

47th ANNUAL MEETING OF NAFO - SEPTEMBER 2025

Annual Fisheries and Compliance Review 2025 (Compliance Report for Fishing Year 2024)

1.0 Introduction

The scope of this review covers the fishing activities of NAFO-registered vessels (Article 25 of NAFO CEM) which operated in the NAFO Regulatory Area (NRA) in 2024¹ (see Figure 1.0).

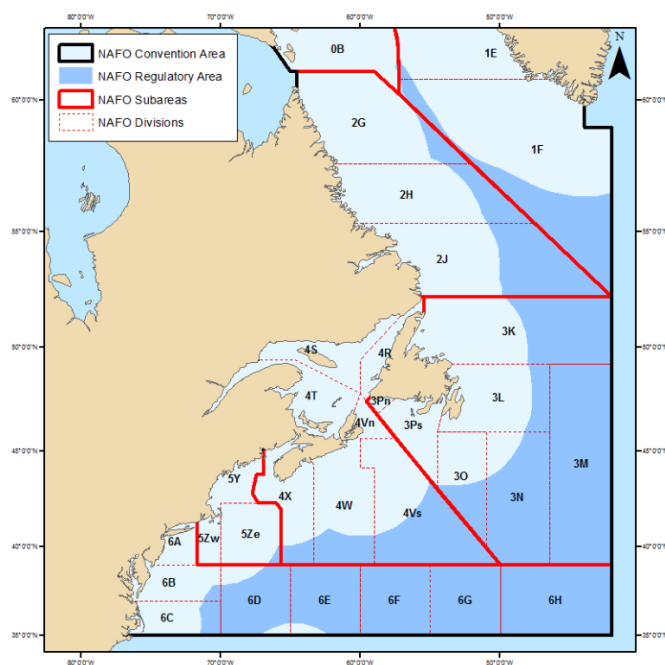


Figure 1.0. Divisions of the NAFO Convention Area and the Regulatory Area (dark blue).

This review was conducted in accordance with rules 5.1 and 5.2 of the NAFO Rules of Procedure. As part of the review process, the NAFO Secretariat compiled the 2024 information from a variety of data sources including vessel monitoring system (VMS), hail messages delivered by the vessels (Vessel Transmitted Information – VTI), electronic logbook (haul by haul) reports, port inspection reports (PSC3), at-sea inspection reports, reports on dispositions of infringements, and observer trip reports.

2.0 Fisheries in the NRA

2.1 Fishing effort by gear type

¹ According to Article 1.7 of the 2023 NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures (NAFO CEM), a fishing trip includes “the time from its entry into until its departure from the Regulatory Area and continues until all catch on board from the Regulatory Area is unloaded or transhipped”. All article and annex numbers in this report reference the 2024 NAFO CEM. Quantitative information presented in this report are summarized according to 2024 calendar year, unless otherwise indicated.

There are three main fisheries that take place within the NAFO Regulatory Area: groundfish (GRO - primarily in Divisions 3LMNO), shrimp (PRA in Division 3M), and pelagic redfish fisheries (REB - primarily in Divisions 1F and 2J). There was no directed fishing for shrimp in Division 3M or pelagic redfish in Divisions 1F and 2J in 2024. Table 2.2.1 summarizes the main fishing gears and fishing effort for trips in the NAFO Regulatory area that ended in 2024.

Table 2.1.1. Main fishing gears and fishing effort in the NAFO Regulatory Area for fishing trips that ended 2024.

Fishing Gear	# Fishing vessels	# Fishing trips	Fishing days in NAFO RA	Main Species (FAO 3-alpha code)	NAFO Divisions
Longline	12	16	299	COD, HAL	3L, 3M, 3N, 3O
Bottom Trawl	26	67	3 164	COD, GHL, HKS, PLA, RED, SKA, YEL	3L, 3M, 3N, 3O
Total	38	83	3 463		

2.2 Effort distribution by depth in demersal fisheries other than shrimp

Hourly positions of fishing vessels are required to be transmitted through the VMS in accordance with Article 29.1 of the NAFO CEM. Figure 2.2.1 shows the distribution of fishing effort, in hours, for vessels fishing (assumed fishing speeds for the purpose of this analysis were between 0.5-5 knots) in Divisions 3LMNO. Most of the fishing effort in Divisions 3LMNO is at depths 500 meters and shallower, with an additional concentration of fishing effort around 1000 meters, which can be attributed to the Greenland halibut fishery.

