

STECF EXPERT WORKING GROUP EWG 17-05

Evaluation of fisheries dependent information in European waters

19-23 June 2017, Ispra

DG Mare focal person: Eckehard Reussner

Chair: Steven Holmes

Background

The Commission consults the STECF 'Working Group on Fisheries Dependent Information' on a review of fisheries currently or previously regulated through fishing effort management schemes adopted in application of

- ✓ the long term plan for cod stocks [R(EC) No 1342/2008],
- ✓ the recovery plan for Southern hake and Norway lobster stocks in the Cantabrian Sea and Western Iberian peninsula [R(EC) No 2166/2005],
- ✓ the multi-annual plan for the North Sea plaice and sole stocks [R(EC) No 676/2007],
- ✓ the multi-annual plan of Western Channel sole stock [R(EC) No 509/2007],
- ✓ the multi-annual plan for the sustainable exploitation of the stock of sole in the Bay of Biscay [R(EC) No 388/2006],
- ✓ R(EC) No 2347/2002 establishing specific access requirements and associated conditions applicable to fishing for deep sea stocks, and
- ✓ R(EC) No 1954/2003 on the management of the fishing effort relating to certain Community fishing areas and resources – so called Western Waters regime.

The overarching request is for an assessment of fishing effort deployed and catches by fisheries and métiers:

- i) which were affected by fishing effort management schemes as defined in Annex II of the 2016 TAC and Quota Regulations
- ii) in the Celtic Seas
- iii) in the Biscay sole fishery
- iv) in the Baltic Sea
- v) in the Deep Sea and Western Waters regimes.

There will be one meeting of this STECF Working Group which will take place from 19 to 23 June 2017

Terms of Reference: see annex

Annex – Terms of Reference

1 – Data quality and endorsement (all areas)

Endorse where possible the data provided by the member states in response to the data call, and/or to comment on quality and to highlight any unexpected evolutions in the estimated parameters which are not in line with the general trend. To prepare a table describing data transmission issues by country. The table should give a brief and self-explanatory description of the data concerned, the issue, a categorisation of the severity (IMPACT ON EWG, HIGH, MEDIUM, LOW) and type of problem (COVERAGE, QUALITY, TIMELINESS). The information provided will be uploaded to an IT platform kept at JRC and contribute to the evaluation of DCF compliance. A template for the table of issues and additional information on how to formulate the issues can be found at <https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/guidelines>.

2 – Assessment of fishing effort deployed and catches by fisheries and métiers in the Baltic Sea

1. Update the tables and figures on fishing effort, capacity, catches, CPUE and LPUE for this region as found in STECF report STECF-16-20.
2. Plot the spatial distribution of the fishing effort in units of hours fished by regulated gears deployed in the Baltic Sea, according to data reported in logbooks on the basis of ICES statistical rectangles and to provide interpretation of any changes or trends.

3 – Assessment of fishing effort deployed and catches by fisheries and métiers which were affected by fishing effort management schemes defined in the Kattegat (Annex IIA to Regulation (EC) No 72/2016)

1. Update the tables and figures on fishing effort, catches, CPUE and LPUE for this region, as found in STECF report STECF-16-20.
2. Rank fishing effort groups as designed in Annex I to R(EC) 1342/2008, on the basis of their contribution to catches including estimated discards and landings expressed in weight of cod.
3. Assess the catches (absolute values, landings and discards provided separately) and effort deployed in 2011 to 2016 corresponding to vessels participating in trials on fully documented fisheries, by species, by gear and Member State, with the aim to determine the quality of the data submitted, the potentials and limitations of the fully documented fisheries and to what extent in particular catches (absolute values, landings & discards provided separately) differ from the figures estimated by the STECF for vessels not participating in these trials. STECF is requested to quantify and comment on the extent of changes in cod selectivity by FDF fisheries in comparison with the fisheries not participating in FDF schemes. If discard values are not provided or are zero, the assessment should be made on the basis of reported catch composition and its age structure.
4. Plot, the spatial distribution of the fishing effort in units of hours fished of regulated gears deployed in the Kattegat, according to data reported in logbooks on the basis of ICES statistical rectangles and to provide interpretation of any changes or trends.

