" to "cut".
 - Whereas the WHG/7X7A-C TAC was previously compared to the sum of the advice for Celtic Sea whiting and whiting in the eastern English Channel (7d), footnotes were introduced in the agreed written record and TAC Regulation for 2024 which now allow for a direct comparison between the part of that TAC referring to Celtic Sea whiting and the corresponding advice. The 2024 TAC/advice comparison was therefore changed accordingly, whereas the comparison for previous years remained the same as no stock-specific footnotes were available before 2024.

¹ Full report available on: https://www.clientearth.org/latest/documents/taking-stock-2024-are-tacs-set-to-achieve-msy/.

² ClientEarth (2023). Taking stock 2023 – are TACs set to achieve MSY? Annex V. https://www.clientearth.org/latest/documents/taking-stock-2023-are-tacs-set-to-achieve-msy-annex-v/.

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