



EMBAJADA DE ESPAÑA  
EN LONDRES

No 249

The Embassy of Spain presents its compliments to the Maritime Policy Unit of the Legal Directorate of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and has the honour to request permission for the Spanish Oceanographic vessel "B/O MIGUEL OLIVER" to carry out the "PELACUS-0318" campaign in British jurisdictional waters, for two or three days, between the 15<sup>th</sup> March and 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

We have the honour to enclose the documentation regarding the abovementioned campaign prepared by the Spanish Institute of Oceanography.

The Embassy of Spain avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Maritime Policy Unit of the Legal Directorate of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office the assurances of its highest consideration.

London, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017



**THE MARITIME POLICY UNIT**  
**LEGAL DIRECTORATE**  
**FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE**

## ANNEX A

### Application for Consent to conduct Marine Scientific Research

Date: 29 of September 2017

#### 1. General Information

1.1 Cruise name and/or number:
PELACUS 0318

1.2 Sponsoring Institution(s):	
Name:	INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL DE OCEANOGRAFÍA (SPANISH INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY)
Address:	Corazón de María, 8. 28002 Madrid. Spain
Name of Director:	Eduardo Balguerías Guerra

1.3 Scientist in charge of the Project:	
Name:	Pablo Carrera
Country:	Spain
Affiliation:	INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL DE OCEANOGRAFÍA (SPANISH INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY)
Address:	Subida a Radiofaro, 502. 36390 Vigo. Spain
Telephone:	+34 986 492 111
Fax:	+34 986 498 626
Email:	Pablo.carrera@ieo.es
Website (for CV and photo):	www.ieo.es

1.4 Entity(ies)/Participant(s) from coastal State involved in the planning of the project	
Name:	Eric Amstrong
Affiliation:	Marine Scotland Science (Scotland, United Kingdom).

Address	375 Victoria Road. PO Box 101. Aberdeen AB11 9DB. UK
Telephone:	+44 1224 295 376
Fax:	
Email:	<a href="mailto:e.armstrong@marlab.ac.uk">e.armstrong@marlab.ac.uk</a>
Website (for CV and photo):	

## 2. Description of Project

### 2.1 Nature and objectives of the project:

Under the frame of two working groups (International Pelagic Surveys, WGIPS, and Acoustic and Egg Surveys for Sardine and Anchovy in ICES Areas 7, 8 and 9, WGACEGG) the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) is routinely providing abundance estimates and distribution of the main pelagic fish species in Atlantic European waters through on field acoustic surveys. These surveys are coordinated within these WG's and most of them are also supported by the DCF (Commission Regulation (EC) No. 665/2008 of the 14 July 2008). Spain, through the Spanish Institute of Oceanography, is routinely prospecting the north Iberian waters in spring (i.e. the main spawning season) to assess the abundance of the main pelagic fish species.

Regarding blue whiting, the bulk of the spawning stock seems to be located off Irish coasts, mainly in Porcupine bank area at the end of winter beginning spring. After the spawning, there is a feeding migration moving fish northwards. The International Blue Whiting Spawning Stock Survey (IBWSS) is an acoustic-trawl survey which is yearly conducted, covering this area at the spawning season (i.e. 51°30' to 62°N). Last survey was carried out on board 4 different vessels (R/V's Magnus Heinason, Tridens and Celtic Explorer and M/S Kings Bay). The time series dated from the seventies and provides fishery independent data for the assessment of the population. Although blue whiting inhabiting European waters is considered a single stock, few information has been collected south this area. Aiming at to fill this gap, the IEO, will extend the area covered by PELACUS (ICES 9a and 8c) northwards, reaching up south 52° to prospect the southern part of the blue whiting distribution at the spawning time. Namely, it will cover the continental shelf-break around ICES Divisions 8abd and 7hj. This northwards extension of the survey will be integrated in the "International Blue Whiting Spawning Stock Survey" (IBWSS), which will cover next year the whole potential distribution of the blue whiting stock.

The IEO has already conducted blue whiting surveys in this area. Within the frame of the EU (FAIR) Shelf Edge Fisheries and Oceanography Studies (SEFOS) two surveys were carried out in 1994 and 1996 covering up to 48°N. The experience obtained during this project has been used to design this extension.

Nevertheless, survey design and strategies will be defined at the beginning of the next year in a meeting to be held in Amsterdam from 15th to 19th January. Accounting this, the survey proposal would slightly be modified, in order to ensure a better coordination among all countries (and research vessels) involved in the project.

### 2.2 If designated as part of a larger scale project, then provide the name of the project and the Organisation responsible for coordinating the project:

Survey name: INTERNATIONAL BLUE WHITING SPAWNING STOCK SURVEY (IBWSS).

