

Obligation to land all Catches of  
Regulated species

**The Landing Obligation  
(Discard ban)**



Established in 1943

## Leading from the front in 2016



Visit our news site to keep up to date with the issues affecting the catching, processing and aquaculture sectors as and when they happen.  
[www.fishnewseu.com](http://www.fishnewseu.com)

We offer a Private Healthcare Scheme managed by BUPA offering expert health advice & support to fishermen & their families.



[www.swfpa.com](http://www.swfpa.com)

01346 585 367 [lianne@swfpa.com](mailto:lianne@swfpa.com)

# Information sites

- <http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/the-landing-obligation-the-discards-ban->
- [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/landing-obligation/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/landing-obligation/index_en.htm)
- <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Sea-Fisheries/discards>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fisheries-management-landing-obligation>

# What is the Landing obligation?

- A **NEW** piece of **EU law** that make fishermen fully accountable for what they catch rather than what they land to market.

**The complete reverse of previous law, which:**

- Made it illegal to land fish for which a vessel had no quota

# The Magnitude of change

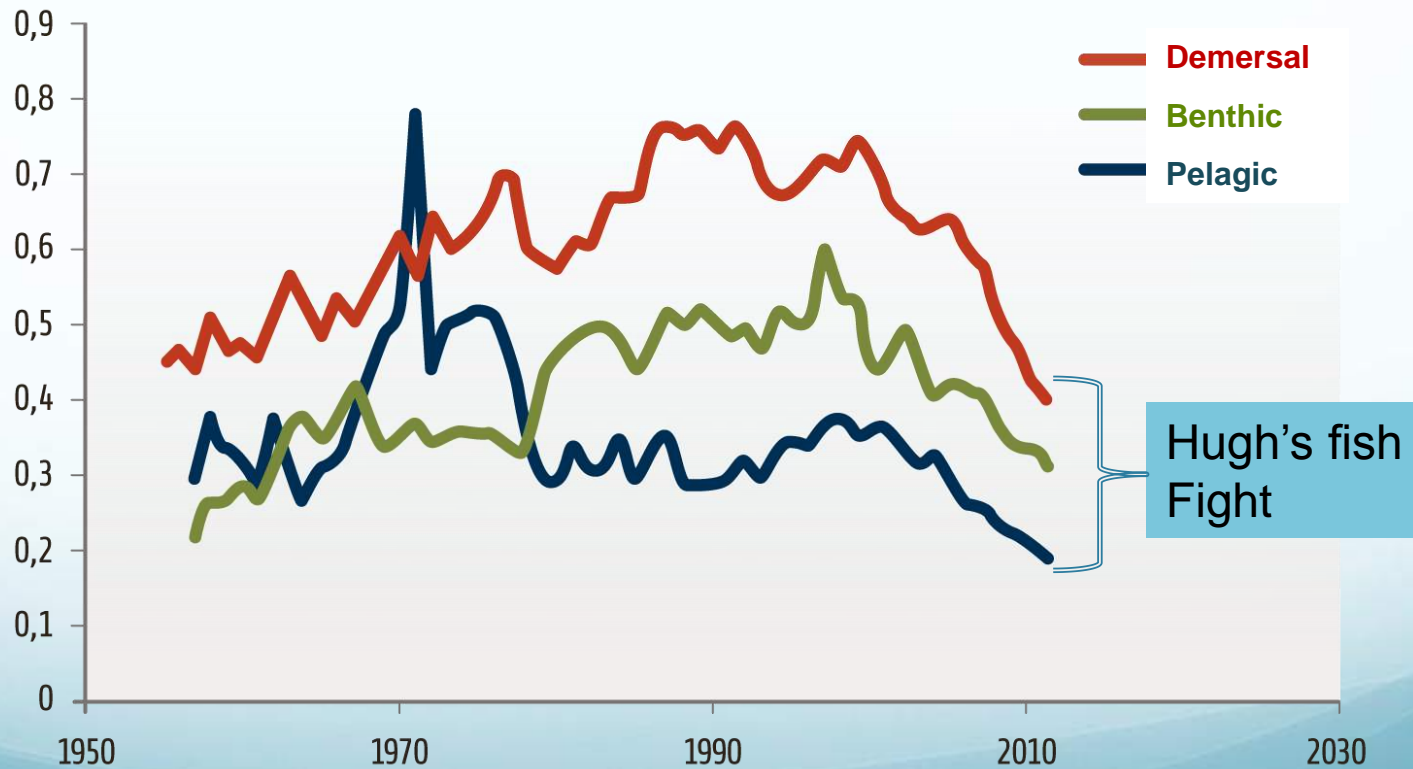


# Why are we here?

- CFP Reform
- Mixed message - Confused discussion
- Political solution to a practical problem (co-decision with the Parliament and Council )
- Pretty much ignored the direction of travel

