

**AGREED RECORD OF CONCLUSIONS OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN  
NORWAY AND THE EUROPEAN UNION ON THE FISHERIES ARRANGEMENTS IN  
SKAGERRAK AND KATTEGAT FOR 2026**

**16 DECEMBER 2025**

- 1 A Norwegian Delegation, headed by Ms. Ann Kristin WESTBERG, and a European Union Delegation, headed by Mr. Thomas BRÉGEON, met in Brussels from 3 to 6 November, in Oslo from 24 to 27 November, in Brussels from 4 to 5 and via videoconference from 8 to 11 December 2025 to consult on mutual fisheries relations for 2026.
- 2 The Delegations recalled the Agreed Record of Fisheries Consultations between the United Kingdom, the European Union and Norway for 2026 of 5 December 2025 (hereinafter the "Trilateral Agreed Record for 2026").
- 3 The Heads of Delegations agreed to recommend to their respective authorities the fisheries arrangements in Skagerrak in 2026, outlined in this Agreed Record, including Annexes I to VI.
- 4 The Delegations reiterated their determination to cooperate, in their mutual interest, in securing continued responsible fisheries and ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable exploitation of the marine living resources for which they are responsible.
- 5 **Discard ban and landing obligation in the Skagerrak**
  - 5.1 The Delegations acknowledged that the introduction of landing obligations, that prohibits most forms of discarding fish, is an important first step to avoid waste of resources. Nevertheless, discards remain a serious problem that with great probability have contributed to the current poor condition of some stocks. Therefore, it is crucial that landing obligations are supported by measures that will assist the fishers to avoid unwanted catches by improving the exploitation pattern and reduce the unwanted catches and the discards using of technical measures to improve the selectivity of fishing gear, closed seasons and areas, as well as any other appropriate measures, including control measures.
  - 5.2 The Delegations recalled the 2013 reciprocal access agreement to fishing in the Skagerrak for vessels flying the flag of Denmark, Norway and Sweden and their intention to cooperate in order to establish, insofar as possible, harmonised rules and regulations in respect of fishing within the Skagerrak, noting that many regulations related to gear and other technical measures in Skagerrak, are, as far as possible already harmonised.
  - 5.3 In light of the de minimis and high survivability exemptions contained in the EU landing obligation, the EU Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation of its intention in 2026 to continue to adjust from the EU quotas the estimated amounts of the discards.
- 6 **Management, including Monitoring, Control and Surveillance**
  - 6.1 The Delegations recalled their agreement to strengthen cooperation and dialogue on MCS

in order to enhance compliance with fisheries regulations and further improve MCS measures.

- 6.2 In this context, the Delegations noted that consultations to revise the existing Memorandum of Understanding dated 4 October 2006 between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Community have commenced. The purpose of the revision is to facilitate cooperation between their respective control authorities at both strategic and operational levels, including areas such as mutual assistance requests, exchange of operational information, risk management and joint operational activities.
- 6.3 The Delegations agreed that both strategic and operative MCS cooperation between the inspections services of the Parties is a prerequisite to improve compliance with the regulations and thereby achieve a level playing field. Enhanced cooperation between inspection services in Norway and the EU (including at Member States level) is of mutual interest, e.g. in light of transparency, compliance, securing level playing field, effective use of resources and to increase the general understanding of the Parties' MCS regimes.
- 6.4 The Delegations referred to the agreement in the 2026 Trilateral Agreed Records to establish a Working Group (WG) on MCS in the North Sea which will begin its work in early 2026 and report on its progress through the trilateral Fisheries Consultations. The Delegations agreed to further cooperate to enhance control, monitoring and surveillance activities in Skagerrak within the framework of the trilateral MCS Working Group.
- 6.5 The Delegations also referred to the November 2022 Agreed Record of Conclusions of Fisheries Consultations between Greenland, Iceland, the United Kingdom, Norway, the European Union and the Faroe Islands on Control Measures for Pelagic Stocks in the Northeast Atlantic. The Delegations noted that consultations to revise the agreement from 2022 are still ongoing.
- 6.6 The Delegations stressed the importance of timely and effective implementation of the control measures concluded within the 2022 Agreed Record of Conclusions of Fisheries Consultations between Greenland, Iceland, the United Kingdom, Norway, the European Union and the Faroe Islands on Control Measures for Pelagic Stocks in the Northeast Atlantic and the importance of the timely conclusion of ongoing consultations to revise the agreement.

