

Recreational angling for sea bass

EAA's mission towards a LTMP

- Ireland, France, UK, Holland, Belgium -

*European Parliament
14 th April 2015*



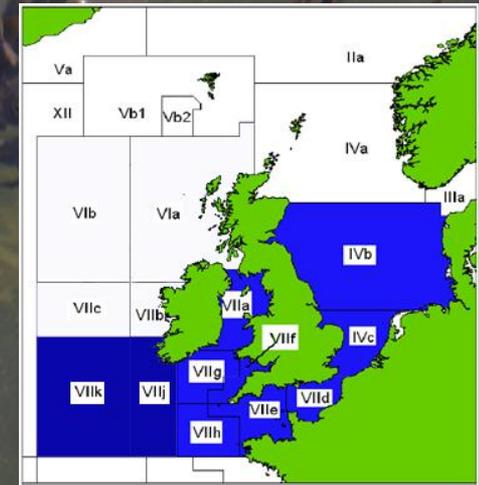
*Jan Willem Wijnstroom
European Anglers Alliance (EAA)*

European Anglers Alliance

Mission statement: to safeguard the fish stocks and fisheries of Europe and to protect the interests of all of those who fish with rod and line for recreational purposes

14 members (organisations) ->
North Sea, Channel, Irish, Celtic Sea

EAA in North Sea Advisory Council
North Western Waters Advisory Council



*Legislated area
Bass emergency measures*



NORTH WESTERN
WATERS
ADVISORY COUNCIL



NSAC

1820/30
first documented catches of bass by
salmon fly fishermen





TÁ DOINGEAN FAOI CHOSAINT AN DLÍ
BASS ARE PROTECTED BY LAW

<p>Aire!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ní cheadaítear doingean a mhéara atá níos lu ná 40cm ar fhad Ní cheadaítear níos mó ná 2 doingean a mhéara leathghe de bhreimeas 24 uair Séasair Coiscéid: 15 Bealtaine go 15 Meitheamh Tá cosc ar doingean a dhéat 	<p>Attention!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Il is prohibited to kill bass less than 40cm in length It is prohibited to keep more than 2 bass in any 24 hours Closed season: 15 May - 15 June The sale of bass is prohibited 	<p>Uwaga!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wymiar ochronny dla okazu musiałby być 40cm Limit dozwolony na wjeździe nie 2 okazy w czasie 24 godzin Okres ochronny: od 15 maja do 15 czerwca Zakaz sprzedaży okazy musiałby
<p>Attention!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cas pécheurs doivent obligatoirement mesurer plus de 40cm en longueur Les pêcheurs sportifs ne sont autorisés à pêcher que deux bass sur une période de 24 heures Il y a une période de fermeture annuelle pour la pêche au bar qui dure du 15 mai au 15 juin La vente du bar est interdite 	<p>Aufgepasst!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Das Mindestmaß für einen Wollbarsch beträgt 40cm Angler dürfen innerhalb von 24 Stunden maximal zwei gefangen Fische behalten und mitnehmen Die Schonzeit geht vom 15. Mai bis zum 15. Juni Der Verkauf eines Wollbarsches ist verboten 	<p>Aandacht!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overgang vobarschen davan laghe dui ná 40 Is roim réiteadh 2 garrasraí amháin sa bharra san am 24 uair Is gáid suaslús san gearradh spóirt níos mó ná dhá barr ar 24 uair Is verbodan van vobarschen te verhoeden

Iascach Iníre Éireann
 Inland Fisheries Ireland
 Eolas agus comhairle / Information and advice
www.fishingireland.info
 Tuairascáil póitseáil agus truaillí / Report poaching and pollution (24hr)
 1890 34 74 24



Return or retain your fish?

