

Reduction of by-catches in the NWW

Dec 2017

- Joint Statement along with the R(EU) 2018/120 to improve selectivity in the Celtic Sea gadoid fishery, in the *Nephrops* fisheries in the Irish Sea

May 2018

- Submission by NWW Member State Group of a set of technical measures in the Celtic Sea

Summer
2018

- Assessment by STECF of the NWW Joint Recommendation

Oct 2018

- Adoption by the Commission of the R(EU) 2018/46 establishing a discard ban for demersal fisheries in the NWW

Dec 2018

- Joint Statement along with the R(EU) 2019/124 for a by catch reduction plan for the 5 stocks for which ICES had relased a zero catch advice for 2019



On by-catch reduction plans and control measures (North West Waters Group, i.e. Belgium, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom, and the Commission)

Member States cooperating in the North-Western Waters, in close cooperation with the North Western Waters Advisory Council, will prepare a by-catch reduction plan to ensure that by-catches of the stocks for which ICES has issued zero catch advice for 2019 are reduced through selectivity or avoidance measures. To this end the Member States concerned will submit to the Commission a by-catch reduction plan at the latest on 30 April 2019. By-catch reduction plans will contain measures such as more selective gears, area closures, real time closures, avoidance measures and move-on rules. They may build on the latest relevant discard plans. The by-catch reduction plans should be adapted to the species in question and be chosen from the above catalogue of measures according to the specificities of each fishery. The plans will be assessed by the STECF regarding their effectiveness. The Chair of the North Western Waters Group will report to the Commission by 1 October every year on progress achieved with the by-catch reduction plan.

In line with the Control Regulation, the Member States will undertake all appropriate control measures to ensure that by-catches of the stocks for which ICES has issued zero catch advice for 2019 are strictly unavoidable and that no discards take place beyond levels allowed by the discard plan. By 1 July 2019 the Member States concerned will inform the Commission of the control measures taken.



- I. Scope of the BCReP
- II. Common measures to these 5 stocks
- III. Dedicated measures (stock by stock)





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I. Scope of the BCReP

Stocks for which ICES had released a zero catch advice for 2019

- Whiting 7a = in Irish Sea
- Whiting 6, 5b, 12, 14 = in West of Scotland
- Cod 6a, 5b (East 12°00W) = in West of Scotland
- Cod 7bce-k, 8, 9, 10, COPACE 34.1.1 = in Celtic Sea + SWW
- Plaice 7hjk = in South West of Ireland



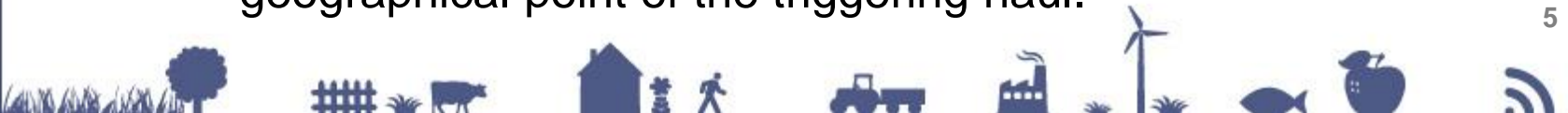


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II. Common measures to these 5 stocks

- Prohibition of targeted fisheries
- Technical Measures aiming to lower under MCRS catches
- Spatio-temporal closures
- Control measures
- Reporting obligation and then avoidance rise
 1. If exceeding a threshold in catch composition defined for stock, by fishing operation then information to the Flag FMC;
 2. Consequently : avoidance measures to be put in place within a 10 nautical miles diameter circle centred on the middle geographical point of the triggering haul.



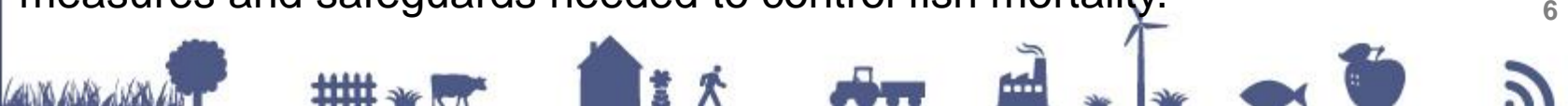
III. Dedicated measures (stock by stock)

Whiting 7a

Article 10 of R(EU) 2018/2034 as amended, defining specific technical measures in the Irish Sea

Further measures:

1. Projected changes in exploitation pattern arising from the use of the selective gear options on the whiting stock.
2. Impacts of improving selectivity in the *Nephrops* fishery.
3. Test gear modifications that permit escapement of < 20cm whiting earlier on in the capture process.
4. Quantify levels of unwanted catches of whiting in the *Nephrops* fleet and measure the efficacy of technical measures implemented.
5. Assess the relative impact on whiting catches of gears used in the *Nephrops* fishery to inform future management measures.
6. Assessment of the whiting stock with consideration given to additional measures and safeguards needed to control fish mortality.





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III. Dedicated measures (stock by stock)

Whiting 6, 5b, 12,14 and Cod 6a, 5b (East 12°00W)

Reporting %: 10%

Additional technical measures from 1 July 2020:

1. For vessels deploying a cod-end mesh size <100mm, mandatory use of a squared mesh panel (positioning retained) of at least 300mm;
for vessels below 12 meters in length over all and/or with engine power of 200kW or less - the panel overall length may be 2m and the panel may be 200mm;
2. For vessels deploying a cod-end mesh size of 100-119mm and with catches comprising more than 30% of Norway lobster, mandatory use of a squared mesh panel (positioning retained) of at least 160mm.





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III. Dedicated measures (stock by stock)

Cod 7bce-k, 8, 9, 10, COPACE 34.1.1

Reporting %: 10%

Article 9 of R(EU) 2018/2034 as amended, defining specific technical measures in the Celtic Sea Protection Zone

⇒ *The effects of measures contained within Article 9 of the delegated act will be evaluated over a 18 month period*

ICES and/or STECF are invited to carry out a review of the positive benefits of the Trevose closure in the Celtic Sea.





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III. Dedicated measures (stock by stock)

Plaice 7hjk

ICES is invited to assess whether the management area for plaice in 7hjk is appropriate





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Conclusion





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Thank you

