

NAFO/NEAFC JOINT DEPLOYMENT PLAN 2021

NAFO 1st Campaign

PARTICIPANTS

Portugal - 1 EU/NAFO/NEAFC/ICCAT inspector

Estonia - 1 EU/NAFO/NEAFC/ICCAT inspector

EFCA Coordinator

PERIOD:

31 May – 24 June 2021

AREA:

NAFO/NEAFC REGULATORY AREAS, 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 occur 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).
- Verify compliance by EU and other Contracting Parties vessels fishing in the NEAFC Regulatory Area with requirements of the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement 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 occur in the closed Southern MAR areas for the protection of VMEs in the NEAFC Regulatory Area and outside existing bottom fishing areas.
- To monitor and verify the compliance of fisheries exploiting Bluefin tuna with the requirements of ICCAT Recommendation 19-04 and Recommendation 20-07, Regulation (EU) No. 2016/1627 of the European Parliament and the Council, as amended, as well as all other relevant applicable rules as appropriate.

- Support to other coast guard functions activities on request. The OPV “Lundy Sentinel” 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 Lundy Sentinel’s availability.

RESULTS

- 3 inspections: 2 EU vessels and 1 other Contracting Party vessel.
- 6 NAFO sightings.
- 1 non-serious apparent infringement of the NAFO CEM related with catch reporting requirements was detected on 1 vessel.

OBSERVATIONS

- OPV LUNDY SENTINEL left Vigo, Spain on 31st May and entered the NAFO RA on 6th June 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 6 to 7, and 4 to 6 fishing vessels from other Contracting Parties. The overall number of vessels fishing in the area during this mission varied from 10 to 13.
- The EU fishing vessels were present in Divisions 3LMNO of the NAFO RA, but mainly in the Divisions 3NO targeting RED and HKS. One EU vessel targeting YEL under chartering agreement.
- 2 RUS, 2 CAN, 1 JPN and 1 FRO vessels were operating in NAFO at the time of the campaign.
- Due to the COVID-19 situation, EFCA had established special safeguarding measures for EFCA staff and other personnel involved in the mission and followed those closely.
- During this patrol, while in NAFO RA, Lundy Sentinel had to leave the RA to shelter in Canadian EEZ trying to evade a strong low-pressure system. This event deprived our inspection platform of 1 additional day in NAFO RA.
- 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.
- CAN patrolled in the area with one FPV. 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 17th June and headed back to Vigo.