Although catch and release is a growing trend that has now become common practice in W. Europe

retaining a fresh fish for personal consumption – between friends/ family – is an important “add on” experience and adds much to the overall enjoyment of a day at sea

Proportion of sea bass returned

UK bass 77%

France 54%

Holland 36 %

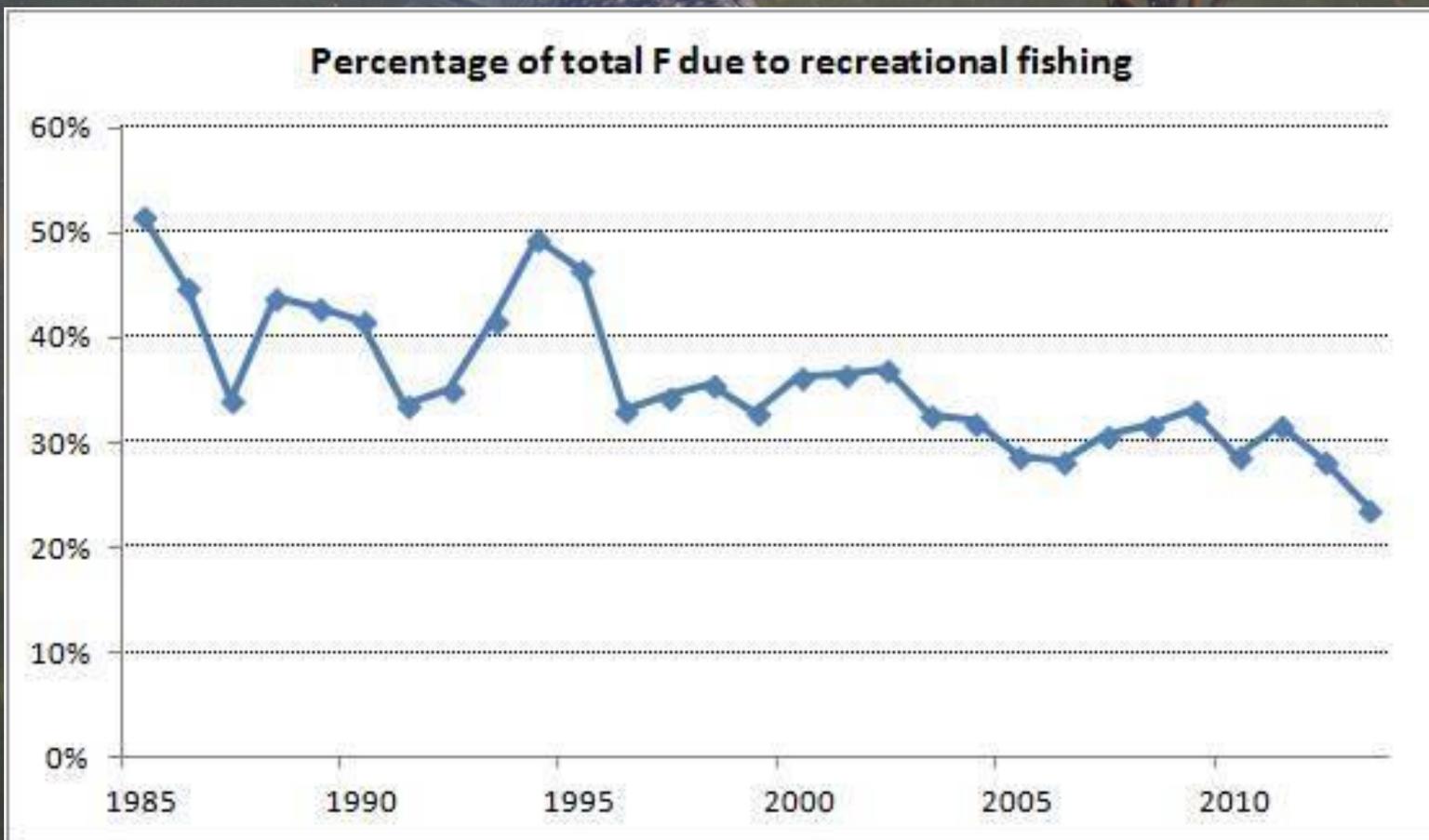


Trends sea bass fishery

A large sea bass is shown swimming underwater, viewed from above. The fish is dark grey with a lighter belly and is positioned diagonally across the frame. In the background, there are some brown seaweed-like plants. The water is clear and greenish-brown.

