

35TH ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 2013

Observer Program – Article 30
Standardization of Observer program data and Reporting requirements
in the NAFO Regulatory Area

Explanatory Memorandum

As outlined in STACTIC WP 12/41, in the 2012 Progress report of the Expert Panel, it was recommended that standard protocols be developed and applied for the reporting of NAFO observer information by all flag States.

To ensure that data is collected and reported in a consistent and timely manner thereby, facilitating the compilation and analysis of the observer data, it is recommend that provisions be adopted in the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures (NCEMs) that require the use of a standard observer collection template and that the NAFO Secretariat automatically disseminate the reports to those Contracting Parties with an inspection presence in the NAFO Regulatory Area (NRA).

Article 30, 2 (g) currently requires that observers submit to the flag State Contracting Party and to the Executive Secretary, within 30 days following completion of a deployment, a report, however the measures fails to identify a standard format for this report

A review of material currently available on the NAFO website uncovered an Electronic Observer Report template that comes in two separate spreadsheets – (1) on catch and effort data (NAFO Observer Catch Data Form), (2) on the length frequency data (NAFO Observer Length Frequency Form). These forms capture the information that the observers are required to collect and record.

This amendment to the measures would ensure that data is collected and reported in a consistent and timely manner thereby facilitating the compilation and analysis of the observer data.

In support of this objective, Canada is proposing the use of a standardized data collection format and process through the addition of a new Annex II. M (standardized observer report template). The proposal would facilitate the compilation and analysis of observer data. This in turn would enhance the quality of reporting, reduce costs and make the information more relevant for all Contracting Parties and key stakeholders.

Proposal**Article 30 – Observer Program,****(1) Replace the current *Duties of the flag State Contracting Party* 2. (g) with the following:**

(g) submits to the flag State Contracting Party and to the Executive Secretary, within 30 days following completion of a deployment, a report as set out in Annex II.M, detailing the data recorded pursuant to this paragraph.

(2)Add: Annex II.M Observer Report (**annex 1**)

(3)Replace the current *Duties of the Executive Secretary 7* with the following:

7. The Executive Secretary will provide to any Contracting Party:

(a) with an inspection presence in the NRA, a copy of the report referred to in paragraph 2(g), including individual hauls and co-ordinates.

(b) without an inspection presence in the NRA, upon request, a copy of the report referred to in paragraph 2(g), providing daily catch totals by species and division.

Annex I

Annex II. M, Standardized Observer Report Template

Part 1. Fishing Trip and Gear Information

1A. Fishing Trip

Vessel Call Sign	
Vessel Name	
Flag State	
Trip Number	
Fishing Master's Name	
Number of Crew	
Observer's Name	
Observation Date Started	
Observation Date Ended	
Date of Report	
Vessel Length (m)	
Vessel Type	
Vessel Gross Tonnage	
Engine Power (indicate HP or KW)	
Frozen Hold Capacity (m ³)	
Fish Meal Hold Capacity (m ³)	
Other Hold Capacity (m ³)	
Directed Species	
NAFO Division/s visited	
Date of Entry into NRA	
Date of Exit from NRA	
Port of Landing	
Other Area/s visited	
Comments	

1B. Trawl Gear Information

Trawl Gear Information																			
Gear #	Gear Type	Gear Make	Mesh Size (mm)												Attachments	Grate Spacing	Straps		
			Wings			Body			Lengthening Piece			Codend							
			High	Low	Average	High	Low	Average	High	Low	Average	High	Low	Average					
Comments:																			

Part 5. Length Frequency Form

Length Frequency		Trip Number:	
Species Code:		Tow/Set/Haul #:	
Sample Type:		Measure Type:	
Meas. Convention		Total Measured:	
Sample Wt.:		Catch Weight:	
Gear Type:		Gear Number:	

sex:

sex:

Tally		#	Tally		#
0			0		
1			1		
2			2		
3			3		
4			4		
5			5		
6			6		
7			7		
8			8		
9			9		
0			0		
1			1		
2			2		
3			3		
4			4		
5			5		
6			6		
7			7		
8			8		
9			9		
0			0		
1			1		
2			2		
3			3		
4			4		
5			5		
6			6		
7			7		
8			8		
9			9		
0			0		
1			1		
2			2		
3			3		
4			4		