

Vigo – 26/04/2023

12 monthly North Sea joint campaign report

1. Joint Campaign Details

Joint Deployment Plan	North Sea 2022		
Joint Campaign	JDP-NS-2022		
Reporting period	From 1st of January till 31st of December 2022		
Participation	Belgium (BE), Denmark (DK), France (FR), Germany (DE), The Netherlands (NL), and Sweden (SE).		
Operational area	EU waters of ICES divisions 3a, 4b, 4c		
MS in EFCA Coordination Centre	MS	Number of experts	Person-days
	NL	1	152

2. General objective

To ensure compliance with the requirements of Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1986 and Regulation (EU) 2018/973 of the European Parliament and of the Council, by means of a coordinated programme of inspections of fishing vessels (FV) at sea and in ports of landing.

3. Summary

This report is covering the joint campaign activities in the North Sea (NS) Joint Deployment Plan (JDP) operational area for demersal and pelagic species. The report provides overall summary 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 of January until 31st of December 2022. This report also includes an analysis of the implementation of specific actions (SA) agreed for this period.

The information presented has been extracted from the EFCA database according to the activity submitted by the MS within the context of the NS JDP. Only those data that met certain quality criteria were recorded in the EFCA database. The extraction of data was done on 11th of February 2023 and concerns NS related inspections and sightings, patrols, and targets.

During 2022 the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting sanitary measures continued to impact on control and surveillance activities by MS. Inspection activities have resumed but with

diverse levels of engagement depending on national protocols. In practical terms, this meant that, for example, at sea some MS restricted their activity to checking fishing gear for compliance with technical measures on open decked vessels, while other MS carried out gear checks and last haul assessments, and again others limited entrance to closed spaces on the FVs. In all cases, the sanitary risk assessment and cautious approach were applicable before inspecting. Similar measures applied ashore with distancing and spatial awareness taken into consideration prior to inspecting.

a) Inspections ashore

There were 1 490 inspections carried out ashore during this Joint Campaign reporting period, with a total of 84 suspected infringements detected on 73 vessels.

b) Inspections at sea

There were 551 inspections carried out at sea during the reporting period, with 66 suspected infringements detected.



ANNEX I

JDP-NS-2022-01 ACTIVITY RECORDS FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD ¹

A. DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS

MS	FPV		Aircraft	Exchanges of Inspectors			
	Days at sea		No. of Flights	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	597	121	170	71			
EFCA	45				71		
TOTALS	642	121	170	71	71	0	0

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

		total
SURVEILLANCE	Sightings reported by aircraft	1048
	Sightings reported by FPV	912
SEA ACTIVITIES	Number of inspections by FPV	551
	Number of targeted inspections by FPV	153
LAND ACTIVITIES	Number of inspections in MS	1490
	Number of targeted inspections in MS	263

¹ As reported in daily SITREP to EFCA.

² For other patrols the days at sea information is provided on a basis of the count of the total of days at sea with at least one event (sighting, inspection) reported by patrol vessels not committed to JDP during the reporting period.



C. RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES BY FISHING VESSEL FLAG

		Totals
SURVEILLANCE	Sightings reported by aircraft	1048
	Sightings with suspected infringements	2
	<i>% of sightings with suspected infringements</i>	1.3
	Total of suspected infringements	2
	Sighting of targets	113
	Sighting of targets with suspected infringements	1
SEA	Number of F/V inspected by FS	551
	Number of F/V with detected suspected infringement	55
	<i>% of inspected F/V with detected suspected infringement</i>	10
	Total number of suspected infringements detected	66
	Total number of targeted inspections	153
	Total number of targeted inspections with suspected infringements	19
LAND	Number of F/V inspected by FS	1490
	Number of F/V with detected suspected infringement	73
	<i>% of inspected F/V with detected suspected infringement</i>	4.9
	Total number of suspected infringements detected	84
	Total number of targeted inspections	263
	Total number of targeted inspections with suspected infringements	17



D. 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	Illegal discard of species subject to LO	3
	Not recorded, mis recorded or not reported catch of fish below minimum legal size/weight in the catch declaration	1
	Marketing for direct human consumption of undersize fish subject to LO	4
Non-compliance with conservation measures	Fishing without valid authorization / licence	2
	Fishing in closed area/period/depth	10
	Fishing of prohibited species /stock	1
	Non-compliant gear	30
	Prohibited or unauthorised fishing method	2
	Catch retain on board, land, store, or transport of fish below MCRS not subject to LO	1
	Exceeding bycatch limits	1
	Catch not stowed according to rules	3
	Not equipped or not operational VMS	5
	Not equipped or not operational AIS	14
Non-compliance with the recording and reporting obligations	Not equipped or not operational e-logbook	2
	Not recorded, mis recorded, not reported, or not reported in due time of fishing operation declaration	3
	Not recorded, mis recorded, not reported, or not reported in due time of catch declaration	3
	Difference between catch reported and landing exceeding the legal margin of tolerance	16
	Not submitted, not submitted on time, or submitted incorrectly the PNO	17
	Not recorded, mis recorded, not reported, or not reported in due time the landing declaration	1
	Absence or incorrect catch certificate for import-export	1
	Other SI related with fishing vessel recording and reporting obligations operations	17

Other types of non-compliance	Obstruction to work of inspectors	3
	Failure to facilitate safe access of inspectors	11
	Entrance, landing or making use of other services in a non-designated port or in unauthorized place	3
	Other SI related with post harvesting operations at sea or land-based operations	2
	Other SI related with authorisations and certification requirements	3
	Other SI not included in other categories	2
Total		161