4 – Assessment of fishing effort deployed and catches by fisheries and métiers which were or are currently affected by fishing effort management schemes defined in the Skagerrak, the North Sea and the Eastern Channel (Annex IIA to Regulation (EC) No 72/2016)

1. Update the tables and figures on fishing effort, catches, CPUE and LPUE for this region, as found in STECF report STECF-16-20.
2. Rank fishing effort groups as designed in **Annex I to R(EC) 1342/2008**, on the basis of their contribution to catches incl. discards and landings expressed in weight of cod, sole and plaice.
3. Assess the catches (absolute values, landings and discards provided separately) and effort deployed in 2011 to 2016 corresponding to vessels participating in trials on fully documented fisheries, by species, by gear and Member State, with the aim to determine the quality of the data submitted, the potentials and limitations of the fully documented fisheries and to what extent in particular catches (absolute values, landings and discards provided separately) differ from the figures estimated by the STECF for vessels not participating in these trials. STECF is requested to quantify and comment on the extent of changes in cod selectivity by FDF fisheries in comparison with the fisheries not participating in FDF schemes. If discard values are not provided or are zero, the assessment should be made on the basis of reported catch composition and its age structure.
4. Plot the spatial distribution of the fishing effort in units of hours fished of regulated gears deployed in the Skagerrak, the North Sea and the Eastern Channel, according to data reported in logbooks on the basis of ICES statistical rectangles and to provide interpretation of any changes or trends.

5 – Assessment of fishing effort deployed and catches by fisheries and métiers which were affected by fishing effort management schemes defined in the West of Scotland (Annex II A to Regulation (EC) No 72/2016)

1. Update the tables and figures on fishing effort, catches, CPUE and LPUE for this region, as found in STECF report STECF-16-20.
2. Rank fishing effort groups as designed in **Annex I to R(EC) No 1342/2008**, on the basis of their contribution to catches including discards and landings expressed in weight of cod.
3. Plot, the spatial distribution of the fishing effort in units of hours fished of regulated gears deployed in the West of Scotland, according to data reported in logbooks on the basis of ICES statistical rectangles and to provide interpretation of any changes or trends.

6 – Assessment of fishing effort deployed and catches by fisheries and métiers which were affected in 2016 by fishing effort management schemes defined in the Irish Sea (Annex IIA to Regulation (EC) No 72/2016)

1. Update the tables and figures on fishing effort, catches, CPUE and LPUE for this region, as found in STECF report STECF-16-20.
2. Rank fishing effort groups as designed in **Annex I to R(EC) No 1342/2008**, on the basis of their contribution to catches including discards and landings expressed in weight of cod.
3. Plot, the spatial distribution of the fishing effort in units of hours fished of regulated gears deployed in the Irish Sea, according to data reported in logbooks on the basis of ICES statistical rectangles and to provide interpretation of any changes or trends.

7 – Assessment of fishing effort deployed and catches by fisheries and métiers in the Celtic Sea

1. Update the tables and figures on fishing effort, catches, CPUE and LPUE for this region, as found in STECF report STECF-16-20.
2. Identify, for VIIIf+VIIg only, the **main species** (volume and percentage) caught per gear category, and related trends in recent years. Specify when this calculation has taken account of discards as well.
3. Plot, the spatial distribution of the fishing effort in units of hours fished of gears defined in Annex I to Council Reg 1342/2008 deployed in the Celtic Sea, according to data reported in log-books on the basis of ICES statistical rectangles and to provide interpretation of any changes or trends.