## **7 Licencing**

- 7.1 The Delegations referred to point 11 in the Agreed Record of Fisheries Consultations between the European Union and Norway for 2026.

## **8 Reciprocal access agreement for Skagerrak**

- 8.1 The Delegations referred to the Agreement of 15 January 2015 between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Union on Reciprocal Access to Fishing in the Skagerrak for Vessels Flying the Flag of Denmark, Norway and Sweden.
- 8.2 The Delegations agreed to continue the practice of establishing a separate Agreed Record, on an annual basis, for the fisheries arrangements in the Skagerrak.

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## **9 Total allowable catches and quotas**

- 9.1 The Delegations agreed to apply the inter-annual quota flexibility (IAF) scheme as set out in Annex II. For 2026, the IAF scheme will apply to haddock, plaice and whiting.
- 9.2 The Delegations agreed that vessels should have adequate quota or fishing possibilities to cover expected catch composition when fishing in Skagerrak.

## **10 Cod**

- 10.1 The Delegations noted that ICES advised that, when the MSY approach and precautionary considerations are applied, the TAC for Northern Shelf cod should be 0 tonnes in 2026. The Delegations also noted ICES advise that, when the MSY approach without precautionary considerations is applied to the Northwestern and Viking substocks, and when the MSY approach with precautionary considerations is applied to the Southern substock, catches in 2026 should be no more than 8670 tonnes, 3610 tonnes and 0 tonnes respectively. This adds to no more than 12,280 tonnes for 2026.
- 10.2 Regarding the management of cod, the Delegations referred to paragraphs 15.1 to 15.21 of the Trilateral Agreed Record for 2026 where it is agreed that a multi-year approach was required to reduce fishing pressure, increase biomass and recover the sub-stocks to MSY levels as soon as possible. This requires actions in both the short and longer term. In the short term, the Delegations agreed this would include new and expanded seasonal closures, updates to Real Time Closure (RTC) regimes and new restrictions on targeting cod in the Southern North Sea. In the longer-term, this would include further work to be led by the Northern Shelf Cod Management Working Group, under the direction of heads of Delegation. Terms of Reference for this Working Group is set out in Annex V of the Trilateral Agreed Record for 2026.
- 10.3 The Delegations agreed to continue and expand the seasonal closures for the protection of spawning aggregations. The coordinates and timing of such closures are specified in Annex V. The Delegations agreed to prohibit fishing with all gears in these areas with the except for pelagic trawls and purse seine.
- 10.4 To this end, the Delegations recalled that the Trilateral Agreed Record for 2026 established a TAC for cod in ICES Subarea 4, Divisions 6.a and 7.d and Subdivision 20 (North Sea, West of Scotland, Eastern Channel and Skagerrak) in 2026 of 14,034 tonnes. This represents a decrease of 43.9% compared to 2025.
- 10.5 The Delegations consequently agreed to establish a TAC for cod in ICES Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak) in 2026 of 1,596 tonnes.
- 10.6 The European Union Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation of its intention to continue to apply additional management and control measures aimed at the protection of juvenile and adult cod introduced in 2020.

## **11 Haddock**

- 11.1 The Delegations recalled that ICES, based on its MSY approach, advised that catches of haddock in Subarea 4, Division 6.a, and Subdivision 20 (North Sea, West of Scotland, Skagerrak) in 2026 should be no more than 108,301 tonnes. This represents a decrease of 3.7% in the advice compared to 2025.

