**European plaice**

**North Sea and Skagerrak**

**FISHERY PROFILE**

| FIPS | EU/Norway | Denmark | Trammel nets |

**ASSESSMENT**

**Strenghts**
- A precautionary plaice and sole management plan is in operation; goal of stage one (recovery plan) is achieved. The plaice spawning stock is at a historical high and increasing further.
- Mixed fisheries advice takes into consideration the status of other North Sea species.
- Uncertainty in the assessment has been resolved.

**Weaknesses**
- Bottom trawls, with high bycatch rates and impacts on the seafloor, dominate catches.
- Rules of the second stage of the management plan are not yet defined.
- Changes in management measures have contributed to increased discarding of undersized plaice in the southern North Sea.

**SCORES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management Quality</th>
<th>Managers Compliance</th>
<th>Fishers Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 6 ≥ 8</td>
<td>8.6 to 10</td>
<td>9.1 to 10</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stock Health</th>
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<tr>
<td>Current Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt; 6 ≤ 10</td>
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</table>

**FIPS**

For related FPs:

**MSC**

- DFIPS Denmark North Sea & Skagerrak hake and plaice: MSC Certified

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Monitor the progress in closing out conditions placed upon the MSC certification of the fishery and if agreed timelines are met, offer assistance in closing conditions where possible.