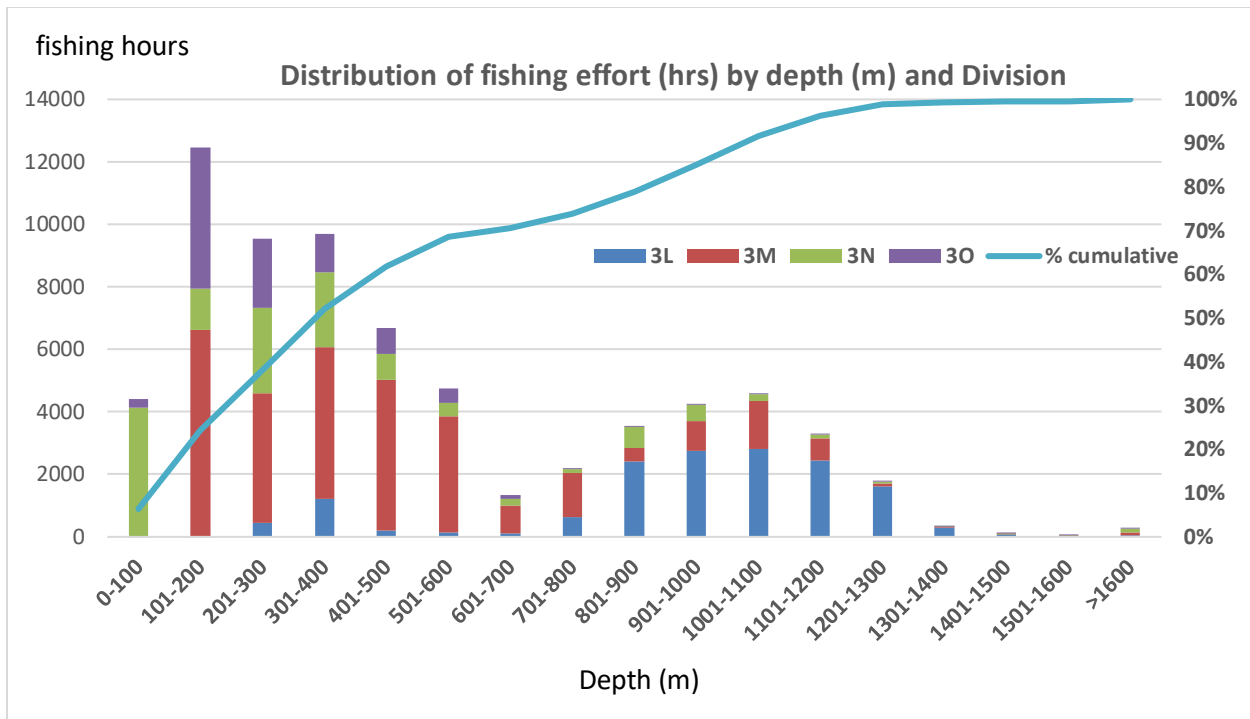


Figure 2.2.1. Distribution of fishing effort (in hours) by depth (m) in the NRA in 2024. Vessels are assumed to be fishing at speed in the range of 0.5-5.0 knots.

2.3 Catches in the NAFO Regulatory Area

A total of 54 208.8t of fish (53 036.2t retained + 1 172.6t discarded) were caught by vessels authorized to fish in the Regulatory Area in 2024 (Tables 2.3.1 and 2.3.2).

Table 2.3.1 Total reported retained catches (in tonnes) of species (in FAO 3-alpha code) by Division for the 2024 calendar year (Source: CA field of CAT Reports).

Species	Common name	3L	3M	3N	3O	Total
<i>Species subject to catch limitations (as listed in Annex I of the NAFO CEM)</i>						
COD	Atlantic cod	27.8	10592.1	143.5	41.4	10804.8
GHL	Greenland halibut	6151.8	2255.4	496.4	4.4	8908.0
HKW	White hake	0.0	0.0	44.7	506.9	551.7
PLA	American plaice	15.6	173.7	259.5	58.0	506.8
RED	Atlantic redfishes nei	2493.6	9508.8	6516.8	1843.1	20362.3
SKA	Raja rays nei	103.8	35.1	1724.2	286.6	2149.7
SQI	Northern shortfin squid	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.2	1.2
WIT	Witch flounder	15.9	46.8	14.9	125.1	202.7
YEL	Yellowtail flounder	0.0	1.0	698.5	5.3	704.9
<i>Species not listed in Annex I</i>						
ANG	American angler	0.2	0.0	8.1	41.3	49.5
CAA	Atlantic wolffish	0.7	44.7	1.6	0.0	47.0
CAB	Northern wolffish	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.8
CAS	Spotted wolffish	1.1	57.0	1.6	0.0	59.7
CAT	Wolffishes	0.0	34.4	0.0	0.0	34.4
HAD	Haddock	0.0	0.1	1.8	65.6	67.5
HAL	Atlantic halibut	41.3	306.8	266.6	148.6	763.2
HKS	Silver hake	0.0	0.0	1127.6	6588.1	7715.7
RHG	Roughhead grenadier	42.4	21.4	15.7	0.0	79.5
RNG	Roundnose grenadier	16.1	4.1	0.2	0.0	20.3
USK	Tusk (Cusk)	0.0	6.6	0.0	0.0	6.6
TOTAL		8910.2	23088.8	11321.7	9715.5	53036.2

Table 2.3.2 Total reported rejected catches (in tonnes) of species (in FAO 3-alpha code) by Division for the 2024 calendar year (Source: RJ field of CAT Reports).

Species	Common name	3L	3M	3N	3O	Total
<i>Species subject to catch limitations (as listed in Annex I of the NAFO CEM)</i>						
COD	Atlantic cod	0.8	13.3	0.7	0.9	15.7
GHL	Greenland halibut	23.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	23.3
HKW	White hake	0.0	0.4	5.4	7.2	13.1
PLA	American plaice	2.7	5.4	7.8	1.0	17.0
RED	Atlantic redfishes nei	3.6	3.1	3.5	11.3	21.5
SKA	Raja rays nei	7.0	29.4	14.9	3.0	54.2
SQI	Northern shortfin squid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
WIT	Witch flounder	0.9	1.2	1.0	6.7	9.8
YEL	Yellowtail flounder	0.0	0.0	7.8	0.1	7.9
<i>Species not listed in Annex I</i>						
ANG	American angler	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5
ANT	Blue antimora	9.3	6.5	4.4	0.0	20.1
ARU	Greater argentine	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.3
BFT	Atlantic bluefin tuna	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.5	1.9
CAA	Atlantic wolffish	0.3	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.4
CAB	Northern wolffish	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.6
CAP	Capelin	0.0	0.0	4.0	1.5	5.5
CAS	Spotted wolffish	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.6
CAT	Wolffishes	23.2	61.9	5.7	2.8	93.5
CRK	Atlantic rock crab	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
CRQ	Queen crab	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	3.2
CUX	Sea cucumbers nei	0.0	0.0	64.4	0.2	64.6
CVP	Polar sculpin	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
ELZ	Eelpouts	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	3.2
GDE	Threadfin rockling	11.2	4.5	0.9	0.0	16.5
HAD	Haddock	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3
HAL	Atlantic halibut	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2
HKR	Red hake	7.5	3.5	0.4	0.3	11.6
HKS	Silver hake	0.0	0.0	15.7	111.2	126.9
KCT	Stone king crab	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MOX	Ocean sunfish	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
MZZ	Marine fishes nei	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NTW	Sea pens	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PBF	Sand flathead	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
POK	Saithe(=Pollock)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RHG	Roughhead grenadier	153.1	103.2	25.5	3.4	285.2
RJK	Sailray	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RJS	Smooth skate	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5
RJT	Winter skate	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.6
RNG	Roundnose grenadier	59.6	59.3	11.3	0.0	130.2
SAN	Sandeels nei	0.0	0.0	7.5	0.0	7.5
SCU	Sculpins	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.9
YFT	Yellowfin tuna	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4
<i>Sharks</i>						
BSH	Blue shark	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
BSK	Basking shark	4.5	5.7	0.0	18.8	29.0
CFB	Black dogfish	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
DGS	Picked dogfish	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.8	1.2

Species	Common name	3L	3M	3N	3O	Total
DGX	Dogfish sharks nei	2.2	1.4	1.9	0.7	6.2
DWS	Deep-water sharks NEI	0.0	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.9
GSK	Greenland shark	69.4	39.5	10.7	8.7	128.2
POR	Porbeagle	1.4	0.0	0.5	18.2	20.1
SHL	Lanternsharks NEI	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SHX	Dogfish sharks, etc. nei	0.2	0.5	0.9	3.9	5.5
SMA	Shortfin mako	0.8	1.5	0.7	0.2	3.2
SRX	Rays, stingrays, mantas nei	0.0	11.6	0.0	0.0	11.6
SWO	Swordfish	0.0	0.3	2.3	24.7	27.3
TOTAL		380.9	355.4	207.6	228.7	1172.6

3.0 Inspection and Surveillance

Chapter VI of the NAFO CEM outlines the general provisions and protocols for the at-sea inspection and surveillance scheme in the NRA. Canada, the European Union, and the United States of America deployed patrol vessels and their inspectors in the NRA in 2024.