- 11.2 The Delegations recalled that, based on that advice, the Trilateral Agreed Record for 2026 established a TAC for haddock in ICES Subarea 4, Division 6.a, and Subdivision 20 (North Sea, West of Scotland, Skagerrak) in 2026 of 108,301 tonnes. This represents a decrease of 3.7 % compared to 2025.
- 11.3 The Delegations consequently agreed to establish a TAC for haddock in Skagerrak and Kattegat (ICES Division 3.a) in 2026 of 5,675 tonnes (5.24% of agreed TAC).

## **12 Northern shrimp**

- 12.1 The Delegations referred to the Agreed Record of their fisheries consultations on Northern shrimp in ICES 3a and 4a east, signed on 23 June 2025, where several action points were agreed to be followed up in 2025 and 2026.
- 12.2 The Delegations recalled their agreement that, pending the inclusion in the long-term management strategy (LTMS) attached in Annex III of a banking and borrowing scheme, inter-annual quota flexibility should not apply to Northern shrimp.
- 12.3 The Delegations further recalled that they had agreed to establish a TAC of 4,010 tonnes for the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026, and subsequently a TAC of 2,807 tonnes for Skagerrak for that period. They also recalled that Norway had fixed a quota for Northern shrimp for Division 4a East of 1,203 tonnes.
- 12.4 The Delegations agreed to meet as soon as possible after ICES has issued its 2026 advice and decide on a TAC for the 2026/27 fishing season.
- 12.5 The Delegations recalled that a Working Group of experts had delivered a report in June 2025 on possible technical measures that could contribute to the rebuilding of the stock. They recalled that they, in line with the recommendations of the Working Group, had agreed to revise the joint real-time closure (RTC) system for Northern shrimp, aiming for it to take effect no later than 1 January 2026. Revisions to the RTC system include a lower trigger threshold for juvenile shrimp in a single haul the extension of the size and duration of the RTCs, and the termination of the exemption for vessels equipped with size-selective grid.
- 12.6 The Delegations recalled that the Working Group also recommended increasing selectivity through gear innovations and coordinate scientific trials in the Danish, Swedish and Norwegian fishery in the Skagerrak. The Parties tasked the technical Working Group on Northern shrimp to continue their work focussing on coordinating scientific gear trials aimed at increasing size selectivity to reduce mortality of juvenile northern shrimp. The Working Group should report to the Parties on the progress of these gear trials in due time ahead for the Northern shrimp consultations for 2026/27. The Terms of Reference for this Working Group is set out in Annex IV.
- 12.7 The Delegations referred to paragraph 4.13 of the Agreed Record of 23 June 2025 and recalled their intention to discuss other recommendations from the Working Group ahead of annual consultations for 2026, with a view to agreeing on possible additional measures deemed necessary for the recovery of the stock. Relevant managers and experts will meet well in advance of the annual consultations to take this work forward.



