



Ms. Charlina Vitcheva
Director-General for
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MARE)
European Commission
Rue Josef II 99
1000 Brussels
Belgium

Dun Laoghaire, 02 October 2020

Dear Ms Vitcheva,

Subject: TAC setting for cod, haddock and whiting in Irish Sea statistical rectangles, 33E2 and 33E3

During the most recent meeting of the North Western Waters AC's Working Group 4 (Irish Sea), its members discussed the drafting of advice on the Commission's consultation on Fishing Opportunities 2021.

Members noted that their request for clarification contained in last year's response on the same subject¹ had not been addressed and would like to reiterate their query as it is still valid for the 2021 TAC setting for the above mentioned stocks.

"It is noted that catches of cod, haddock and whiting in the two Irish Sea statistical rectangles, 33E2 and 33E3, are included in the relevant assessment for the Celtic Sea and not in the Irish Sea assessments. For cod and haddock, the catches in these statistical rectangles are quite significant (18% of catches of cod and 7.5% of haddock). However, as it is not altogether clear how this translates into setting the TACs for these stocks in the Irish Sea and Celtic Sea the NWWAC seeks clarification as to whether these catches are included in the TACs for the Irish Sea or Celtic Sea."

Thank you for your attention on this matter, I look forward to your response.

Best regards,

Emiel Brouckaert
Chairman Executive Committee

¹ NWWAC Response to the Consultation on Fishing Opportunities for 2020 ([link](#))

