



marine
management
organisation

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To Chief Executives of producer organisations in
England, Wales and Northern Ireland, National
Federation of Fishermen's Organisation,
UK Association of Fish Producer Organisations

Date: 4 August 2010

Dear Sir / Madam

Final quota allocations for 2010

1. First of all can I apologise for the long time taken to issue the attached final allocations. This has been outside our control as there have been lengthy delays in the Commission providing us with details relating to banking and in confirming increased quota for a number of stocks. Unfortunately, there will be a further two-week delay with the release of the area VII allocations, although in the meantime a summary of queries received relating to the provisional area VII allocations will be issued today by email and via the Marine Management Organisation Internet site (www.marinemanagement.org.uk). If you wish to make any further comments in the light of this summary, please do so before 18 August.

2. I enclose spreadsheets showing final allocations for 2010 for whitefish and pelagic stocks in Area IV and VI together with Atlanto-Scandian Herring (EC and international waters of I and II), Faroese stocks and deep sea stocks.

3. These have been calculated in accordance with current quota management rules and take account of eligible fixed quota allocation (FQA) units as defined in section 3 of the rules. Allocations for Faroese and Atlanto-Scandian Herring have been calculated in accordance with paragraph 3.2 and annexes E and F of the quota management rules. Based on the principles set out in 4.14 of the rules, we also attach a separate sheet detailing allocations of quota secured under the Hague Preference invocation.

4. The allocations for 2010 take into account the latest FQA reconciliation exercise (discussed and agreed at the quota management rules meeting in October 2009), backdating FQA transfers to 1 January 2010 for allocation purposes.

Increases in quota

5. Since the issue of provisional allocations, the Commission has made the following revisions to total allowable catches (TACs), affecting UK quotas:

- North Sea whiting – up 99 tonnes from 7,391 tonnes to 7,490 tonnes
- North Sea plaice – up 28 tonnes from 16,951 tonnes to 16,979 tonnes

- North Sea sandeels – up 3,493 tonnes from 3,660 tonnes to 7,153 tonnes
- North Norway cod – up 244 tonnes from 9,398 tonnes to 9,642 tonnes.

Hague preference

6. The UK invoked Hague Preference for 2010, securing additional quota for North Sea haddock (1,769 tonnes), North Sea whiting (1,565 tonnes), cod VIa (19 tonnes), cod VIb (6 tonnes) and West of Scotland saithe (404 tonnes). An additional worksheet has been constructed in the Area IV and VI whitefish spreadsheet detailing how the UK government is allocating this additional quota.

At the time, provisional allocations were issued, advice was provided as to how the UK government proposed to allocate the additional quota gained by the UK through the invocation of Hague Preference.

Comments were invited, particularly on the proposal to top-slice 299.6 tonnes of North Sea whiting from the Hague Preference quantity (1,565 tonnes) and allocate this amount to the 10 metre and under group's allocation. Having considered carefully the comments received fisheries administrations have decided to proceed with the 299.6 tonnes top-slice as proposed. Two factors (not evident at the time provisionals were issued) have informed this decision. These are:

- The recent increase in the North Sea sandeels TAC has resulted in a transfer of 150 tonnes of North Sea whiting from Norway to the EU. The UK's share of this 'windfall' gain is 99 tonnes, all of which has now been allocated to producer organisations (Pos) (only) pro-rata to FQAs as at 1 January 2010.
- The UK government has agreed to set aside a quantity of SW handline mackerel to be used as swap currency in order to try to secure additional North Sea whiting at an acceptable exchange rate. Any whiting so acquired will be allocated to POs pro-rata to FQAs as at 1 January 2010.

Allocation of quota for new and split stocks

7. No change from provisional allocations.

Banking

8. Fisheries administrations have calculated the distribution of banked quota based on the methodology used in previous years.

9. The amount banked for western herring has reduced from 1,299.3 tonnes to 153.0 tonnes, as the Commission's calculation of final 2009 quota had not taken account of the 1,759 tonnes deducted for pelagic payback. There was no banked quota for North Sea haddock in provisional allocations but we have been able to persuade the Commission that we should receive 416.4 tonnes.

10. For Northern blue whiting and North Sea haddock, the amounts the Commission gave in banking exceeded the figures derived by fisheries administrations. This resulted in a number of quota windfalls for groups that do not normally target these stocks. Following representations from POs, we agreed to remove the anomaly for these stocks by applying the banking methodology solely to the amounts we were expecting to receive, and allocating the surplus using FQA units.

Deductions for overfishing in 2009

11. There were no EU deductions for UK overfishing in 2009 under section 5 of the rules but allocations do take account of deductions and compensation under section 6 of the rules, and additional deductions for overfishing under section 7 of the rules.

Sectoral management – Lowestoft Fish Producers' Organisation (FPO)

12. Lowestoft FPO has been granted sectoral management of pelagic stocks and deep sea stocks from 1 January 2010.

North Sea plaice – North Atlantic Fish Producers' Organisation (FPO)

13 North Atlantic FPO has now received quota in respect of its holding of 1,863 FQA units of North Sea plaice.

STEFAN READE