



MarinTrust Improver Programme

FIP annual report

North East Atlantic Blue Whiting

(to 30th November 2025)

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Reviewed by: Impacts Manager

Approved by: Assurance and Risk Manager

Overview

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 then be verified by the peer reviewers based on evidence submitted by the applicant.

This report should include an update on all actions outlined in the Fishery Action Plan, even if no demonstrable progress has been made since the last report.

FIP name	North East 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.
- If evidence documents have been submitted during previous reports, this should be clearly identified.
- Each activity being reported on should be clearly linked to the relevant MarinTrust clause and FAP.

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 Milestone report

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. An index table for you to list all evidence documents is provided at the end of this template.

Example table

MT clause	Action ref.	Action in plan	Delivery time	Action update	Progress against action	Outstanding actions and rationale	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 any additional updates or information towards completing this action if there are shorter-term milestones.	Provide any outstanding aspects of this action and explain why they are outstanding.	Provide a link to any evidence and/or summarise relevant points for actions or updates.	What is the current status of this action, select from drop down (i.e. complete, ongoing, not started or delayed)	Provide any additional information here.
M1.2									
Add rows to each table as necessary									

M – Management framework and surveillance, control and enforcement

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N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

A – Category A: Data collection, stock assessment, harvest strategy and stock status

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<p>A3.2 Total fishery removals of this species do 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</p>	1.	1.1. Review the structure of NAPA: Governance; Delivery; Funding with the aim to enhance Engagement through streamlining of Operations	31/12/24	<p>This action was reported completed in the Oct. 2024 FIP update.</p> <p>However, it is noted at this time that the new structure with a dedicated BW Sub-Group and meeting coordination is working well to support more focused efforts on comms and advocacy for BW, as well as for informing NAPA members on work being undertaken. Further points are made in providing action updates against other Tasks.</p> <p>It is also noted that the NAPA Executive Team was cut to two (≈ 0.6 FTE) recently, with Seafish suffering funding constraints and having to withdraw the majority of its support to the FIP in September 2025. Transition to an alternative model for NAPA (to operate as a new, not-for-profit company with a Non-Executive Board) commenced immediately, with the transition well under way at this time (Nov. 2025). Further details will be provided at the next FIP update.</p>	None – completed	None – completed	Reported in 6-month update, Oct. 2024	Complete	There has been one new member since the last update – Hiddenfjord a Faroese salmon company has now joined and will become part of the blue whiting sub-group. This sub-group now has 23 members, including Mowi, Leroy, SalMar, Grieg Seafood, Cermaq, Salmon Group and Hofseth Aqua, which together account for approximately 80% of the Norwegian farmed salmon production.

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point or proxy.		<p>1.2. Communication to continue with Coastal States representatives to promote adherence to exploitation levels consistent with meeting the requirements of Principle 1.</p> <p>Make more use of economic evidence and stock projections to enhance NAPAs advocacy work so that it is harder to ignore or dispute the risks that Coastal State inaction is creating for these fisheries and communities. Examples will include a socio-economic analysis of the</p>	31/10/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal State Engagement <p>In 2025, NAPA embarked on its busiest ever period of engagement with Coastal States.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Meetings undertaken with Coastal State representatives in May-June provided an opportunity firstly to reassert NAPA’s three core asks (i) TAC set at no more than the ICES advice, ii) a comprehensive sharing arrangement to be put in place, and iii) a dispute resolution process to be agreed), and then to better understand the issues or blockers to meeting these objectives according to each Coastal State. A NAPA Meeting Log is provided as evidence (Part 2 of the list):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU delegation: 05/06/25 (Pawel Swiderek (Head of Delegation) and Camille Gallouze; online meeting with NAPA Independent Chair), 26/06/25 (Pawel Swiderek and Camille Gallouze; online meeting with NAPA Exec. team and Steering Committee). Faroese delegation: 11/06/2025 (Ólavur Dalsgarð (Interim Head of 	Ongoing	Further advocacy work will be required to support the adherence to exploitation levels consistent with meeting the requirements of Principle 1. This is ongoing in combination with other advocacy objectives.	<p>References as linked to in the ‘Action update’.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NAPA meeting log (Part 2) ----- (Example) Final letter to CS Minister – Faroes (Example) Final letter to CS Minister – Iceland ----- NAPA submission to NEAFC 2024 NAPA opening statement 2025 ----- NAPA – MarFishEco Statement of Work 	Ongoing	The NAPA catch-sharing proposal is detailed against Task 2.2. It is highlighted that the proposal has been a key focus of NAPA in recent months. This will also be a key Advocacy focus in early 2026 as we engage directly with Ministers to promote the model sharing arrangement as a credible solution to the sharing challenges.

