



TILFEINGIS- OG VINNUMÁLARÁÐIÐ

Ms. Brynhildur Benediktsdóttir, Executive Secretary
Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization

23. apríl 2026
Mál: 26/04400-11
(at tilskila í svari)

Viðgjørt: USW

Tygara skriv:

Dear Ms. Benediktsdóttir,

With reference to Article 4, Part 3 of NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures please be advised that the Faroe Marine Research Institute is collaborating with the Faroese Association of Longliners to conduct a scientific survey with longlines on Flemish Cap in 2026 to provide information about the stock status of the cod stock on Flemish Cap.

The scientific survey will be conducted in accordance with: "Protocol of the Faroese longline survey of Flemish Cap (Div. 3M)", approved at NAFO Scientific Council Meeting in September 2024. Scientific Council recognizes the final protocol as a valid longline survey protocol that can augment the information on Atlantic cod on the Flemish Cap.

The main objective of the survey is the study of abundance, biomass and composition structure of the target species, i.e., Atlantic cod in Division 3M (Flemish Cap). The Faroese longline survey on Flemish Cap is developed to get an indication of the cod (*Gadus morhua*) stock with an alternative gear and build a time series which can potentially be incorporated to the assessment.

A fishery independent scientific observer will be present during the duration of the survey. Catches retained onboard during research activities will be marketed. Catches will be counted against the DFG quota in Annex I.A of NAFO CEM for 2026.

Attached is the Research Plan for the Faroese Longline survey in division 3M, 15 May – 15 June 2026 with the research vessel/fishing vessel "Klakkur" (Table 1).

Yours sincerely

Ulla Svarrer Wang
DFG Head of Delegation to NAFO

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Table 1. Information about the vessel

Vessel Name	Klakkur
LOA	51.3 m
Beam	12.4 m
Draft	8.3 m
Vessel Tonnage	1,737 t
Call Sign	OW2046
Port of Registration	Klaksvík, Faroe Islands
Port Register Number	KG 9
IMO	9535383

Faroese Longline survey in division 3M

Temporal coverage: 15th May – 15th June 2026

Principal Investigator: PhD Eydna í Homrum, Head of Department
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Scientific observer: Petur Mikkelsen, Fisheries Researcher
Dept. Marine Resources, Faroe Marine Research Institute
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Research vessel: Klakkur (KG9)
Radio call sign: OW2046.
Email: klakkur@klakkur.fo GSM mobile: +298 610120

Aim: This recurring survey aims to investigate the Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) stock on Flemish Cap using an alternative gear to that employed in the EU survey. The resulting data will provide additional information on abundance, biomass, and population structure of the target species, and may supplement the analytical stock assessments as a fishery-independent index.

Gear: The fishing gear is longline from various gear providers. To standardize equipment in the survey among vessels and years, obligated specifications of equipment to be used is listed in Table 1.

Catches: Limited by the number of hooks as specified in Table 1, catch estimation is no more than 62 t. Any retained catches from the survey will be subtracted from the fishing quota(s) from the flag State Contracting Party allocated to the vessel(s) conducting the survey, and hence, will be marketed alongside the vessel's commercial catch, ensuring survey catches are stowed separately.

Survey design and area coverage: The Faroese survey comprises 62 longline stations covering strata 1–20, 24, and 28 in Division 3M. Figure 1 and table 2 shows the allocation of survey station locations.

Scientific methods and procedures: In collaboration with the scientific observer, the captain organizes the survey execution. All survey sets are to be conducted within a three-week window during the designated temporal coverage period. The soak time of each set is between 5-10 hours, and operation can take place throughout the day. Catch weight is to be recorded, and a sub-sample of 100 individuals of cod per set will be measured, thereof 20 weighed, sexed and maturity stage examined. Otoliths from 10 of these will also be obtained for age-reading. By-catch is to be recorded, with a sub-sample of 20 individuals per species to be weighed and measured, including any discarded species. It is paramount that length distribution within the sub-samples is representative of the catches of the survey. Further details of the survey protocol are found in SCR24-062. Serial no. N7575.

Reporting: Daily updates need to be conveyed to principal investigator during survey operation. Survey results will be presented to the Scientific Council via the STACREC annual may meeting the following year.

Table 1 - Fishing gear specifications of the longline Faroe survey in NAFO 3M.