3.1 Patrol Activity

In 2024, six (6) patrol vessels were deployed in the NAFO Regulatory Area by Contracting Parties with an inspection presence, accounting for 349 patrol-days (Table 3.1). There were 119 days with no patrol vessel, 156 days when there was one patrol vessel, and 90 days when there was more than one patrol vessel present in the NRA. Figure 3.1 shows the time of the year the patrol vessels were present in the NRA in relation to the number of fishing vessels present. In addition, Canada deployed surveillance aircraft, collectively flying 350 hours, with 869 vessel sightings in the NRA. The European Union completed a total of 2 RPAS with a total of 3.5 hours of surveillance time.

Table 3.1 The total number of patrol vessels, patrol vessel deployments, and patrol days in the NAFO Regulatory area in 2024 by Contracting Party with Inspection Presence.

Contracting Party with Inspection Presence	Number of Patrol Vessels	Number of Deployments	Number of Patrol Days
Canada	2	43	255
European Union	3	8	80
United States of America	1	2	14
Total	6	53	349

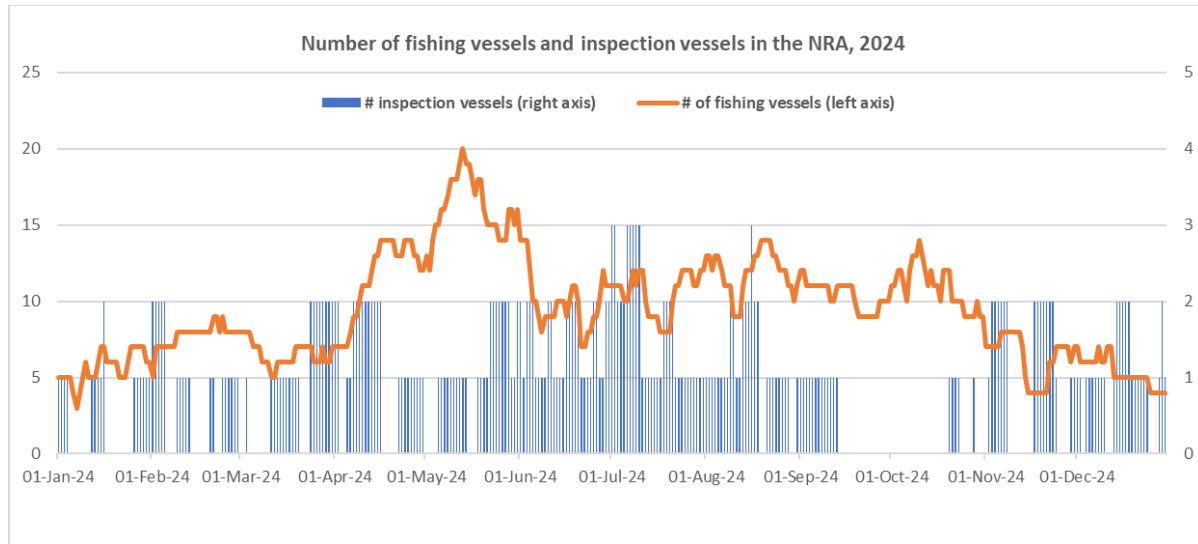


Figure 3.1 *Fishing vessel and inspection vessel presence in the NAFO Regulatory Area in 2024.*

3.2 At-sea inspections

A total of 115 at-sea inspections were conducted in 2024, and six (6) inspections resulted in the issuance of infringements, four (4) of which were considered serious. In total, there were 7 infringements issued in 2024 during at-sea inspections. A summary of the infringements and their disposition can be found in Section 4.2. Table 3.2 outlines the total number of at-sea inspections completed by each Contracting Party.

Table 3.2. The number of at-sea inspections completed by each inspection Contracting Party (Canada, the European Union, and the United States of America) for each flag State Contracting Party participating in fishing activities.

CP	Number of inspections by Canada					Number of inspections by the European Union					Number of Inspections by the United States of America**		
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
CAN	4*	8	1	0	0	2	2	2	3	0	0	0	0
DFG	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	5	6	5	0	0	0
EU	8	25	37	20	53	25	22	20	28	23	4	2	4
FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
GBR	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JPN	0	1	0	0	1	3	2	2	2	2	0	0	0
NOR	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
RUS	0	3	3	3	9	4	0	2	6	3	0	1	1

* Inspections completed in accordance with domestic procedures.

** During the period of 2020-2024, the United States of America deployed an inspection vessel in the NRA in 2022, 2023, and 2024.

3.3 Port inspections

Under Article 10.4(e) of the NAFO CEM, landings of Greenland halibut from Divisions 2+3KLMNO are subject to port inspections if the quantity of this stock on board represents either more than 5% of the total catch or more than 2 500kg. In evaluating compliance with the port inspection measures outlined in Article 10 of the NAFO CEM, a total of 53 trips met the criteria of having more than 5% of the total catch or more than 2 500kg of Greenland halibut on board. Port inspection reports (PSC3s) were received for 52 of the 53 trips, therefore there is a 98.1% port inspection coverage, as shown in Table 3.3.1.1.

Table 3.3.1.1 Fishing trips that ended in 2024 in Divisions 3LMNO with Greenland halibut (GHL) catch (based on Daily Catch Reports for the trip) and percent coverage of port inspections for the identified trips, by flag State.

