

FISHERIES



Consultation on Fishing Opportunities



**European
Commission**
Maritime Affairs
and Fisheries

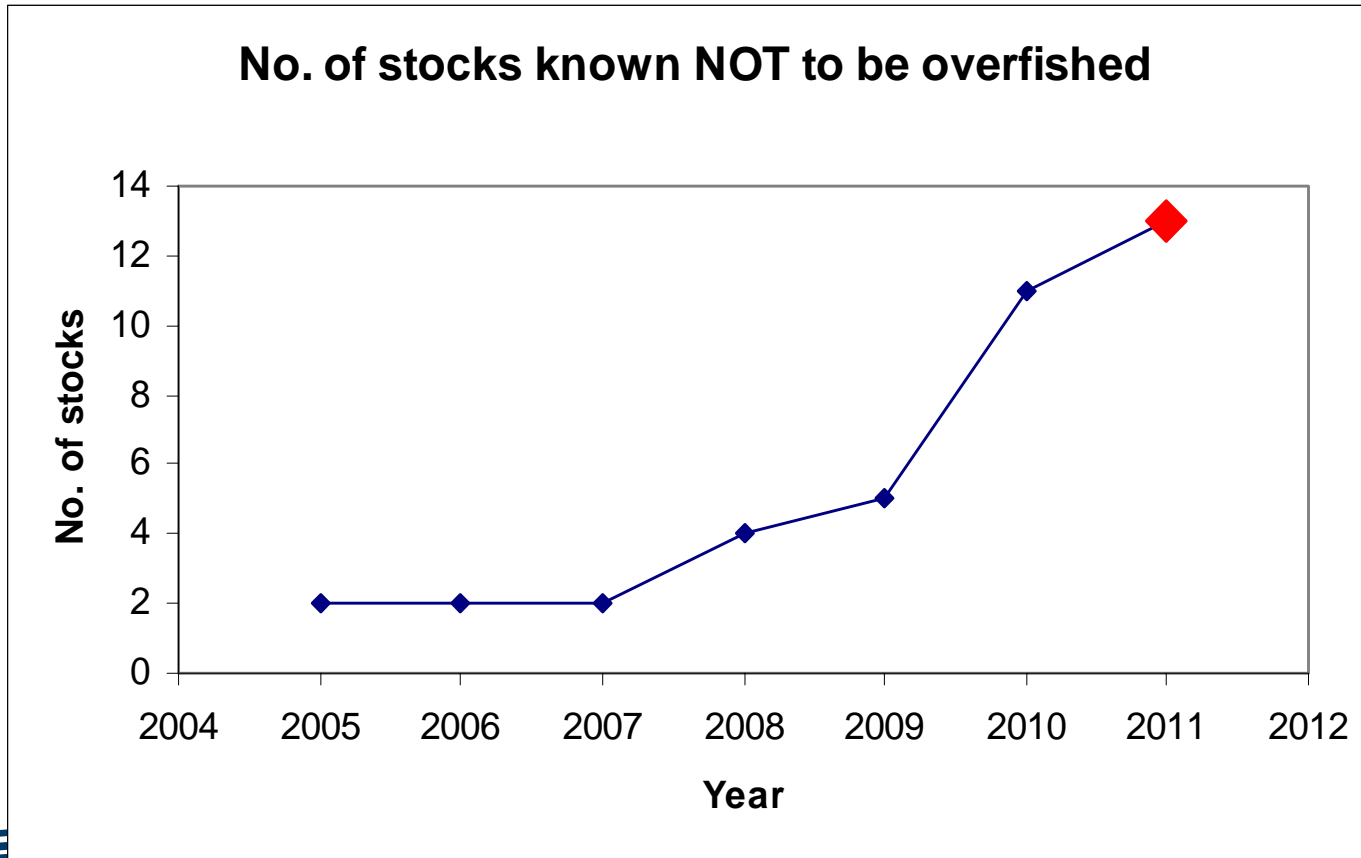
25 May 2011

Setting fish quotas and effort levels