### 13 Herring

- 13.1 The Delegations referred to the Trilateral Agreed Record for 2026 and the agreement to use a single TAC to manage North Sea autumn spawning (NSAS) herring in ICES Subarea 4, Divisions 3.a and 7.d, replacing the former management approach based on A, B, C and D fleet TACs. They further agreed that the single TAC would be shared using a single allocation key per Party, as set out in Table 1 of the Trilateral Agreed Record for 2026. The Delegations agreed that all herring catches would be counted against the quotas of the respective Parties.
- 13.2 The Delegations noted that the UK, the EU and Norway agreed on a LTMS for NSAS herring. This LTMS is set out in Annex VI of the Trilateral Agreed Record for 2026.
- 13.3 The Delegations noted that ICES advised that, when the LTMS with TAC constraint is applied, catches of NSAS Herring in 2026 in the North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, and eastern English Channel should be no more than 328,566 tonnes. This represents a decrease of 20 % in the advice compared to 2025.
- 13.4 The Delegations noted that the UK, the EU and Norway agreed a TAC as set out in the Trilateral Agreed Record for 2026 for NSAS herring in ICES Subarea 4 (North Sea), Divisions 3.a (Skagerrak and Kattegat) and Division 7.d (eastern English Channel) of 328,566 tonnes.
- 13.5 The Delegations noted the need to consider fisheries arrangements for herring in ICES Division 3.a now that a new management model for NSAS herring has been agreed in consultations between the UK, the EU and Norway. They agreed to consult in early 2026 to that effect.
- 13.6 The EU Delegation noted its intention to set a level of actual catches of herring in the Skagerrak and Kattegat in 2026 of no more than 969 tonnes.
- 13.7 The Norwegian Delegation noted its intention to set a level of actual catches of herring in the Skagerrak in 2026 of no more than 250 tonnes.
- 13.8 The Delegations noted that the fishery for NSAS herring includes individuals from the Western Baltic spring spawning (WBSS) herring stock, which ICES estimates to be below Blim and has since 2019 been subject to zero-catch advice. The Delegations further noted that ICES have advised since 2023 that catches of WBSS herring in the NSAS herring fishery in Division 3.a and the eastern part of Divisions 4.a and 4.b be avoided to support the effective recovery of the WBSS herring stock. The catches have been relatively stable the last 10 years in the Eastern part of 4a and 4b. The Delegations recalled that the EU and Norway have, since 2022, applied catch restrictions in Division 3.a to limit catches of WBSS herring resulting in a very low estimated fishing mortality the last three years. They noted that further measures are required in the Eastern part of 4a and 4b, where the majority of WBSS herring catches now occur.
- 13.9 The Norwegian Delegation informed the EU Delegation that Norway will conduct during the first half of 2026 a public consultation with a view to establishing in 2026 spatial temporal management measures to reduce catches of WBSS herring and juvenile NSAS herring in the relevant areas of Norwegian waters of division 4.a and 4.b. Those measures will take into account the findings of the 2022 joint Working Group report and other

relevant scientific evidence. The Norwegian Delegation will notify the EU of the measures they will implement once finalised.

- 13.10 The EU Delegation underscored that the measures referred in paragraph 13.9 form part of the revised management regime agreed for North Sea herring in consultations between the UK, the EU and Norway for 2026, that will apply as of January 2026. The revised management regime should contribute to the long-term sustainability of herring fisheries in the North Sea and Skagerrak-Kattegat.

#### **14 Plaice**

- 14.1 The Delegations recalled that ICES, based on its MSY approach, advised that catches of plaice in Subarea 4 and Subdivision 20 in 2026 should be no more than 163,951 tonnes. This represents a decrease of 7.2% in the projected catches of plaice in Subarea 4 and Subdivision 20 compared to 2025.
- 14.2 The Delegations recalled that, based on that advice, the EU, Norway and the UK agreed on 5 December 2025 to establish a TAC for plaice in ICES Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak) in 2026 of 163,951 tonnes. This is a decrease of 7.2% compared to 2025.
- 14.3 The Delegations consequently agreed to establish a TAC for plaice in ICES Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak) in 2026 of 19,346 tonnes (11.8% of agreed TAC).

#### **15 Sprat**

- 15.1 The Delegations noted that the ICES advice for sprat now encompasses both the North Sea and Skagerrak, and recalled that they on 12 June 2020 had agreed to apply 18.3% as share for Skagerrak and Kattegat of the overall TAC (Agreed Record of Fisheries Consultations between the European Union and Norway for sprat for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021).
- 15.2 The Delegations recalled that ICES, based on its MSY approach, advised that total catches in July 2025 to June 2026 should be no more than 236,114 tonnes. The Delegations also recalled that, based on this advice, on 21 May 2025 Norway, EU and UK had agreed to establish a TAC of 236,114 tonnes. Applying the agreed ratio, the TAC for Skagerrak and Kattegat for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 was set to 43,209 tonnes.
- 15.3 The Delegations agreed to meet in May 2026 to consider the TAC for 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

#### **16 Whiting**

- 16.1 The Delegations noted that ICES, based on its precautionary approach, advised that catches of whiting in ICES Division 3.a (Skagerrak and Kattegat) in 2025 and in 2026 should be no more than 455 tonnes each year. This represents a decrease of 30% compared to 2024.
- 16.2 The Delegations agreed to establish a TAC for whiting in the Skagerrak and Kattegat in 2026 of 455 tonnes.
- 16.3 The Delegations agreed to meet in 2026 to revise this TAC in case it leads to choke issues in other fisheries where whiting is caught as a bycatch.



