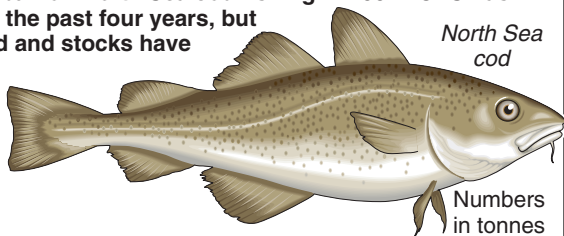


Scientists urge ban on North Sea cod catch

ICES, the body which advises EU governments on fishing quotas, is calling for a complete ban on North Sea cod fishing in 2007. ICES has recommended this for the past four years, but ministers have refused and stocks have continued to dwindle

- Stocks below sustainable limits
- Stocks which need rebuilding
- Stocks recovering



Species	Advice for 2006	TAC* 2006	Advice for 2007
North Sea cod	0	26,500	0
North Sea sandeel	0	300,000	0
Anchovy	0	0	0
Blue whiting	1,500,000	2,100,000	980,000
North Sea plaice	48,000	57,000	32,000
North Sea sole	11,900	17,670	10,800
Mackerel	373,000-487,000	444,000	390,000-509,000
Northern hake	40,000	43,900	50,500
Norwegian spring spawning herring	732,000	967,000	1,280,000

*TAC – Total Allowable Catch – set each year by EU Council of Ministers