

1. Joint Campaign Details

Joint Deployment Plan	<i>Western Waters - 2023</i>		
Joint Campaign	<i>JDP WW 2023-01</i>		
Reporting period	<i>1st January to 31st December, 2023</i>		
Participation	<i>Belgium (BE), Germany (DE), Denmark (DK), Spain (ES), Estonia (EE), France (FR), Ireland (IE), Lithuania (LT), Latvia (LV), The Netherlands (NL), Poland (PL) and Portugal (PT)</i>		
Operational area	<i>EU waters of ICES 27.6, 27.7, 27.8, 27.9 and 27.10, and of CECAF 34.1 and 34.2</i>		
EFCA Coordination Centre	<i>MS</i>	<i>Number of experts</i>	<i>Person-days</i>
	<i>IE</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>5</i>
	<i>ES</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>68</i>
	<i>LT</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>
	<i>PL</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>37</i>
	<i>PT</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>10</i>

2. General objectives

To ensure compliance with the requirements of Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1986 of 13 December 2018 establishing specific control and inspection programs for certain fisheries (SCIP)¹ and Regulation (EU) 2019/472 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 March 2019 establishing a multiannual plan for stocks fished in the Western Waters and adjacent waters and for fisheries exploiting those stocks, by means of a coordinated program of inspections of fishing vessels at sea and on land

3. Summary

This report is covering the joint campaign activities in the Western Waters (WW) Joint Deployment Plan (JDP) operational area for demersal and pelagic species. The report provides an overall summary of information concerning the joint control activities carried out by air, sea and shore-based assets and inspection teams of the participating Member States (MS) from 1st January until the 31st of December 2023. This report also includes an analysis of the implementation of specific actions (SA) agreed for this period.

¹ Amended by the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2023/2376 of 22 September 2023.

The information presented has been extracted from the EFCA database according to the activity reports (ACTREPs) submitted by the MS within the context of the WW JDP. Only data that meet certain quality criteria were recorded in the EFCA database. The extraction of data was completed on the on 8th and 16th February 2024, and it concerns the WW related inspections and sightings, patrols, and targets reported to EFCA.

a) Inspections ashore

During the reporting period there were 3 208 inspections carried out ashore, the majority on landings, including 38 vehicle transport inspections and 9 inspections on markets. The inspection teams reported 195 suspected infringements detected during landing inspections on fishing vessels and 3 suspected infringements detected during transport inspections.

b) Inspections at sea

During the reporting period there were 532 inspections carried out at sea. The inspection teams reported in total 80 suspected infringements.

During the reporting period there were 573 sea sightings. There were 4 suspected infringements reported as result of sighting events at sea.

c) Aircraft surveillance

During the reporting period MS and EFCA reported 726 sightings done by aircraft and 11 suspected infringements detected during aircraft and remoted pilot aircraft system (RPAS) surveillance flights.



ANNEX I

JDP-WW-2023-01 ACTIVITY RECORDS FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD ¹

A. DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS

MS/EFCA	FPV		Aircraft	Exchanges of Inspectors			
	Days at sea			Joint Teams at sea		Mixed Teams ashore	
	JDP committed sea days	Other patrols sea days (sea days with events ²)		Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted	Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted
MS	210	84	83	756	31	31	31
EFCA	364	2	22	-	725		
TOTAL	574	86	105	756	756	31	31

B. JOINT CONTROL ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY PARTICIPATING MS AND EFCA

	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
SURVEILLANCE	Sightings reported by aircraft	726
	Sightings reported by fisheries patrol vessels	573
	Sightings with suspected infringements	15
BUSINESS	Inspections	9
	Inspections with suspected infringements	0
	Total of suspected infringements	0
	Inspections of targets	0
TRANS PORT	Inspections	38
	Inspections with suspected infringements	3
	Total of suspected infringements	3
	Inspections of targets	0
LAND	Inspections	3161

	Inspections with suspected infringements	156
	% of inspections with infringements	4.9
	Total of suspected infringements	195
	Inspections of targets	625
	Inspections of targets with suspected infringements	31
SEA	Inspections	532
	Inspections with suspected infringements	62
	% of inspections with infringements	11.6
	Total of suspected infringements	80
	Inspections of targets	101
	Inspections of targets with suspected infringements	6

C. TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JOINT CONTROL OPERATIONS BY FISHING VESSEL FLAG

	Suspected Infringement Category	TOTAL
Non-compliance with the Landing Obligation and associated misreporting	Catch retained on board, landed, stored, or transported fish that should have been discarded at sea	3
	Not recorded, misrecorded or not reported catch of fish below minimum legal size/weight in the catch declaration	3
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported of discards declaration	1
Non-compliance with conservation measures	Fishing without valid authorisation / licence	6
	Fishing without a quota or after attainment of catch limit	11
	Other SI related with fishing seasons, closed areas or fishing prohibition	2
	Fishing of prohibited species /stock	2
	Fishing in closed area/period/depth	5
	Non-compliant gear	19
	Prohibited or unauthorised fishing method	3
	Absence or non-conformity with fishing gear / device identification	6
	Other SI related with gear	1
	Catch retain on board, land, store, or transport of fish below MCRS not subject to LO	6
	Catch not stowed according to rules	9
	Not equipped or not operational VMS	3
Not equipped or not operational AIS	13	
	Absence or incorrect transport documentation	1

Non-compliance with the recording and reporting obligations	Not equipped or not operational e-logbook	3
	Not onboard or not updated paper logbook	4
	Not notified, not notified on time, incorrect notification of entry or exit in/from zone	1
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time of fishing operation declaration	6
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time of catch declaration	22
	Difference between catch reported and landing exceeding the legal margin of tolerance	80
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time the end of fishing declaration	1
	Not submitted, not submitted on time or submitted incorrectly the PNO	14
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time the landing declaration	10
	Absence or Incorrect stowage plan	8
	Other SI related with fishing vessel recording and reporting obligations operations	7
	Other SI related with authorisations and certification requirements	1
	Failure to facilitate safe access of inspectors	14
	Obstruction to work of inspectors	11
	Destroying evidence, interfering with evidence, concealing evidence	4
	Other SI not included in other categories	2
	Absence or incorrect weighing of catches at landing	8
	Entrance and/or landing without prior authorisation (Landing Authorisation)	1
	Absence or incorrect labelling/information impairing to track the origin of the fishery product	1
	Other SI related with vessel activity monitoring rules	1
Total	293	