## **17 "Others" quota**

- 17.1 The Norwegian Delegation informed the EU Delegation that Norway would set an "others" quota of 2,000 tonnes for the EU vessels fishing in the Norwegian zone of Skagerrak. Norway also informed the EU Delegation that Norwegian vessels catch of "others" species in the EU zone of Skagerrak, will be restricted to 2,000 tonnes.
- 17.2 The EU Delegation was not yet in a position to set an "others" quota for Norwegian vessels in the EU zone, and therefore only require that all vessels continue to report the catches taken in each Party's waters.
- 17.3 The Norwegian Delegation noted that jointly managed stocks (cod, haddock, whiting, saithe, plaice, Northern shrimp, herring and sprat) are not to be counted against the "others" quotas.
- 17.4 Furthermore, the Norwegian Delegation noted that the same applies to catches of blue whiting, Norway pout, sandeel, mackerel and horse mackerel. The Norwegian Delegation explained that, according to Norwegian regulations, catches of those species in Norwegian waters of Skagerrak should be kept at an unavoidable bycatch level.
- 17.5 The Delegations agreed to discuss in 2026 possible improvements to the monthly catch statistics exchanged by the parties, including catch data for non-jointly managed stocks (i.e. species not listed in paragraph 17.3).

## **18 Technical measures**

- 18.1 The Norwegian Delegation referred to the Agreed Record of Conclusion between Norway and the European Union on the Regulation of fisheries in Skagerrak and Kattegat of 8 December 2023 and to the Agreed Record of Conclusion between Norway and the European Union on the Regulation of fisheries in Skagerrak and Kattegat of 5 December 2024, which states that cross-border fishing will no longer be allowed when entering or exiting areas under Norwegian jurisdiction in Skagerrak and gives a thorough description of the implementing process. A general ban on cross-border fishing entered into force 1 January 2025 and was notified through diplomatic channels.
- 18.2 The EU Delegation regretted the unilateral decision by Norway to prohibit cross-border fishing in the Skagerrak and referred to their statement in paragraph 18.7 of the Agreed Record of fisheries consultations between the EU and Norway for the Skagerrak for 2024 for further details. The EU Delegation recalled the importance of working towards the harmonisation of technical measures in the Skagerrak.

## **19 Catch statistics**

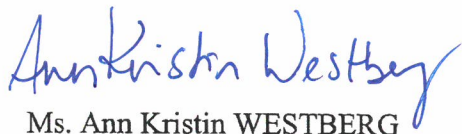
- 19.1 The Delegations agreed to communicate to each other, on a monthly basis, catch statistics for fishing by their own vessels for all species. This monthly information shall be communicated not later than the end of the following month.
- 19.2 Final catch statistics of the Parties for 2024, and preliminary catch statistics for 2025, are available in Annex VI to VII to this Agreed Record.

## 20 Quota arrangements

- 20.1 The Delegations agreed that the negotiated quota arrangements constitute an *ad hoc* solution and shall be without prejudice to future fishery arrangements between the Parties.
- 20.2 The Norwegian Delegation stated that the ad hoc sharing arrangement for 2026 is greatly imbalanced in Norway's disfavour. Norway will therefore invite the European Union for consultations during 2026 with the purpose of establishing a sharing arrangement closer to zonal attachment of the main species.

