



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR  
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES  
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN  
WATERS  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA  
LAS AGUAS  
NOROCCIDENTALES



## TERMS OF REFERENCE

**Title:**

**Joint Focus Group between the NWWAC and NSAC on management measures for skates and rays (FG Skates & Rays)**

**Chair:**

tbd

**Vice-Chair:**

tbd

**Rapporteur:**

Mo Mathies, NWWAC Secretariat  
Tamara Talevska, NSAC Secretariat

**Working language:**

English

**Time frame and deadline:**

A 6-month period (March 2020 – September 2020) to

- 1) respond to the specific request from the Scheveningen Group (Deadline 01 May 2020), and
- 2) to address ongoing issues re. management of skates and rays (Deadline 31 August 2020)

Due to the outbreak of COVID-19 and related restrictions regarding travel, the group will commence its work via virtual meetings. The Secretariats will monitor the situation and organise a face to face meeting for all group members should this be required and once travel restrictions have been lifted.

**NWWAC**

The FG Skates & Rays will function within the Horizontal Working Group. The paper will undergo a written procedure at the NWWAC ExCom for revision and adoption. A final report to be presented at NWWAC September 2020 meeting in Dublin

**NSAC**

In absence of the NSAC Demersal Working Group chair, the Skates and Rays Focus Group will report directly to NSAC Executive Committee, with interim updates to Landing Obligation FG. The paper will undergo a written procedure at the NSAC ExCom for revision and adoption.



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#### Objective:

- 1 Develop response to the request from the Scheveningen Group, including:**
  - a) Overview at fleet level of measures and best practice measures taken
  - b) Separation in avoidance, selectivity and survival (as in LO exemption text)
  - c) Advice on future measures that could be developed
  
- 2 Develop advice to Commission and MS on improving management of skates and rays**
  - a) Revisit previous advice from both ACs and formulate an advice paper on improved management
  - b) Review results from SUMARiS, discuss merits

#### Members NWWAC

Caroline Gamblin	CNPMEM	IND	FR
John Lynch	Irish Fishermen's Organisation	IND	IE
Johnny Woodlock	Irish Seal Sanctuary	OIG	IE
Geert Meun	VisNed	IND	NL
Mo Mathies	Rapporteur, Secretariat	Sec	

#### Members NSAC

Irene Kingma	North Sea Foundation	OIG	NL
Paddy Walker	Dutch Elasmobranch Society	OIG	NL
Manon Joguet	From Nord	IND	FR
Sander Meyns	Rederscentrale	IND	BE
Tamara Talevska	Rapporteur, Secretariat	Sec	