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		<p>impact on businesses of failure to reach agreements (e.g. jobs; revenue generation; support for remote communities; food security and nutritional security impacts across parts of the globe where blue whiting is a nutritious, low cost protein source; and the implications for the global salmon sector). This material will be used in our engagement with CS representatives; Ministers, civil servants and others; and to strengthen NAPA</p>		<p>Delegation) and the Faroese delegation; in-person meeting with NAPA Exec. team and Steering Committee, London).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Icelandic delegation: 11/06/25 (Guðmundur Þórðarson and Þorvarður Atli Þórsson; in-person meeting with NAPA Exec. team and Steering Committee, London). • UK delegation: 06/05/2025 (Colin Faulkner; in-person meeting with NAPA Independent Chair, Barcelona), 11/06/25 (Colin Faulkner; in-person meeting with NAPA Exec. team and Steering Committee, London). • Norwegian delegation: 25/06/25 (Ann-Kristin Westberg (Head of Delegation), Elisabeth Sjørdahl, and Kristine Werdelin Bergan; online meeting with NAPA Exec. team and Steering Committee). <p>-----</p> <p>Letters were sent to every Coastal State Minister in July 2025, to inform them of the work undertaken to develop the NAPA catch- sharing proposal (example letters to the Faroe</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAPA BW sub-group meeting slides, Oct. 2025 <p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mindfully Wired - NAPA press and media log, May-Nov 2025 <p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link to NAPA’s whos-on-board page, where sourcing statements are provided 		

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		Partners sourcing positions.		<p>Islands and Iceland, here). The NAPA proposal is detailed against Task 2.2, below.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Meetings were then undertaken in August-October to present the NAPA catch- sharing proposal to the Coastal States representatives. These are again listed in the NAPA Meeting Log. The NAPA proposal is detailed against Task 2.2, below, but meetings were held as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU delegation: 19/08/25 (Pawel Swiderek and Camille Gallouze; online meeting with NAPA Exec. team and Steering Committee). • Faroese delegation: 20/08/2025 (Faroese delegation; online meeting with NAPA Exec. team and Steering Committee). • Icelandic delegation: 21/08/25 (Guðmundur Þórðarson and Þorvarður Atli Þórsson; online meeting with NAPA Exec. team and Steering Committee). • UK delegation: 11/08/2025 and 15/08/2025 (Colin Faulkner with 					

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				<p>NAPA Exec. team and Steering Committee).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norwegian delegation: 28/08/25 (Ann-Kristin Westberg (Head of Delegation), Elisabeth Sjørdahl, and Brungot Lena; online meeting with NAPA Exec. team and Steering Committee). • Norwegian Minister for Fisheries: 18/09/2025 (Marianne Sivertsen Næss; online meeting with NAPA Exec. team and Steering Committee). • Greenland delegation: 01/10/2025 (Iben Funch Døj, Head of Delegation, online meeting with NAPA Exec. team). • Scottish Government delegation: 02/10/25 (Catherine Whitby, Harriet Wilson; online meeting with NAPA Exec. Team). <p>-----</p> <p>NAPA has attended most of the available Coastal States pelagic plenary sessions since January 2025. It is noted that most Coastal States negotiating meetings do not have plenary sessions</p>					

