



1601 Lower Water Street • Suite 401
Halifax • Nova Scotia • B3J 3P6 • Canada

Telephone: + 1 902 468 5590
Email: info@nafo.int • Web: www.nafo.int

In all correspondence,
please refer to:

NAFO/25-146

18 June 2025

TO: All Contracting Parties

Dear Colleagues,

Subject: Provisional Agenda – *Interim virtual meeting of the NAFO Commission Ad hoc Working Group to Reflect on the Rules Governing Bycatches, Discards and Selectivity (WG-BDS) in the NAFO Regulatory Area, 09 July 2025 via Webex*

Please find enclosed the provisional agenda for the *Interim virtual meeting of the NAFO Commission Ad hoc Working Group to Reflect on the Rules Governing Bycatches, Discards and Selectivity (WG-BDS) in the NAFO Regulatory Area, 09 July 2025 via Webex*.

All relevant meeting documentation, including the provisional agenda, will be accessible on the NAFO Meetings SharePoint at <https://meetings.nafo.int/wg/bds> as it becomes available.

As adopted at the 2023 Annual Meeting of NAFO (COM Doc. 23-28), the guidelines for the classification of working documents reads “*The Contracting Party submitting a Working Paper is responsible to designate that Working Paper as “open access” and made available to the general public on the NAFO website prior to the meeting. If the Contracting Party does not make such a designation, then it will not be made available to the general public on the NAFO website prior to the meeting.*”

For logistical purposes, we would appreciate receiving from Contracting Parties the names of delegates planning to participate in the meeting.

We kindly ask your assistance in providing this information to the members of your meeting delegation. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Brynhildur Benediktsdóttir
Executive Secretary

BB:ll

Enclosed: Provisional Agenda (01 pgs.)

*Interim virtual meeting of the
NAFO Commission Ad hoc Working Group to Reflect on the
Rules Governing Bycatches, Discards and Selectivity (WG-BDS) in the NAFO Regulatory Area*

Wednesday, 09 July 2025
09:00 to 13:00 hours (UTC/GMT -3, Time in Halifax, Nova Scotia)
via Webex

Provisional Agenda

- 1. Opening by Chair, Deirdre Warner-Kramer (United States of America)**
- 2. Appointment of Rapporteur**
- 3. Adoption of Agenda**
- 4. Overview of NAFO's current measures relating to directed fisheries and mitigating bycatch of moratoria species**

What is the context and structure of NAFO's general bycatch management approach, including specific bycatch limits, move-along provisions, and directed fishing measures? Is there information about changes in NAFO fisheries, implementation challenges, or gaps in the current scheme?
- 5. Review of NAFO's Action Plan in the Management and Minimization of Bycatch and Discards**

How has NAFO progressed against the overarching goals in the Action Plan? Is there new information that would warrant revisiting the actions and priorities specified in the plan? Are the management options listed in section 4 still relevant, and is there interest in revisiting options?
- 6. Framing of key issues and decision points for the next meeting of the Working Group**

What are the priority issues to take up at the September meeting? What additional information, analysis, or actions are needed in advance of that meeting?
- 7. Other Business**
- 8. Time and Place of Next Meeting**
- 9. Adoption of Report**
- 10. Adjournment**