8 – Assessment of fishing effort deployed and catches by vessels under the Southern hake and Norway lobster plan (Council Regulation (EC) No 2166/2005) operating in the Atlantic waters of the Iberian Peninsula as specified in Annex IIB of Council Regulation (EC) No 72/2016

1. Update the tables and figures on fishing effort, catches, CPUE and LPUE for this region, as found in STECF report STECF-16-20.
2. Compare days allocated to the vessels carrying regulated gears (allowed activity) and days used by those vessels.
3. Describe the spatial distribution of the fishing effort in units of hours fished deployed in the Atlantic waters of the Iberian Peninsula, according to data reported in logbooks on the basis of ICES statistical rectangles, with the aim to determine the spatial distribution of fishing effort and its development during the time period.
4. Assess the correlation between fishing mortality rates and the effort in units of kW days at sea deployed by Member States. If a good correlation between fishing mortality rates and fishing effort is found, the WG is asked to explain or describe it. In case the correlation between the nominal fishing effort and the fishing mortality rates is weak, the WG is asked to describe whether this is due to a wrong descriptor (i.e. wrong descriptor for fishing capacity) or to other factors.

9 – Assessment of fishing effort deployed and catches by fisheries and métiers which are currently affected by fishing effort management schemes defined in the Western Channel (Western Channel sole stocks ICES zone VIIe, Annex IIC to Regulation (EC) No72/2016)

1. Update the tables and figures on fishing effort, catches, CPUE and LPUE for this region, as found in STECF report STECF-16-20.
2. Assess the catches (absolute values, landings and discards provided separately) and effort deployed in 2011 to 2015 corresponding to vessels participating in trials on fully documented fisheries, by species, by gear and Member State, with the aim to determine the quality of the data submitted, the potentials and limitations of the fully documented fisheries and to what extent in particular catches (absolute values, landings and discards provided separately) differ from the figures estimated by the STECF for vessels not participating in these trials. STECF is requested to quantify and comment on the extent of changes in sole selectivity by FDF fisheries in comparison with the fisheries not participating in FDF schemes.

3. Plot the spatial distribution of the fishing effort of regulated gears, in units of hours fished, deployed in the Western Channel, according to data reported in logbooks on the basis of ICES statistical rectangles and to provide interpretation of any changes or trends.

10 - Assessment of fishing effort and catches and evaluation of management measures for the **Deep Sea and Western Waters effort regime**

1. Update the tables and figures on fishing effort, catches, CPUE and LPUE by deep sea regulation area, as found in STECF report STECF-16-20.
2. Identify recent effort trends in pelagic fisheries where possible, in particular in areas X, XI and CECAF areas.

11 – Assessment of fishing effort and catches deployed by fisheries and métiers which are currently affected by the multiannual plan for the sustainable exploitation of the stock of common sole in the **Bay of Biscay (R(EC) No 388/2006)**

1. Update the tables and figures on fishing effort, capacity and catches for this region, as found in STECF report STECF-16-20.
2. Describe the spatial distribution of the fishing effort in units of hours fished deployed in the Bay of Biscay, according to data reported in logbooks on the basis of ICES statistical rectangles, with the aim to determine the spatial distribution of fishing effort and its development during the time period.

12 – TAC adjustments for stocks subject to the landing obligation

1. Analyse the Joint Recommendations for 2018 regional discard plans and update the tables 5.1.1 - 5.1.5 and 5.1.7 - 5.1.8 contained in the STECF plenary report (PLEN-16-03) using FDI data from 2015 and 2016 and taking into account any additional fleets and/or stocks and any revisions to thresholds.
2. For those stocks and fleets where catch thresholds are applied, use the appropriate data received from Member States to determine whether vessels are subject to the landing obligation or not, and calculate
 - (a) the proportion of landing of species (stocks) of the vessels subject to the landing obligation relative to the overall fleet segment;
 - (b) the proportion of vessels subject to the landing obligation relative to the overall fleet segment