- Pre-1980's: Bass were predominantly regarded as an anglers' species with minimal commercial interest
- 1980's: Commercial exploitation increased significantly
- High demand as gourmet table fish, reduction in quotas available for other commercial species
- Succession of good year classes, bass become available further north
- BUT: bass become mainly a recruitment fishery !
- Ireland: bass stock collapse followed by bass measures
→ 1990 comm landings prohibited, RSA bag limit 2 fish, closed season, mls increased above EU mls

Evolution fishing mortality divided between recreational angling and commercial with F for RSA assumed as constant



2000- 2014

Growing concern RSA community

EAA: adopted resolution calling for end to pelagic bass fishing in 2000

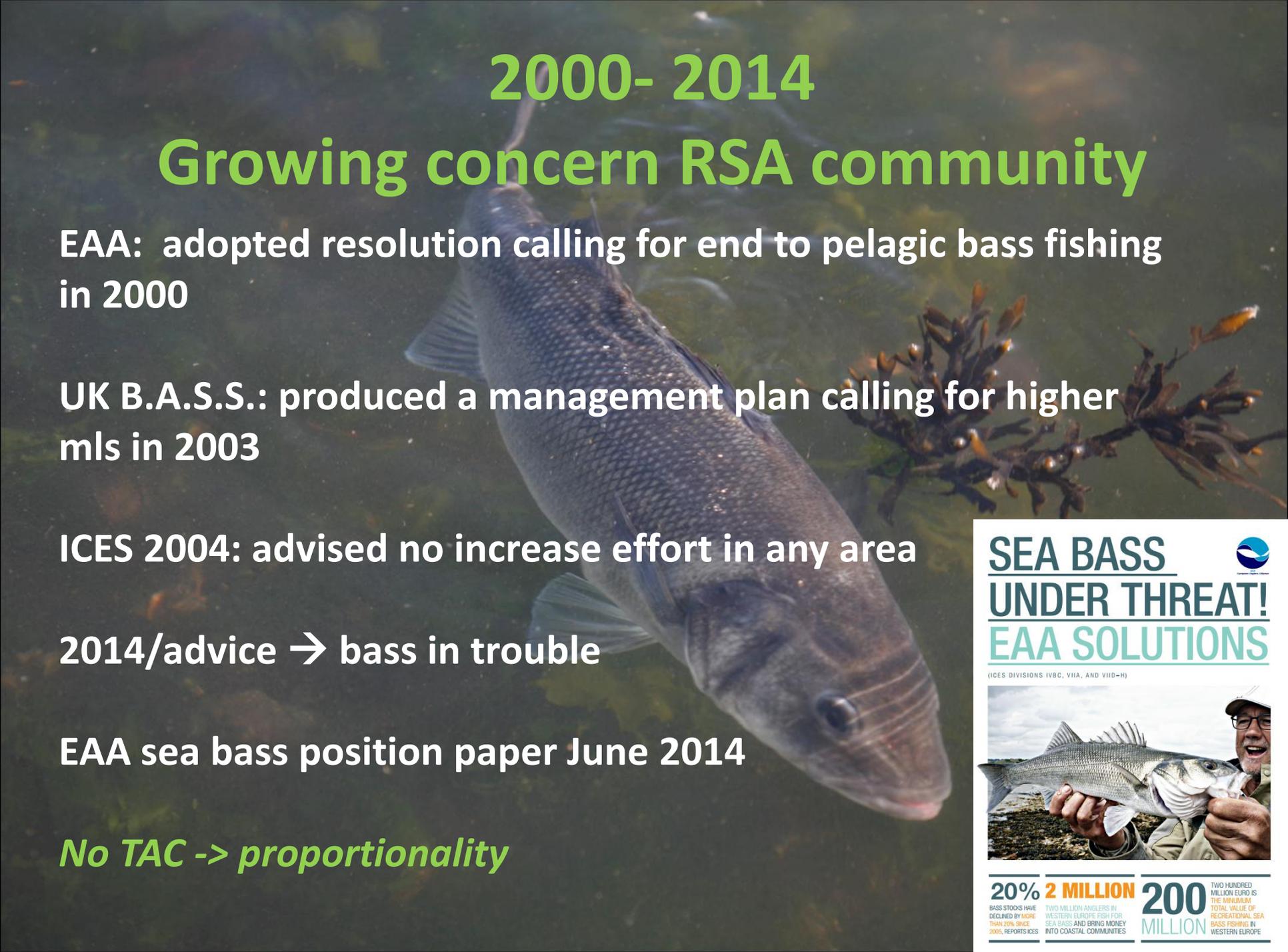
UK B.A.S.S.: produced a management plan calling for higher mls in 2003

ICES 2004: advised no increase effort in any area

2014/advice → bass in trouble

EAA sea bass position paper June 2014

No TAC -> proportionality



SEA BASS
UNDER THREAT!
EAA SOLUTIONS

(ICES DIVISIONS IVBC, VIIA, AND VIID-H)

