

Fishery Fact Sheet

CECAF Fisheries Reports 2013

Spain Longliners black hake fishery - Mauritanian waters, 2013

Pêche fraîche au merlu noir

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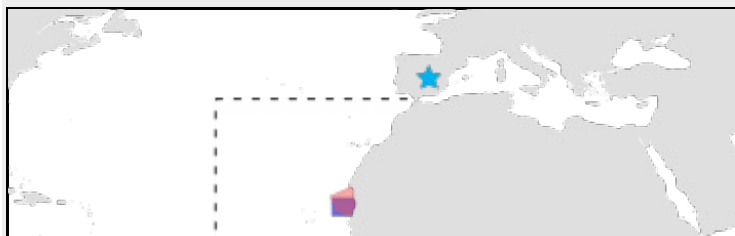
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Fishery life cycle

The fishing agreement is expired in 2012 but the licences have been extended up to date.

Overview: *The fleet is composed of vessels from Galicia (NW Iberian Peninsula), mainly from Santa Eugenia de Riveira, and some units from Vigo and La Coruña. Fewer vessels have their main port in Las Palmas (Canary Islands) and Ceuta (N Africa). Currently, the vessels belonging to this fleet are mainly based in Santa Eugenia de Riveira (Galicia), in Santa Cruz de Tenerife (Canary Islands) and in Algeciras (Andalucia, S Iberian Peninsula). These are vessels that used to operate in the Moroccan fishing grounds. This is a very selective fishery that targets black hakes (*M. polli* and *M. senegalensis*), although their proportion in landings is less than the one registered for the bottom trawl fishery. The fishery also targets the Atlantic pomfret *Brama brama*, which is either intensively fished the last days of the fishing trip or fished in fishing trips exclusively targeting it. During the last two years of the fishery, it exclusively has targeted *B. brama*, with low catches of black hakes. The fishing area is located North of latitude 19°15,6' N (Cape Timiris), west of the line joining a series of points defined by the Fishing Agreement; South of Cape Timiris as far as latitude 17°50,0' N (Nouackchott) west of the 18-mile line; and South of Nouackchott, west of the 12-mile line. During the closed seasons for cephalopod fisheries the fishing zone changes as follows: Between Cap Blanc and Cap Timiris, the exclusion zone is defined by the points defined in the Fishing Agreement; South of Cap Timiris (south of latitude 19° 15,6' N) and up to Nouakchott (17° 50,0' N), the exclusion zone is the 18-mile line; and South of Nouakchott (south of latitude 17° 50,0' N), the exclusion zone is the 12-mile line. Fresh fish is landed at the Port of Vigo port once a fortnight using the same methods as trawlers (see MRT12- "Spanish bottom wet fish trawlers black hake fishery in Mauritania"). Hakes are sold eviscerated and classified in two or three commercial categories.*

Location of Spain Longliners black hake fishery - Mauritanian waters



APPROACH: FISHING ACTIVITY

Fishing Activity

Fishing Gear: Set longlines

Type of production system : Commercial;
Industrial

Fishery Area: Mauritania; Atlantic, East ...

Seasonality: All year long



Main layers

- FAO areas and their sub-divisions
- EEZ

Associated layers

- Geographic reference

Intersecting layers

- Intersecting: FAO major fishing areas

Base layers

- 200 nautical miles arcs

Harvested Resource

Target Species: Senegalese hake; Benguela hake

Associated Species: Atlantic pomfret; Schedophilus nei; Pandoras nei ... [more>>](#)

Means of Production

Vessel Type: Longliners

Fishery Indicators

Nominal Effort: Number of vessels

Participation: Number of fishermen

Production: Catch total; Catch Merluccius spp.;

Catch B. brama; Catch Schedophilus spp.;

Catch Pagellus spp.; Catch C. conger

Geographic reference: Spain

Spatial Scale: National

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History

The bottom longline fleet, which mainly operates in the northern area of the Mauritanian fishing grounds, has been intermittent in recent years. This fishery started at the beginning of the '90s, when some Galician vessels gradually incorporated to the Mauritanian fishing ground. It was in 1990 when the Fishery Agreement included a GRT for longliners into the modality "Black hake fisheries". This GRT was increased in the Agreement of 1996, when the modality name changed to "bottom trawl and longline fishery for black hake".

Fishing Activity

Type of production system: Commercial; Industrial

Fishery Area

Climatic zone: Temperate. Bottom type: Soft_bottom_clean_sand; Hard_rocky_bottom. Depth zone: Shelf (50 m - 200 m); Slope - Upperslope (200 m - 500 m). Horizontal distribution: Neritic. Vertical distribution: Demersal/Benthic. Sea floor physiography: Canyons.