Flag State CP	Number of identified trips by vessels larger than 24 m: trip with GHL catch > 2.5t	Total amount of GHL from trips identified (t)	Port inspection CP	Number of identified trips with Port Inspection (PSC3)	Port Inspection Coverage (% based on identified trips with GHL catch)
DFG	1	193.5	DFG	1	100%
EU	44	6671.7	EU	44	100%
JPN	2	673.4	CAN	2	100%
RUS	6	1434.0	EU (3) NOR (2)	5*	83%
Overall	53	8972.7		52	98.1%

*The missing port inspection of the Russian vessel is due to the vessel not being inspected when landing in Båtsfjord, Norway.

Pursuant to Article 7.6(c) of the NAFO CEM, landings or transshipments of cod from Division 3M were subject to a 25% inspection benchmark for vessels with more than 1 250kg onboard in 2024. In evaluating compliance for 2024 with the port inspection measures outlined in Article 7.4(c) of the NAFO CEM, 43 trips with more than 1 250kg of 3M Cod on board were identified. Port inspection reports (PSC3s) from 37 trips were received, resulting in an 86% coverage rate, as shown in Table 3.3.1.2. The trips without a PSC3 had a total of 1 985.04 t onboard according to the CAT reports.

Table 3.3.1.2 Fishing trips that ended in 2024 with 3M cod catch (based on Daily Catch (CAT) Reports for the trip) and percent coverage of port inspections for the identified trips, by flag State.

Flag State CP	Number of identified trips by vessels 3M Cod catch > 1250 kg	Total amount of 3M COD from trips identified (t)	Port inspection CP	Number of identified trips with Port Inspection (PSC3)	Port Inspection Coverage (% based on identified trips with 3M Cod catch)
DFG	8	2486.7	DFG (3) SPM (1)	4	50%
EU	29	5173.0	EU	29	100%
GBR	1	854.6	GBR	1	100%
NOR	3	1061.8	NOR	1	33%
RUS	2	321.8	EU	2	100%
Overall	43	9897.9		37	86%

According to Article 30.5 of the NAFO CEM, the flag State Contracting Party shall physically inspect the landing of vessels in its ports for each fishing trip of its vessels without an observer onboard in accordance with Article 30.4, or otherwise evaluate as appropriate each landing in its ports, following a risk assessment. Table 3.3.1.3

outlines the number of fishing trips that did not have an observer onboard, and the associated port inspection reports (PSC3).

Table 3.3.1.3 Fishing trips that ended in 2024 that did not carry an observer accordance with Article 30.4 of the NAFO CEM, and the coverage of port inspections for the identified trips, by flag State.

Flag State	Number of trips without an observer (Article 30.4)	Number of trips with PSC3 (port inspection report)
DFG	7	4

According to Article 43.10 of the NAFO CEM, the port State Contracting Party shall carry out inspections of at least 15% of all such landings or transshipments by vessels flagged to other Contracting Parties during each reporting year. In evaluating compliance with port State Control measures outlined in Chapter VII of the NAFO CEM, a review of the submission of port State Control Prior Request (PSC1) forms and port inspection reports (PSC3) is presented in Table 3.3.2. The minimum coverage of 15% (Article 43.10) was met by all port State Contracting Parties.

Table 3.3.2 The number of PSC1s and corresponding PSC3s received by the NAFO Secretariat, for trips that ended in 2024, relating to the inspection of landings or transshipments by vessels flagged to other Contracting Party.

Port State Contracting Party	PSC1 (prior request)	Number of PSC1's with intention to land/tranship catch	PSC3 (port inspection report)	% Coverage (#PSC3 received /#PSC1 intention to land)
CAN	5	2	2	100%
EU	3	3	3	100%
DFG	1	0	0	-
NOR	3	3	2	67%
SPM	2	2	1	50%

4.0 Compliance

In this section, reporting obligations, including follow-up actions to infringements are examined.

4.1 Reporting obligations

The NAFO CEM requires fishing vessels and flag State Contracting Parties (through the Fisheries Monitoring Centre - FMC) to provide reports on the fishing activity within a determined time frame.

4.1.1 Vessel Activity Reporting

4.1.1.1 Vessel Transmitted Information (VTI) – Catch-on-Entry (COE), Daily Catch Reports (CAT), and Catch-on-Exit (COX)

The FMCs are responsible for transmitting the VTI reports to the NAFO Secretariat. The COE and COX messages are transmitted at least 6 hours in advance of entry and exit to and from the NRA and identify the amount of catch on board. The CATs contain a record of the daily catch (retained and rejected) reported by species and Division while on a fishing trip. The daily catch reports are used to monitor the quota uptake of the Contracting Parties.

Table 4.1.1.1 outlines the number of COE, COX, and CAT reports received by the NAFO Secretariat, as well as the number of fishing trips and fishing effort-days in the NRA. All identified 2024 fishing trips had

corresponding COE and COX messages. No major technical issues were encountered in transmission and receipt of the VTI reports.

Table 4.1.1.1 Fishing effort and VTI statistics in the NRA 2024.

Number of fishing trips identified	83
Fishing Days ¹	3 463
Number of Daily Catch Reports (CATs) ²	3 899
Number of Trips with Catch on Entry Reports (COEs)	83
Number of Trips with Catch on Exit Reports (COXs)	83

¹ Estimate based on EXI-ENT date of 2024 fishing year

² CATs of fishing trips that ended in 2024

4.1.1.2. Catch reporting on sharks

Article 28.6.g requires that all catches, including sharks, be reported at the species level. Greenland shark constitutes most of the total shark catches by weight (see table 2.3.2), and the vast majority of shark catches were reported to be discarded according to the daily catch reports (CATs).

4.1.1.3 Fishing logbook (haul by haul) reports

The submission of logbook data to the NAFO Secretariat became mandatory in NAFO in 2015 (Article 28.8.c of the NAFO CEM). The fishing logbook information submitted to the NAFO Secretariat must contain, at a minimum, the information outlines in Annex II.N of the NAFO CEM. Out of the 83 fishing trips identified, logbook reports from 79 trips were received, resulting in 95.2% coverage for 2024.

4.1.1.4 Position reporting – VMS

According to Article 29, every fishing vessel operating in the NRA shall be equipped with a satellite monitoring device capable of continuous automatic transmission of position to its land-based FMC of the flag States, which in turn is transmitted to the Secretariat in real time. The transmission of position reports (POS) shall be no less frequently than once an hour.

The Secretariat can confirm that the requirement is fully complied with. Occasionally, technical problems were encountered by the fishing vessels or FMCs. During these events, the position reports were transmitted manually or queued and transmitted once the technical issues were resolved. Technical issues were usually resolved within a few days through the coordination between the Secretariat and the FMC.