# Trends in Mortality

## Fishing Mortality

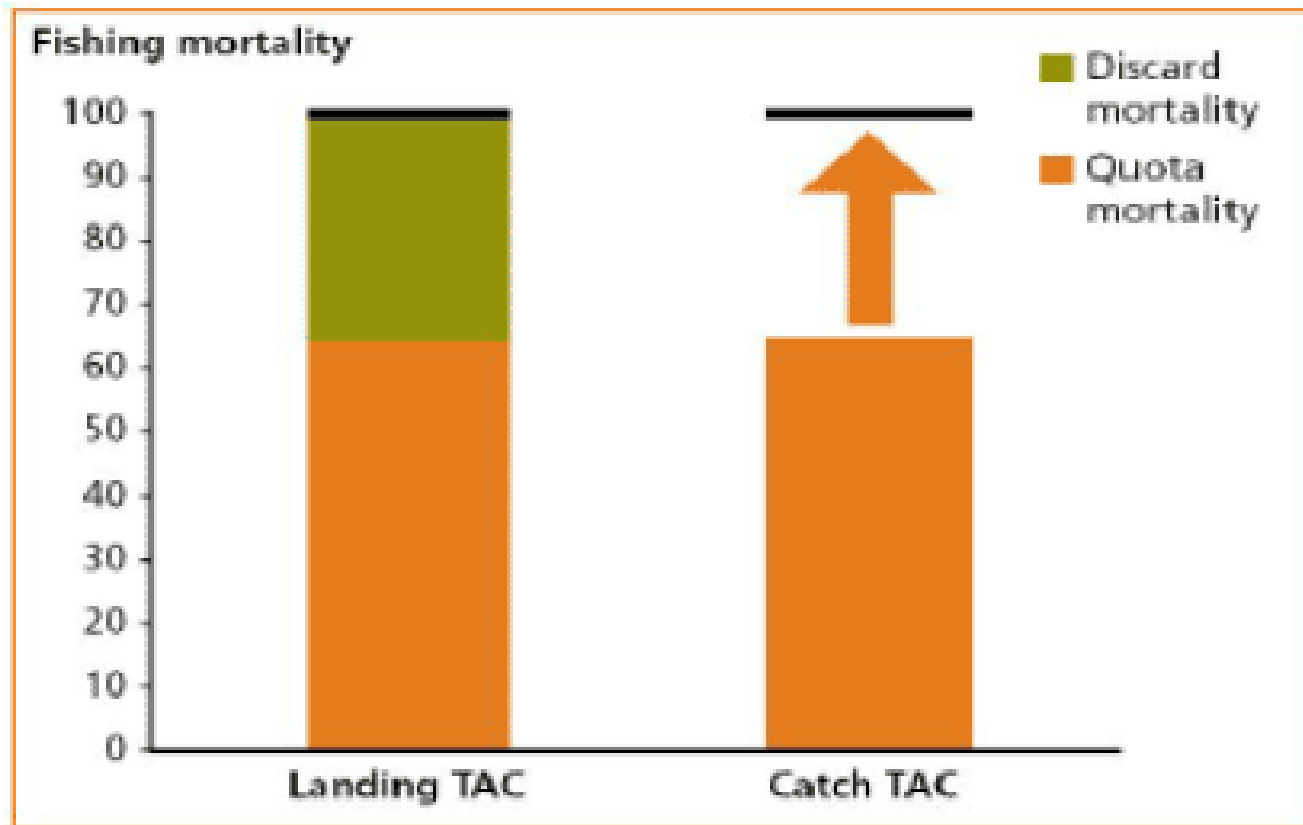


# Why is it such a challenge

- Marries new world approach with historic legacies such as:
  - Relative stability – Set shares of Total Allowable Catches (TACs) – Takes no account of regime shift
  - Single species management – relative abundances change from year to year
  - Economic models built on securing an economic return from **all the available quota** (at the vessel level)



# Change In Approach



# Threats

- The chocking of fisheries – Early closures – reduced income/economic failure
- Return to an anarchic past – culture of non-compliance – lack of on-sea monitoring
- Increased mortality – vessels continue to discard while landing more to the market
- Breakdown in relationships – fishermen/science/managers

# Choke Examples

	2015 starting allocation	2015 final allocation (a)	Discard rate	2015 estimated catch (b)	Estimated shortfall	Choke point (% of year)
Hake	574t	2,800t	80%	13,500t	10,700t	26%
Saithe	5,249t	9,000t	40%	15,000t	6,000t	60%

# Court Appearances

- 11 Offences over a four year period

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Date of Detection</b>	<b>Date in Court</b>
Mis recording Black Scabbard	05/02/12	23/07/14
Failure to submit e-logs	20/04/12	Not recorded
Under declaration of Cod on e-log	03/10/12	04/11/14
Obstruction of BSFO	16/03/13	10/10/14
Retention after closure	17/10/13	21/04/15
Retention after closure	09/10/13	21/04/15
Retention after closure	09/12/13	15/08/14
Failure to submit sales notes	30/09/13	Not recorded
Retention after closure	29/10/14	20/07/15
Failure to comply with e-logs	27/06/14	not recorded
Retention after closure	10/12/14	10/07/15
Breach of licence conditions - electrofishing	22/04/15	17/12/15

