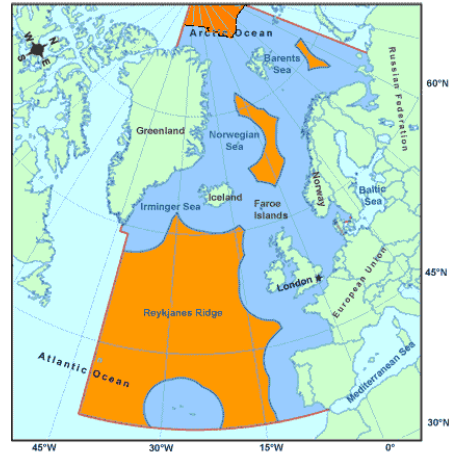




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The high seas of the NEAFC Regulatory Area inside the NEAFC Convention Area in the North-East Atlantic are shown shaded on the map

North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, NEAFC

Contracting Parties: Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland), the EU, Iceland, Norway and the Russian Federation.

Cooperative non-Contracting Parties: Belize, Canada, Japan and New Zealand

Information on experience gained on combating IUU fishing in the NEAFC Area

A report prepared by the NEAFC Secretariat for CBD COP 10 agenda item 5.2 Nagoya October 2010

Over the years NEAFC has had contacts with the MCS network and participated in earlier expert workshops. NEAFC at the moment cooperates with FAO and IMO to establish a global record of fishing vessels, by supplying vessel data for pilot run of a Global Record database design. It is expected that the global record will be a powerful tool in combating IUU globally.

In the North Atlantic results in combating IUU fishing have been very good. The NEAFC tools to combat IUU fishing are part of the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement, first agreed in 1999 and continuously adapted to meet new challenges in the fight against free riders in the fisheries regulated by NEAFC. The Scheme's primary objective is to control the fishing activities of fishing vessels of Contracting Parties, but it has been extended over the years to combat IUU fishing by non-Contracting Parties effectively.

The two main tools have been the blacklisting of vessels under flags of non-Contracting Parties to NEAFC and the Port State Control System which controls all the landings of frozen fish into ports of NEAFC Contracting Parties. In addition NEAFC Contracting Parties have national measures controlling IUU activity.

Below you will find some recent information and statistics on the running of these two aspects of the NEAFC Scheme.

Blacklists

NEAFC introduced blacklists of vessels from non-Contracting Parties, which undermine the effectiveness of its regulations, in 2005.

The Scheme of Control and Enforcement was changed and introduced two IUU lists: the observation A-list and the permanent B-list.

The Contracting Party which sights the non-Contracting Party vessel shall attempt to inform such a vessel without delay that it has been sighted or by other means identified as engaging in fishing activities in the Convention Area and unless its flag state has been accorded the status of co-operating non-Contracting Party is consequently presumed to be undermining the Recommendations established under the Convention

The Secretary shall transmit all information to all Contracting Parties and other relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organisations within one business day of receiving this information, and as soon as possible to the flag state of the vessel identified as being engaged in fishing activities in the Convention Area.

The Secretary shall, in consultation with the President of the Commission, request that it take measures in accordance with its applicable legislation to ensure that the vessel or vessels in question desist from any activities that undermine the effectiveness of NEAFC Recommendations, including if necessary, the withdrawal of the registration of these vessels or their authorisation to engage in fishing activities.

If no satisfactory answer is received by from the flag state of a presumed IUU vessel it is transferred from the observation list to the permanent list. This effectively closes all NEAFC ports to these vessels and no services can be rendered in the NEAFC Area. NEAFC, NAFO and SEAFO share IUU lists, so ports will also effectively be closed in the NAFO Contracting parties incl. US, Japan and Korea and parts of West Africa.

Since then 26 vessels have been put on the B-list. The statistics below show that with the knowledge at hand only one vessel is left, which has positively been indentified to have undertaken IUU fishing during the last year. Three have left the NEAFC Area and the fate of five is unknown. Eight have been scrapped, three have been sitting ports for several years and three have been removed from the B-list after application.