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				<p>planned, but those that do are usually advertised at very short notice.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>In seeking to influence process, the NAPA Executive attended the NEAFC annual meeting and presented its support for a dispute resolution process in both 2024 (see p.4) and 2025, as well as in side discussions with the NEAFC Secretary, NEAFC Contracting Party (CP) representatives and national fishing representatives during the meetings.</p> <p>NAPA also met with the EU Negotiation Team during the NEAFC meeting to discuss progress.</p> <p>Coastal State delegates have also been invited to attend the Annual NAPA Meeting in December 2025.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>A further important development in this period is the commissioning of MarFishEco consultants to undertake a piece of work entitled “ <i>Economic Impact Assessment of the Potential Failure* of the NAPA Blue Whiting FIP</i>” (where *failure is defined as “the inability to secure a Coastal State</p>					

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				<p>sharing arrangement that aligns with ICES advice, thereby making MSC and MarinTrust certification unachievable”).</p> <p>A Statement of Work was agreed in July, with the core objectives set as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1) Quantify the economic consequences of the FIP failing, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Primary: Increased raw material costs for aquafeed producers sourcing alternative ingredients. - Secondary: Decreased landing and fishmeal sales prices for blue whiting due to reduced demand from certified buyers. • 2) Provide evidence-based narrative support to aid NAPA’s advocacy with Coastal State negotiators, emphasizing broader supply chain impacts beyond catch volume concerns. <p>The work has been proceeding well with NAPA members interviewed and able to provide data inputs to the project.</p>						

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				<p>A brief update was provided in the recent NAPA Blue Whiting Sub-Group meeting (October 2025, p.30) A final report is anticipated by the end of the 2025, and will be reported on in the next update. Importantly, it is anticipated that outputs of the work will inform NAPA’s approach to engaging with Coastal States representatives in coming months.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>NAPA’s communications and advocacy work, led by Mindfully Wired, has continued actively throughout the period, with 22 posts published on LinkedIN regarding the sourcing statements of NAPA partners, the importance of blue whiting to food security and supply, and the need for NAPA’s three core asks to be met. This has maintained the steady ‘drum’ beat’ of activity on social media and has continued to build support. A press and media log is provided.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>NAPA members continued to provide and update their sourcing statements in this period, and there are now 16 NAPA members who explicitly</p>					

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				reference blue whiting, including all the key feed producers within NAPA (Sourcing statements are available from NAPA’s ‘whos-on-board’ page). Many now state that their ability to source blue whiting will cease if the FIP fails. This is a key strength and negotiating position for NAPA in its efforts to influence the catching sector and policy makers / fishery managers.					
		1.3 During negotiations for TACs and sharing arrangements, arrange meetings with catching sector (“roundtable”) to encourage a management solution as well as bilateral and multilateral meetings. Broadened catching sector engagement through more targeted and more frequent	31/10/26	<p>Engagement with the pelagic fishing industry of the Coastal States is a key element of NAPA’s advocacy. NAPA has strengthened its approach to engaging with the pelagic catching sector at a national level (rather than collectively) to extend NAPA’s reach and enhance influence from within the supply chain. NAPA has sought meetings with individual Producer Organisations, many of whom share a common position regarding the need for sustainable catch shares and long-term management strategies, and who may be open to exploring opportunities for collaborative advocacy.</p> <p>Meetings undertaken with Coastal State representatives in May-June provided an opportunity firstly to reassert NAPA’s three core asks (i) TAC</p>	Ongoing	This is an ongoing action	<p>References as linked to in the ‘Action update’.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAPA meeting log (Part 1) ----- • Link to the invite to NAPA’s Barcelona event. • Link to LinkedIn post on NAPA’s Barcelona event. ----- • NAPA submission to NEAFC 2024 	Ongoing	Attempts have been made by NAPA to arrange additional meetings with the catching sector representatives from the UK, Greenland, Norway and the Faroes. Unfortunately, it has not proven easy to engage parties. However, NAPA has continued to work to utilise the networks and contacts of NAPA Partners to try to engage with the