2012  
2013  
2014  
2015

2  
5  
3  
1

# Opportunities

- Stimulus for change – Provides an economic opportunity – requires improved avoidance and selectivity
- **Should** provide a more complete picture on the stocks due to total catches being recorded
- Greater awareness of international dimensions – improved quota exchange

# Where we are!

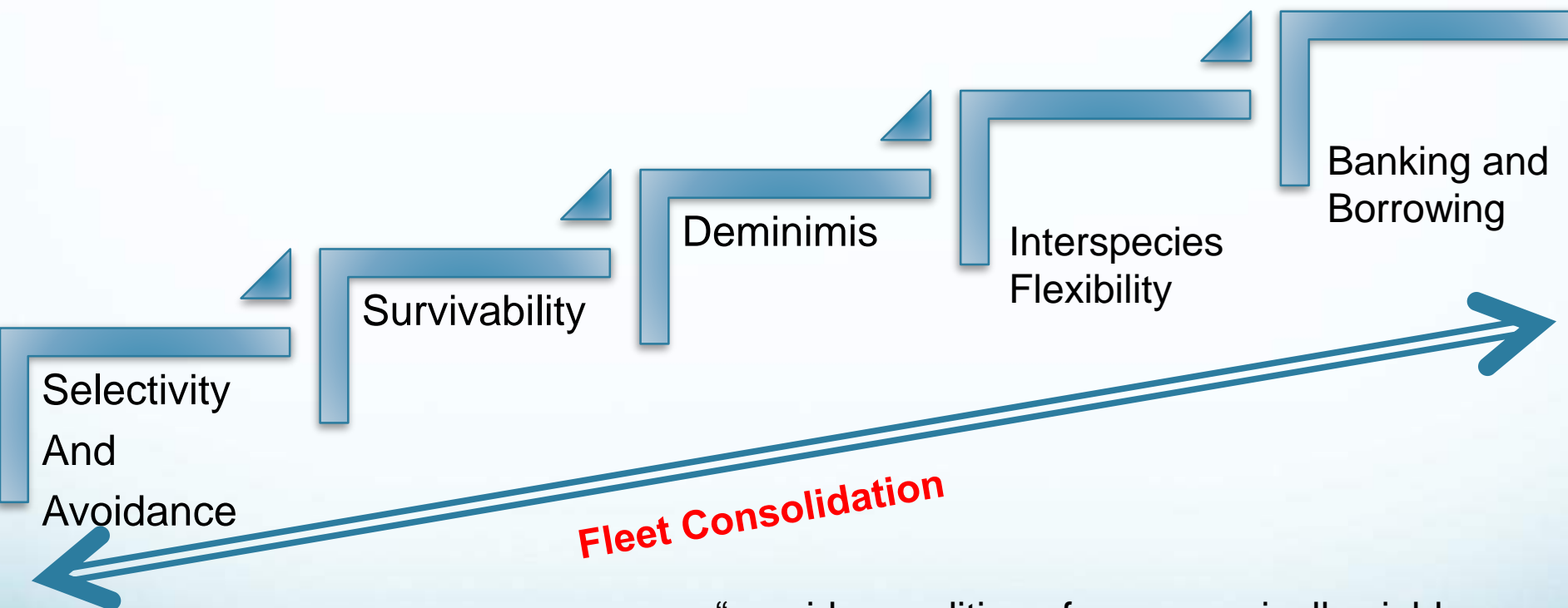
- Agreement to phase the introduction
- Picking the low-hanging, least problematic stocks
- Gathering information through 2016
- Removing unhelpful regulations and law such as the cod plan and various elements of existing technical measures
- Discussing how best to use assisting mechanisms



WELL, HE NEVER FIT IN, SO  
THIS IS HOW HE WANTED  
TO BE REMEMBERED.



# Making it fit!



“provide conditions for economically viable and competitive fishing capture and processing industry and land-based fishing related activity;”



# Deliverables

- Fishing opportunities allocated to Member States shall ensure **relative stability of fishing activities** of each Member State for each fish stock or fishery. The interests of each Member State shall be taken into account when new fishing opportunities are allocated.
- Provide conditions for **economically viable and competitive fishing** capture and processing industry and land-based fishing related activity
- Subject to scientific advice and without jeopardising the objectives of **maximum sustainable yield** or increasing fishing mortality, where the landing obligation, including the obligation to document catches, applies, an increase of related fishing opportunities should be possible, in order to take into account the fact that fish previously discarded will be landed.

# Information sites

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- <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Sea-Fisheries/discards>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fisheries-management-landing-obligation>