16 December 2025

For the Norwegian Delegation



Ms. Ann Kristin WESTBERG

For the European Union Delegation



Mr. Thomas BRÉGEON



## TACS AND ALLOCATIONS IN 2026

Catches taken, during the period 1 January to 31 December 2026 in the Skagerrak and the Kattegat of the species mentioned below, shall be limited as follows (metric tonnes, fresh round weight):

SPECIES	AREA <sup>(1)</sup>	TAC 2026	ALLOCATION TO NORWAY	ALLOCATION TO EUROPEAN UNION
<b>COD</b>	<b>S</b>	1,596	52 <sup>(2)</sup>	1,544
<b>HADDOCK</b> <sup>(3)(4)</sup>	<b>S + K</b>	5,675	238	5,437
<b>WHITING</b>	<b>S + K</b>	455	8	447
<b>PLAICE</b>	<b>S</b>	19,346	387	18,959
<b>NORTHERN SHRIMP</b> <sup>(5)</sup>	<b>S</b>	2,807	1,308	1,499
<b>SPRAT</b> <sup>(5)</sup>	<b>S + K</b>	43,209	3,241	39,968
<b>MACKEREL</b>	<b>S + K</b>	Pm	pm	pm

- (1) Skagerrak (S): the area bounded on the west by a straight line running through the Hanstholm lighthouse and the Lindesnes lighthouse and on the south by a straight line running through the Skagen lighthouse and the Tistlarna lighthouse. Skagerrak and Kattegat (S + K): the area defined as Skagerrak, extended to the southern boundary of Kattegat, and defined as a straight line from Hasenøre to Gnibens spids, from Korshage to Spodsbjerg and from Gilbjerg Hoved to Kullen.
- (2) This quantity does not include catches to be taken with passive gear inside the Norwegian baselines.
- (3) The TAC for haddock includes both a directed fishery for haddock and by-catches in the industrial fisheries.
- (4) In addition, up to 10% of the haddock quota in EU and Norwegian waters of ICES subarea 4 (North Sea) may be transferred to ICES Division 3a (Skagerrak and Kattegat).
- (5) To be fished in the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

## INTER-ANNUAL QUOTA FLEXIBILITY

The inter-annual quota flexibility scheme applicable to the jointly managed stocks discussed during these consultations shall be terminated if:

- The spawning stock biomass is estimated to be below the precautionary reference point Bpa in the TAC year and the fishing mortality is estimated to be above the precautionary reference point Fpa in the intermediate year; or
- the SSB is estimated to be below Bpa in both the TAC year and the year thereafter.

Each Party may transfer unutilised quota from the TAC year to be caught in the following year. Each Party may transfer up to 10% of its total quota allocation. This quantity cannot be transferred further in subsequent years.

Each Party may authorise fishing by its vessels beyond its total quota allocation for the TAC year by up to 10%. The quantity fished beyond the allocated quota shall be deducted from the Party's allocation for the year after the TAC year.

The Delegations agreed that to ensure transparency in the operation of inter-annual quota flexibility, more detailed information on catch utilisation shall be exchanged.

The TAC year is the year for which the agreed TAC applies, and the intermediate year is the year prior to the TAC year.



**LONG TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR NORTHERN SHRIMP (*PANDALUS BOREALIS*) IN DIVISIONS 3.A. AND 4.A. EAST (SKAGERRAK AND KATTEGAT AND NORTHERN NORTH SEA IN THE NORWEGIAN DEEP)**

The Parties agree to implement a Long Term Management Strategy (LTMS) for the Northern shrimp in the Northern North Sea (Norwegian Deep) and in the Skagerrak and Kattegat.

The objective of this LTMS is to provide for sustainable fisheries with high and sustainable yields in conformity with the precautionary approach.

For the purpose of this long term management strategy, the following definitions shall apply:

- "SSB" means the estimate according to ICES of the Spawning Stock Biomass at the beginning of the TAC year.
- $B_{\text{TRIGGER}}$  is the value of spawning stock biomass (SSB) that triggers a specific management action.
- $F_{\text{TARGET}}$  is the fishing mortality to be included in the algorithm for the agreed long-term management strategy as a function of variables related to the status of the stock.

