

**34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012****Closure of 3M Redfish Fisheries when TAC has been Reached****Background**

The NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures state in Article 5.2 that “Each Contracting Party to which a quota has been allocated shall close its fishery in the Regulatory Area for the stocks listed in Annex I.A on the date on which the accumulated reported catch, the estimated unreported catch, the estimated quantity to be taken before the closure of the fishery and the likely by-catches during the period to which the quota applies, equal 100% of the quota allocated to that Contracting Party.”

In the case of 3M Redfish, footnote 8 of Annex I states that “The Executive Secretary shall notify without delay all Contracting Parties of the date on which, for this stock, accumulated reported catch taken by vessels of the Contracting Parties is estimated to equal 50% and then 100% of the TAC.”

The Measures do not specify that Contracting Parties shall close its fishery for 3M Redfish when notified that 100% of the TAC is estimated to be taken.

Note: This proposal does not preclude the Contracting Parties identified in footnote 19 of Annex I which identifies Contracting Parties permitted to fish their quota in its entirety.

For clarity it is recommended that Article 5.2, footnote 8 and 19 of Annex 1.A be amended.

**Proposed Amendments**

The current Article 5.2 will become Article 5.2(a)

In addition add the following paragraph as 5.2(b)

5.2(b) The Executive Secretary shall notify without delay all Contracting Parties of the date on which, for 3M Redfish, the accumulated reported catch taken by vessels of the Contracting Parties is estimated to equal 50% and then 100% of the TAC. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that after it has been notified by the Executive Secretary that 100% of the TAC is taken, no more 3M Redfish, caught after that date, is retained onboard its vessels.

**Amend footnote 8 of Annex I.A by removing the following text**

‘The Executive Secretary shall notify without delay all Contracting Parties of the date on which, for this stock, the accumulated reported catch taken by vessels of the Contracting Parties is estimated to equal 50% and then 100% of the TAC.’

**Replace footnote 19 of Annex I.A with the following text**

**19.** Notwithstanding the provisions of footnote 8 and Article 5.2 (b) and without prejudice to future agreements on allocations, these quotas may be fished in their entirety by these Contracting Parties.