Gear Type		Longline
Total Length		Ca 0.85 Nm
Hooks:	Number	1000
	Average spacing (m)	1.5
	Hook type	EZ
	Hook size	12
Buoys	Marked yes/no	YES
Anchors	Number	2
Main line material		50/50 pol/ter
Bait line material		ter
Bait type		Squid
Soak time		6-10 hours

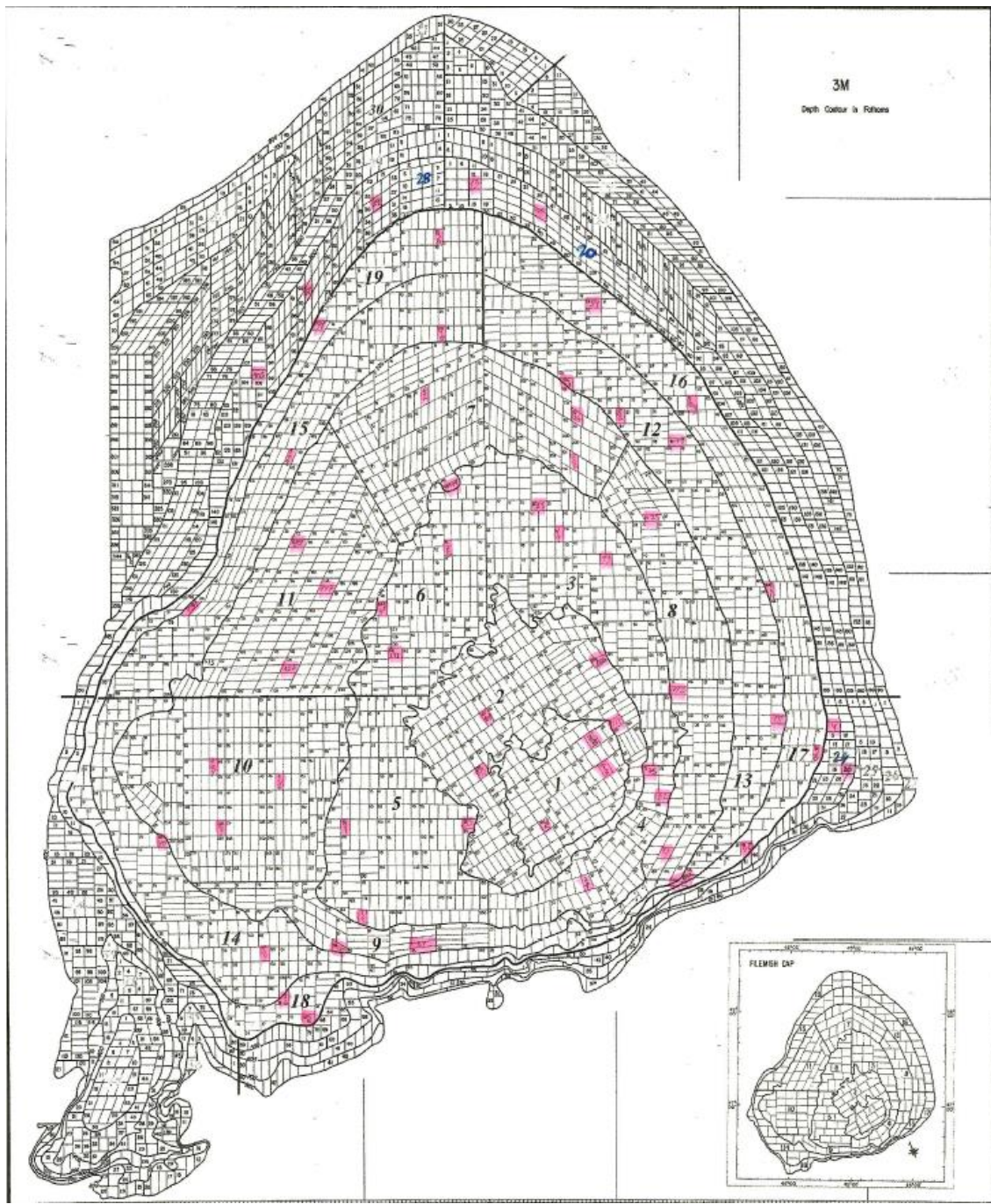


Figure 1 – Map of long line haul stations on the Flemish Kap (div. 3M)