20% BASS STOCKS HAVE DECLINED BY MORE THAN 20% SINCE 2006, REPORTS ICES

2 MILLION TWO MILLION ANGLERS IN WESTERN EUROPE FISH FOR SEA BASS AND BRING MONEY INTO COASTAL COMMUNITIES

200 MILLION TWO HUNDRED MILLION EURO IS THE MINIMUM TOTAL VALUE OF RECREATIONAL SEA BASS FISHING IN WESTERN EUROPE

2015 emergency measures


European Commission

Protecting sea bass

The European Commission has announced a package of measures to protect sea bass

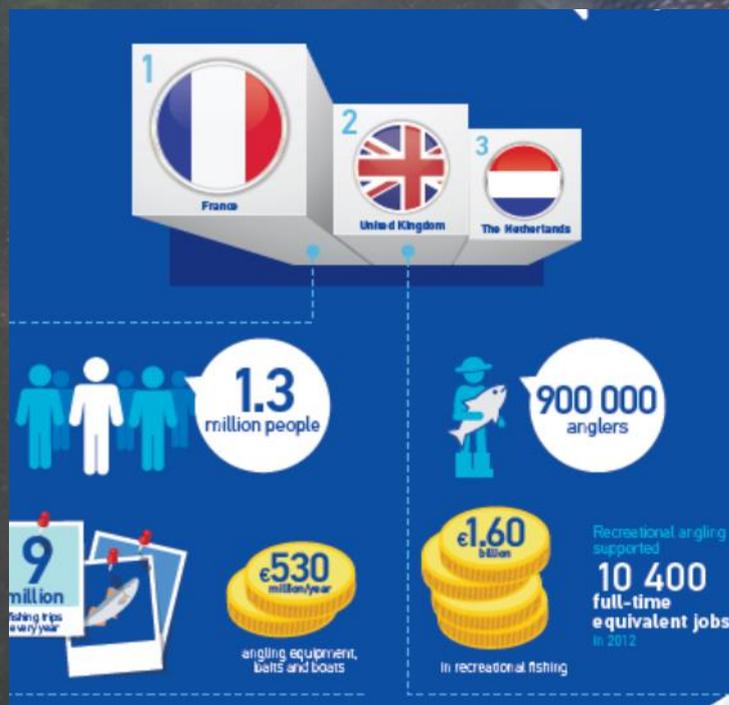
Emergency ban on pelagic trawling of sea bass during spawning season (until the end of April) in:

- The Irish Sea
- The Celtic Sea
- The Channel Islands
- The North Sea

Complementary measures will be proposed to manage recreational fishing and limit catches by all other commercial fisheries

- Welcomed by EAA
- But: Pelagic closure in limited areas believed to displace effort into areas VIII a & b
- Complementary measures for remaining commercial métiers urgently needed
- Concern over what will happen in future years

2015 emergency measures



- EAA welcomes focus on economic and social criteria in recreational sea bass angling
- Realistic -> **CFP fails in this respect**

Sea bass - socio-economics

A sea bass is shown swimming in clear, shallow water. The fish is positioned diagonally from the top left towards the bottom right. To the right of the fish, there are several stalks of seaweed with small, brownish-orange buds. The background is a dark, slightly murky greenish-brown, suggesting an underwater environment.

France: 65 % of all sea anglers expenditure linked to sea bass fishing

England - Sea Angling 2012 report :

- high-value leisure activity in England
- England 2012 -> £1.23 billion (€1.55 billion)
- Directly supports > 10,400 full-time jobs

UK Blue marine Foundation report: *Defining the economic and environmental Benefits of Seabass* (Nov 2014) ->

Sea bass - socio-economics

The final economic output per tonne of bass retained in Sussex is almost 40–75 times higher for recreational bass fisheries than for commercial bass fisheries.

The employment generated per tonne of bass retained is 39–75 times higher for the recreational bass fisheries than for the commercial fisheries.



