**European hake**

**NE Atlantic southern stock**

- **Fishery:** NE Atlantic southern stock, EU 8c, 9a, 10, Portugal, Bottom trawls

**ASSESSMENT**

**Strengths**
- Spawning stock biomass (SSB) and recruitment have increased in recent years, although recruitment in 2008 is lower than in previous years and estimated to be poor.
- SSB has been slowly increasing since 2004 and close to B_{lim} in 2009.

**Weaknesses**
- The implementation of the recovery plan has not been effective. Fishing mortality has been increasing and the TAC has been overshot every year of the plan. Landings in 2008 including Cadiz were estimated to be 16,740 t, more than 2 times above the TAC for Southern Stock.
- Further, discard rates are high.
- A 10% annual reduction in fishing mortality had been achieved since 2006 according to the recovery plan, the fishing mortality in 2010 would be at target F of 0.22.
- The recovery plan has not been evaluated by ICES (2009a).

**SCORES**

- **Management Quality:**
  - Management Strategy: 8.7
  - Managers Compliance: 0

- **Stock Health:**
  - Current Health: 4.3
  - Future Health: ≥ 6

- **FIPS:** No related FPs

- **MSC:** No related MSC fisheries

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- **CATCHERS & REGULATORS:**
  - Please provide links to publicly available information on this fishery via the “Feedback” tab.
  - To apply to develop/update content for this profile register and log in and follow the links to “contribute to” / ”edit this profile”. If you need more information, please use the “Contact Us” button above, and reference the full name of this profile.

- **RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN:**
  - This profile is currently at the top of our priority list for development and/or update, and we will at this time provide an accurate prediction of when it will be developed. To speed up an evaluation of the sustainability status of non-prioritized fisheries we have initiated a program whereby industry can directly contract SFP-approved analysts to develop a FishSource profile on a fishery. More information on this External Contributor Program is available [here](https://www.fishsource.org/fishery_page/4192).

**RELATED LINKS:**
- European Commission (EC)
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)