

Fisheries at Marine Scotland Science



NESFDP Meeting, Woodhill House, Aberdeen
24 March 2023

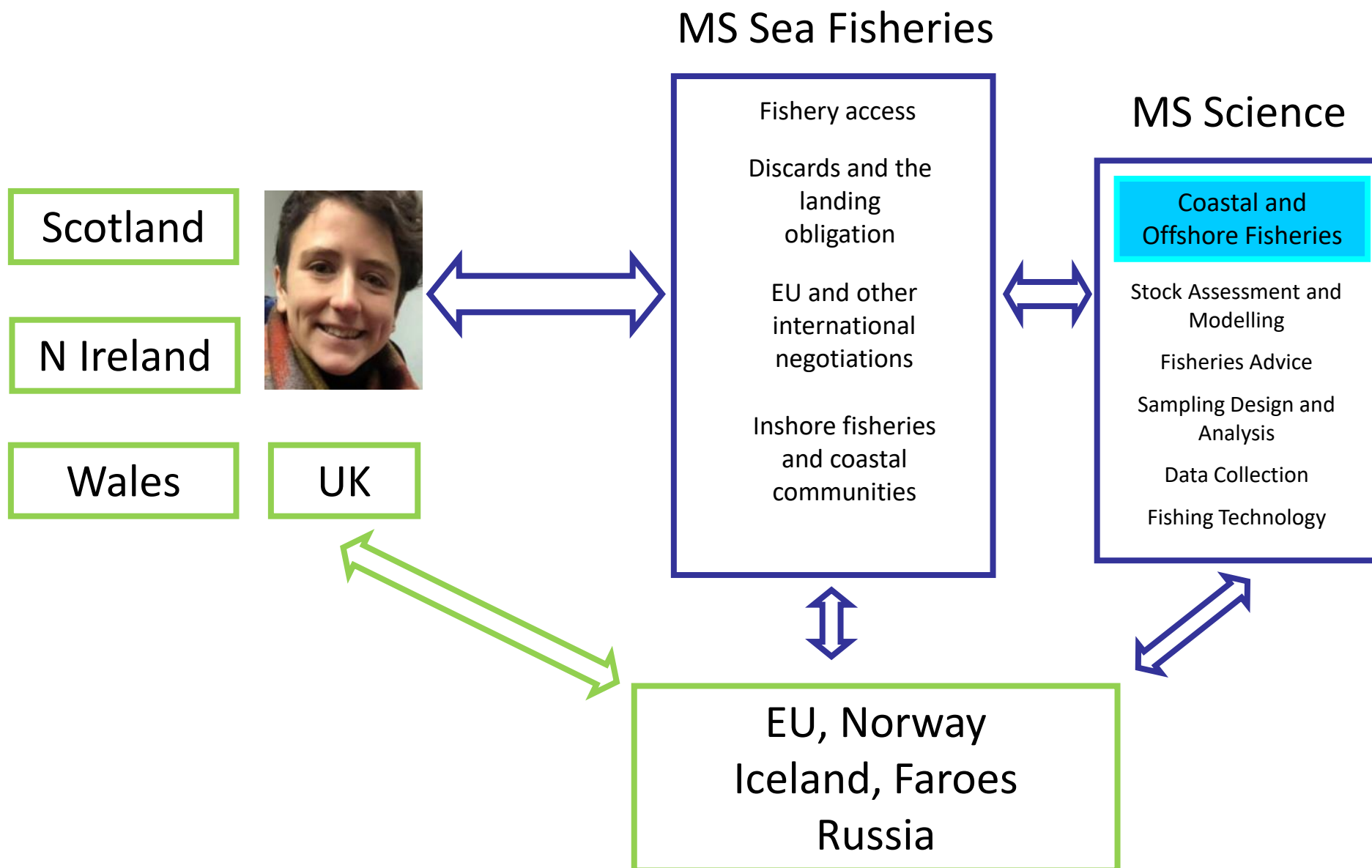
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science

Fisheries at Marine Scotland Science

- Currently two main Programmes:
 - Fisheries Assessment and Advice (FAA)
 - Fisheries Data Programme (FD)
- Objective:
 - To provide **innovative science** and **sound advice** to managers and stakeholders which leads to **sustainable sea fisheries** and enhances the potential for **economic growth**.