Defining the Economic
and Environmental Values
of Sea Bass

Blue Marine Foundation

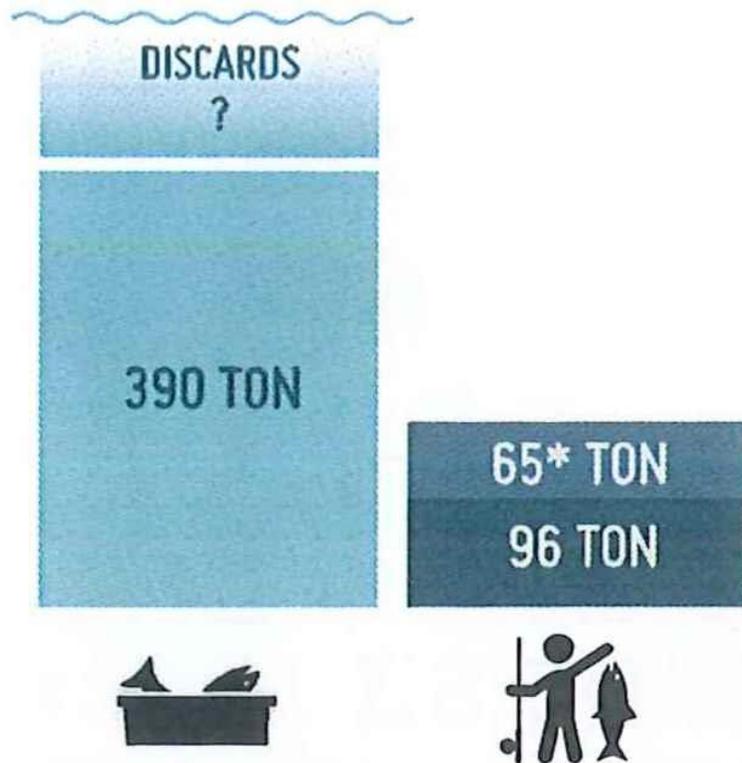
Final Report

28th November 2014

Submitted by

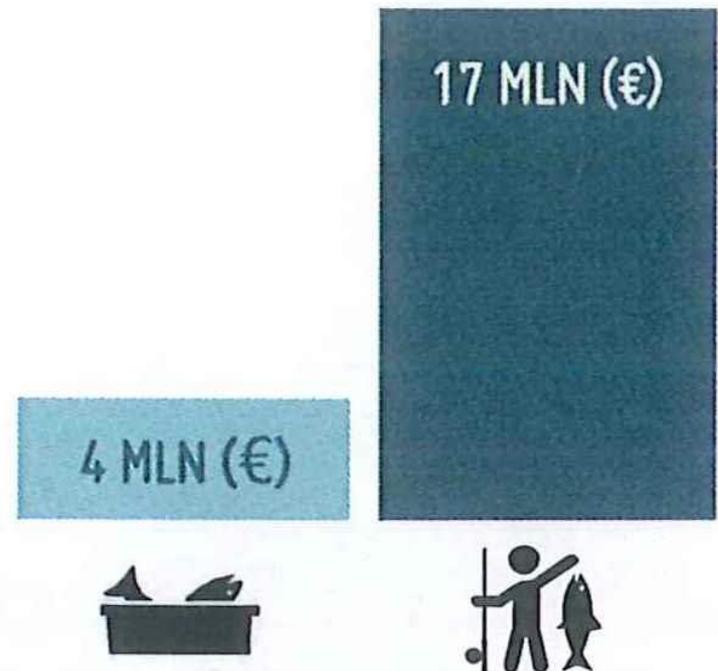
MRA

COMMERCIEËLE AANLANDINGEN ZEEBAARS VERSUS RECREATIEVE AANLANDINGEN IN 2010



* TERUGGEZET

COMMERCIEËLE WAARDE ZEEBAARS VERSUS RECREATIEVE WAARDE IN 2010



2015 EU bass measures

3 bass baglimit

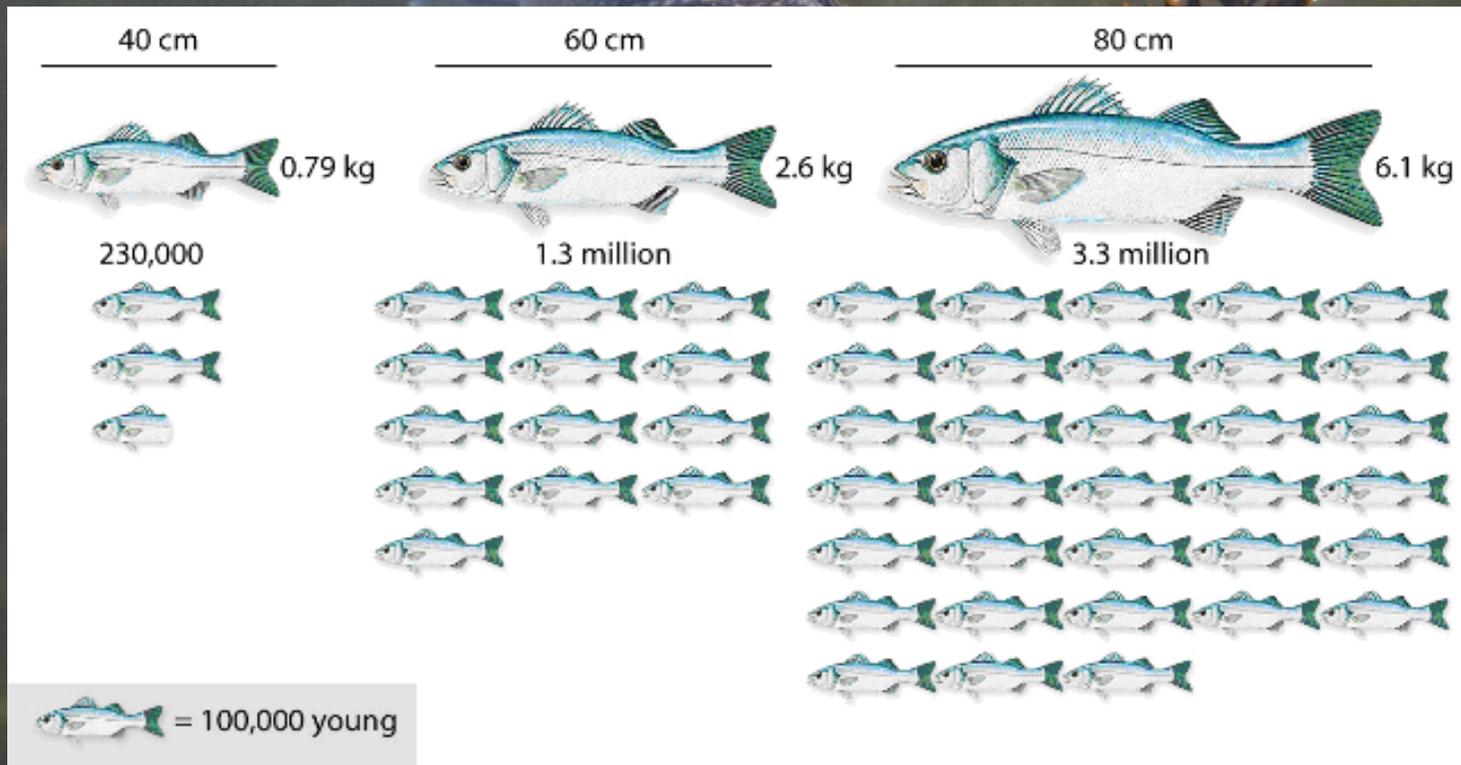
EAA policy :

- Equitable and proportional measures for all
- Need for commensurate measures for commercial metiers that account for 50 % (25 % F due to Pelagic fishing)
- **Higher mls better option**
- **More reduction of fishing mortality**



Benefits higher mls

- Contributes more to reduction F
- Bigger fish produce more young fish



Average number of young produced by three different sizes of European seabass.