The value for  $B_{\text{TRIGGER}}$  is fixed in the light of the latest available ICES advice. The value of  $F_{\text{target}}$  is fixed by ICES and fulfilling the following criteria:

1. The Parties shall set a 12 month TAC for northern shrimp for a period between 1 July to 30 June that is consistent with fishing at  $F_{\text{target}}$  provided that SSB at the start of the TAC year is equal to or greater than  $MSY B_{\text{trigger}}$ .
2. Where the SSB at the start of the TAC year is estimated to be below  $MSY B_{\text{trigger}}$  the Parties agree that the fishing mortality referred to in paragraph 1 is reduced linearly from  $F_{\text{TARGET}} \times$  at SSB equal to  $MSY B_{\text{trigger}}$  to  $F$  equal to zero at SSB equal to zero.
3. Overriding the rules set out in paragraphs 1 and 2, the  $F_{\text{TARGET}}$  should be in line with the criteria specified in the ICES MSY approach for SSB falling below  $B_{\text{lim}}$  in the year following the TAC year.

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**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A WORKING GROUP ON NORTHERN SHRIMP**

The objective of the working group on Northern shrimp (WG) is to evaluate measures to protect juveniles and/or mature females with the goal of supporting the current Long-term Management Plan in restoring the Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) stock in Divisions 3.a and 4.a East to levels which can produce maximum sustainable yield.

The WG will consist of managers, scientists, and industry experts from both Parties. The WG will be co-chaired by one representative from each Party.

The WG should compile relevant information describing:

- Spatio-temporal distribution of juveniles and mature females
- The fishery for Northern shrimp.
- The present management of the fishery

The WG should recommend on technical elements for potential management measures to support stock recovery and suggest plans for the follow-up of their effects. These measures should focus on measures for the Northern shrimp fishery and aim at lowering fishing pressure on incoming recruitment and/or mature females, inter alia:

- a. Evaluate the existing joint EU-Norway system for real time closures (RTCs) for protection of juvenile shrimp.
- b. Spatial and/or temporal closures for the protection of juveniles and/or mature females.
- c. Review options for gear related technical measures.

If there are any other relevant issues which the WG believes would result in a more adequate definition of additional measures, the WG could explore these as appropriate.

The WG should submit a draft of the recommendations to the Delegations by 1 March 2025. A final report should be submitted to the Parties in due time for the Northern shrimp consultations for 2025-2026.



## SEASONAL AREA CLOSURES TO PROTECT SPAWNING COD

The following areas in the table below will be closed for all gears excluding pelagic gears (purse seine and trawl), for the identified time period:

Time Limited Closures				
No	Area Name	Coordinates	Time period	Additional Comment
1	Stanhope ground	60° 25N - 001° 45E 60° 25N - 002° 00E 60° 10N - 002° 00E 60° 10N - 001° 45E	1 January to 30 April	
2	Long Hole	59° 07.35N - 0° 31.04W 59° 03.60N - 0° 22.25W 58° 59.35N - 0° 17.85W 58° 56.00N - 0° 11.01W 58° 56.60N - 0° 08.85W 58° 59.86N - 0° 15.65W 59° 03.50N - 0° 20.00W 59° 08.15N - 0° 29.07W	1 January to 31 March	
3	Coral edge	58° 51.70N - 03° 26.70E 58° 40.66N - 03° 34.60E 58° 24 00N - 03° 12.40E 58° 24 00N - 02° 55.00E 58° 35 65N - 02° 56.30E	1 December to 28 February	
4	Papa Bank	59° 56N - 03° 08W 59° 56N - 02° 45W 59° 35N - 03° 15W 59° 35N - 03° 35W	1 January to 15 March	
5a	Foula Deep	60° 17.5N - 01° 45W 60° 11.0N - 01° 45W 60° 11.0N - 02° 10W 60° 20.0N - 02° 00W 60° 20.0N - 01° 50W	1 November to 15 March	
5b	Foula Deep	60° 21 N 02° 05W 60° 22N 02° 27W 60° 06N 02° 27W 60° 06N 02° 05W	1 January to 15 March	
6	Egersund Bank	58° 07.40N - 04° 33.0E 57° 53.00N - 05° 12.0E 57° 40.00N - 05° 10.9E 57° 57.90N - 04° 31.9E	1 December to 31 March	(10 x 25 nm)