Context of research and advice



Key commercial species

(2020 value of landings by Scottish-registered vessels)

Pelagic



Herring (£26m)



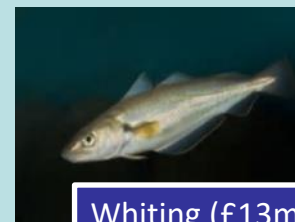
Mackerel (£175m)



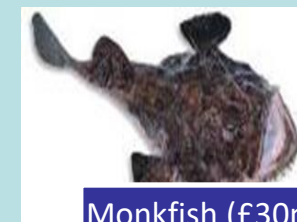
Cod (£24m)



Haddock (£33m)



Whiting (£13m)



Monkfish (£30m)



Saithe (£8m)



Hake (£9m)



Megrim (£9m)



Ling (£6m)

Demersal



Nephrops (£47m)



Scallops (£28m)



Crab (£14m)

Shellfish



Lobster (£14m)



Squid (£8m)

Key commercial fleets (2020)

Pelagic



22 vessels
Average 60 m

Whitefish



132 vessels
Average 23 m

Mixed Whitefish and Nephrops



358 vessels
Average 14 m

Inshore

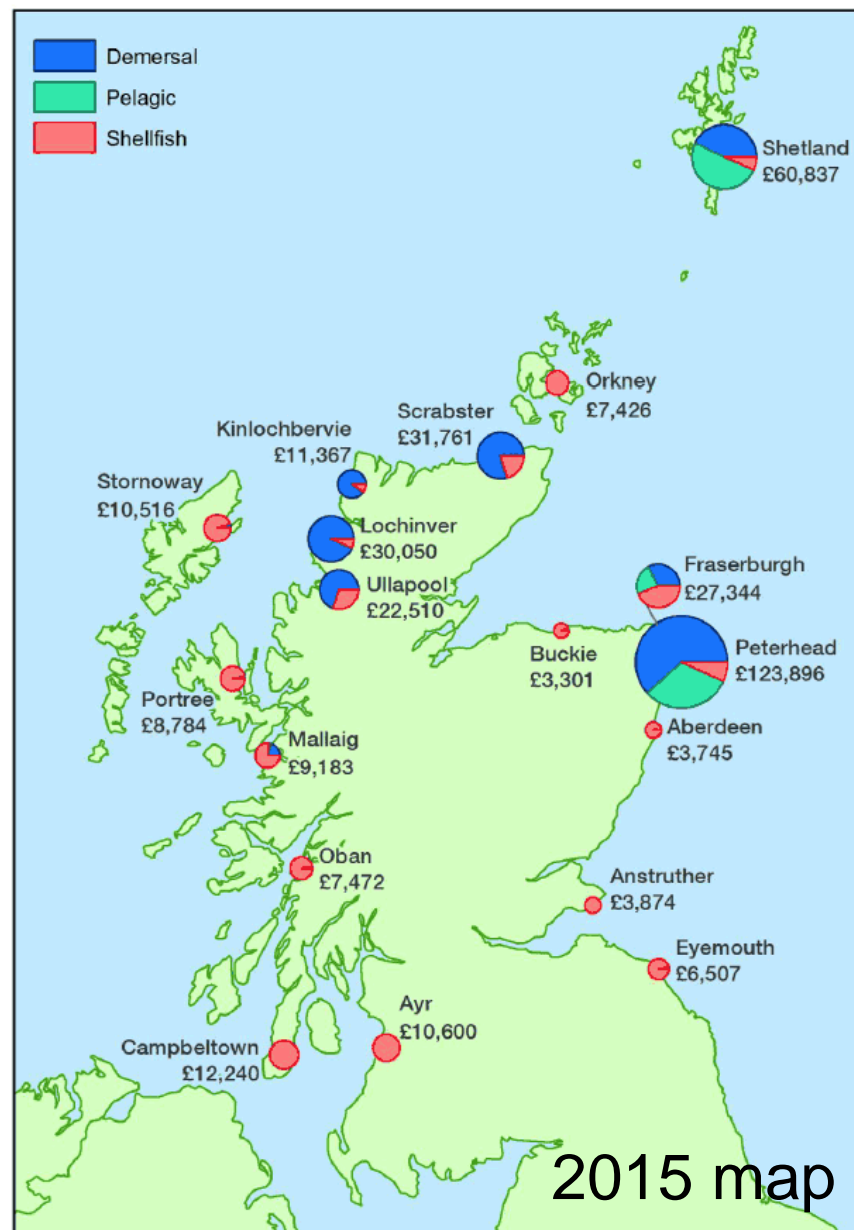


1561 vessels
Less than 10 m

Commercial fisheries



2020 landings:
389000 t
£483 million



Coastal and Offshore Fisheries Network



Coby Needle

- Chief Fisheries Advisor for Scotland
- Fisheries Assessment and Advice Programme Manager