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		meetings. Also exploring opportunities for collaborative advocacy.		<p>set at no more than the ICES advice, ii) a comprehensive sharing arrangement to be put in place, and iii) a dispute resolution process to be agreed), and then to better understand the issues or blockers to meeting these objectives according to each Coastal State. A NAPA Meeting Log is provided as evidence (Part 1 of the list):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK catching sector: 06/05/25 (North Atlantic Fishing Company Ltd.; Barcelona), 06/05/25 (Scottish Pelagic Fishermen’s Association; Barcelona). • EU catching sector: 11/06/25 (Killybegs Fishermen’s Organisation, Irish Fish Producers Organisation, and Irish South and West Fish Producer’s Organisation; London), 23/06/25 (Pelagic Freezer Trawler Association; online), 19/08/2025 (DPPO, Killybegs Fishermen’s Organisation, Pelagic Freezer Trawler Association; online) and 15/09/25 (Killybegs Fishermen’s Organisation, Pelagic Freezer Trawler Association; online). 27/09/25 Killybegs Fishermen’s Organisation, • Faroese catching sector: 11/06/25 (Notaskip ~ Faroese Pelagic Organisation; London). 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAPA opening statement 2025 		catching sectors of these countries.

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Icelandic catching sector: 11/06/25 (Fisheries Iceland; London), 27/08/2025 (Fisheries Iceland, online) and 15/09/25 (Fisheries Iceland, online). • Norwegian catching sector: 25/09/25 (Fiskebat; online). <p>-----</p> <p>Meetings were then undertaken in August-October to present the NAPA catch- sharing proposal to the catching sector representatives. These are again listed in the NAPA Meeting Log. The proposal is detailed against Task 2.2, below, but meetings were held as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU catching sector: 19/08/2025 (DPPO, Killybegs Fishermen’s Organisation, Pelagic Freezer Trawler Association; online) and 15/09/25 (Killybegs Fishermen’s Organisation, Pelagic Freezer Trawler Association; online). • Icelandic catching sector: 27/08/2025 (Fisheries Iceland, online) and 15/09/25 (Fisheries Iceland, online). 					

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norwegian catching sector: 25/09/25 (Fiskebat; online). <p>-----</p> <p>Although not focused on Blue Whiting, NAPA hosted a dedicated mackerel event at Seafood Expo Global 2025 in Barcelona on 06/05/25, entitled 'Failings in North East Atlantic fisheries: mackerel mismanagement and consequences for the global marketplace'. It brought together over 50 seafood supply-chain and sustainability professionals, and catching sector representatives, providing a platform to raise awareness of the marketplace impacts and launch NAPA's 'Mackerel Maths' campaign (read more here). This was a sell-out event, with attendees standing and queuing out of the door.</p> <p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In seeking to influence process, the NAPA Executive attended the NEAFC annual meeting and presented its support for a dispute resolution process in both 2024 (see p.4) and 2025, as well as in side discussions with the NEAFC Secretary, NEAFC Contracting Party (CP) representatives 					

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				and national fishing representatives during the meetings.					
		1.4. Lobby all parties in seeking a joint solution within the framework of a long-term management plan highlighting market consequences of inaction. Use our economic analysis and individual business case studies to create impactful the impact on businesses and wider communities. Activity will also highlight the potential impact of food security / nutritional security and climate change	31/12/25	<p>Together with the focus NAPA has placed on working with and influencing Coastal States and the catching sector, NAPA has undertaken further consultation with other parties in order to pursue the NAPA objectives and, in particular, to develop and promote the NAPA catch-sharing proposal. Meetings are again listed in the NAPA Meeting Log (Part 3 of the List), and have been held as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brim (Iceland, catching and processing) 20/08/25 • LHF (Iceland, catching and processing) 21/08/25 • Arnalax (Iceland, salmon) 29/08/25 • Marin Trust (Certification) 12/09/25 • FirstWater (Iceland, salmon) 19/09/25 • MSC (Certification) 1/10/25 • ASC (Certification) 7/10/25 • EU Long Distance Advisory Committee (stakeholder group for EU 	Ongoing	This is an ongoing action	<p>References as linked to in the 'Action update'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAPA meeting log (Part 3) ----- • NAPA submission to NEAFC 2024 • NAPA opening statement 2025 ----- • Example letter on NAPA's objectives to Japanese businesses 	Ongoing	None