4.1.1.5 Closed areas and exploratory fisheries

In 2024, there were 27 areas restricting bottom fishing activities in the NRA, including 15 areas to protect sponge, sea pen, and corals, and 12 seamount areas. The measures concerning the protection of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) from bottom fishing are stipulated in Chapter II of the NAFO CEM. No reports of vessels fishing within the VME closure boundaries were received.

4.1.1.6 Notifications on the use of Others Quota

There were 28 notifications on the use of Others Quota in 2024 relating to vessels from five (5) Contracting Parties. In 2024, the Others Quota for 3LNO yellowtail flounder was fully utilized and the NAFO Secretariat circulated notification on 22 February 2024 notifying Contracting Parties of the 100% quota uptake projection.

4.1.2 Observer Reports

Contracting Parties are required to ensure that their vessels have 100% observer coverage while conducting fishing activities in the NAFO Regulatory Area in accordance with Article 30.3(k) of the NAFO CEM. By way of

derogation, Article 30.4 of the NAFO CEM allows for Contracting Parties to allow their vessels to carry an observer for less than 100%, but not less than 25% of the fishing trips conducted by its fleet in the NAFO Regulatory Area.

In evaluating the compliance to observer trip report submission (Article 30.3(j)(vi) of the NAFO CEM), fishing trips were grouped according to the implementation of Article 30.3(k) or 30.4. Table 4.1.2 shows the observer coverage percentage, by Contracting Parties, based on the percentage of the submission of the observer trip reports.

Table 4.1.2 Observer coverage based on the submission of observer trip reports, 2024. One Contracting Party issued a notification on the intention to invoke Article 30.4 of the NAFO CEM, which requires coverage no less than 25% during 2025.

Contracting Party	Number of Identified Trips	Number of Trips with Observer Trip Reports	% Coverage under Art 30.3(k) (100% required)
CAN	5	5	100.0%
DFG ¹	10	3	30.0%
EU	50	50	100.0%
FRA(SPM)	4	4	100.0%
GBR	1	1	100.0%
JPN	2	2	100.0%
NOR	3	3	100.0%
RUS	8	8	100.0%

¹ Invoked Article 30.4 of the NAFO CEM. Required coverage is no less than 25%.

4.1.3 Research activities

In 2024, three Contracting Parties, Canada, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland), and the European Union, submitted notifications for research activities in the NAFO Regulatory Area. However, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands) later notified that the research activities were not proceeding in 2024.

Table 4.1.3. A summary of the 2024 research plans received by the NAFO Secretariat in accordance with Article 4.3(b) of the NAFO CEM.

Research plan	Timelines for submission met (Article 4.3(c))?	Catches onboard retained with the purpose of marketing (Article 4.3(d))	Applicable with Article 4.3(d), complied with reporting requirements in Chapter IV (Article 4.3(d)(i))?	Applicable with Article 4.3(d), observer with sufficient expertise onboard (Article 4.3(d)(ii))?	Applicable with Article 4.3(d), catches counted against quota (Article 4.3(d)(iii))?
EU Platuxa Survey in Divisions 3NO	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
EU Flemish Cap Survey in Division 3M	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
EU “Fletán Negro 3L” survey in Division 3L	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Canada 3LNO Survey	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
EU Walther Herwig III survey	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Canada Comparative fishing survey 3LNO	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Canada Atlantic halibut survey	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
DFG-Faroes longline survey of Flemish Cap (Div. 3M)	Yes	Yes	N/A survey did not take place	N/A survey did not take place	N/A survey did not take place

4.1.4 Chartering arrangements

Article 26 of the NAFO CEM outlines the provisions for chartering arrangements between two Contracting Parties: the chartering Contracting Party and the flag State Contracting Party of the fishing vessel. Catches by the chartered fishing vessel are counted against the quota of the chartering Contracting Party.

In 2024, there was one (1) chartering arrangement in place pertaining to yellowtail founder in Divisions 3LNO. Monitoring of the implementation of the chartering arrangements are made possible through the notifications of commencement, suspension, resumption, and termination, and the daily catch reports of the chartered fishing vessel. The submission of the required documentation (Article 26.7 and 26.8) and reporting of implementation dates (Article 26.9) were complied with by both parties of the chartering arrangement.

4.2 Infringements detected at-sea and at-port

In 2024, a total of eight (8) vessels were cited with an infringement by inspectors at sea and port authorities. Details on the nature of the infringements and their disposition are provided in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 Summary of infringements detected by inspectors at-sea and by port authorities in 2024 and their disposition. Infringements presented in bold were considered serious by the inspectors as per the NAFO CEM Article 38 definition.

CP	Infringements detected at-sea.	Infringements detected in port (PSC3: Section E.1.B.c).	Follow-up to Infringements, as reported by the Contracting Party
EU		Exceeding bycatch limits PLA 3M; Fishing logbook	Case led by Portugal Case under investigation Case Pending
EU		Shark fins removed on board; Stowage plan; Fishing Logbook (WIT, PLA, GHL, COD and SKA); Production Logbook; Stowage of catch; Catch reporting: Incorrect data in CAT and COX messages	Case led by Spain Provisional measure: seizure of catches (64.563 kg GHL) Resolution on 23.10.2024: sanction of 102.702€ Appealed on 25.11.2024. Appeal pending.
EU	Master exceeded specified retained onboard by-catch limits for 3M COD, contrary to Article 6 3.(a) of the NCEMs.		Case led by Portugal NAFO infringement not confirmed during port inspection (cargo was not separated and sealed during sea). An additional EU infringement was detected (Exceedance of the 10% MOT for GHL). Immediate enforcement measures: seizure of 4t GHL NAFO infringement case closed
CAN		Master conducted a directed fishery for one haul for 3N PLA (under moratorium), contrary to Article 6.6(a) of the NCEMs. Master exceeded on board by-catch of 3N PLA (under moratorium) contrary to Article 6.3 (d) of the NCEM's.	Case Closed. A complete Investigation was undertaken by CAN authorities in port, including a fully monitored offload of the vessel. The investigation undertaken confirmed the infringement issued. Consultation with the prosecution service determined that this infringement did not meet the threshold to proceed to prosecution. As result of this finding, the case has now been closed by CAN authorities.
GBR	Master conducted a directed fishery for three hauls for 3M RED with no allocation, contrary to Article 6 6.(a) of the NCEMs.		• Case closed • The vessel was fully investigated by the United Kingdom upon landing in port. • After detection of the infringement, the vessel was subsequently prevented from fishing. • After the investigation, an official written warning issued.
EU	Master conducted a directed fishery for two hauls for 3N COD (under moratorium), contrary to Article 6 6.(a) of the NCEMs.	Directed fishery for SKA with Illegal mesh size; Exceeding Bycatches 3N COD	Case led by Spain Provisional measure: seizure of catches (3.451 kg COD) Proposal of resolution 28.10.2024: sanction of 11.000€ Case Pending
RUS	Master conducted a directed fishery for one haul for 3N PLA (under moratorium), contrary to Article 6 6.(a) of the NCEMs.		Case closed. Case led by Russian Federation. Administrative fine of 11182.5 rubles applied.
SPM	Master directed for 3N HKW (with no allocation), contrary to Article 6.6(a) of the NCEMs. Master exceeded specified retained onboard bycatch limits for 3N HKW, contrary to Article 6.3(c) of the NCEMs.		• Vessel was ordered to travel back to the port immediately for landing and at-port inspection • Inspectors carried out a full inspection of both the vessel and the landing • The exceeding quantity of HKW was landed and sold to the local fishmonger. The amount of money collected by the