Coordinated within the frame of the ICES Working Group on International Pelagic Surveys

Survey Coordinator: Ebba Mortensen, Faroe Marine Research Institute, Tórshavn, Faroe

islands

WG Chairs: Sascha Fässler from Wageningen Marine Research IJmuiden (Netherlands) and Mathias Schaber from Johann Heinrich Thünen -Institut, Hamburg (Germany).

### 2.3 Relevant previous or future research projects

The International Blue Whiting Spawning Stock is conducted yearly and provides the only fishery independent SSB estimate of this specie used in the assessment at the Working Group "Widely Distributed Stocks (WGWIDE)". Previously, the results were used by the ICES Blue Whiting Assessment Working Group. The survey north 51°30' started in the seventies and applies the echointegration method to estimate the blue whiting abundance.

### 2.4 Previous publications relating to the project:

The results of these surveys are analysed and discussed at the WGIPS meeting and they may be consulted in the reports submitted by the group (ICES webpage). Besides results from the International Blue Whiting Spawning Stock Survey is available as working document submitted both at the WGIPS and to the WGWIDE. Another relevant peer review articles are

Barsch, J., Coombs, S., 1997. A numerical model of the dispersion of blue whiting larvae, *Micromesistius poutassou* (Risso), in the eastern North Atlantic. *Fisheries Oceanography* 6, 141–154.

Carrera, P., Porteiro, C., and Valdés, L. 1996. Depth and spatial distribution of blue whiting juveniles in Bay of Biscay. *ICES C.M.* 1996/S:15.

Carrera, P., Meixide, M., Porteiro, C., Miquel, J. 2001. Study of the blue whiting movements around the Bay of Biscay using acoustic methods. *Fish. Res.*, 50 (1-2). 151-161

Hátún, H., Payne, M.R., Jacobsen, J.A., 2009. The North Atlantic subpolar gyre regulates the spawning distribution of blue whiting (*Micromesistius poutassou*). *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* 66, 759–770.

Payne, M.R., Egan, A., Fässler, S. M. M., Hátún, H., Holst, J. C., Jacobsen, J. A., Slotte, A., Loeng, H. 2012. The rise and fall of the NE Atlantic blue whiting (*Micromesistius poutassou*). *Marine Biology Research*. Volume 8 (5-6). 475-487

Pedersen, G., Godø, O. R., Ona, E., and Macaulay, G. J. 2011. A revised target strength–length estimate for blue whiting (*Micromesistius poutassou*) implications for biomass estimates. *ICES Journal of Marine Science*, 68: 2222–2228

Pointin F, Payne MR. 2014. A Resolution to the Blue Whiting (*Micromesistius poutassou*) Population Paradox? *PLoS ONE* 9(9): e106237. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0106237.

Zilanov, V. K. 1980. Short results of the Soviet study of blue whiting (*Micromesistius poutassou*, Risso) ecology in North Atlantic. *ICES CM* 1980/H.32

### 3. Geographical Areas

3.1 Indicate geographical areas in which the project is to be conducted (with reference in latitude and longitude in degrees, including coordinates of cruise track/way points/ sampling stations). Please provide coordinates in a table format using a separate excel spreadsheet.

Nº	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			Cap	Dis
Rad	º mim cent			º mim cent			º mim cent			º mim cent			(nmi)	
1	48	40	75	11	23	29	49	11	96	11	8	18	18	32.8
2	49	2	7	10	43	45	48	33	5	10	57	50	198	30.5
3	48	24	90	10	31	93	48	53	46	10	18	10	18	30.0
4	48	51	12	9	49	71	48	16	21	10	6	61	198	36.7
5	47	57	93	9	45	95	48	37	37	9	26	85	18	41.4
6	48	29	90	9	0	95	48	0	96	9	14	96	198	30.4
7	47	56	28	8	47	71	48	17	89	8	37	25	18	22.7
8	48	16	91	8	8	20	47	35	89	8	28	7	198	43.1
9	47	28	79	8	1	98	48	3	9	7	45	38	18	36.1
10	47	55	32	7	19	62	47	25	85	7	33	89	198	31.0
11	47	21	85	7	6	31	47	39	8	6	57	97	18	18.1
12	47	34	62	6	30	61	47	14	83	6	40	19	198	20.8
13	47	5	69	6	15	10	47	24	28	6	6	10	18	19.6
14	47	19	30	5	39	0	46	49	98	5	53	18	198	30.9
15	46	41	45	5	27	80	47	3	6	5	17	33	18	22.8
16	46	50	14	4	54	7	46	25	6	5	6	21	198	26.4
17	46	9	65	4	44	16	46	30	80	4	33	91	19	22.3
18	46	19	40	4	9	92	45	57	79	4	20	38	198	22.8
19	45	39	51	3	59	71	46	2	48	3	48	59	19	24.2
20	45	44	58	3	27	74	45	24	93	3	37	25	199	20.7
21	44	59	25	3	20	17	45	25	70	3	7	36	19	27.9
22	45	12	2	2	44	47	44	55	10	2	52	66	199	17.9
23	44	36	52	2	32	14	45	4	93	2	18	38	19	30.0

Acoustic tracks in 7hj and 8abd. CTD casts stations will be placed on these tracks. Besides fishing station will be done round the transects.

