



**NAFO HOSTS 42nd ANNUAL MEETING VIRTUALLY AND
WELCOMES UNITED KINGDOM AS A NAFO CONTRACTING PARTY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Halifax, Canada, 25 September 2020- The 42nd Annual Meeting of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) took place from 21-25 September. Due to the current global pandemic, NAFO conducted the Annual Meeting virtually for the first time in its history. During the opening session, delegates from all the NAFO Contracting Parties were welcomed to the meeting by NAFO President, Stéphane Artano. The NAFO President also formally welcomed NAFO's newest Contracting Party, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which joined NAFO earlier this month. The United Kingdom is NAFO's 13th Contracting Party.

Despite the limitations imposed this year by the current global pandemic, NAFO continued to have a productive meeting. NAFO further advanced its revision of its Precautionary Approach (PA) Framework with the adoption of a detailed three-year workplan. Under this workplan, it is expected that NAFO's revised PA Framework will be finalized by September 2023. NAFO also adopted a number of decisions related to the further development of its ecosystem approach framework to fisheries management and the upcoming review of its measures to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) from bottom fishing activities. In particular, these decisions include a rollover of the current VME closures in the NAFO Regulatory Area for an additional year, pending a more comprehensive review in 2021.

In addition, to the traditional total allowable catch (TAC)* and quota decisions, significant decisions were made regarding the following:

- Additional conservation measures were agreed for cod in Div. 3M including a closure of the directed fishery from January until March 2021; increased port inspection requirements; and introduction of sorting grids to protect juvenile fish.
- Streamlined vessel authorization process.
- The term of the Executive Secretary, Fred Kingston, was extended for an additional year until the end of 2022.

NAFO is also planning intersessional work to review the current management approach for shrimp in Div. 3M and a workshop to identify ecosystem level objectives in advance of the 2021 Annual Meeting.

The 43rd Annual Meeting will take place 20-24 September 2021, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

* The 2021 TACs and quotas are attached.

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(2021)
ANNEX I – FISHERIES MANAGEMENT
Annex I.A – Annual Quota Table

DRAFT CATCH LIMITATIONS – Article 5. Total allowable catches (TACs) and quotas (metric tons in live weight) for 2021 of particular stocks in Subareas 1-4 of the NAFO Convention Area.

Species Stock Specification	Cod				Redfish				American plaice		Yellowtail	
	COD 3L	COD 3M		COD 3NO	RED 3LN		RED 3M	RED 3O	REB 1F_2_3K (i.e. Sub-Area 2 and Divs. 1F+3K)	PLA 3LNO	PLA 3M	YEL 3LNO
% of TAC			% of 3M Cod TAC			% of 3LN Redfish TAC						
Contracting Party												
Canada		12	0.80	0	7 710	42.60	500	6 000	0 ¹	0	0	16 575
Cuba		56	3.70	-	1 774	9.80	1 750		0 ¹	-	-	-
Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland)		335	22.35	-	-		69 ¹⁰		0	-	-	-
European Union		716	47.71	0 ⁴	3 300 ⁴	18.23	7 813 ⁴	7 000	0 0 ⁷	0	0 ⁴	-
France (St. Pierre et Miquelon)		-		-	-		69 ¹⁰		0 ¹	-	-	340
Iceland		-		-	-		-		0	-	-	-
Japan		-		-	-		400	150	0 ¹	-	-	-
Korea		-		-	-		69 ¹⁰	100	0 ¹	-	-	-
Norway		139	9.25	-	-		-		0	-	-	-
Russian Federation		97	6.47	0	5 207	28.77	9 137	6 500	0	-	0	-
Ukraine								150	0 ¹			
United Kingdom		140	9.32									
United States of America		-		-	-		69 ¹⁰		0 ¹	-	-	-
Others		6	0.40	0	109	0.60	124	100	-	0	0	85
TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH	*	1500	100.0 ¹³	*	18 100 ⁸	100.0 ¹⁴	8 448	20 000 ⁸	0 ^{3,9}	*	* ¹¹	17 000