Matt Gubbins

- UK delegate to ICES Council
- Fisheries Data Programme Manager

Fisheries Assessment and Advice Programme

- Stock Assessment and Modelling Group
- Fisheries Advice Group

Fisheries Data Programme

- Fisheries Statistics Group
- Data Collection Group
- Fishing Technology Group

MSS fisheries: what we do

Sampling

Ports and markets

Demersal surveys

Acoustic surveys

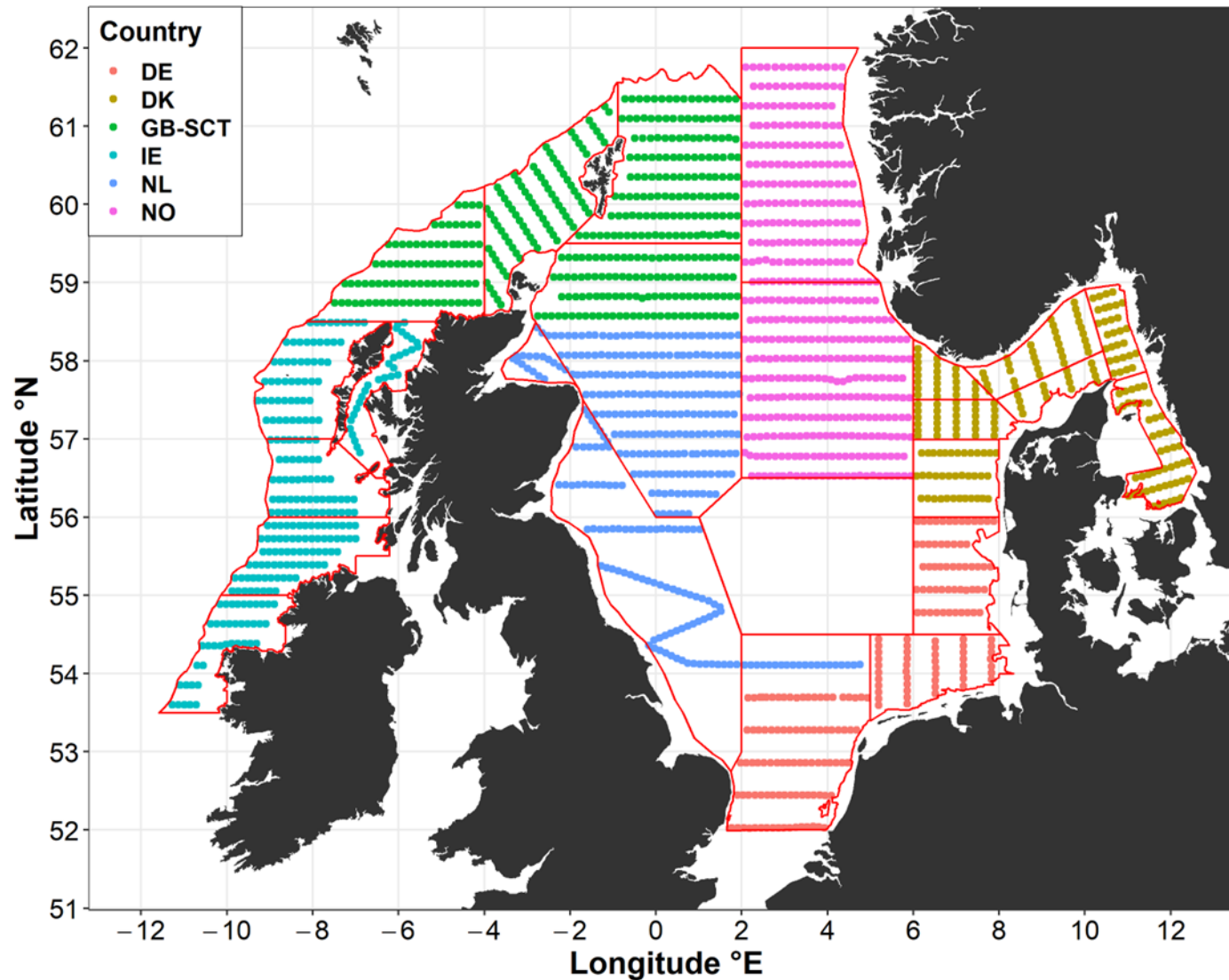
Mackerel egg
surveys

Nephrops TV
surveys

Observers

CCTV

Example: Herring Acoustic Survey 2022



HERAS tracks by different countries

Example: CCTV automated image analysis

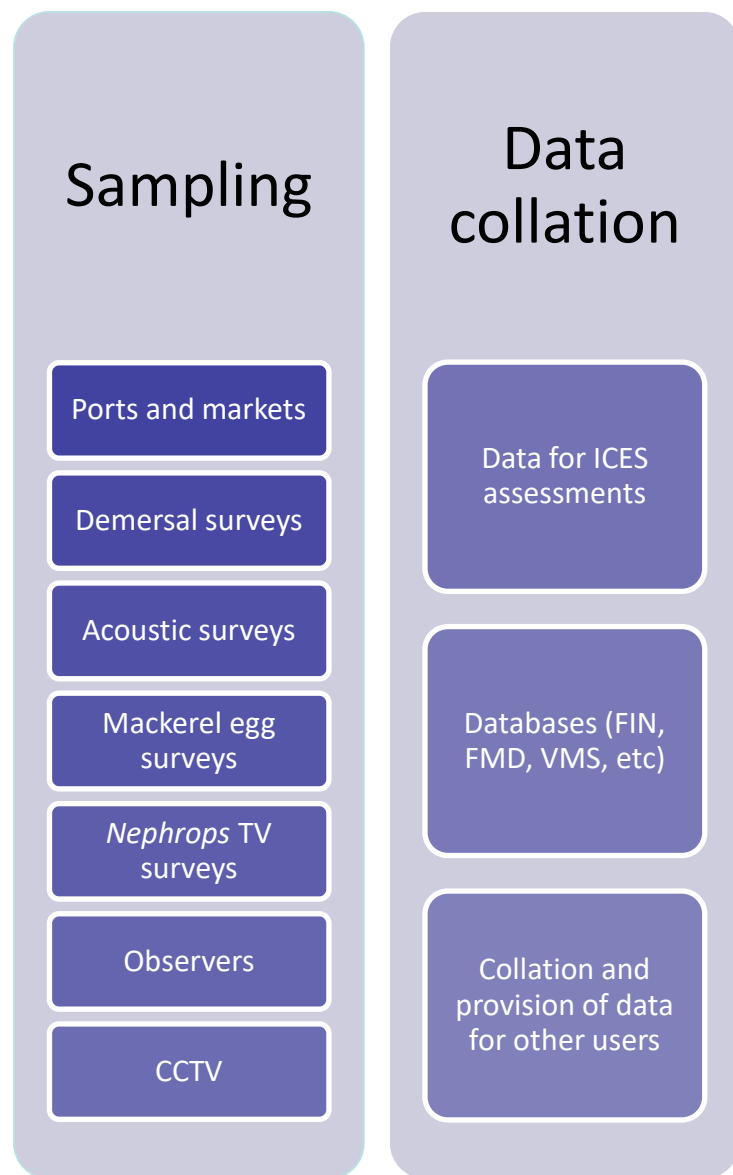


Fish identified and separated

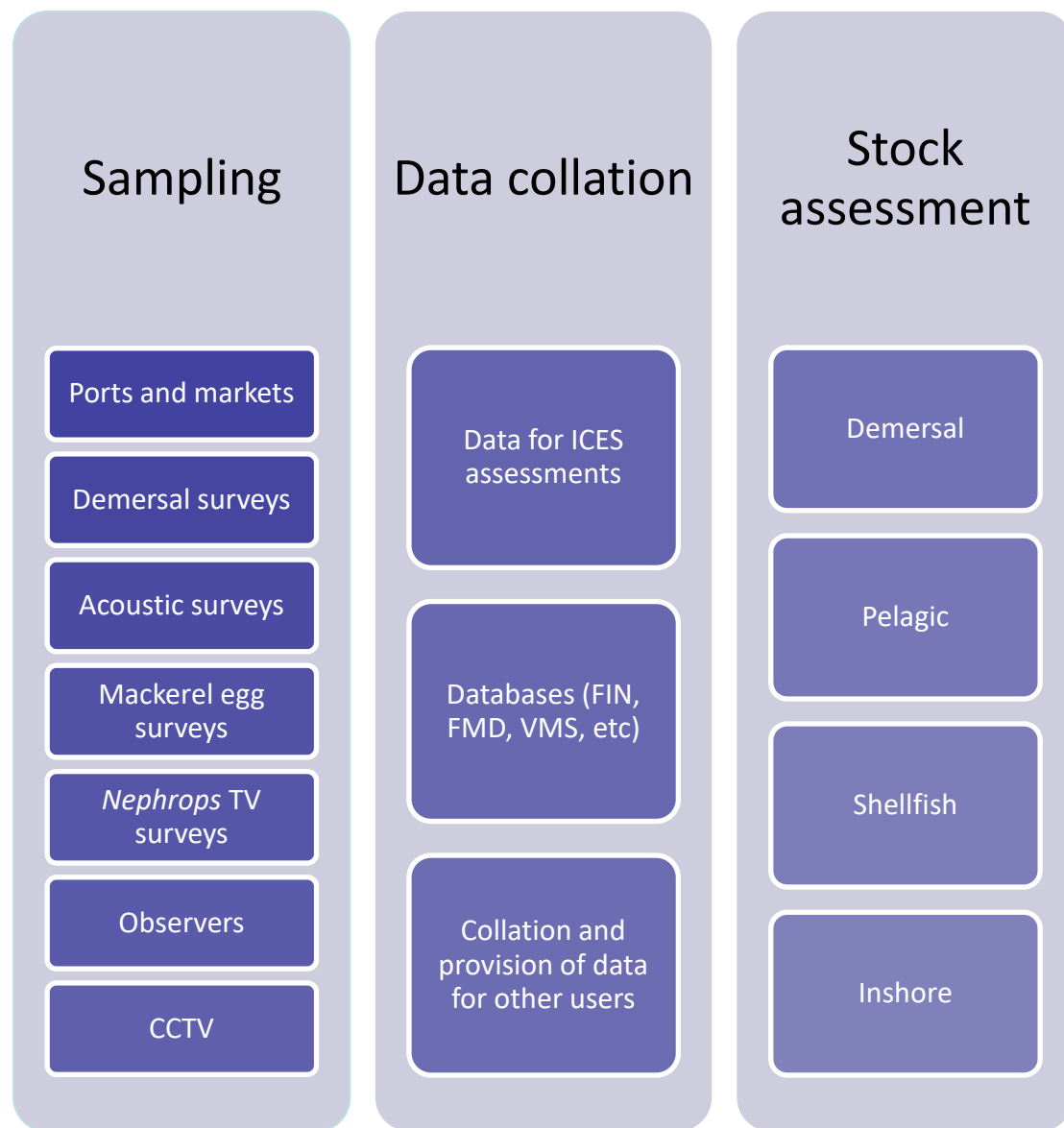