3.2 Attach chart(s) at an appropriate scale (1 page, high-resolution) showing the geographical areas of the intended work and, as far as practicable, the location and depth of sampling stations, the tracks of survey lines, and the locations of installations and equipment.

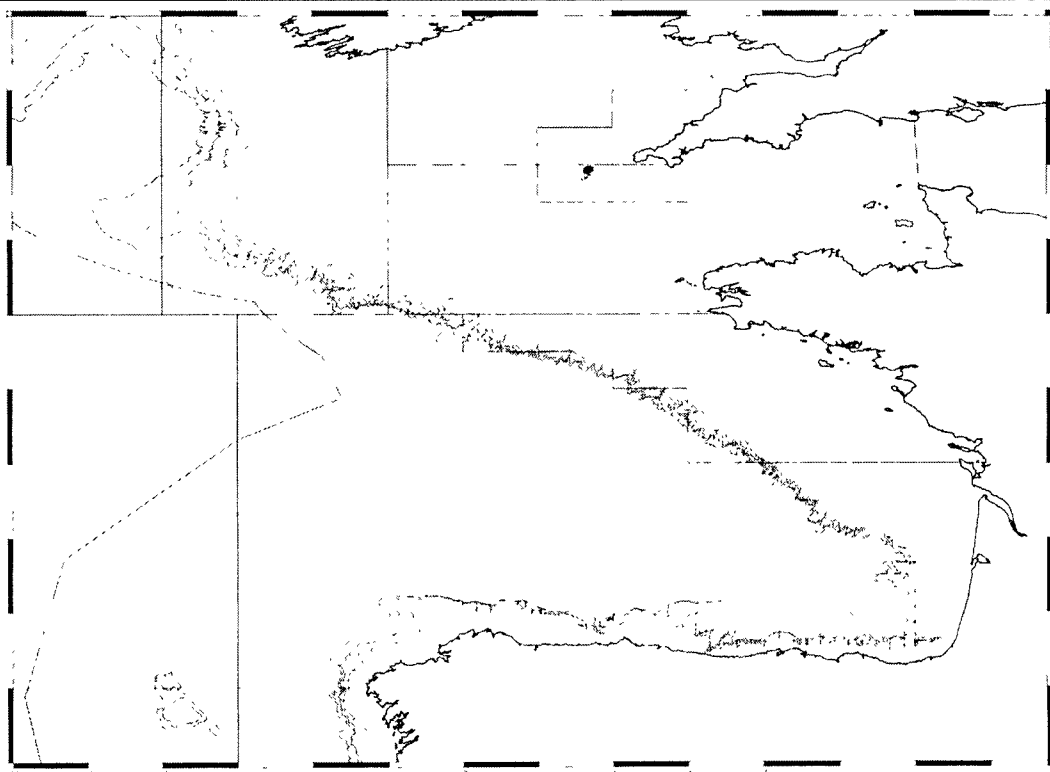


Figure showing the proposal of survey track for PEALCUS 0318 (red transects). It also includes the ICES divisions and, in blue, the limit of UK Exclusive Economic Zone. Over the track, acoustic records will be taken together with continuous records of salinity, temperature and fluorometry. Fishing station will be also conducted if blue whiting is available. Besides CTD casts will be also done. This draft could be updated in January as outcome of the recommendations of the ICES Working Group on International Pelagic Surveys which will take place in Amsterdam from 15th to 19th. The area is expected to be prospected between mid March-Mid April.

#### 4. Methods and means to be used

4.1 Particulars of vessel:	
Name:	B/O Miguel Oliver
Type/Class:	Fishery Research Vessel
Nationality (Flag State):	Spanish
Identification Number (IMO/Lloyds No )	9335381
Owner:	Secretaría General de Pesca. Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente (SGP-MAGRAMA)
Operator:	TRAGSA
Overall length (meters).	70 m

Maximum draft:	14.40 m
Displacement/Gross Tonnage:	2495 GT
Propulsion	Diesel - electric
Cruising & maximum speed:	12 knots
Call sign:	ECLX
INMARSAT number and method and capability of communication (including emergency frequencies):	00870761149996
Name of Master:	Not available yet
Number of Crew:	22
Number of Scientists on board:	21

