



Dirk Van Guyze
Chairman NWW MSG
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1030 Brussel
Belgium

Dun Laoghaire, 06 May 2022

Dear Mr Van Guyze,

Subject: NWWAC advice on the draft 2022 Joint Recommendation Technical Measures in the North Western Waters

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Joint Recommendation Technical Measures in the North Western Waters.

The North Western Waters Advisory Council (NWWAC) welcomes the draft received from your services on 26 April 2022 and the information obtained from the NWW MS High Level Group meeting on 26 April 2022. However, the NWWAC would like to point out that, similar to previous years, the tight timeline for provision of AC advice makes it difficult to ensure adequate stakeholder consultation.

Overall, the NWWAC supports the NWW Member States Group initiative and agrees with the proposal included in the Joint Recommendation to extend the following technical measures in NWW as provided for in Article 15(2) and Annex VI Part B of Regulation (EU) No 1241/2019:

- 1) dual cod end with the uppermost cod-end constructed with T90 mesh and fitted with a separation panel in *Nephrops* fisheries;
- 2) 100mm T90 cod-end in the Irish Sea.

We reiterate the importance of close cooperation between the AC and the Regional Member States' Group for the continual improvement of fisheries management in the North Western Waters. Whilst the Member States Group is developing the Joint Recommendation, the NWWAC greatly appreciates being kept informed of any changes and requests made by the Commission for adjustments, as well as being asked for input where relevant.

Yours sincerely,

Emiel Brouckaert
NWWAC Chairman

