



NGO priority amendments for the Plenary vote on the North Sea Multi-Annual Plan (2016/0238(COD))

September 12th 2017

On the 14th of September the European Parliament will vote on MEP Ulrike Rodust's report concerning the European Commission's proposal for a multi-annual Plan (MAP) for demersal fisheries in the North Sea.ⁱ We urge you to support and further strengthen the Report from the Fisheries Committeeⁱⁱ, which voted on the file on 12th July 2017. In particular we ask you to support the following points:

1. THE MULTI-ANNUAL PLAN MUST APPLY EQUALLY TO ALL DEMERSAL FISH STOCKS IN THE NORTH SEA.

The CFP's objective to restore harvested species to healthy levels applies to all fish stocks. The North Sea MAP must therefore ensure that targets to restore fish stocks above sustainable levels apply to all demersal stocks in the North Sea.

We urge you to reject AMs 86 to 91, which reduce the scope of the MAP to only a few target species.

2. FISHING MORTALITY MUST BE LIMITED TO SUSTAINABLE LEVELS.

In order to restore fish stocks to healthy levels, the CFP requires that fishing mortality be limited to sustainable levels. Fishing in a range that goes beyond the limit prescribed in the CFP, even under a landing obligation, will not restore stocks to healthy levels, and will lead to negative socio-economic impacts in the long term.

We urge you to reject AM 93 and support AMs 80, 81, 83, 85, 98 and 99 to ensure that fishing mortality is limited to the sustainable levels stipulated by the CFP.

3. INCLUDE PROVISIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF RECREATIONAL FISHERIES.

The CFP recognizes that recreational fisheries can have a significant impact on fish resources, and states that they should be conducted in a manner that is compatible with the objectives of the CFP. The Fisheries Committee has introduced a requirement to take account of recreational catches when setting fishing limits, if recreational catches are deemed to have a significant impact on stocks.

We urge you to reject AMs 79, 95 and 96 to ensure that recreational fisheries with significant impacts on stocks are adequately managed.

We look forward to supporting the European Parliament in adopting a robust North Sea multi-annual Plan that is fully in line with the CFP, coherent with EU environmental legislation, and which secures environmentally and economically sustainable fisheries for EU fishermen.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for any additional information.

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ⁱ European Commission (2016) [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing a multi-annual plan for demersal stocks in the North Sea and the fisheries exploiting those stocks and repealing Council Regulation \(EC\) 676/2007 and Council Regulation \(EC\) 1342/2008. COM\(2016\) 493 final](#)

ⁱⁱ [Draft European Parliament Legislative Resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing a multi-annual plan for demersal stocks in the North Sea and the fisheries exploiting those stocks and repealing Council Regulation \(EC\) 676/2007 and Council Regulation \(EC\) 1342/2008 \(COM\(2016\)0493 – C8-0336/2016 – 2016/0238\(COD\)\)](#)