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		implications from sourcing from other fisheries.		<p>fishery management and advice) 15/10/25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28/10/25: SFP update and discussion on how this analysis could be used. • 10/11/25: NGO Observers to NEAFC. <p>-----</p> <p>In seeking to influence process, the NAPA Executive attended the NEAFC annual meeting and presented its support for a dispute resolution process in both 2024 (see p.4) and 2025, as well as in side discussions with the NEAFC Secretary, NEAFC Contracting Party (CP) representatives and national fishing representatives during the meetings.</p> <p>NAPA also met with the EU Negotiation Team during the NEAFC meeting to discuss progress.</p> <p>Coastal State delegates have also been invited to attend the Annual NAPA Meeting in December 2025.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>NAPA has contracted Gunther Errhalt (Errhalt Consulting), a well-respected seafood professional based in East Asia, to support with engaging</p>					

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				Japanese businesses – many of which source and sell NE Atlantic mackerel in Japanese markets – in NAPA’s work and mission. This Japanese engagement is currently progressing, with letters having been sent out to major Japanese buyers in recent weeks (see example letter here , in English).					
		1.5 6-monthly Steering Group Reviews of Progress against actions.	31/10/26	Blue whiting sub-group meetings were held May 2025 and October 2025 , chaired by Dr. Dave Robb (Cargill and NAPA BW Sub-Group Chair) and attended by NAPA members with BW interests. These sessions included a review of activity undertaken against the key objectives of the FIP (including membership of NAPA, communications and advocacy work and the catch sharing proposal, reports on Coastal States (CS) meetings, including analysis of key CS perspectives) as well as BW stock status.	None at this time.	This is an ongoing action.	References as linked to in the ‘Action update’. • NAPA BW sub-group meeting slides, May 2025. • NAPA BW sub-group meeting slides, Oct. 2025	Ongoing	None
	2. Dispute settlement legal framework and	2.1. NAPA reviews and produces a document summarizing the	30/06/26	The NEAFC dispute resolution process is tied to Article 18bis of the NEAFC Convention; this was summarised in a previous NAPA document (NAPA Article 18bis). As part of the	None at this time.	Further advocacy work will be required to support the adoption of a	References as linked to in the ‘Action update’.	Ongoing	None

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	consultation processes	coastal states' and NEAFC's dispute settlement protocols. More focused engagement with NEAFC on the development of a more detailed dispute settlement agreement; Review of the 2004 EU Proposal and its relevance to the current situation; possible/likely provision of suggested text for Coastal States to reach agreement in disputed quota allocations.		discussion on the status of the Convention, this Article is reviewed routinely at NEAFC annual meetings (e.g., 2024 , 2025), but has been subject to an objection by the Russian Federation since 2013 and is therefore not in force. In seeking to influence process, the NAPA Executive attended the NEAFC annual meeting and presented its support for a dispute resolution process in both 2024 (see p.4) and 2025 , as well as in side discussions with the NEAFC Secretary, NEAFC Contracting Party (CP) representatives and national fishing representatives during the meetings. The current global geopolitical situation makes it difficult to see a resolution to this issue through NEAFC (where the Russian Federation is a CP) at this time.		dispute resolution process, through either NEAFC or at the Coastal States. This is ongoing in combination with other advocacy objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEAFC Article 18bis, Dispute resolution_NAPA • NEAFC status of the Convention 2024 • NEAFC status of the Convention 2025 • NAPA submission to NEAFC 2024 • NAPA opening statement 2025 		
		2.2. Lobby a coastal state (e.g. UK) to initiate negotiations for a	31/12/25	In combination with the work undertaken by NAPA against Tasks 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4, The NAPA Executive Team and Steering Committee met seven	None at this time.	Further advocacy work will be required on the catch sharing	References as linked to in the 'Action update'.	Ongoing	The proposal has been welcomed widely, and although NAPA has