CP	Infringements detected at-sea.	Infringements detected in port (PSC3: Section E.1.B.c).	Follow-up to Infringements, as reported by the Contracting Party
			shipowner for this sale was seized by the authorities • A legal action was taken against the master by French local authorities. The investigation revealed a misunderstanding of the NAFO CEM instead of an intentional breach • The trip was covered by an observer. The infringement was recorded by the EU inspection vessel and not by the onboard observer.
NOR	Failure to label correctly processed species in the NRA, at the time of stowage, as indicated in NCEM Article 27.1(b), (d), and (e)		Case closed. Written guidance/warning.
NOR		Infringement of CEM art. 7.4 (b)	Case is closed (guidance)

4.3 Follow-up to infringements

Article 39 of the NAFO CEM outlines the obligations of a flag State Contracting Party that has been notified of an infringement. It includes taking immediate judicial or administrative action in conformity with the national legislation of the flag State Contracting Party and ensuring that sanctions applicable in respect of infringements are proportional to severity.

Article 40 requires Contracting Parties to report on the disposition of the infringements. The legal resolution of infringements may take more than a year. Contracting Parties shall continue to list such infringements on each subsequent report until it reports the final disposition of the infringement. Table 4.3 summarizes the status of infringement cases in the last five years (2020-2024) and their resolution.

Table 4.3 Resolution of citations (by at-sea inspectors and port authorities) against vessels fishing in the NRA by year in which the citations were issued (as of June 2025). A citation is an inspection report that lists one or more infringement. Inspections carried out for confirming a previous citation are not included.

Year	Number of Inspection Reports with an infringement citation	Number of Resolved Cases	Number of Pending Cases*	% Resolved
2020	12	6	6	50%
2021	12	8	4	67%
2022	16	9	7	56%
2023	10	8	2	80%
2024	11	6	5	55%

**still under investigation, litigation or appeal*

5.0 Trends and Analysis

Five-year trends (2020-2024) on effort and catch, reporting obligations of Contracting Parties and observers, compliance by fishing vessels, and at-sea inspections, and infringements are presented in this section.

5.1 Effort and Catch

Table 5.1 Fishing days, as defined by Article 1.6, by fishing gear.

	Longline	Mid-water Trawl	Bottom trawl	Shrimp trawl	TOTAL
2020	250	127	4224	21	4622
2021	169	0	4247	479	4895
2022	180	7	3709	0	3896
2023	165	0	3365	0	3530
2024	299	0	3164	0	3463

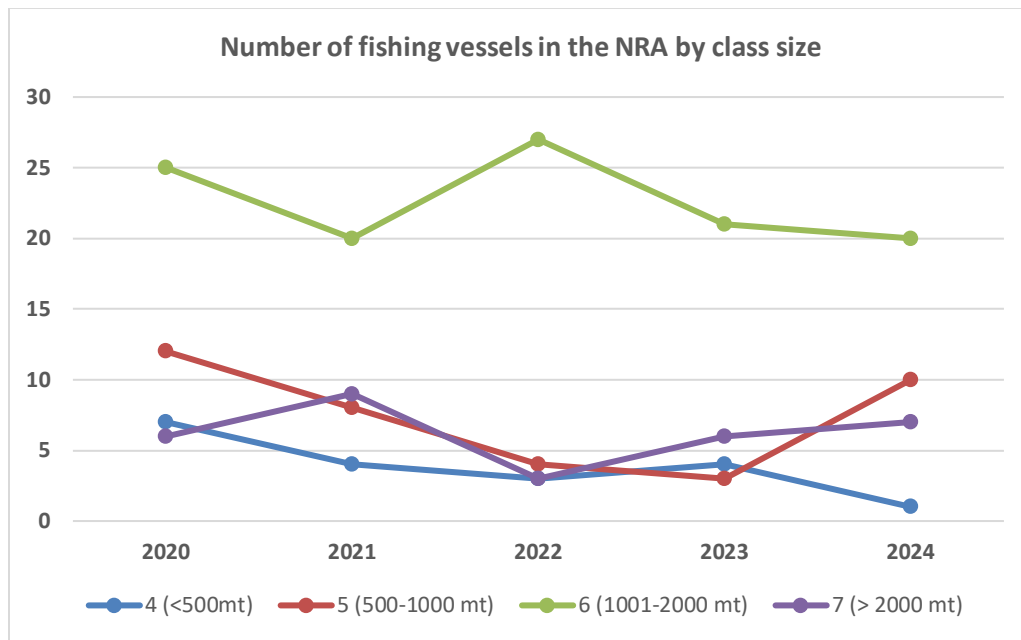


Figure 5.1.1 Number of fishing vessels that completed trips in the NRA in Divisions 3LMNO by class size, 2020-2024. The class sizes are based on the STATLANT classification.

