

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: Advice on the Farne Deeps Nephrops Fishery

Your ref: 9 14-15

Dear Mr. Wichmann,


Thank you for the NSAC advice on the management of the Farne Deeps Nephrops Fishery.

In our proposal on fishing opportunities for 2016, we took notice of your recommendation to limit the removals of *Nephrops* from the Farn Deeps functional unit and we proposed the adoption of an "of which no more than" measure, in line with your figures. During the negotiations, it became apparent that the UK delegation preferred to adopt an approach using national measures for this functional unit. We consider that this approach, which was eventually adopted by the Council, includes measures that are at least as stringent as those advised by you.

We intend to include *Nephrops* in the new multi-annual plan for the management of demersal fisheries in the North Sea. This would be a significant step forward in the management of these valuable fisheries in the North Sea.

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,

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João AGUIAR MACHADO