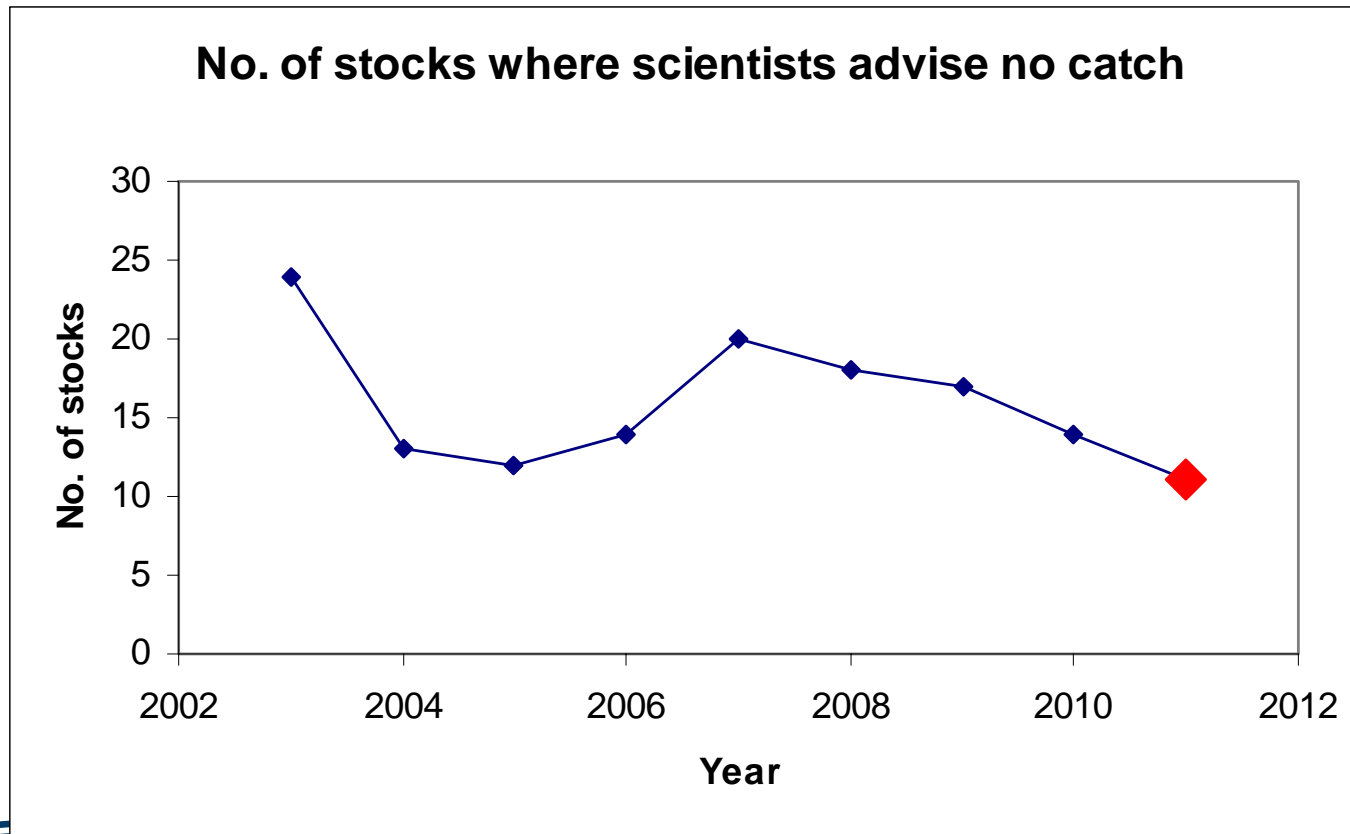
- **The Commission is consulting the sector, the public, and Member States on methods for setting TACs**
- **To reach MSY 2015 we have to do more**
- **No longer acceptable to fish in ignorance**



