

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Title:

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

Chair:

John Lynch, Irish South & East FPO

Vice-Chair:

tbc

Rapporteur:

Mo Mathies, NWWAC Secretariat

Working language:

English

Time frame and deadline:

A standing Focus Group

- 1) respond to the specific request from the Commission or the Member States Groups
- 2) to address ongoing issues regarding the management of skates and rays
- 3) to address issues arising within the advisory process

The group will carry out its work via virtual meetings. In-person meetings and/or workshops for all group members may be organised.

NWWAC

The FG Skates & Rays will function within the Horizontal Working Group. Draft advice will undergo a written procedure in the NWWAC HWG and the ExCom for revision and adoption.

NSAC

The Skates and Rays Focus Group will report to the NSAC Demersal Working Group. Draft advice will undergo a written procedure at the NSAC Demersal WG and ExCom for revision and adoption.

Objective:

- 1 Develop advice to the Commission and/or Member States Groups when requested**
 - 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) Management of Group TAC
 - d) Advice on any additional future measures
- 2 Develop advice to Commission and MS on improving management of skates and rays**
 - a) Build on previous advice from both ACs to include in formulation of advice papers on improved management
 - b) Review results from relevant scientific projects, invite experts from research institutes, discuss merits
- 3 Develop advice to the Commission and MS on issues arising in the advisory process**
 - a) Engage with relevant parties in the advisory process
 - b) Invite experts from ICES to FG meetings
- 4 Participate in UK consultations on skates & rays management**

Members:

Michael Andersen	Danmarks Fiskeriforening	IND	DK	NSAC
Falke de Sager	BFPO	IND	BE	NWWAC/NSAC
Pauline Delalain	CNP MEM	IND	FR	NWWAC/NSAC
Franck Le Barzick	COBRENORD	IND	FR	NWWAC
John Lynch	Irish Fishermen's Organisation	IND	IE	NWWAC
Geert Meun	VisNed	IND	NL	NWWAC/NSAC
Amerik Schuitemaker	Nederlandse Vissersbond	Ind	NL	NWWAC/NSAC
Solène Prevallet	FROM Nord	IND	FR	NWWAC/NSAC
Sofie Smedegaard Mathiesen	Danmarks Fiskeriforening	IND	DK	NSAC