

MarinTrust Improver Programme: 6-month update template

In this document the applicant should outline progress made towards the actions listed in the Fishery Action Plan (FAP) as part of the Fishery Improvement Project (FIP). This should be aligned with the MarinTrust Assessment criteria where possible. The progress actions should be updated in the following tables, and the relevant evidence linked to. It is important that evidence documents are publicly available. This will be checked by MarinTrust and then verified by the peer reviewers during the annual peer review process based on evidence submitted by the applicant.

For the 6-month report, it is not required to provide an update on all actions. The FIP is required to provide updates on actions where demonstrable progress has been made since the last reporting (the last 6 months).

FIP name	NE Atlantic Blue Whiting
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Template guidelines

To help ensure the review process can be carried out effectively and efficiently:

- Include specific citations to the evidence that substantiates it. This should include the exact page numbers and paragraph references where the evidence can be found.
- Where possible, include a hyperlink to any evidence referenced.
- Ensure that the supporting evidence documents are easily accessible and well-organised. They should be available in a format that allows for easy navigation, such as a table of contents, bookmarks, or an index.
- Use clear and concise language when referring to evidence to make it easy for readers to grasp why a particular piece of evidence supports a specific progress claim.

Note: MarinTrust will host all evidence documents on the MarinTrust FIP profiles. If there are any confidential and or draft documents that the applicant does not want made public, this should be made clear in the report.

IP 6-month update

Use the below tables to provide an update on actions in the Fishery Action Plan with links to relevant evidence documents. Additional lines may be added where necessary.

Example table

MT clause	Action in plan	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
M1.1	Provide the original action as outlined in the action plan.	Provide an update on this action since the last report.	Provide a link to any evidence and/or summarise relevant points for actions or updates.	What is the current status of this action (i.e. complete, pending, ongoing)	Provide any additional information here.
M1.2					
Add rows to each table as necessary					

M – Management Framework and Surveillance, Control and Enforcement

MT clause	Action in plan	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

A – Category A: Data Collection, Stock Assessment, Harvest Strategy and Stock Status

MT clause	Action in plan	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
A- 3.2 Total fishery removals of this species do	1. Engagement to Ensure Robust Harvest Strategies Adopted and Implemented		NAPA's Membership continues to grow over time and now exceeds 70 Members. NAPA's	Ongoing	In the face of no obvious movement from the Coastal State Governments towards

<p>not regularly exceed the level indicated or stated in the stock assessment. Where a specific quantity of removals is recommended, the actual removals may exceed this by up to 10% ONLY if the stock status is above the limit reference point or proxy.</p>			<p>network, reach and influence has expanded accordingly. Letters to Fisheries Ministers Letters to HoDs Open letter to the Press (October 2023) NASF NAPA attends the CS Negotiation plenary meetings and distributes the information from those meetings to the NAPA Partners by email summary and presentations. Steering Committee Meetings were held: November and December 2023; January, and March 2024. All partner meetings were held: December 2023 and April 2024. NAPA and NAPA Members (Cargill,</p>		<p>a comprehensive sharing arrangement, NAPA has reviewed its governance with a view to identifying where it may exert more influence on decision-makers in coming months. As this is a Work In Progress, that detail is not provided here until the new structure is defined, along with a revised approach.</p>
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			Skretting) hosted a NAPA seminar at the North Atlantic Seafood Summit to set out the issues and challenges affecting the blue whiting fishery and in turn the aquafeed and farmed salmon sector. This is part of a targeted blue whiting campaign focused on the Norwegian Government and the market.		
	2. Dispute settlement legal framework and consultation processes		NEAFC Meeting Opening Statement (November 2023) Emphasises the importance of taking action and having “an effective and responsive dispute resolution procedure, and supported by a strong science-policy interface”; NAPA is	Ongoing	As above.

			engaged with the NEAFC through a group of NGO Observers within which NAPA provides comment to NEAFC on its activities, including the WG on the Future of NEAFC.		
	3. Effective decision-making processes		Above evidence relates to this with respect to the Coastal States, Coastal State national Governments, and NEAFC	Ongoing	As above.
	4. Ensure KDE information is collected on vessels supplying MarinTrust factories			Pending	As above.

B – Category B Stock Status

MT clause	Action in plan	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

C – Category C Stock Status

MT clause	Action in plan	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

D – Impacts On Species Categorised as Vulnerable by D1-D3

MT clause	Action in plan	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

F – Impacts on ETP Species, Impacts on Habitats and Ecosystem Impacts

MT clause	Action in plan	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Additional Information

The following section is for any information provided by the fishery in support of this 6-month update which does not relate directly to any of the information above, but which is relevant to the ongoing monitoring of fishery management status.

Strategically 2024 is an important year for NAPA as the NAPA FIPs were initiated in 2021 and planned to run for a 3-year period. This has created a period of review within NAPA, through the Steering Committee, in an attempt to assess the continuing need for the Group, opportunities to improve influence through a more targeted approach and to define a way forward that will carry more likelihood of a successful outcome for the pelagic fisheries of interest to the NAPA Group, including Blue whiting. This review period is coming to an end and NAPA will shortly be in a position to publicise the way forward. As a consequence of this, and the continuing challenges with the Coastal States’ intransigence to making progress on a sharing agreement, this 6-month report presents evidence in line with that provided

in the most recent annual report (September 2023), but expectations are that – should the FIPs continue – there will be a more targeted and complex approach in the future.