Fish distinguished from background

MSS fisheries: what we do



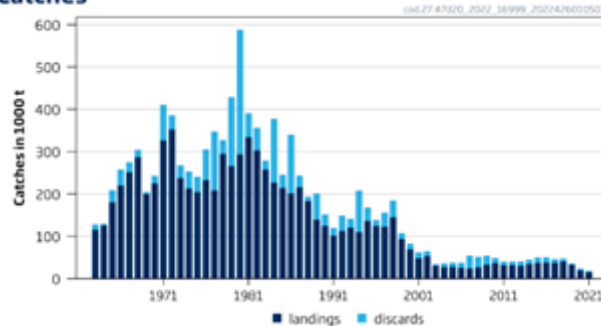
MSS fisheries: what we do



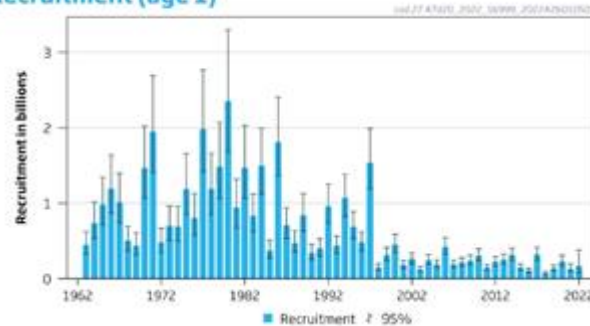
Stock assessment

2022 North Sea cod assessment

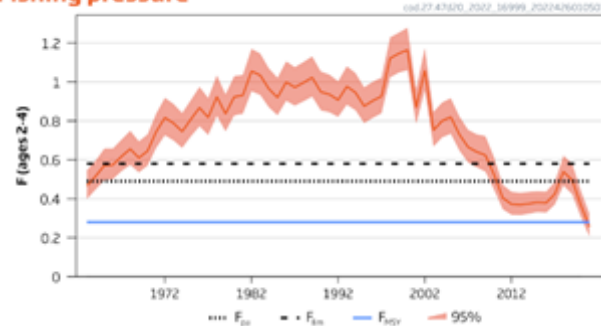
Catches



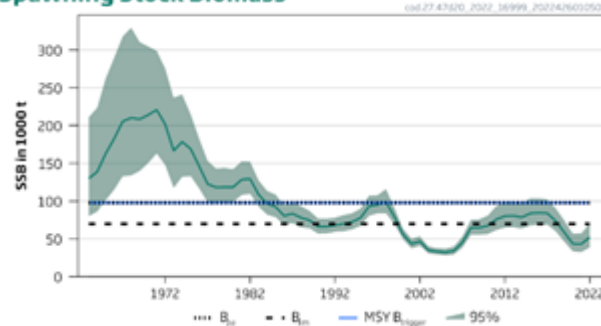
Recruitment (age 1)



