

Proposal by the European Community for a recommendation to temporarily prohibit the use of gillnets, entangling nets and trammel nets in the NEAFC Regulatory Area

The unregulated use of gillnets in deep water is potentially damaging to deep-water stocks due to excessive soak times and consequent high discard levels, and due to the long term impact of lost or abandoned gears.

For this reason, until measures are adopted by NEAFC to regulate these fisheries, vessels operating in the NEAFC Regulatory Area shall not deploy gillnets, entangling nets or trammel nets at any position where the charted depth is greater than 200 metres.

All such nets shall be removed from the NEAFC Regulatory Area by 1 February 2006.