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		mechanism, for cooperation and dispute resolution between the Coastal States which is effective in agreeing an appropriate management mechanism consistent with the management plan. Expanded to include all CSs and the Chairs of each of the pelagic species WGs in particular in a manner that extracts specific information relating to their positions and provides a detailed overview of blockers and enablers in the negotiations. This detail will support a		<p>times between January – June 2025 (on the following dates: 10/04/25, 15/04/25, 25/04/25, 02/05/25, 06/06/25, 13/06/25, 26/06/25), to explore an alternative catch share proposal based on historical catches and quota shares. The purpose of the proposal reflects the lack of confidence in Coastal State processes, concerns that a resolution will not be reached in time, and the perceived lack of an effective mediator in the negotiations. Therefore, NAPA has been developing a proposed solution behind closed doors to help break the current stalemate.</p> <p>NAPA’s non-partisan status and lack of affiliation with any single Coastal State is a strength. It positions NAPA uniquely to serve as a mediator and a potential circuit breaker in the stalled negotiations.</p> <p>Since August, NAPA has engaged directly with Coastal State Ministers, negotiators and NEAFC (Task 1.2), the catching sector (Task 1.3), NGOs and others (Task 1.4) to review and refine the proposal.</p> <p>It is highlighted that, rather than focus on lobbying a single Coastal State,</p>		proposal. The key next step is to submit letters to each of the Coastal States Ministers – this will be done in December 2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides- NAPA proposal – Overview • Slides- NAPA proposal - Detailed • NAPA dataset – catches and quotas for ASH, MAC and BW 		<p>paused its active engagement with the Coastal States and the catching sector on the specifics of the proposal while the Coastal States meetings on sharing and TAC setting were being held in September/October (NEAFC website on Coastal States meetings), we expect to submit letters to Coastal States Ministers on the specifics of the proposal in December 2025.</p>

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		targeted approach to advocacy.		<p>which it was thought risked NAPA being perceived by the other parties as selective or exclusionary, NAPA has actively worked to engage all Coastal States (negotiators and catching sector representatives) in developing the proposal.</p> <p>Two presentations were prepared, an 'overview' presentation given to introduce the different parties to the proposal (example, here) and then a 'detailed' presentation (example, here) was also prepared in order to provide additional information where requested. This latter presentation was presented on request to the Icelandic and EU catching sector representatives, and was provided together with the full NAPA catch and quota data set employed in constructing the proposal in order to allow other parties to investigate the data.</p>					
	3. Effective decision-making processes	3.1. Communication to continue with Coastal States representatives to promote delivery of	31/10/26	The work undertaken on Task 3.1 is in conjunction with that undertaken on Task 1.2. The meetings held between NAPA and the Coastal States representatives are detailed, there (and in the NAPA Meeting Log , Part 2).	None at this time.	This is an ongoing action.	References as linked to in the 'Action update'. • NAPA meeting log (Part 2)	Ongoing	None

MT clause	Action ref.	Action in plan	Delivery time	Action update	Progress against action	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
		<p>exploitation levels consistent with meeting the requirements of Principle 1. More specific intelligence gathering on factors related to CS representatives positions. For example, where States are known to be consistently blocking negotiations, then NAPA will prioritise communications accordingly to those positions in a manner that will carry improved chances of impact and influencing the pathway to a successful agreement.</p>		<p>Efforts have been made through attending Coastal States plenary sessions and direct meetings with Coastal States representatives to identify the key issues underlying Coastal States’ positions. The intelligence gathered is summarised in the presentation to the BW Sub-Group from October 2025 (see slides 15, 16, 26-28).</p> <p>Efforts have been made to address identified issues through the development of the NAPA catch sharing proposal (with details in Task 2.2). For example, where concerns were raised over zonal attachment, further analysis was undertaken to determine the extent to which catches have been taken in EEZs versus international waters (NAPA catch and quota data set, penultimate tab: ‘Catches in EEZs and NEAFC’) to understand the extent to which the NAPA proposal addresses concerns.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>In seeking to influence process, the NAPA Executive attended the NEAFC annual meeting and presented its support for a dispute resolution</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAPA BW sub-group meeting slides, Oct. 2025 • NAPA dataset – catches and quotas for ASH, MAC and BW 		