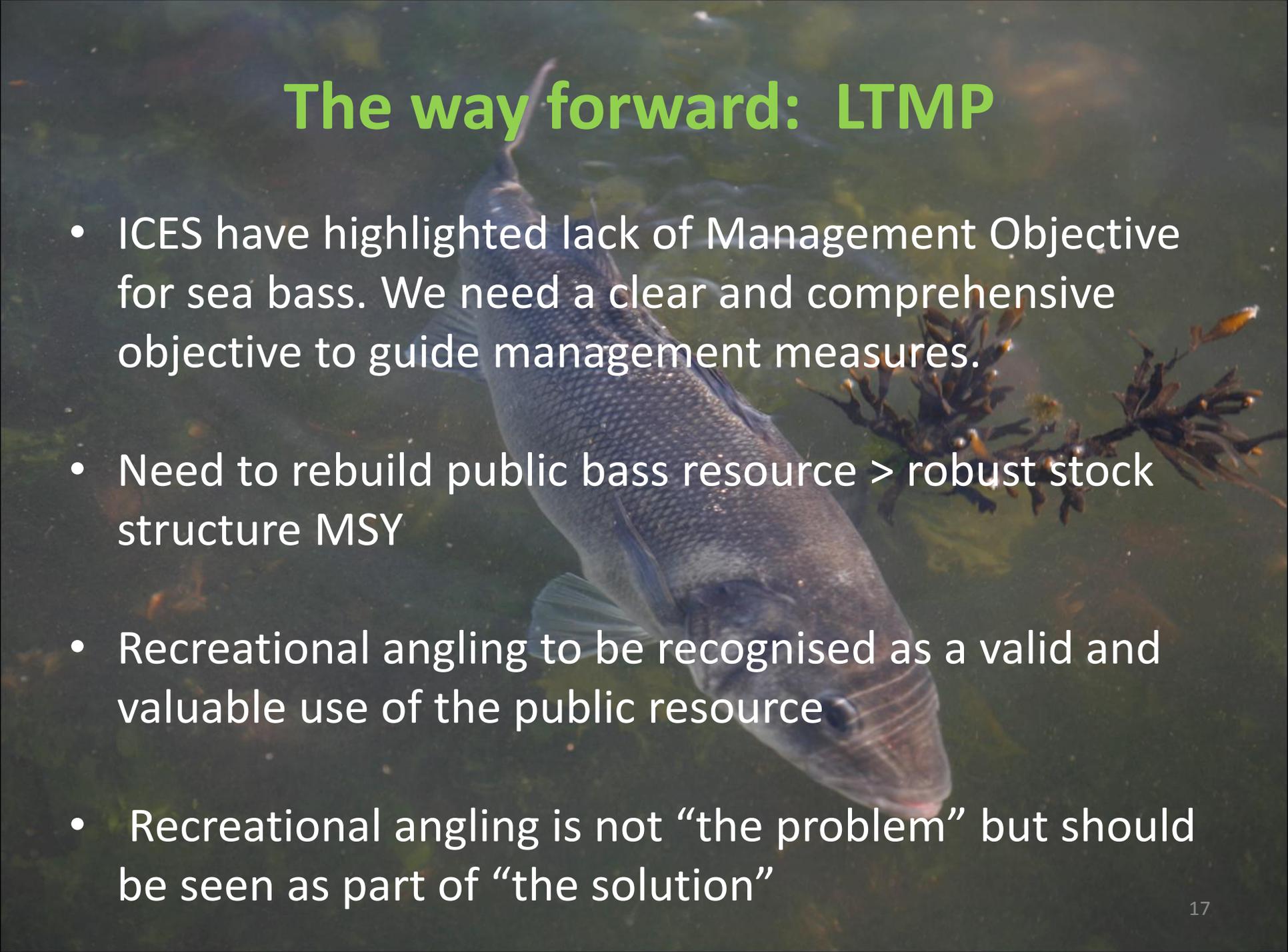


Bag limit policy

A large fish, possibly a salmon or trout, is swimming underwater. The fish is the central focus, moving from the upper left towards the lower right. The water is dark and slightly murky, with some green seaweed or aquatic plants visible on the right side. The lighting is somewhat dim, creating a natural underwater atmosphere.

- **Bag limits** are a frequently used management tool for Recreational fisheries in many parts of the world where:
 - a) Recreational exploitation is fully recognised as a valid and valuable use of fishery resources;
 - b) Recreational angling specific objectives are incorporated into all management goals;
 - c) Commercial fishing regulations are sufficiently restrictive that levels of abundance and stock structure meet recreational angling needs.

The way forward: LTMP

A large sea bass is shown swimming in clear, shallow water. The fish is the central focus, moving from the upper left towards the lower right. The water is a deep, clear blue-green, and there are some dark, leafy seaweed plants visible on the right side. The lighting is natural, highlighting the scales of the fish and the texture of the water.

- ICES have highlighted lack of Management Objective for sea bass. We need a clear and comprehensive objective to guide management measures.
- Need to rebuild public bass resource > robust stock structure MSY
- Recreational angling to be recognised as a valid and valuable use of the public resource
- Recreational angling is not “the problem” but should be seen as part of “the solution”

Thank You



EAA

European Anglers Alliance