

Recommendation II: 2010

RECOMMENDATION BY THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLES 5 AND 6 OF THE CONVENTION ON FUTURE MULTILATERAL COOPERATION IN NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING IN NOVEMBER 2009 FOR CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR DEEP AND SHALLOW PELAGIC REDFISH IN THE IRMINGER SEA AND ADJACENT WATERS IN THE NEAFC CONVENTION AREA IN 2010¹

Taking note of the most recent scientific advice from ICES;

Recognising the need to continue towards improved future management measures for deep and shallow pelagic redfish in the Irminger Sea and adjacent waters, the Parties recognise the need for ad hoc measures until such future management measures are in place;

Recognising that the north-eastern area of the Irminger Sea and adjacent areas are important areas of larval extrusion, and need particular protection to promote the recovery of the deep and shallow pelagic redfish in the Irminger Sea and adjacent waters;

Noting that if suitable harvest control rules are devised and subsequently effectively implemented, it will be possible to continue sustainable fishing, whilst still allowing for the recovery of deep and shallow pelagic redfish in the Irminger Sea and adjacent waters;

In accordance with Articles 5 and 6 of the Convention, the Contracting Parties have agreed the following ad hoc measures for the pelagic redfish fisheries in the Irminger Sea and adjacent waters for 2010:

1. Each Contracting Party shall establish management measures that shall include a total allowable catch that is not higher than that set for 2009, as reported to NEAFC, and notify these measures to the Secretary before 1 March 2010. The Secretary shall notify these measures to the other Contracting Parties.² Total allowable catch for each vessel and any adjustment made in total allowable catches for each vessel shall be reported to the Secretariat. This information has to be made accessible for Contracting Parties on the secure site of the Secretariat website.

2. A maximum of 70% of the total allowable catch set in accordance with paragraph 1 can be taken within an area bounded by the lines joining the following coordinates:

Point No.	Lat	lon	lat	Lon
1	64.75000	-28.50	64°45	-28°30
2	62.83333	-25.75	62°50	-25°45
3	61.91667	-26.75	61°55	-26°45
4	61.00000	-26.50	61°00	-26°30

¹ The Russian Federation maintains its position that there is one stock of pelagic redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in the Irminger Sea and adjacent waters.

² As in 2009, 2,875 tonnes are set aside in accordance with an understanding with NAFO; and 123 tonnes will be available to co-operating non-Contracting Parties of NEAFC.

5	59.00000	-30.00	59°00	-30°00
6	59.00000	-34.00	59°00	-34°00
7	61.50000	-34.00	61°30	-34°00
8	62.83333	-36.00	62°50	-36°00
9 (same as 1)	64.75000	-28.50	64°45	-28°30

3. To enhance the protection of the areas of larval extrusion, no more than 15% of the total allowable catch set in accordance with paragraph 1 can be taken within the area defined in paragraph 2 during the period 1 April to 10 May.

4. Contracting Parties may conduct scientific research in addition to ICES co-ordinated surveys, with the aim of improving scientific knowledge on redfish. They may set aside a part of their respective total allowable catch for scientific purposes. Any catches taken as a part of such a scientific research exercise must be within the limitations set in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3.

5. Only vessels flying the flag of a NEAFC Contracting Party or of a Cooperating non-Contracting Party, having been authorised by its flag State to fish for redfish in the NEAFC Convention Area, are entitled to participate in this fishery.

The authorisation to fish for redfish in the Regulatory Area is only valid if the information transmitted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Recommendation and Articles 11, 12 and 13 of the Scheme of Control and Enforcement (the Scheme) is made available to the Secretary according to Article 14.

6. With reference to paragraph 1 the Secretariat shall on a weekly basis compile a table for each Contracting Party, showing the total allowable catch and the catch already taken, based on the catch reports received from the fishing vessels. When 75 % of the total allowable catch has been taken, this table shall be compiled daily. The tables shall be transmitted without delay to all Contracting Parties as well as being accessible on the NEAFC website. The table shall show details for each vessel. This constitute a derogation from the provisions of Article 14.3 of the Scheme.

7. To further ensure prompt reporting, the Secretariat shall on a daily basis monitor the reports from each vessel and notify all Contracting Parties without a delay if a vessel has not fulfilled its obligations according to paragraph 5.

8. Masters of fishing vessels shall record in their fishing logbooks each entry and exit from the area defined in paragraph 2 and the cumulative catches retained on board, in accordance with the format set out in Annex IV of the Scheme. The record shall identify the relevant area by a specific code: inside the area defined in paragraph 2 “RCA” and outside the area “XRR”.

9. By way of derogation from the provisions of Article 12 (b) of the Scheme when in the area defined in paragraph 2 fishing vessels shall report their catches on a daily basis. The catch report shall be transmitted after the fishing operations of that calendar day have been

completed. It shall indicate the catches on board taken since the last communication of catches.

10. In addition to information required under the provisions of Article 12 of the Scheme fishing vessels shall communicate the catch on board taken since the last communication of catches prior to entering and exiting the area defined in paragraph 2.

11. The reports referred to in paragraphs 9 and 10 shall be made in accordance with the format set out in Annex VIII 2) of the Scheme. Reports of catches taken in the area defined in paragraph 2 shall indicate "RCA" as the relevant area and reports of catches taken outside the area defined in paragraph 2 shall indicate "XRR" as the relevant area.

12. By way of derogation from the provisions of Article 8 of the Scheme the catch area for fish caught in the area defined in paragraph 2 shall be identified by "RCA".

13. All receivers of fish shall ensure that all quantities are weighed when landed or transhipped. The weight of fish landed in standardized boxes may be determined by using a sampling methodology. For the purpose of transparency Contracting Parties shall report to the Secretariat on weekly basis of the landed catches and this information shall be made available to Contracting Parties on the secure site of the Secretariat website.

14. A Contracting Party may request access to the information communicated pursuant to Articles 11, 12 and 13 of the Scheme of Control and Enforcement for the areas where they intend to undertake inspection and surveillance activities. The Secretary shall inform other Contracting Parties and make the information available to the requesting Contracting Party during the relevant fishing season. The Contracting Party that requests access to this information shall present a detailed report to the next meeting of PECCOE on its use of the information provided.

15. It is prohibited to use trawls with a mesh size of less than 100 mm.

16. The conversion factor used in this fishery for gutted and headed presentations, including Japanese cut, shall be 1.70. This conversion factor shall be used for the purposes of this Recommendation and is without prejudice for other purposes.

17. Each Contracting Party shall notify the Secretary of the systems in place for verifying catches from this fishery, including weighing procedures and inspection of landings.

18. Inspectors of any Contracting Party may accompany the inspectors of another Contracting Party during the inspection of landings or transshipment operations. The Contracting Party interested to observe a landing at a port of another Contracting Party shall at its earliest opportunity notify the port Contracting Party of its intentions. The port Contracting Party shall upon receiving a such a notification from another Contracting Party promptly respond with details of the vessels to be inspected such as place, date and time of arrival of the relevant vessel.

19. PECCOE shall continue the development of proposals for the establishment of conversion factors for different fish products and methods of processing.

20. These management measures are without prejudice to any future management measures for the pelagic redfish in the Irminger Sea and adjacent waters.

21. The coastal States will invite the other NEAFC Contracting Parties to a meeting during 2010, to discuss future management of redfish in the Irminger Sea and adjacent waters.