

# COMMISSION SERVICES NON-PAPER

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*This document serves as a basis for discussion at the Working Party on Internal and External Fisheries Policy. It cannot in any circumstances be regarded as the official position of the Commission. It is intended solely for those to whom it is addressed.*

Updates to Commission Proposal COM (2020) 377 final for a Council Regulation fixing for 2021 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

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The Commission Proposal COM (2020) 377 final is amended as follows (**the changes are marked in bold**):

**1. Fishing opportunities for European eel in the Mediterranean Sea**

1. Recital (7) of the Commission Proposal is replaced by the following:

“At its 42nd annual meeting in 2018, the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (‘GFCM’) adopted Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/1 establishing management measures for European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) in the Mediterranean Sea (GFCM geographical subareas 1 to 27). Those measures include catch **or effort** limits and an annual closure period of three consecutive months to be defined by each Member State in accordance with the conservation objectives of Council Regulation (EC) No 1100/20074, the national management plan(s) for eel and the temporal migration patterns of eel in the Member State. **Where national management plans resulting in effort or catch reductions of at least 30% have been in place before the entry into force of the Recommendation, the catch or fishing effort limits already established and implemented should not be exceeded.** The closure shall apply to all marine waters of the Mediterranean Sea and to brackish waters such as estuaries, coastal lagoons and transitional waters, in accordance with the Recommendation. These measures should be implemented in Union law.”

1. In article 5 of the Commission Proposal, point (3) is replaced by the following:

“**Member States shall not exceed the maximum level of catches or fishing effort of European eel established and implemented by means of their national management plans, adopted in accordance to the provision of Art. 2 and 4 of Council Regulation 1100/2007.**”

2. Annex I of the Commission Proposal is deleted.

**2. Fishing opportunities for red coral in the Mediterranean Sea**

1. In Annex II of the Commission Proposal, table (1) regarding the maximum allowable number of fishing authorisations is replaced by the following:

“Table 1. Maximum allowable number of fishing authorisations<sup>1</sup>

Member State	Red coral COL
Greece	<b>12</b>
Spain	<b>0*</b>
France	<b>32</b>
Croatia	<b>28</b>
Italy	<b>40</b>

**\*According to the temporal ban for red coral fisheries established in Spanish waters.**

<sup>1</sup> Representing number of vessels and/or divers authorised to harvest red coral.

“

2. In Annex II of the Commission Proposal, table (2) regarding the maximum level of harvested quantities expressed in tonnes live weight is replaced by the following:

“Table 2. Maximum level of harvested quantities expressed in tonnes live weight.

Species:	Red coral	Zone:	Union waters in the Mediterranean Sea - GSA 1-27
	<i>Corallium rubrum</i>		<b>COL/GF1-27</b>
Greece	<b>1.844</b>	Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.	
Spain	<b>0*</b>		
France	<b>1.400</b>		
Croatia	<b>1.226</b>		
Italy	<b>1.378</b>		
Union	<b>5.848</b>	Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.	
TAC	Not relevant /Not agreed		

\*According to the temporal ban for red coral fisheries established in Spanish waters.

”

### 3. Fishing opportunities for common dolphinfish in the Mediterranean Sea

In Annex III of the Commission Proposal the table regarding the maximum number of vessels operating in international waters is replaced by the following:

“Table 1. Maximum allowable number of **fishing authorisations** for vessels operating in international waters

Member State	Common dolphinfish DOL
<b>Malta</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>797</b>

“

### 4. Fishing opportunities for the demersal stocks in the Western Mediterranean Sea

1. Recital (6) of the Commission Proposal is replaced by the following:

“**STECF concluded that in order to attain the MSY targets for the western Mediterranean fish stocks, swift action is needed and real reductions in fishing mortality are necessary.** For 2021, the maximum allowable fishing effort should therefore be reduced by **15%** compared to the maximum allowable fishing effort set for 2020 by Council Regulation (EU) 2019/22363.”

2. In Annex IV of the Commission proposal, table (a) regarding fishing opportunities for the Alboran Sea, Balearic Islands, Northern Spain and Gulf of Lion (GSAs 1-2-5-6-7) is replaced by the following:

“Table (a) Alboran Sea, Balearic Islands, Northern Spain and Gulf of Lion (GSAs 1-2-5-6-7)

Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Red mullet in GSAs 1, 5, 6 and 7; Hake in GSAs 1, 5, 6 and 7; Deep-water rose shrimp in GSAs 1, 5 and 6; Norway lobster in GSAs 5 and 6.	< 12 m	<b>1883</b>	0	0	EFF1/MED1_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	<b>20237</b>	0	0	EFF1/MED1_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	<b>37969</b>	<b>4287</b>	0	EFF1/MED1_TR3
	≥ 24 m	<b>13372</b>	<b>5215</b>	0	EFF1/MED1_TR4

Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Blue and red shrimp in GSAs 1, 5, 6 and 7.	< 12 m	0	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	<b>949</b>	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	<b>9612</b>	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR3
	≥ 24 m	<b>7717</b>	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR4

“

3. In Annex IV of the Commission proposal, table (b) regarding fishing opportunities for Corsica Island, Ligurian Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea and Sardinia Island (GSAs 8-9-10-11) is replaced by the following:

“Table (b) Corsica Island, Ligurian Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea and Sardinia Island (GSAs 8-9-10-11)

Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Red mullet in GSAs 9, 10 and 11; Hake in GSAs 9, 10 and 11; Deep-water rose shrimp in GSAs 9,	< 12 m	0	<b>173</b>	<b>2568</b>	EFF1/MED2_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	0	<b>693</b>	<b>38625</b>	EFF1/MED2_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	0	<b>173</b>	<b>25975</b>	EFF1/MED2_TR3

