NAFO/NEAFC JOINT DEPLOYMENT PLAN 2020

NAFO 1st Campaign

**PARTICIPANTS**
2 EFCA Coordinators (acting also as inspectors)

**PERIOD:**
13 April – 8 May 2020

**AREA:**
NAFO REGULATORY AREA, on board the EU (EFCA chartered) OPV LUNDY SENTINEL

**OBJECTIVES**

- Verify compliance by EU and other Contracting Parties vessels fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area with requirements of the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures as well as compliance by EU fishing vessels with any other Union conservation and control measures applicable to these vessels.

- To monitor if no bottom fishing activities occurs within the areas closed to bottom fisheries in the NAFO Regulatory Area and that bottom fishing activities occurs only in the existing bottom fishing areas (footprint map).

- To monitor if no bottom fishing activities occur in the closed Southern MAR Areas in the NEAFC Regulatory Area and outside existing bottom fishing areas.

- To verify the compliance of fisheries exploiting Bluefin tuna with the requirements of ICCAT Recommendations 18-02/19-04, EU Regulation 2016/1627, as well as all other relevant applicable rules as appropriate.

- Support to other coast guard functions activities on request. LS depending on her geographical location will be available to support multipurpose operations under the framework of European cooperation on Coast Guard functions in support of the MS competent authorities, if requested by specific EU MS and/or EU Agency. Beyond Search and rescue, possible tasks identified are: Oil pollution response services and assistance depending on vessel LS’s availability.
RESULTS

- 4 inspections: 1 EU vessel and 3 other Contracting Party vessels.
- 4 sightings.
- No infringements detected.

OBSERVATIONS

- OPV LUNDY SENTINEL left Vigo, Spain on 13th April and entered the NAFO RA on 19th April to carry out the first campaign of the year in the NAFO RA.
- During the mission, the number of the EU vessels operating in the NAFO RA ranged from 4 to 7 and 5 to 7 fishing vessels operating from other Contracting Parties. The overall number of vessels fishing in the area during this mission varied from 9 to 14.
- The EU fishing vessels were present in Divisions 3LMNO of the NAFO RA, but mainly in the Divisions 3NO targeting RED and SKA.
- 4 RUS, 2 CAN, 1 JPN and 1 NOR vessels were operating in NAFO at the time of the campaign.
- Due to a specific situation in relation to COVID-19 outbreak, EFCA had established special safeguarding measures for EFCA staff and other personnel involved in the mission and followed those closely.
- Mission was disturbed by numerous low pressure systems, which mostly resulted with more than 30 knots wind speed and up to 7-8 m wind waves obstructing possibility to make inspections.
- No compliance issues with bottom fishing activities within the areas closed to bottom fisheries in the NAFO Regulatory Area and in the closed Southern MAR Areas in the NEAFC Regulatory Area were detected.
- During the mission, Lundy Sentinel was involved in one SAR operation, which began on 25th April and concluded on 26th April.
- CAN was patrolling in the area with 2 FPV-s: L. J. COWLEY and CYGNUS. Regular exchange of information with CAN colleagues ensured an excellent cooperation and efficient use of the patrol means.
- OPV LUNDY SENTINEL completed its mission in NAFO RA on 1st May and headed back to Vigo.