

Recommendation on Conservation and Management Measures for Spurdog (*Squalus acanthias*) in ICES Subareas 1–10, 12 and 14 for 2023 and 2024

The Commission hereby adopts the following Recommendation pursuant to Article 5 of the Convention:

Total catches of spurdog (*Squalus acanthias*) in ICES Subareas 1–10, 12, and 14 shall be no more than 17 353 tonnes in 2023 and no more than 17 855 tonnes in 2024.

Consistent with Recommendation 7:2018 on Deep-Sea Fisheries within the NEAFC Regulatory Area, Contracting Parties shall on the basis of the precautionary approach effectively manage fishing for spurdog by vessels flying their flag, including by ensuring that such fisheries only expand gradually with significant caution, bearing in mind that until 2022 all targeted fishing was prohibited, and by ensuring that the reopened fishery provides relevant data facilitating assessment of sustainability, based on best available scientific information.

The Secretary shall present to PECMAS at the end of 2023 and at the end of 2024 an overview of catches of spurdog.

Based on that overview PECMAS should consider formulating proposals for additional conservation and management measures for spurdog.

Only vessels entitled to fly the flag of a NEAFC Contracting Party, having been authorised by its flag State to fish for spurdog in the NEAFC Regulatory Area, may take part in the fishery.