10 and 11; Norway lobster in GSAs 9 and 10.	≥ 24 m	0	173	3467	EFF1/MED2_TR4
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Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Giant red shrimp in GSAs 9, 10 and 11.	< 12 m	0	0	425	EFF2/MED2_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	0	0	3133	EFF2/MED2_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	0	0	2523	EFF2/MED2_TR3
	≥ 24 m	0	0	337	EFF2/MED2_TR4

”

## 5. Fishing opportunities for the small pelagic stocks in the Adriatic Sea

In Annex V of the Commission proposal, the table regarding the maximum number of fishing vessels authorised to fish small pelagics is replaced by the following:

### “Maximum fleet capacity of trawlers and purse seiners actively fishing for small pelagics

Member State	Gear	Number Vessels	kW	GT
Italy	PTM-OTM-PS	685	134556.7	25852
Croatia	PS	249	77 145.52	18 537.72
Slovenia*	PS	4	433.7	38.5

\* The provision under paragraph 15 of GFCM/42/2018/8 shall not apply to the national fleets of less than ten purse seiners and/or pelagic trawlers actively fishing for small pelagic stocks. In such case, the capacity of the active fleet may increase by not more than 50 percent in number of vessels and in terms of GT and/or GRT and kW. ”

## 6. Fishing opportunities for the demersal stocks in the Adriatic Sea

1. Recital (12) of the Commission Proposal is replaced by the following:

“At its 43rd annual meeting in 2019, the GFCM adopted Recommendation GFCM/43/2019/5 on a multiannual management plan for sustainable demersal fisheries in the Adriatic Sea (GFCM geographical subareas 17 and 18), which introduced a fishing effort regime **and a fleet capacity ceiling** for certain demersal stocks. Those measures should be implemented in Union law. ”

2. In Article 11 of the Commission Proposal, point (2) is replaced by the following:

“The maximum allowable fishing effort and **the maximum fleet capacity** for demersal stocks within the scope of this Article **are** set in Annex V to this Regulation.”

3. In Article 12 of the Commission proposal, the reference to Annex II shall be replaced by **Annex V**.

4. In Annex V of the Commission proposal, the following table is inserted in part (2), regarding demersal stocks in GSAs 17 and 18:

**“Maximum fleet capacity of bottom trawler and beam trawl vessels authorised for fishing demersal stocks**

<b>Member State</b>	<b>Gear</b>	<b>Number Vessels</b>	<b>kW</b>	<b>GT</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>OTB-TBB</b>	<b>1363</b>	<b>260 618.37</b>	<b>47 148</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	<b>OTB</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>79 867.99</b>	<b>13 267.99</b>
<b>Slovenia*</b>	<b>OTB</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1 813.00</b>	<b>168.67</b>

\*The provisions of paragraphs 9 c) and 28 of GFCM/43/2019/5 shall not apply to national fleets operating with OTB and fishing for less than 1 000 days during the reference period mentioned in paragraph 9 c). The fishing capacity of the active fleet operating with OTB shall not increase by more than 50 percent with respect to the reference period. .”

**7. Fishing opportunities for demersal stocks in the Ionian Sea, Levant Sea and the Strait of Sicily**

1. In Article 13 of the Commission Proposal, point (2) is replaced by the following:

“The maximum number of **bottom trawl** fishing vessels authorised to fish for demersal stocks is set in Annex VI to this Regulation.”

2. In Annex VI to the Commission proposal, table (a) regarding the fishing opportunities for the Ionian Sea is replaced by the following:

“(a) Maximum number of authorised **bottom trawl** vessels in the Ionian Sea (GSAs 19-20-21)

<b>Member state</b>	Giant red shrimp in Union waters of GSAs 19, 20 and 21	Blue and red shrimp in Union waters of GSAs 19, 20 and 21
<b>Greece</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>263</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>410</b>

”

3. In Annex VI of the Commission proposal, table (b) regarding the fishing opportunities for the Levant Sea is replaced by the following:

“(b) Maximum number of authorised **bottom trawl** vessels in Levant Sea (GSAs 24-25-26-27)

<b>Member State</b>	<b>Giant red shrimp in Union waters of GSAs 24-25-26-27</b>	<b>Blue and red shrimp in Union waters of GSAs 24-25-26-27</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>

”

4. In Annex VI of the Commission proposal, table (c) regarding fishing opportunities for the Strait of Sicily is replaced by the following:

“(c) Maximum number of authorised **bottom trawl** vessels in Strait of Sicily (GSAs 12-13-14-15-16)

<b>Member State</b>	<b>Giant red shrimp in Union waters of GSAs 12-13-14-15-16</b>	<b>Blue and red shrimp in Union waters of GSAs 12-13-14-15-16</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>320</b>
<b>Malta</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Spain</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

”

### 8. Fishing opportunities for Union fishing vessels in the Alboran Sea

In Annex VII of the Commission proposal, the table regarding the maximum level of catches of blackspot seabream is replaced by the following:

“Maximum level of catches **carried out by longlines and headlines** expressed in tonnes live weight

Species:	Blackspot seabream <i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>	Zone:	Union waters in the Alboran Sea - GSA 1-3 <b>SBR/GF1-3</b>
Spain	<b>225</b>	Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.	
Union	<b>225</b>	Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.	
TAC	Not relevant /Not agreed		

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## **9. Fishing opportunities for Union fishing vessels in the Black Sea**

In Article 20 of the Commission proposal, the reference to Annex III shall be replaced by **Annex VIII**.

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