Geo References for: Mauritania

Mauritania

Exclusive Economic Zone Areas (EEZ)	MRT - Mauritania
FAO Fishing Statistical Subdivisions	34.3.11 - Atlantic, East central / 34.3.11

More Geo References

The following area codes have been found as intersecting the location of Spain Longliners black hake fishery - Mauritanian waters

FAO Major Fishing Areas	34 - Atlantic, Eastern Central
Large Marine Ecosystem Areas (LME)	27 - Canary Current

Details of geoform: Edge of canyons and wells. The Mauritanian coast is part of one of the four major trade-wind driven continental margin upwelling zones in the world oceans, the northwestern African upwelling system (or the Canary Current System). In the Eastern Central Atlantic, the dynamics of an eastern boundary current interacting with trade wind-driven upwelling control this marine ecosystem with exceptionally high primary and secondary productivity (Cury and Roy, 1989; Binet, 1997; Demarcq and Faure, 2000). The upwelling off Mauritania is being described as a wind driven upwelling system restricted to a narrow strip along the coast. It can be separated into two regimes: south of approximately 20°N upwelling is most pronounced during winter and spring, whereas upwelling north of 20°N occurs all year round with a maximum intensity in summer and early fall (Mittelstaedt, 1991). The marked seasonality of upwellings and the latitudinal displacement through the Mauritanian and Senegalese coasts, produce important changes in the structure of the biological communities. In short periods (weeks), the system can alternate from a warm equatorial phase to a cold subtropical phase, this deriving in an alternated dominance between tropical and temperate communities (Meiners, 2007). Off Cape Blanc the upwelling occurs throughout the year with periods of stronger intensity, while it lasts nine months off Nouakchott.

Resources Exploited

Senegal hake, Benguela hake - Mauritania, Senegal and Gambia

Seabreams - Northwest Africa

Other resources: Stocks of atlantic pomfrets, schedophilus, pandoras, scorpionfishes and congers.

Target Species

Merluccius senegalensis

FAO Names : en - Senegalese hake, fr - Merlu du Sénégal, es - Merluza del Senegal, ru - Мерлуза синегальская

Merluccius polli

FAO Names : en - Benguela hake, fr - Merlu d'Afrique tropicale, es - Merluza de Benguela, ru - Мерлуза бенгальская

Adults

Associated Species (Bycatch)

Brama brama

FAO Names : en - Atlantic pomfret, fr - Grande castagnole, es - Japuta, ru - Лещ морской атлантический

Schedophilus spp

FAO Names : en - Schedophilus nei, fr - Rouffes nca, es - Rufos nep

Pagellus spp

FAO Names : en - Pandoras nei, fr - Pageots nca, es - Brecas nep, ru - Пагелы

Scorpaeniformes

Scorpaena spp

FAO Names : en - Scorpionfishes, rockfishes nei, fr - Rascasses nca, es - Rascacios, cabrachos nep

Trachyscorpia spp

FAO Names : null

Conger conger

FAO Names : en - European conger, fr - Congre d'Europe, es - Congrio común, ru - Угорь морской (=конгер)

Sparidae

FAO Names : en - Porgies, seabreams nei, fr - Dentés, spares nca, es - Dentones, sargos nep, ru - Спаровые (=морские караси)

Decapterus sp

Scomber japonicus

FAO Names : en - Chub mackerel, fr - Maquereau espagnol, es - Estornino, ru - Скумбрия японская

Adults

Discarded Species (Bycatch)

Trichiurus lepturus

FAO Names : en - Largehead hairtail, fr - Poisson-sabre commun, es - Pez sable, ru - Рыба-сабля

Mistryophis crosnieri

Coloconger cadenati

FAO Names : null

Decapterus sp. (19%), Scomber japonicus (9%), Trichiurus lepturus (17%), Mistryophis crosnieri (7%), Coloconger cadenati (5%).

Juveniles (commercial species) or unspecified (other species)

Related Fisheries - Fishery(ies) switching activity seasonally or targeting the same stock

Spain Bottom trawl black hake fishery - Senegalese waters

Spain Bottom wet fish trawler black hake fishery - Moroccan Atlantic coast waters, South 29°N

Related Fisheries - Same fishing activity(ies) described by another national perspective (at the same or different aggregation level)

Morocco Offshore Spanish gillnetter hake fishery - Atlantic coast

Vessel Type

Longliners

Flag State

 Spain

The average characteristics during 2007 were 149 GRT, 296 h.p and 26 m length

Catch Handling and Processing Equipment

Hakes eviscerated and classified in two or three commercial categories. Catches are preserved in ice.

