



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE/ (2015)

Mr Niels Wichmann
Chairman
NSAC Secretariat
Office 17,
Aberdeen Business Centre
Willowbank Road
Aberdeen, UK
AB11 6YG

Subject: Use of Pulse Trawls in the North Sea

Your ref: Email from L. Duguid dated 25 September 2015

Dear Mr. Wichmann,

Thank you for the NSAC advice on the use of pulse trawls in the North Sea.

You refer to joint standards for the automatic computer management system as referred to in Article 31a of Council Regulation (EC) No. 850/98 (technical measures). This regulation does not foresee specific requirements for the computer systems adopted by the Commission. The foreseen revision of the technical measures regulations may provide an opportunity to re-examine this issue in light of possible initiatives under regionalization.

Generally, the Commission carefully ensures monitoring of the stock abundance and fishing pressure in relation to the fleet and gear segments, and monitoring the pulse fishing will be no exception to this. The Commission also closely monitors Member States inspection and enforcement of the applicable legislation and the use of the pulse fishing.

Finally, we take note of the idea of establishing an expert group on pulse trawl within the Scheveningen group.

Thank you again for your continuous interest and constructive input. If you have any questions on this reply, you may contact Ms Evangelia Georgitsi, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (evangelia.georgitsi@ec.europa.eu; +32.2.295.04.43).

Yours sincerely,

João AGUIAR MACHADO

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