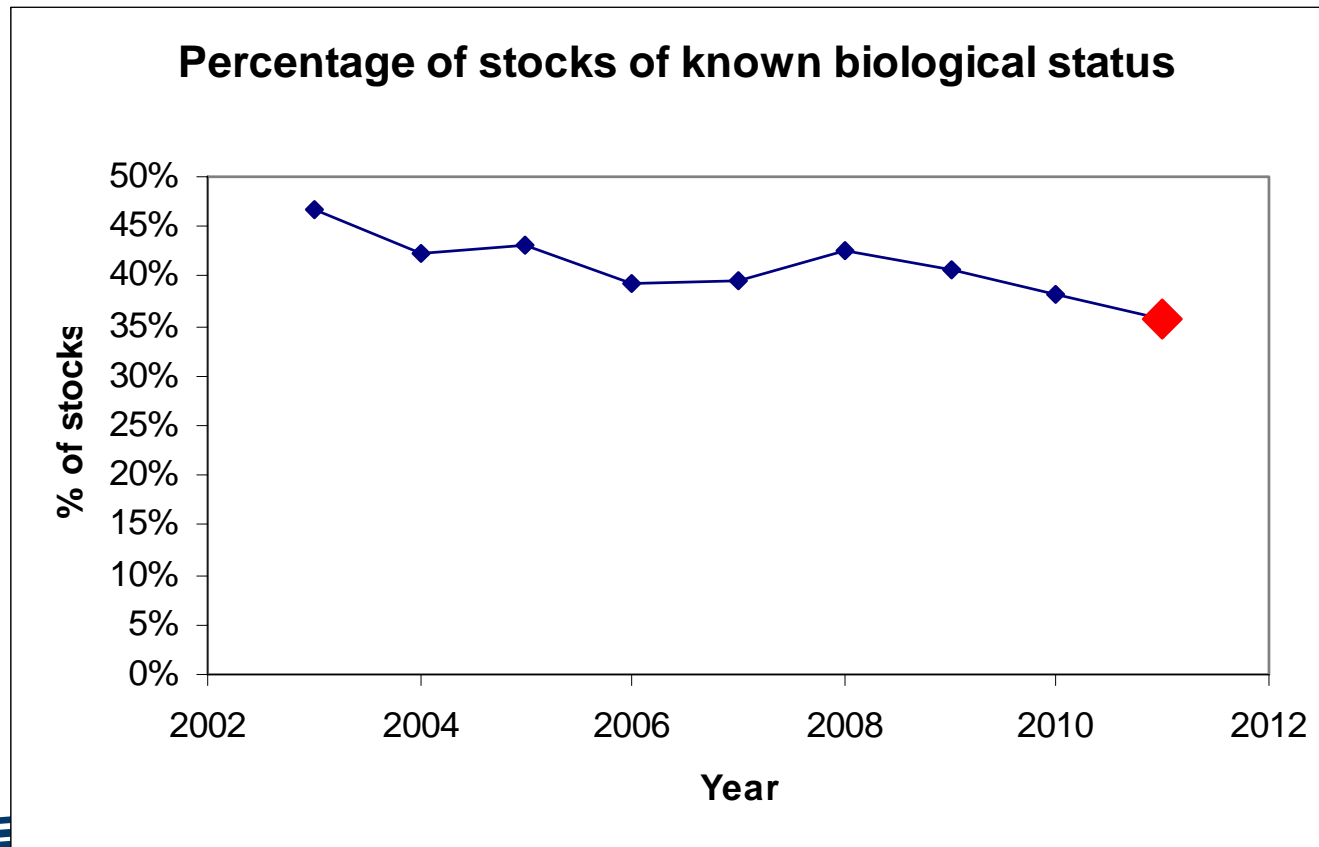
More stocks are being fished with sustainable yields...



Fewer stocks are under « closure » advice ...



Unfortunately, monitoring of stocks by Member States is not good and is not improving.



Economic analysis:

- **30% to 40% of EU fishing fleet have negative long-term profitability : income is not enough to cover all their expenses.**
- **10% to 20% of EU fishing fleet have negative cash-flow: income is not enough to cover short-term operational costs such as fuel and labour.**



What's new this year ?

- **Simpler working methods**
- **Follow scientific advice to achieve MSY.**
- **Where data submitted by Member States are inadequate, this needs to be urgently redressed. In the meantime, quotas need to be reduced until sustainable fishing levels are known.**



Why do we need these changes?

- **Compliance with Johannesburg MSY objective.**
- **Rebuild stocks and improve catches.**
- **Fisheries will become more profitable in longer term – many fleets are now fishing at a loss.**
- **Reducing fishing intensity will reduce impacts on marine environment, lower fuel costs and allow stocks to rebuild so that yields can increase.**
- **This will help reduce discards.**



Guidelines for proposing TACs and effort

- **Implement long-term plans**
- **Fix TACs according to scientific advice on MSY, as soon as possible and no later than 2015.**
- **In data-poor situations,**
 - reduce TACs by 25% until we know that catches are sustainable;
 - the necessary data should be collected urgently;



Next Steps

- **Commission has opened a public consultation on the internet.**
- **Stakeholders will be consulted in Regional Advisory Committees and Advisory Committee for Fisheries and Aquaculture.**
- **Consultation of Member States kicked off today.**
- **Commission received scientific advice beginning June and is now working on TAC and quota proposals.**



Thank you

