

Saving the most depleted fish in the Northeast Atlantic from the brink



LEGAL CONTEXT AND SPECIES

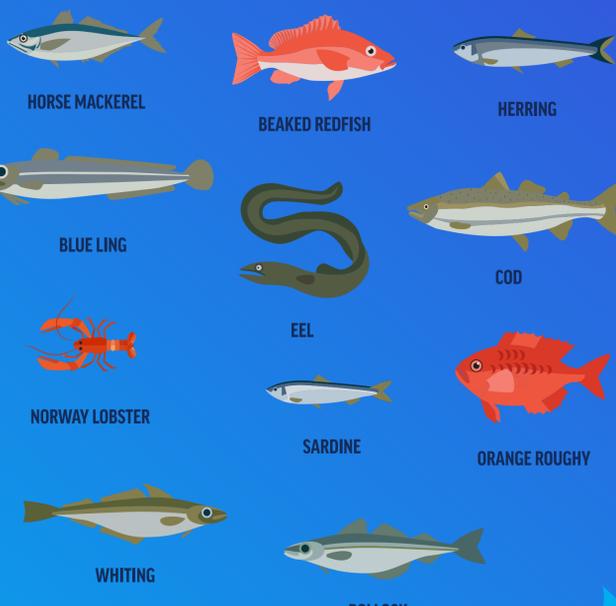
By 2020, EU countries had to restore and maintain commercial fish populations above sustainable levels, via international agreements and European law.

However, due to human pressures like overfishing:

>20 NE ATLANTIC FISH POPULATIONS IN DANGER

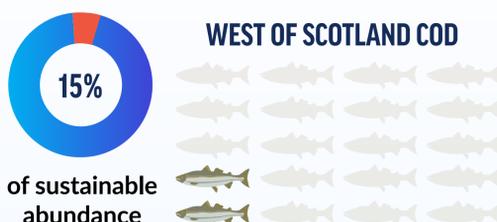
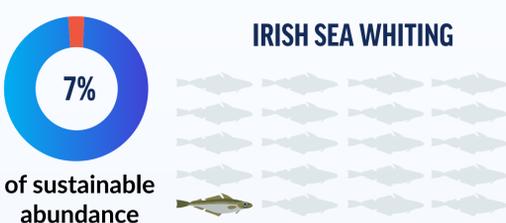
from various species, like herring, eel, and Norway lobster, are severely overexploited

8 DEPLETED POPULATIONS OF COD whose species is in particularly critical condition



POPULATION STATUS

All severely overexploited populations are at a fraction of sustainable abundance levels and below safe biological limits



PROBLEMS

EU countries are not effectively addressing the recovery of long-struggling fish populations

DISREGARDING SCIENTIFIC ADVICE:

decision-makers often ignore recommendations for significant catch reductions or even zero catches



BYCATCH IN MIXED FISHERIES:

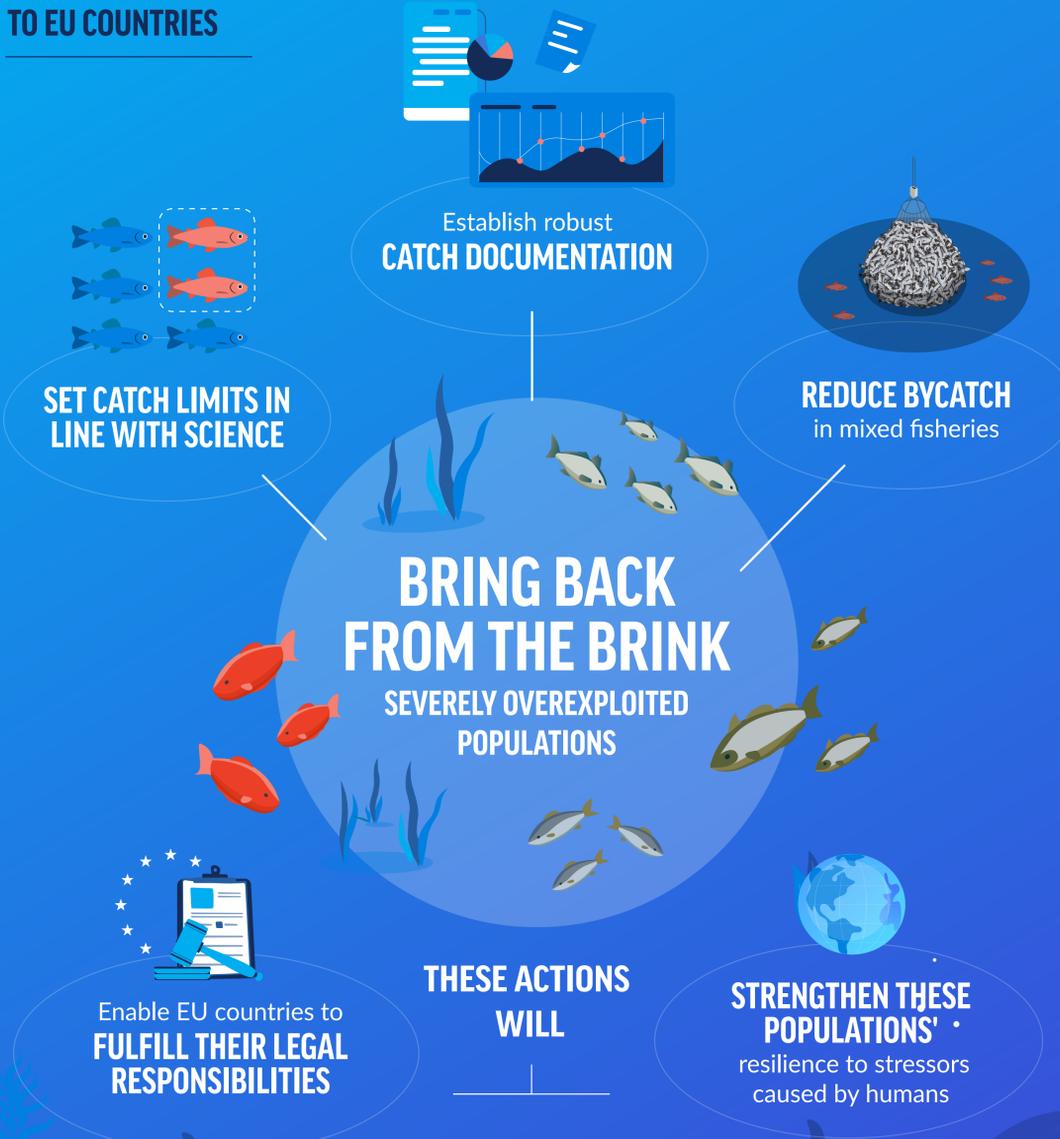
depleted populations are often caught incidentally alongside more abundant targeted ones due to prioritization of productive populations over vulnerable ones

STRESS FACTORS:

the dire condition of these populations makes them more susceptible to human-induced pressures like habitat damage and climate change, further hindering their chances of recovery



RECOMMENDATIONS TO EU COUNTRIES



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