#### 4.2 Particulars of Aircraft:

Name:	
Make/Model	
Nationality (flag State):	
Website for diagram & Specifications:	
Owner:	
Operator:	
Overall Length (meters)	
Propulsion	
Cruising & Maximum speed:	
Registration No.:	
Call Sign	
Method and capability of communication (including emergency frequencies):	
Name of Pilot:	
Number of crew:	
Number of scientists on board:	
Details of sensor packages:	

Other relevant information:	
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4.3 Particulars of Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV).	
Name:	
Manufacturer and make/model:	
Nationality (Flag State)	
Website for diagram & Specifications.	
Owner.	
Operator:	
Overall length (meters)	
Displacement/Gross tonnage	
Cruising & Maximum speed	
Range/Endurance:	
Method and capability of communication (including emergency frequencies):	
Details of sensor packages.	
Other relevant information:	

4.4 Other craft in the project, including its use:

4.5 Particulars of methods, full description of scientific instruments to be used (for fishing gear specify type and dimension and for geophysical survey the type of equipment, source levels, frequency and duty cycle to be used) and location.			
Types of samples and measurements:	Methods to be used:	Instruments to be used:	To be carried out within 12nm (yes or no):
Acoustic	Echointegration	Simrad EK60 (18-38-70-120 and 200 kHz transducers)	No
Fish length and biological samples	Catch	Pelagic gears	No
Ichthyoplankton	Sea subsurface	CUFES	No



	continuous records		
Salinity, Temperature and Fluorimetry	Sea surface continuous records	Thermosalinograph, fluorimeter	No
Salinity, Temperature and Fluorimetry. Water samples	Water column	CTD+rosette casts	No

4 6 Indicate nature and quantity of substances to be released into the marine environment:

No substances will be released

4 7 Indicate whether drilling will be carried out If yes, please specify:

NO

4 8 Indicate whether explosives will be used. If yes, please specify type and trade name, chemical content, depth of trade class and stowage, size, depth of detonation, frequency of detonation, and position in latitude and longitude:

NO

## 5. Installations and Equipment

5 1 Details of installations and equipment (including dates of laying, servicing, method and anticipated timeframe for recover, as far as possible exact locations and depth, and measurements):

Not applicable

## 6. Dates

6 1 Expected dates of first entry into and final departure from the research area by the research vessel and/or other platforms:

Two or three days between 15th March and 15th April, on account the international coordination of the survey

6.2 Indicate if multiple entries are expected:
Not applicable

## 7. Port calls

7.1 Dates and Names of intended ports of call:
Not Port of call

7.2 Any special logistical requirements at ports of call:
Not applicable

7.3 Name/Address/Telephone of shipping agent (if available):

## 8. Participation of the representative of the coastal State

8.1 Modalities of the participation of the representative of the coastal State in the research project:
Common analysis and estimates of the blue whiting abundance by age and spatial distribution. Common sharing database, useful information to be provided at the ICES Working Group on the Assessment of Widely Distributed Stocks

8.2 Proposed dates and ports for embarkation/disembarkation:
Not applicable

## 9. Access to data, samples and research results

9.1 Expected dates of submission to coastal State of preliminary report, which should include the expected dates of submission of the data and research results:
End of August 2018

9.2 Anticipated dates of submission to the coastal State of the final report:
November 2018

9.3 Proposed means for access by coastal State to data (including format) and samples:
By contact with Pablo Carrera (email: pablo.carrera@ieo.es)

9.4 Proposed means to provide coastal State with assessment of data, samples and research results.
By contact with Pablo Carrera (email: pablo.carrera@ieo.es)

9.5 Proposed means to provide assistance in assessment or interpretation of data, samples and research results:
By contact with Pablo Carrera (email: pablo.carrera@ieo.es)

9.6 Proposed means of making results internationally available
By contact with Pablo Carrera (email: pablo.carrera@ieo.es)

## 10. Other permits submitted

10.1 Indicate other types of coastal state permits anticipated for this research (received or pending)
Not applicable

## 11. List of supporting documentation

11.1 List of attachments, such as additional forms required by the coastal State, etc :

Signature:

Contact information of the focal point.

Name: Pablo Carrera

Country: Spain

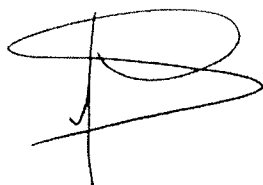
Affiliation: INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL DE OCEANOGRAFÍA (SPANISH INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY)

Address: Subida a Radiofaro, 502 36390 Vigo. Spain

Telephone: + 34 986 492 111

Fax: +34 986 498 626

Email: pablo.carrera@ieo.es

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'P' and 'C' intertwined.