MT clause	Action ref.	Action in plan	Delivery time	Action update	Progress against action	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
				<p>process in both 2024 (see p.4) and 2025, as well as in side discussions with the NEAFC Secretary, NEAFC Contracting Party (CP) representatives and national fishing representatives during the meetings.</p> <p>NAPA also met with the EU Negotiation Team during the NEAFC meeting to discuss progress.</p> <p>Coastal State delegates have also been invited to attend the Annual NAPA Meeting in December 2025.</p>					
		3.2. Engagement with national pelagic catching sector representatives in order to extend NAPAs reach and develop enhanced influence from within the supply chain. Should the Catching Sector in all or some Coastal State nations decide to	30/06/26	<p>Similar to the work undertaken on Task 3.1, the work undertaken on Task 3.2 is in conjunction with that undertaken on Task 1.3. The meetings held between NAPA and the Coastal States representatives are detailed, there (and in the NAPA Meeting Log, Part 1).</p> <p>Efforts have been made through direct meetings with catching sector representatives to identify the key issues underlying Coastal States' positions. The intelligence gathered is summarised in the presentation to the BW Sub-Group from October 2025 (see slides 25-28).</p>	None at this time.	This is an ongoing action.	References as linked to in the 'Action update'. NAPA	Ongoing	There has been no recent progress on the suggestion of a MSC ITM project for Blue Whiting, but NAPA remains committed to supporting such a proposal if there was appetite from the catching sector.

MT clause	Action ref.	Action in plan	Delivery time	Action update	Progress against action	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
		go down the route of an MSC ITM approach, NAPA will also support this. (NAPA has already been in discussions on this topic for several months)							
	4. Ensure Key Data Elements (KDE) information is collected on vessels supplying MarinTrust factories	4.1. Investigate the opportunities for the development of KDEs for the Blue whiting fishery, and the benefits of this framework for sustainable fishery management	12/31/26	This area of work has yet to commence while other aspects of the FIP have been worked on intensively in the recent period. Therefore, there is no progress to report on for this update.	None at this time	N/A	N/A	Not started	None

B – Category B Species

MT clause	Action ref.	Action in plan	Delivery time	Action update	Progress against action	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

C – Category C Species

MT clause	Action ref.	Action in plan	Delivery time	Action update	Progress against action	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

D – Category D Species

MT clause	Action ref.	Action in plan	Delivery time	Action update	Progress against action	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

E – Ecosystem requirements

MT clause	Action ref.	Action in plan	Delivery time	Action update	Progress against action	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	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 progress report which does not relate directly to any of the actions above, but which is relevant to the ongoing monitoring of fishery management status.

The NE Atlantic Blue Whiting FIP is the foundation of NAPA's work to drive sustainability into the management of the blue whiting stock. The FIP was granted an extension in October 2024 for a further two years. Under the extension, there is no departure from the original intention to design this FIP as a “policy FIP”, however there is greater focus on delivering more efficient, effective, and impactful actions building on the solid progress that NAPA has made over its initial three years, irrespective of whether that progress has been reflected at Coastal State level. In parallel to the blue whiting FIP, in April 2024 NAPA secured a two-year extension to its North East Atlantic mackerel and Atlanto-Scandian herring FIP.

Amended timeline

The following section allows the applicant to explain if there are any amendments to the improvement timelines and provide the reasons and evidence for this. This should reference the specific actions as outlined in the progress report.

N/A

Index for evidence documents

MT clause	Action in plan	Evidence document	Link
A3.2	All	Links to specific documents are provided in the text, above. A link to the main GoogleDrive folder is provided at right.	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1czdOFsOEJJB1bnEEg5NRT8_OpFbs8k5L?usp=drive_link