Species	Witch			White hake	Capelin	Skates	Greenland halibut	Squid (<i>Illex</i>) SQI 3_4 (i.e. Sub-areas 3+4)	Shrimp		Alfonsino ALF 6 (i.e. Sub-area 6)
	WIT 3L	WIT 3NO							HKW 3NO	CAP 3NO	
% of TAC			% of 3NO Witch TAC								
Contracting Party											
Canada		705	60.00	294	0	1 167	1 834	N.S. ²	0		
Cuba		-			0		-	510	0		
Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland)		-			-		210	-	0		
European Union		156 ⁴	13.27	588	0 ⁵	4 408	7 168 ⁶	<u>N.S.²</u> 611 ⁵	0 ⁶		
France (St. Pierre et Miquelon)		-			-		200	453	0		
Iceland		-			-		-	-	0		
Japan		-			0		1 253	510	0		
Korea		-			-		-	453	0		
Norway		-			0		-	-	0		
Russian Federation		302	25.73	59	0	1 167	1 560	749	0		
Ukraine							-		0		
United Kingdom											
United States of America		-			-		-	453	0		
Others		12	1.00	59	-	258		794	0		
TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH	^{*8}	1 175	100.00 ¹⁵	1 000	*	7 000 ^{8,12}	12 225	34 000 ⁸	0	*	*

- * Ban on fishing in force.
- 1 Quota to be shared by vessels from Canada, Cuba, France (St. Pierre et Miquelon), Japan, Korea, Ukraine and USA.
- 2 The allocations to these Contracting Parties are as yet undetermined, although their sum shall not exceed the difference between the total of allocations to other Contracting Parties and the TAC (= 29.467 tonnes).
- 3 Should NEAFC modify its level of TAC, these figures shall be adjusted accordingly by NAFO through a mail vote.
- 4 Including allocations to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in accordance with the sharing arrangement of the former USSR quota adopted by the Fisheries Commission in 2003 (FC WP 03-07), as applied by NAFO since 2005 following their accession to the European Union.
- 5 Including allocations to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in accordance with the sharing arrangement of the former USSR quota adopted by the Fisheries Commission in 2003 (FC WP 03-07), and to Poland, as applied by NAFO since 2005 following their accession to the European Union.
- 6 Including allocations to Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland, as applied by NAFO since 2005 following their accession to the EU.
- 7 Allocation of 17.85% to Lithuania and 2.15% to Latvia following their accession to the European Union.
- 8 Applicable to 2021 and 2022.
- 9 If an increase in the overall TAC as defined in footnote 3 leads to an increase in these shares, the first 500 tonnes of that increase shall be added to the quota share referred to in footnote 1.
- 10 Notwithstanding the provision of Article 5.3(b) and without prejudice to future agreements on allocations, these quotas may be fished in their entirety by these Contracting Parties.
- 11 Applicable to 2021, 2022, and 2023.
- 12 Should catches exceed 5 000 tonnes, additional measures would be adopted to further restrain catches in 2021.

Historical statements

- 13 The allocation key of this stock is based on the 1998 Quota Table. In 1999, a moratorium on cod in Division 3M was declared.
- 14 The allocation key of this stock is based on the 1997 Quota Table. In 1998, a moratorium on redfish in Division 3LN was declared.
- 15 The allocation key of this stock is based on the 1994 Quota Table. In 1995, a moratorium on witch flounder in Division 3NO was declared.

Annex I.B
DRAFT Effort Allocation Scheme for Shrimp Fishery in the
NAFO Regulatory Area Div. 3M, 2021

CONTRACTING PARTY	NUMBER OF FISHING DAYS ¹
Canada	114
Cuba	25 ³
Denmark – Faroe Islands – Greenland	402 129
European Union²	823 ³
France (in respect of St. Pierre et Miquelon)	25 ³
Iceland	N/A
Japan	25
Korea	25
Norway	496 ³
Russia	525 ³
Ukraine	25 ³
USA	25
TOTAL	2 640

¹ When the scientific advice estimates that the stock shows signs of recovery, the fishery shall be re-opened in accordance with the effort allocation key in place for this fishery at the time of the closure.

² Including fishing entitlements transferred from Poland (25 fishing days), Estonia (416 fishing days), Latvia (123 fishing days) and Lithuania (145 fishing days) following their accession to the European Union.

³ In derogation of CEM Article 5.11 and CEM Article 9.4, the European Union will transfer 25 fishing days of its fishing days allocation for 2021 to France, in respect of St Pierre et Miquelon; Norway will transfer 25 fishing days of its fishing days allocation for 2021 to Ukraine; and the Russian Federation will transfer 25 fishing days of its fishing days allocation for 2021 to Cuba. The above transfers are without prejudice to the effort allocation key and are only for the year 2021. The 2021 catches under this interim regime will not create any catch history.