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**EU Transparency Register Id. No: 8900132344-29**

**ADVICE DRAFTING GUIDELINES**

**Response to the Communication from the European Commission**

**Consultation on the Fishing Opportunities for 2017 (**[**COM/2016/396**](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1466056863647&uri=COM:2016:396:FIN)**)[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**July 2016**

***Note on the process for the drafting of advice***

*In previous years, the NWWAC replied to both to the ‘policy paper’ (i.e. The consultation from the EC on the TACs) in autumn, and then again to the TAC proposal itself, in December[[2]](#footnote-2). The suggestion from the Executive Committee at the meeting in Paris (2nd February 2016) was for the AC to be efficient and proactive and provide input to the TAC proposal as it is being drafted, making use of the EC Consultation and the ICES advice in this process. For those stocks, for which ICES advice is released in autumn, the AC will draft its response in November.*

*In this context, the Executive Committee do not anticipate that specific advice will be drafted on the TAC proposal itself, unless there are specific regional issues that need to be addressed.*

*The Working Groups are asked to reflect on specific issues concerning species and management for their specific sub-region at the WG meetings in July.*

*The NWWAC aims to finalise the reply to the consultation by 1st September, 2016.*

**General comments**

The NWWAC intends that this advice will be its major contribution to the development of the thinking of the EC and relevant Member States on the fishing opportunities in the North Western Waters.

*To be finalised by ExCom.*

**Consultation document**

Multi-Annual plan – the use of F ranges

* Mixed fisheries advice for the Celtic Sea

*Comments on the application of this approach for the NWW*

Development of the State of Stocks

*Comments based on WG input (see below)*

2017 Proposals for TACs

1. Stocks with MSY assessment;
2. Other stocks:
   1. Stocks with data available to determine MSY proxies,
   2. Stocks with survey-assessed trends or with catch time series,
   3. Stocks with a presumption of stability,
   4. Stocks with biological advice;
3. TACs and the obligation to land all catches.

*Comments on the methodology proposed – based on WG input (see below)*

Report on the implementation of the landing obligation

*General comments based on WG input (see below)*

**Specific comments by region**

1. **West of Scotland; ICES areas Vb (EC) VIa, VIb and Western Approaches**

[WG 1]

1. **West of Ireland and Celtic Sea; ICES area VII (except VIIa, VIId and VIIe)**

[WG 2]

1. **English Channel; ICES areas VIId and VIIe**

[WG 3]

1. **Irish Sea; ICES area VIIa**

[WG 4]

Development of the State of Stocks

Irish Sea

Deep-sea species

2017 Proposals for TACs

*Comments on the methodology proposed relevant to the WG sub-region*

Report on the implementation of the landing obligation

*Provide information on specific changes in fisheries practices relevant the setting of TACs.*

*NB: Please restrict comments to specific, sub-regional issues*

TACs in VIIa:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Stocks** | **Areas** | **Specific comments?** |
| Alfonsinos | III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII  and XIV |  |
| Anglerfish | VII |  |
| Black scabbardfish | V, VI, VII, XII |  |
| Blue ling | Vb, VI and VII |  |
| Cod | VIIa |  |
| Deep-sea sharks | V, VI, VII, VIII and IX |  |
| Greater forkbeard | V, VI and VII |  |
| Greater silver smelt | V, VI and VII |  |
| Haddock | VIIa |  |
| Hake | VI and VII, Vb, XII and XIV |  |
| Ling | VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV |  |
| Megrims | VII |  |
| Nephrops | VII | ICES advice in Autumn |
| Orange roughy | VII |  |
| Plaice | VIIa |  |
| Pollack | VII |  |
| Red seabream | VI, VII and VIII |  |
| Roundnose and roughhead grenadier | Vb, VI and VII |  |
| Saithe | VII, VIII, IX and X |  |
| Skates and rays | VIa, VIb, VIIa-c and e-k | ICES advice in Autumn |
| Sole | VIIa |  |
| Spurdog | I, V, VI, VII, VIII, XII and XIV | ICES advice in Autumn |
| Tusk | V, VI and VII |  |
| Whiting | VIIa |  |

1. **Stocks where scientific advice is provided in Autumn**

The NWWAC will, if necessary, provide further comment on stocks, for which the advice release date from ICES is scheduled after at the end of October 2016:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Had-346a | Haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) in Subarea 4 and Divisions 6.a and 3.a West (North Sea, West of Scotland, Skagerrak) |
| ang-ivvi | Anglerfish (*Lophius piscatorius* and *L. budegassa*) in Subareas IV, **VI** and Division IIIa (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegatt) |
| meg-rock | Megrim (*Lepidorhombus spp.*) in Division VIb (Rockall) |
| nep-11 | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp.*) in Division VIa, FU 11 (West of Scotland, North Minch) |
| nep-12 | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp.*) in Division VIa, FU 12 (West of Scotland, South Minch) |
| nep-13 | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp.*) in Division VIa, FU 13 (West of Scotland, the Firth of Clyde and Sound of Jura) |
| nep-14 | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp.*) in Division VIIa, FU 14 (Irish Sea, East) |
| nep-15 | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp.*) in Division VIIa, FU 15 (Irish Sea, West) |
| nep-16 | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp.*) in Division VIIb,VIIc,VIIj,VIIk, FU 16 (West and Southwest of Ireland, Porcupine Bank ) |
| nep-17 | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp*.) in Division VIIb, FU 17 (West of Ireland, Aran Grounds) |
| nep-19 | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp.*) in Division VIIa,VIIg,VIIj, FU 19 (Irish Sea, Celtic Sea, Eastern Southwest of Ireland) |
| nep-2021 | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp*.) in Division VIIg,VIIh, FU 20 and FU 21 (Celtic Sea) |
| nep-22 | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp*.) in Division VIIg,VIIf, FU 22 (Celtic Sea, Bristol Channel) |
| nep-oth-6a | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp*.) in Division VIa, outside the Functional Units (West of Scotland) |
| nep-oth-7 | Norway lobster (*Nephrops spp*.) in Subarea VII, outside the Functional Units (Southern Celtic Seas, Southwest of Ireland) |

1. **Skates and Rays**

Focus Group on Rays

1. And the accompanying [Commission Staff working document](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=SWD:2016:199:FIN) (available in English only) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. For example in 2015 – [Opinion on the EC communication, 30 September 2015](http://www.nwwac.org/_fileupload/Opinions%20and%20Advice/Year%2010/NWWAC_Consultation_Fishing_opportunities_2016_EN.pdf),   
    – and [Advice on the TAC proposal, 8 December 2015](http://www.nwwac.org/publications/nwwac-response-to-the-ec-proposal-on-fishing-opportunities-for-2016.2023.html) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)