



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 6 December 2021  
(OR. en)

14749/21

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**Interinstitutional File:**  
**2021/0345(NLE)**

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PECHE 474

**NOTE**

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Proposal for a Council Regulation fixing for 2022 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in Union waters and for Union fishing vessels in certain non-Union waters <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commission non-paper</li></ul>

Delegations will find attached a Commission non-paper on the above-mentioned proposal.

# COMMISSION SERVICES NON PAPER

**6 DECEMBER 2021**

*This document serves as a basis for discussion at the Working Party on Internal and External Fisheries Policy.*

*It cannot in any circumstances be regarded as the official position of the Commission.*

*It is intended solely for those to whom it is addressed.*

## **Updates to Commission Proposal for a Council Regulation fixing for 2022 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in Union waters and for Union fishing vessels in certain non-Union waters (COM(2021) 661)**

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## 1. AMENDMENTS IN RELATION TO SOUTHERN HORSE MACKEREL

### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The South Western Waters and Pelagic Advisory Councils agreed on a management plan for Horse Mackerel (*Trachurus trachurus*) in ICES Division 9. This management plan was deemed precautionary by ICES. A catch option based on the plan was included in the catch options table published as part of the ICES advice on 18 June 2021. In its proposal, the Commission proposed to set the TAC for 2022 in line with that advice. However, both Advisory Councils have since communicated to the Commission, that they wish to amend the management plan to incorporate the recent redefinition by ICES of the fishing mortality value that gives the long-term MSY ( $F_{MSY}$ ) from 0.11 to 0.15, and that the plan cannot be applied until that amendment is concluded. Until an amended management plan is agreed and assuming that amended plan will still be deemed precautionary by ICES, the Commission proposes that the TAC should be set based on the MSY approach, where catches in 2022 should be no more than 143 505 tonnes. A landing obligation exemption deduction of -4.34% is also applied to that figure, to arrive at a Union quota of 137 277 tonnes.

AMENDMENTS TO ANNEX IA

In Annex IA, Part A of the Commission Proposal, the twenty-fourth fishing opportunities table is replaced by the following:

“

Species:	Horse mackerel	Zone:	9
	<i>Trachurus spp.</i>		(JAX/09.)
Spain	35 516	(1)	Analytical TAC
Portugal	101 761	(1)	Article 7(2) of this Regulation applies
Union	137 277		
TAC	143 505		
(1)	Special condition: up to pm % of this quota may be fished in 8c (JAX/*08C.).		

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