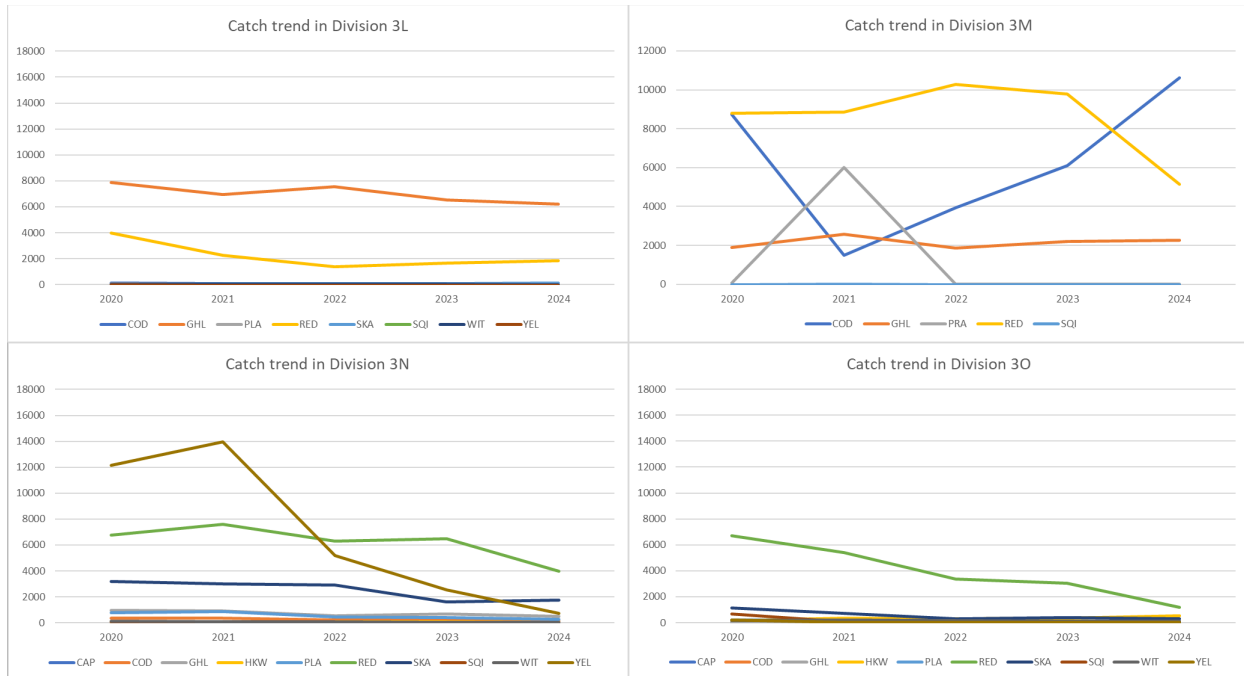


Figure 5.1.2 Catches (in tonnes) by Division of selected species managed by TAC, 2020-2024 (Source: CATs).

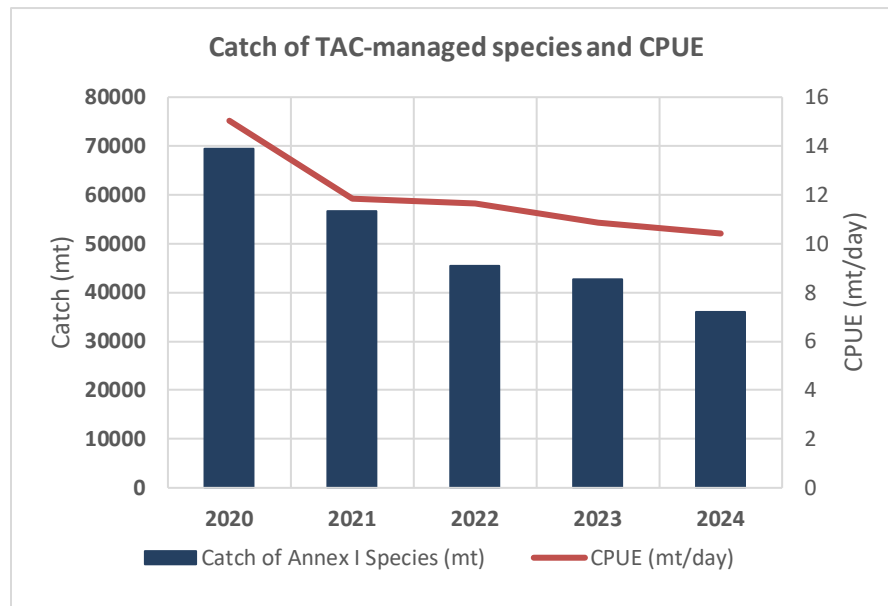


Figure 5.1.3 Catch of TAC-managed species and CPUE in 2020 -2024, expressed in total catch of TAC-managed species per fishing day. Data Source: CAT reports.

5.2 Reporting Obligations by Contracting Parties

Compliance relating to reporting obligations is quantified as a percentage coverage – the ratio of the fishing trips accounted for by the reports and of the total number of relevant fishing trips. A 100% coverage would mean that all expected reports were transmitted to the Secretariat. Figure 5.2 shows the submission rates in

the period of 2020-2024. In 2024, the submission rates of electronic logbook reports (Article 28.8(c) of the NAFO CEM) and observer trip reports (Article 30.3(k) of the NAFO CEM) are 95.2% and 100% respectively.

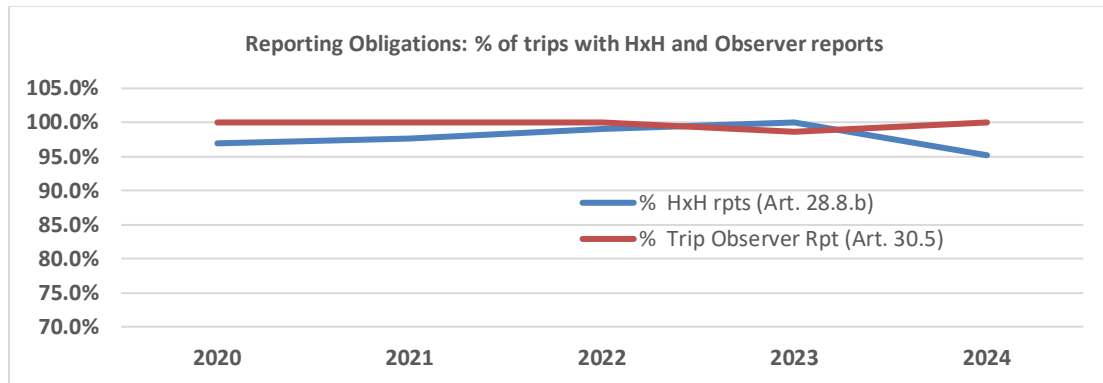


Figure 5.2 Percent coverage of observer trip reports for fishing vessels (operating under Article 30.3(k), and logbook (haul by haul) reports (Article 28.8(c)), 2020-2024.