Time Limited Closures				
No	Area Name	Coordinates	Time period	Additional Comment
7	East of Fair Isle	59° 40N - 01° 23W 59° 40N - 01° 13W 59° 30N - 01° 20W 59° 00N 01° 20W 59° 00N 01° 40W 59° 10N 01° 40W 59° 10N - 01° 28W 59° 30N - 01° 28W 59° 40N 01° 23W	1 January to 15 March	
8	West Bank	57° 15N - 05° 01E 56° 56N - 05° 00E 56° 56N - 06° 20E 57° 15N - 06° 20E	1 January to 15 March	(18 x 4 nm)
9	Revet	57° 28.43N - 08° 05.66E 57° 27.44N - 08° 07.20E 57° 51.77N - 09° 26.33E 57° 52.88N - 09° 25.00E	1 January to 15 March	(1.5 x 49 nm)
10	Rabarberen	57° 47.00N - 11° 04.00E 57° 43.00N - 11° 04.00E 57° 43.00N - 11° 09.00E 57° 47.00N - 11° 09.00E	1 January to 15 March	East of Skagen (2.7x4 nm)
11	Krogbund	56.56N - 006.25E 56.47N - 006.25E 56.47N - 006.55E 56.56N - 006.55E	1 January to 31 March	
12	Lille Fiskerbanke	56.50N - 006.08E 56.50N - 005.52E 56.38N - 005.52E 56.38N - 006.08E	1 January to 31 March	

## PRELIMINARY 2025 CATCH STATISTICS

Skagerrak agreement	Area	Provisional catch statistics 2025					
Species		Norway <sup>1</sup>			EU <sup>2</sup>		
		Fisheries jurisdiction			Fisheries jurisdiction		
		EU	Norway	Total	EU	Norway	Total
Cod	S	27	94	111	1,244	179	1,423
Haddock	S+K	561	105	666	4,951	285	5,237
Whiting	S+K	6	2	8	240	20	260
Plaice	S	23	4	27	4,765	1214	4,779
Mackerel	S=K	2	104	106	0	0	0
Northern shrimp (*, **)	S	26	3,262	3,288	1,097	237	1,334
Herring	S+K	130	66	196	372	0	372
Sprat (**)	S+K	0	258	258	2,808	0	2,808

\* Including Norwegian catches in Norwegian waters in the North Sea

\*\* For the period 1.7.2025-30.06.2025

<sup>1</sup> January – 20 November 2025 (landing notes)

<sup>2</sup> January – October 2025 (aggregated catch data based on landed weight)

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## FINAL 2024 CATCH STATISTICS

Skagerrak agreement	Area	Final catch statistics 2024					
Species		Norway			EU		
		Fisheries jurisdiction			Fisheries jurisdiction		
		EU	Norway	Total	EU	Norway	Total
Cod	S	10	88	98	2,392	250	2,642
Haddock	S+K	176	33	209	5,427	238	5,665
Whiting	S+K	1	4	5	275	16	291
Plaice	S	5	2	7	4,819	12	4,831
Mackerel	S+K	0	95	95	0	0	0
Northern shrimp (*, **)	S	71	4,438	4,509	1,471	584	2,055
Herring	S+K	0	588	588	391	0	391
Sprat (**)	S+K	0	912	912	2,486	0	2,486

\* Including Norwegian catches in Norwegian waters in the North Sea

\*\* For the period 1.7.2024-30.06.2025

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