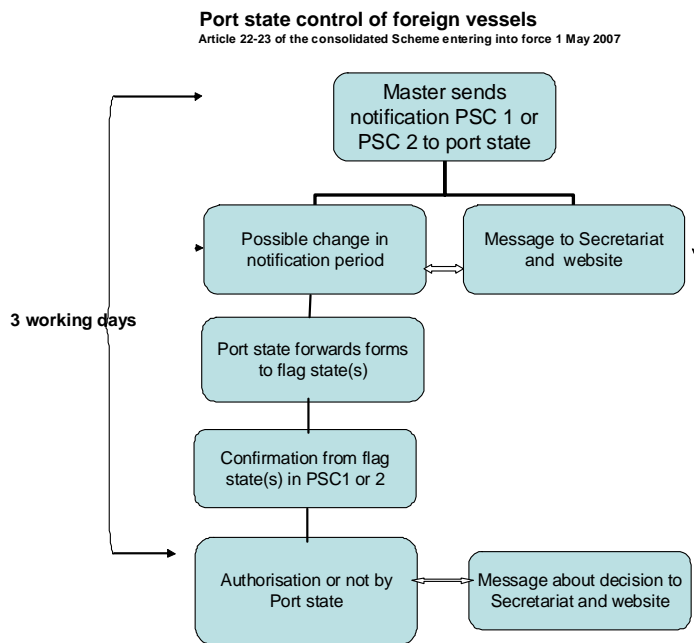
	Vessel category	
	Transport	Fishing vessels
Removed from the lists	2	1
Scrapped		8
Retained in harbours		4
Probably sunk	1	1
Observed recently		(1)
Fate unknown		5
Operating outside NEAFC	1	2

Area		
Sum	5	21
Total		26

It should be noted that blacklisting has hit transport vessels as well as vessels fishing. Indeed the targeting of the transport vessels was the major breakthrough, which in all practical terms eradicated the IUU fishery for redfish in the Irminger Sea.

Port State Control System

On 1st May 2007 NEAFC introduced its Port State Control System. Landings of frozen fish in ports of NEAFC Contracting Parties is only allowed in designated ports. 25 % of the landing have to be inspected by port authorities. The flow of information is shown below:



The system was introduced without major problems and the authorities involved have carefully followed the timelines set out thus not impeding the flow of legal fish to European processors. The measure has been deemed to have had dramatic effect on the amounts of illegal frozen fish in Europe, reducing levels of IUU fish into European markets significantly.

Below is a copy of a small part of the file, on the NEAFC Inspector's website, on transactions according to the System, having reached over 2600 in late February 2009. (Vessel names have been taken out). The file, updated daily at the NEAFC Secretariat, makes it possible for all parties in NEAFC - on a real time basis – to follow landings of frozen fish allowing them to review all the transactions. The basic PSC forms for each transaction are also available to inspectors.

The NEAFC website publishes all information on the Scheme, the discussions of the NEAFC Permanent Committee of Control and Enforcement A and B-lists and the Secretariat is always open to share information and experiences with interested parties and respond to enquiries. We also disseminate

					Landing	Vessel	Info	Donor	Vessel	Info	
No	form	Port	Country	Date_Posted	Vessel	Call sign	Flag	Vessel	Call sign	Flag	Status
2602	PSC2	Velsen	Netherlands	26/02/2009		UHTA	RUS		UICO	RUS	Accepted
2601	PSC2	Velsen	Netherlands	26/02/2009		UHTA	RUS		UDHM	RUS	Accepted
2600	PSC2	Velsen	Netherlands	26/02/2009		UHTA	RUS		UFYN	RUS	Accepted
2599	PSC2	Velsen	Netherlands	26/02/2009		UETA	RUS		UEUP	RUS	Accepted
2598	PSC1	Melbu	Norway	26/02/2009		UGGA	RUS		-	-	Accepted
2597	PSC1	Hammerfest	Norway	26/02/2009		UBZO	RUS		-	-	Accepted
2596	PSC1	Tromsø	Norway	26/02/2009		UATS	RUS		-	-	Accepted
2595	PSC1	Vadsø	Norway	26/02/2009		UEMQ	RUS		-	-	Accepted
2593	PSC3	Hafnarfjörður	Iceland	25/02/2009		OW2399	FRO		-	-	Inspected
2592	PSC3	Sortland	Norway	25/02/2009		UAIX	RUS		-	-	Inspected