Talva 2. Station details

strata	area	NAFO.DIV	Longitude	Latitude	Depth_min	Depth_max	latgg	N	latmm	longg	V	lonmm
501	23	3M	-44.5917	47.04167	70	80	47	N	3	44	V	36
501	45	3M	-44.7667	46.81667	70	80	46	N	49	44	V	46
501	73	3M	-44.5417	46.96667	70	80	46	N	58	44	V	33
502	100	3M	-45.0083	47.10833	81	100	47	N	6	45	V	0
502	166	3M	-44.55	47.25833	81	100	47	N	15	44	V	33
502	174	3M	-44.4917	47.09167	81	100	47	N	6	44	V	30
502	45	3M	-44.8083	47.33333	81	100	47	N	20	44	V	48
503	13	3M	-44.9	47.725	101	140	47	N	44	44	V	54
503	25	3M	-44.7917	47.66667	101	140	47	N	40	44	V	48
503	49	3M	-44.7167	47.59167	101	140	47	N	36	44	V	43
504	29	3M	-44.6083	46.65833	101	140	46	N	39	44	V	36
504	75	3M	-44.3667	46.86667	101	140	46	N	52	44	V	22
504	82	3M	-44.325	47.05833	101	140	47	N	3	44	V	20
505	101	3M	-45.575	46.80833	101	140	46	N	48	45	V	35
505	162	3M	-45.2917	46.64167	101	140	46	N	39	45	V	18
505	85	3M	-45.0833	46.81667	101	140	46	N	49	45	V	5
506	141	3M	-45.3667	47.28333	101	140	47	N	17	45	V	22
506	25	3M	-45.025	47.60833	101	140	47	N	36	45	V	1
506	47	3M	-45.125	47.39167	101	140	47	N	24	45	V	8
507	149	3M	-45.1417	47.725	141	200	47	N	44	45	V	9
507	176	3M	-44.6417	47.9	141	200	47	N	54	44	V	39
507	222	3M	-44.8167	47.85833	141	200	47	N	51	44	V	49
507	62	3M	-45.25	47.95833	141	200	47	N	57	45	V	15
508	112	3M	-44.2417	47.175	141	200	47	N	10	44	V	15
508	25	3M	-44.3417	47.64167	141	200	47	N	39	44	V	21
508	97	3M	-44.25	47.23333	141	200	47	N	14	44	V	15
509	34	3M	-45.2667	46.49167	141	200	46	N	30	45	V	16
509	36	3M	-45.3583	46.53333	141	200	46	N	32	45	V	21
510	124	3M	-46.1	46.975	141	200	46	N	59	46	V	6
510	147	3M	-45.8333	46.93333	141	200	46	N	56	45	V	50
510	235	3M	-45.9	46.80833	141	200	46	N	48	45	V	54
510	35	3M	-45.7417	47.14167	141	200	47	N	9	45	V	45
511	127	3M	-45.8	47.23333	141	200	47	N	14	45	V	48
511	147	3M	-45.6417	47.45	141	200	47	N	27	45	V	39
511	17	3M	-46	47.325	141	200	47	N	20	46	V	0
511	81	3M	-45.75	47.575	141	200	47	N	35	45	V	45
512	61	3M	-44.675	48	201	300	48	N	0	44	V	40
512	82	3M	-44.4667	47.90833	201	300	47	N	54	44	V	28
512	99	3M	-44.2417	47.84167	201	300	47	N	51	44	V	15
513	18	3M	-43.8417	47.09167	201	300	47	N	6	43	V	51
513	57	3M	-44.2417	46.65833	201	300	46	N	39	44	V	15
514	124	3M	-45.9	46.46667	201	300	46	N	28	45	V	54
514	40	3M	-46.3083	46.775	201	300	46	N	46	46	V	18
515	109	3M	-45.7833	47.80833	201	300	47	N	48	45	V	47

515	151	3M	-46.1917	47.4	201	300	47	N	24	46	V	12
515	40	3M	-45.1833	48.125	201	300	48	N	8	45	V	11
516	103	3M	-44.1833	47.93333	301	400	47	N	56	44	V	11
516	161	3M	-43.875	47.44167	301	400	47	N	27	43	V	52
516	54	3M	-44.575	48.2	301	400	48	N	12	44	V	35
517	20	3M	-43.6917	47	301	400	47	N	0	43	V	42
517	40	3M	-43.9833	46.74167	301	400	46	N	45	43	V	59
518	36	3M	-45.8917	46.29167	301	400	46	N	18	45	V	54
518	50	3M	-45.725	46.28333	301	400	46	N	17	45	V	44
519	30	3M	-45.1917	48.38333	301	400	48	N	23	45	V	12
519	71	3M	-45.6667	48.15	301	400	48	N	9	45	V	40
520	13	3M	-45.0417	48.53333	401	500	48	N	32	45	V	3
520	38	3M	-44.7833	48.45833	401	500	48	N	27	44	V	47
524	20	3M	-43.575	46.96667	401	500	46	N	58	43	V	35
524	4	3M	-43.6417	47.08333	401	500	47	N	5	43	V	39
528	105	3M	-45.9083	48.025	401	500	48	N	1	45	V	54
528	29	3M	-45.4333	48.49167	401	500	48	N	30	45	V	26
528	69	3M	-45.7167	48.25833	401	500	48	N	15	45	V	43