

Arrangement between NEAFC and ICES on providing VMS and catch data

NEAFC will provide VMS data once a year, in accordance with NEAFC Recommendations 16:2019, as set out in this arrangement. The date for transferring the data will be:

- no later than 1 February for data from the period 1 January – 31 December

It is recognised that although VMS can be a vital source of information for scientific purposes, NEAFC collects such data primarily for monitoring, control and surveillance purposes and that confidentiality must be respected.

The data that NEAFC provides ICES with under this arrangement will only be used for the work of ICES, including ICES working groups and other relevant ICES bodies, and only for the purpose of providing NEAFC with scientific advice. ICES, and scientists taking part in the work of ICES, will not give third parties access to the data without the written consent of NEAFC. Scientists that have access to the data through ICES will not use the data for other purposes than the work of ICES to provide NEAFC with scientific advice, without the written consent of NEAFC.

Vessels' identity and flag State will not be included in the information NEAFC provides ICES with. The aggregated and anonymised nature of the information is designed to provide ICES with the information it needs without being detailed enough to identify individual vessels.

Each vessel that is authorised to fish in the NEAFC Regulatory Area will be given a randomly generated identification number, with a different number being given for each year.

NEAFC will communicate to ICES two separate types of information regarding all vessels that are authorised to fish in the NEAFC Regulatory Area:

1. information from NEAFC's database; and
2. a vessel profile.

The information from NEAFC's database will include:

- the vessels' randomly generated identification number;
- all VMS positions received from the vessels during the relevant period (including, where available, speed and heading); and
- all catches reported by the vessel, on the basis of the reporting frequency by which it is received by the Secretariat.

The species will be communicated using the codes set out in Annex I of the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement.

The vessel profile will include the vessel's randomly generated identification number and other relevant information regarding the vessel: vessel length, engine power, vessel type, gear type and authorised species.

Vessel length and engine power will be reported in the form of information on which of the following categories the vessel falls into:

- Vessel length Category 1 less than 24m OA or less than 20m PP
 Category 2 24-40m OA or 20-35m PP
 Category 3 41-60m OA or 36-55m PP
 Category 4 more than 60m OA or more than 55m PP
- Vessel engine power Category 1 less than 1,500 hp or less than 1,150 kw
 Category 2 1,500-3,000 hp or 1,150-2,250 kw
 Category 3 3,001-4,500 hp or 2,251-3,350 kw
 Category 4 more than 4,500 hp or more than 3,350 kw

Vessel type will be communicated using the codes set out in Appendix I to Annex II of the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement. This information will only be communicated for vessels where the information has been provided by the Contracting Party. Under the Scheme, providing this information is optional.

Gear type will be communicated using the codes set out in Appendix II to Annex II of the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement.

The species that the vessel is authorised to fish will be communicated using the codes set out in Annex I of the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement.

On behalf of ICES

*Jane Kristin
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01/02/2019

On behalf of NEAFC

Darius Campbell 29/1/2019
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SECRETARY