



Dr Susan Steele
European Fisheries Control Agency
Edificio Odriozola, Avenida García Barbón 4
E-36201 Vigo
Spain

Dun Laoghaire, 31 July 2023

Dear Dr Steele,

Subject: EFCA / NWWAC Cooperation – Follow-Up Ask

Earlier this year at the March meetings of the North Western Waters Advisory Council (NWWAC) in Santiago de Compostela we were pleased to arrange a presentation to members of our Executive Committee following a request from your representatives. Though arranged at short notice, it was a pleasure to host EFCA and to enter into a dialogue on various issues raised by our members.

We had hoped to continue this dialogue at the July meeting of our Horizontal Working Group in Ghent, Belgium, however we were informed three weeks prior to the meeting that no EFCA representative could attend due to other missions and staff holidays. Subsequently the NWWAC Secretariat communicated with EFCA representatives in order to reschedule this dialogue for the next fully virtual meeting of our Horizontal Working Group scheduled for 26 September. Unfortunately, a new arrangement could not be confirmed for September much to the disappointment of our members.

Since last year we have also been discussing holding a joint workshop between NWWAC, EFCA and the Member States Control Group. You may recall that this has been mentioned repeatedly in the EFCA Advisory Board meetings. In light of the difficulties of your representatives to join us at our September meetings, I would like to suggest that we arrange this bilateral workshop at the beginning of October and address all issues of relevance. The NWWAC Secretariat will be pleased to directly liaise with the relevant EFCA team members regarding this.

Whilst writing using the opportunity to also add a new specific issue, we were made aware of EFCA carrying out an evaluation on the weighing procedures in the Member States and would like to ask if EFCA considers it useful to for the NWWAC to prepare advice on this and to make this a subject for the NWWAC Focus Group on Control, Enforcement and Compliance.

We thank you for your attention on these matters and look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

Emiel Brouckaert
NWWAC Chair