Crew

12-14 persons (Spanish, Mauritanian and Senegalese nationality) (2009)

Fleet segment

Set longlines for demersal fish

These are vessels that used to operate in the Moroccan fishing ground (see MAR19-“Offshore Spanish longliner hake fishery- Morocco Atlantic coast”). Currently, vessels belonging to this fleet are based in Santa Eugenia de Riveira (Galicia, NW Iberian Peninsula), in Santa Cruz de Tenerife (Canary Islands) and in Algeciras (Andalucía, S Iberian Peninsula).

Fishing Gear

Set longlines

The gear is composed of a main line with baited hooks attached at intervals by means of branch lines called “snoods”. An average number of 100-120 snoods (approximately 12 000-14000 hooks), were usually set in one unique main line for hakes (or two lines, only in the cases of setting in different depths). The main line length varies between 3 and 14 miles and it is kept with buoys and stones. Sardines were used as baits. On the other hand, for the Atlantic pomfret fishery, a number of gears of 100-120 used to be set, corresponding to 10 000-14 000 hooks and a main line length between 12-14 nautical miles. In this case, Ammodytidae and *Scomberesox saurus* were the main species used as baits.

Seasonality

All year long

Trip Duration

12 fishing days (during the period 2005-2007)

Ports

The main base ports during the period 2005-2007 were Santa Cruz de Tenerife (Tenerife) in Canary Islands, Santa Eugenia de Ribeira (Pontevedra) in Galicia (NW Iberian Peninsula) and Algeciras (Cádiz) in Andalucía (S Iberian Peninsula).

Fishery Indicators

Type	Measure	Value	Unit	Time period
Nominal Effort	Number of vessels	4	vessels	2007
Participation	Number of fishermen	48 – 56	persons	2009
Production	Catch total	277	tonnes	2005-2009
	Catch <i>Merluccius</i> spp.	167	tonnes	2005-2009
	Catch <i>B. brama</i>	105	tonnes	2005-2009
	Catch <i>Schedophilus</i> spp.	6	tonnes	2005-2009

	Catch Pagellus spp.	5	tonnes	2005-2009
	Catch C. conger	1	tonne	2005-2009

Post Harvest

Fish Utilisation

Consumption

Markets

Vigo (Galicia, NW Iberian Peninsula), Las Palmas and Tenerife (Canary Islands)

Management

Management unit : No

Jurisdictional framework

Management Body/Authority(ies): Ministère des pêches et de l'économie maritime

Mandate: Management.

Area under national jurisdiction: Mauritania

Maritime Area: Exclusive Economic Zone Areas (EEZ).

Management Body/Authority(ies): European Union

Mandate: Flag state responsibility for its fishing vessels operating in foreign area under national jurisdiction.

Area under national jurisdiction: Mauritania

Maritime Area: Exclusive Economic Zone Areas (EEZ).

Legal definition

Black hake trawlers and bottom longliners

Management Regime

Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania (for the period 1 August 2008 to 31 July 2012) (OJ L 203, 31.07.2008, p. 4–59). : Management measures of the Spanish longliners black hake fishery are included in the current Fishery Agreement between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania (OJ L 203, 31.07.2008, p. 4–59) under the fishing category “Black hake trawlers and bottom longliners”.

Fishing agreement expired in July 2012. The new fishing agreement is in the ratification process by the European Parliament, but this type of licences has been extended up to date.

Management Methods

Conservation and management measures with focus to Effort control (licences system), catch control and fish size limits.

- *Aquatic species-related measures*
Minimum fish sizes established by the Fishing Agreement: Hakes (*Merluccius* spp.): 30 cm.
Limitation of by-catches: 50% fish, 0% cephalopods and crustaceans.
- *Gear-related measures*
Gear type (bottom logline and bottom trawl for hake)
- *Vessel-related measures*
Access control: Vessel type (size-Maximum 3 240 GT/per licence period for both longliners and bottom trawlers).
- *Fishing activity-related measures*
Licences, vessel number (Maximum 3 240 GT/per licence period for both longliners and bottom trawlers), closed area (out of the fishing area established by the Agreement) and closed season (to be determined).

Related Fisheries - Fishing activity(ies) managed under the same management unit or being ruled by the same fishing agreement

Spain Bottom wet fish trawlers black hake fishery - Mauritanian waters
Spain Freezer bottom trawl shrimp fishery - Mauritanian waters
Spain Freezing bottom trawlers octopus fishery - Mauritanian waters

More information on fisheries legislation at: FAOLEX legislative database

Status and Trends

Maximum catches of black hakes occurred in 2001. There was a strong drop since 2003, with a minimum of 85 tonnes in 2006. This fishery has mainly targeted *Brama brama* during the last years, with small catches of hakes.

Source of Information

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