5.3 Compliance by Fishing vessels

In the 5-year review period of 2020-2024, VMS and VTI requirements (Article 28 and 29) have been fully complied with. Hourly position reports (POS), as well as the daily catch reports by Division (CATs), were transmitted to the Secretariat while the vessels were in the NRA. The Catch-on-Entry (COE) and Catch-on-Exit (COX) reports for each fishing trip were also transmitted.

5.4 Inspections and Infringements

At-sea inspection rates, computed as a ratio of the number of at-sea inspections and the total fishing effort (fishing days), in the period 2020-2024 are presented in Figure 5.4.1. The inspection rate continues to increase from its lowest level in 2020, from 0.9% to 3.32% in 2024.

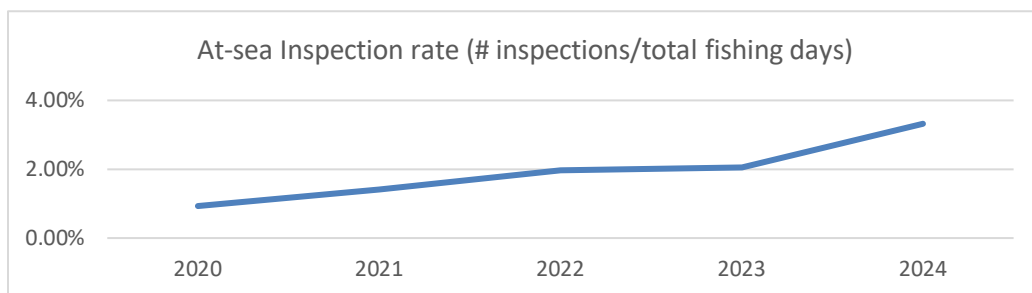


Figure 5.4.1 Inspection rates (number of at-sea inspections/fishing days) in the NAFO Regulatory Area, 2020-2024.

Figure 5.4.2 outlines the frequency a type of infringements detected by at-sea inspectors and port authorities from 2020-2024.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
By-catch requirements	•	•••	••••••••	•	•••••
Catch communication violations		•	•	•	•
Directed fishing of moratorium stock / stock with no quota			••	•	•••••
Evidence tampering	•	••	•	•	
Gear requirements - mesh size, illegal attachments	•	•			•
Greenland halibut control measures (Art. 10.4.d)	•				
3M Cod control measure (Article 7.4(b))					•
Inspection protocol (interference)	••		••	•	
Observer protocol	•	••			
Others quota notification				•	
Production logbook requirements		••	•••	•••	•
Mis-recording of catches - inaccurate recording	•••	•••••	••••••••	•••••	••
Mis-recording of catches -stowage		••	••	••	•
Product labelling	••••	•••••	••••	•••	•
Vessel requirements - capacity plans		•	•	••	
Vessel requirements - stowage plans					•
Removal of shark fins onboard (Article 12.1.b)					•

Figure 5.4.2 Frequency of infringement cases detected by at-sea inspectors and port authorities in 2020-2024. Black and blue dots represent infringement issued at-sea and at port, respectively.

6.0 Conclusions

During 2024, the primary NAFO fisheries consisted of demersal trawls and longlines for groundfish. The total catches increased from approximately 50 000 tonnes in 2023 to approximately 54 000 tonnes in 2024. The catch of moratoria species in the NAFO Regulatory Area decreased from approximately 980 tonnes in 2023 to approximately 730 tonnes in 2024 based on the daily catch reports. The at-sea inspection rate has increased compared with 2023. In contrast, infringement rates have decreased from 0.16% in 2023 to 0.06% in 2024. In 2024, Canada, the European Union, and the United States of America participated in the At-Sea Inspection and Surveillance Scheme, deploying inspection vessels in the NRA, along with exchanges of inspectors to other Contracting Party's vessels. Infringements of the NCEMs continued to remain at a low level.

Contracting Parties are committed to support and to ensure compliance with the NAFO Observer Program. One Contracting Party invoked the derogation from 100% observer coverage as per Article 30.4 of the NAFO CEM, and 30% of the fishing trips were covered by observers.

The NAFO MCS Website continues to be a useful tool for providing up to date information to inspection services in carrying out risk assessments and conducting monitoring, control and surveillance activities, along with compliance of other obligations under the NAFO CEM.

7.0 Recommendations

- STACTIC recommends that Contracting Parties assess the use of remote electronic monitoring and equivalent sensor technologies, as tools for the implementation of the observer program and improve effectiveness of monitoring and control activities.
- STACTIC recommends that Contracting Parties review the Rules on Confidentiality in Annex II.B to align with NAFO's CEM provisions and NAFO practices.

- STACTIC recommends that Contracting Parties continue to work towards the completion of the self-assessments of flag State performance, in accordance with the criteria set out in the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for flag State Performance for initial presentation at the 2026 STACTIC Intersessional Meeting.
- STACTIC recommends Contracting Parties participate and engage in the Inspectors' Workshop, for the purpose of sharing best practices and procedures and to promote international cooperation on control amongst Contracting Parties.
- STACTIC encourages Contracting Parties to maintain inspection presence in the NAFO Regulatory Area and promote inspector exchanges at-sea and in port, as well as the use of technologies for control such as Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems.
- STACTIC encourages Contracting Parties with an inspection presence in the NAFO Regulatory Area to plan and coordinate inspection activities to maximise efficiency.
- STACTIC recommends that Contracting Parties prioritize compliance analyses and efforts on key measures, in particular monitoring and control efforts associated with derogations related to directed fisheries and bycatch rules in 2026.
- STACTIC recommends Contracting Parties continue to attempt to find consensus and where possible apply consistent methodologies for the verification of compliance with NAFO CEM provisions on catch recording and reporting in particular.
- STACTIC recommends Contracting Parties commit to follow up on all infringements in a timely and consistent manner and, depending on the gravity of the offence and in accordance with domestic law, take sufficiently deterrent judicial or administrative actions.
- STACTIC recommends that the application of the NAFO CEM on bycatch rules is harmonized, and that, to the extent necessary, the NAFO CEM provisions are revised to provide consistent outcomes.
- STACTIC recommends that Contracting Parties allocate sufficient resources to ensure compliance with the NAFO CEM port inspection benchmarks.
- STACTIC recommends that Contracting Parties support and promote technology developments for data, reporting, collection, and management to improve efficiency and accessibility of information, specifically regarding the continuing work on the observer application to reduce observer administrative burden; in addition to the MCS Website and the ePSC application.