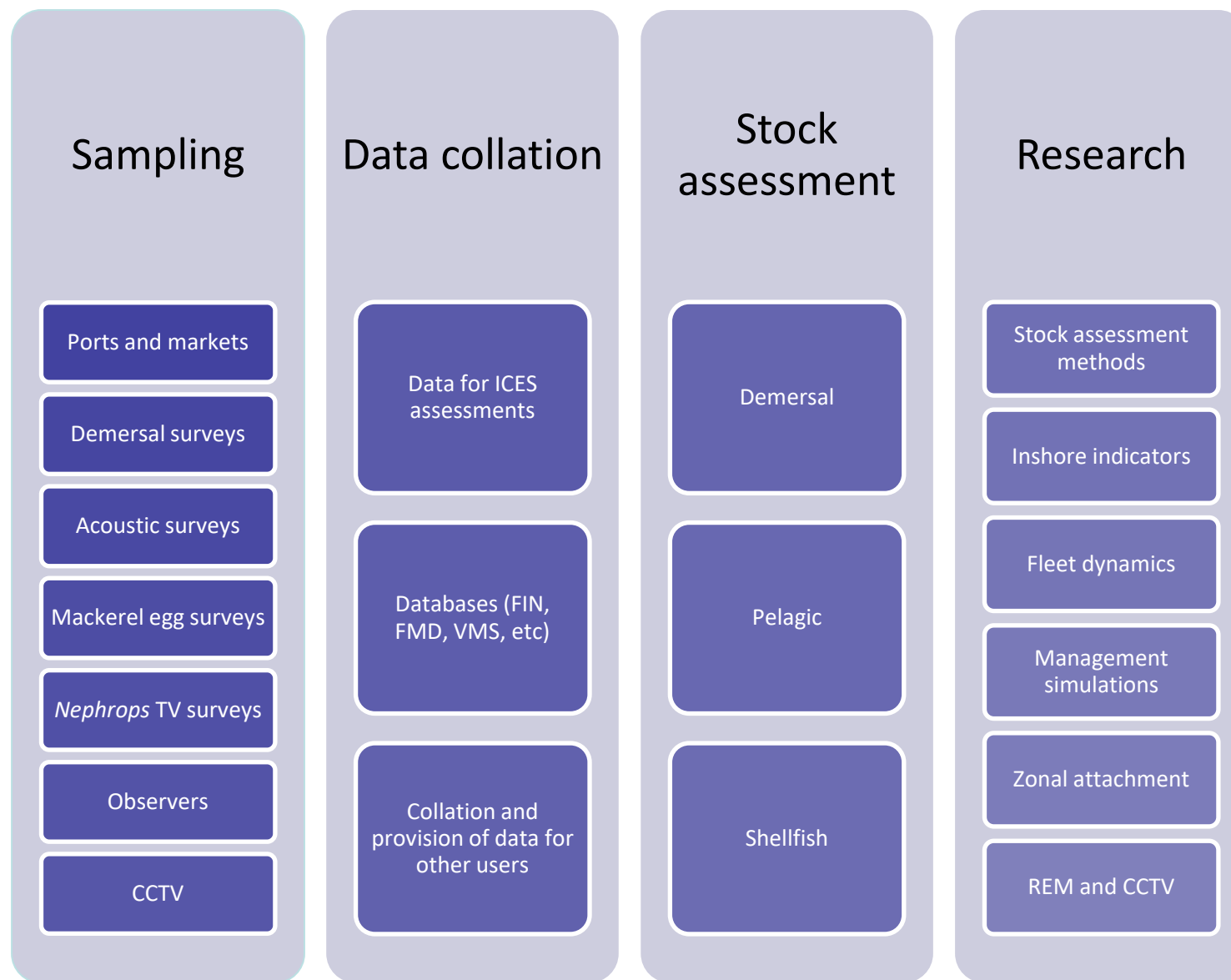
Fishing pressure



Spawning Stock Biomass

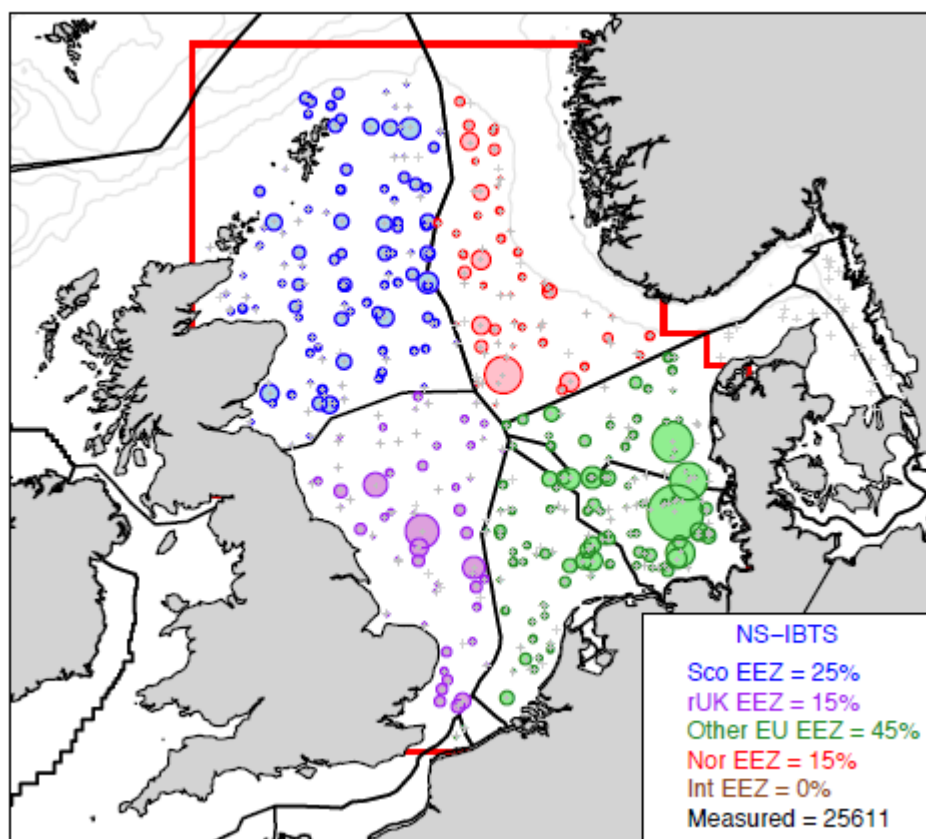


MSS fisheries: what we do

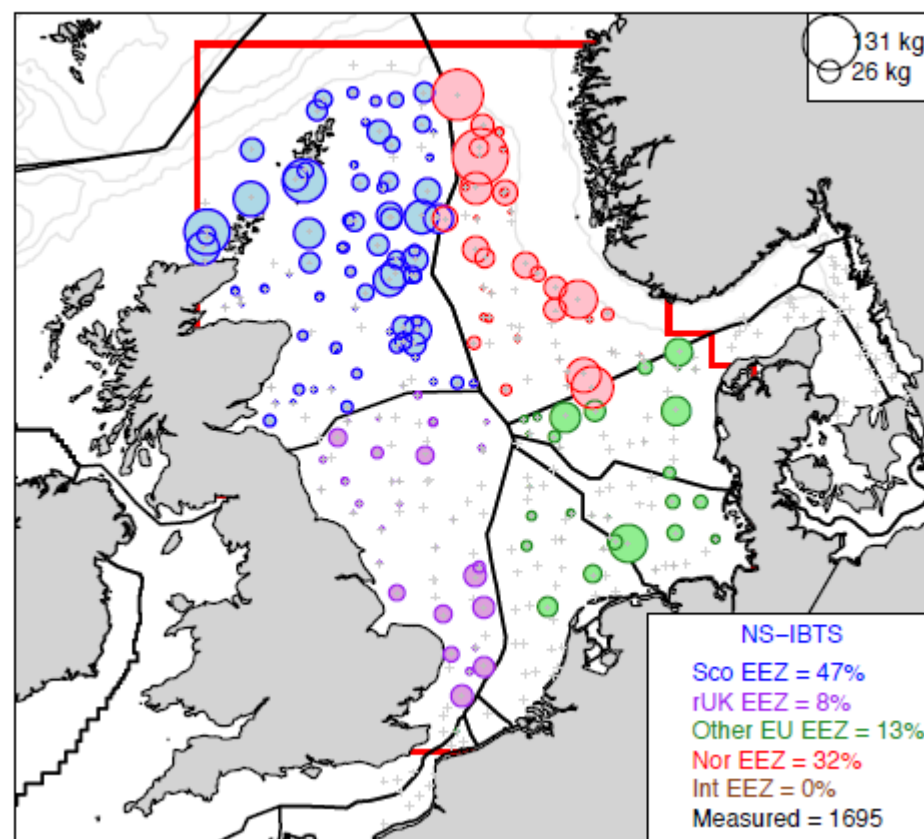


Example: Zonal attachment

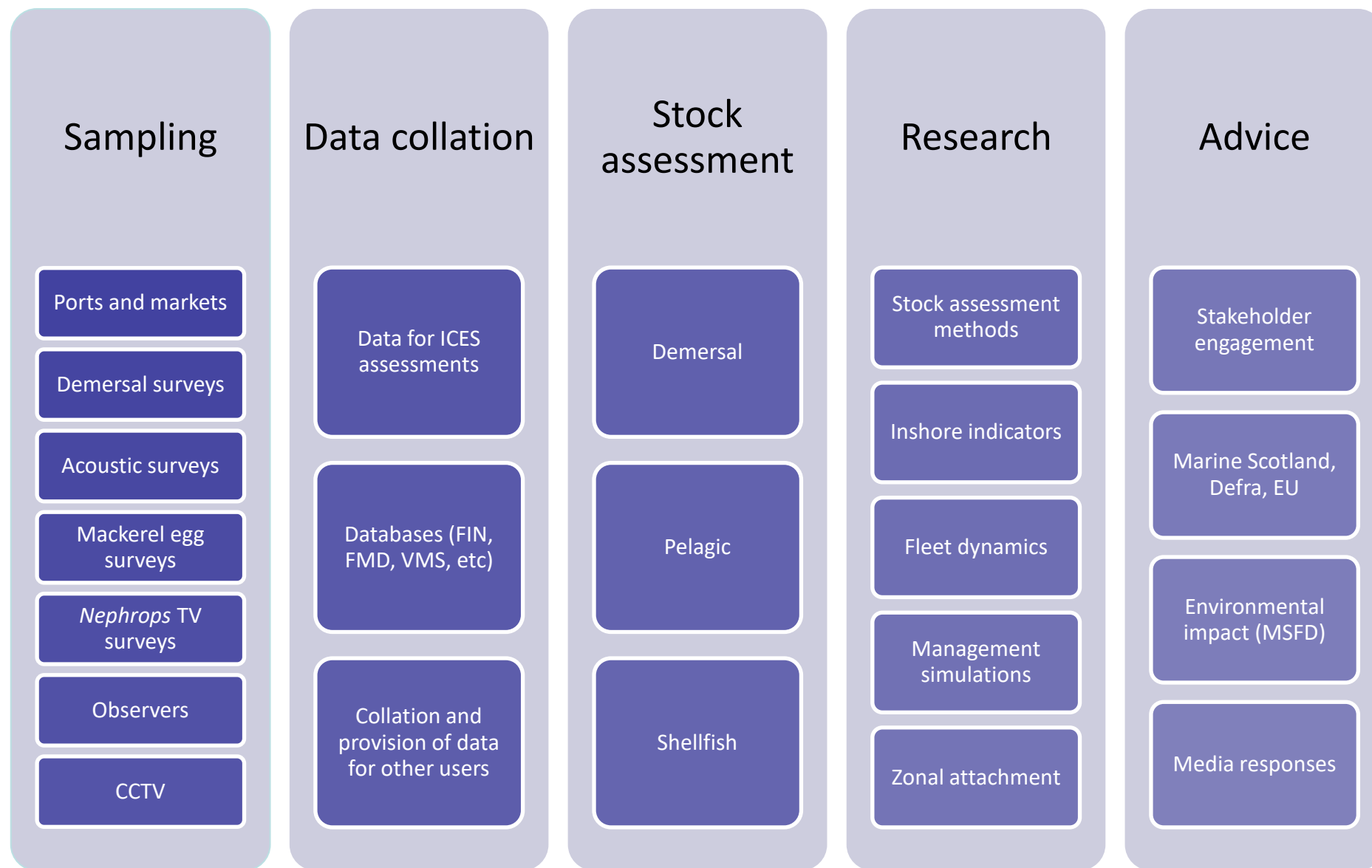
Cod 1983 Q1: biomass within area (4)



Cod 2019 Q1: biomass within area (4)



MSS fisheries: what we do



Advice & stakeholder engagement



Advice & stakeholder engagement

The Telegraph

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Just 100 cod left in North Sea

Overfishing has left fewer than 100 adult cod in the North Sea, it was reported.



Not a single cod aged over 13 was caught in the North Sea last year. Photo: GETTY

Thanks!

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