

ANNUAL REPORT

GERMAN NATIONAL FISHERIES DATA COLLECTION

2013

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I GENERAL FRAMEWORK

The German National Programme (NP) 2011-2013 for fisheries data collection refers to the Community and National Programme defined in Articles 3 and 4 of Council Regulation 199/2008, to Article 1 of Commission Regulation 665/2008 and the Annex of Commission Decision 2010/93/EU. The Annual Report (AR) 2013 on the German NP refers to Article 7 of Council Regulation 199/2008, to Article 5 of Commission Regulation 665/2008 and to the Annex of Commission Decision 2010/93/EU.

The report year is 2013. If the reference year differs from the report year, it is accordingly stated in the sections for Modules IV and V.

Standard tables: This AR is based on the "Guidelines for the submission of Annual Report on the National Data Collection Programmes (...), Version 2013", which is related to the layout and contents of the NP 2011-2013.

II NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION ORGANISATION

II A NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT AND PARTICIPATING INSTITUTES

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Within these institutions, the following four institutes and units are responsible for data collection and reporting:

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The **BLE** (Unit 522) holds the fishing vessel list including capacity data based on EU Regulations 2090/98, 2091/98 and 2092/98 as well as landings and effort data based on EU Regulations 2807/83 and 2897/93. The BLE Unit 414 is responsible for the central database of all national fisheries-related data and central IT services.

The **TI** collects biological data from surveys-at-sea and from sampling commercial fishing vessels under German flag, as well as economic data from the fishing fleet, processing industry and aquaculture. The TI-OF is responsible for the Baltic Sea and recreational fisheries sampling, while the

TI-SF is responsible for the North Sea & Eastern Arctic, Northeast Atlantic and the other areas, as well as fisheries economics (fleet, aquaculture and processing industry). The TI-FI is responsible for eel sampling.

A part of the economic data of the fish processing industry is collected by the **German Federal Statistical Office**:

Statistisches Bundesamt (StBA) (Federal Statistical Office Germany)
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BLE and TI are institutions under the auspices of the Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (**BMEL** = Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture).

Within the institutions of BMEL, responsible persons are appointed in order to co-operate and implement the NP. The TI-SF is the national coordinator.

National co-ordination meetings with all persons involved in the German NP are held once a year (see Table II.B.1 and Annex 1). The main aim of these meetings is an exchange of experiences during the recent year of NP implementation and forward-planning of data collection in the upcoming year(s).

A **national portal website** for dissemination of information has been established in 2009 in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) 665/2008 Article 8(2):

<http://www.dcf-germany.de>

The following table summarises the derogations applied for by Germany since 2009:

Short title of derogation	NP section	Type of data	Region	Approved / rejected/ pending	Year	Reason/ Justification
Request for derogation for excluding dredgers from the fishing fleet	III.B	Effort data	all	pending	2011	Vessel type operates exclusively in the field of aquaculture and is represented in the aquaculture section
Request for derogation on metier-related variables	III.C	Sampling data for <i>MIS_CAT_all_0_0</i> and <i>LLD_ANA_0_0_0</i> (Eel and long line salmonids)	Bal	approved	2012	Fisheries are negligible
Request for derogation on metier-related variables	III.C	Sampling data for <i>OTB_DEF_<16_0_0</i> and <i>PTM_DEF_<16_0_0</i> (Sand eel fishery)	NS&EA	approved	2009	The share in fishing effort for Germany is negligible and sampling is conducted by Denmark (regional agreement)
Request for derogation on metier-related variables	III.C	Sampling data for <i>FPO_CRU_all_0_0</i> (Fishery directed on deep water crustaceans)	NA	approved	2009	Regional agreement: "Onboard monitoring unnecessary owing to 1. the small by-catch of finfish, and 2. the return of undersized crustaceans alive."
Request for derogation on metier-related variables	III.C	Sampling data for <i>GNS_DEF_>=220_0_0</i> (Fishery on anglerfish)	NA	pending	2009/ 2010/ 2011	Very limited number of Spanish-owned vessels (4 cutters), landings in weight are <200t, landings into foreign harbours
Request for derogation on metier-related variables	III.C	Multilateral agreement on sampling data for <i>OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0</i> (Fisheries in CECAF waters)	Other	approved	2012	Cost efficiency
Request for derogation on metier-related variables	III.C	Sampling data for <i>GNS_FWS_0_0_0</i> (Fishery directed on freshwater species)	Baltic	approved	2012	>80% from fisheries inside the base line of German coastal waters. Hence, the landings from outer coastal waters were well below the 200t exemption rule limit
Request for derogation for the recreational fishery	III.D	Sampling data for salmon	Baltic	approved	2011	Salmon catches from German anglers were estimated at 2 ‰ of the international salmon catches in the coastal and offshore areas of the Baltic Sea in 2002. General observations will be carried out as part of the current sampling of the recreational fishery in the Baltic Sea.
Request for derogation for the recreational fishery	III.D	Sampling data for sharks	Baltic, NS&EA	approved	2012	No recreational fishery existing on sharks
Request for derogation for the	III.D	Sampling data for cod	NS&EA	pending	2011	There is no sampling of the recreational fishers

recreational fishery						of Niedersachsen and Bremen, as no licensing system exists for recreational fishers in the North Sea. A survey would cause very high costs. Therefore and in consideration of the estimate of the recreational cod catches in 2005 (very low, without importance for the cod stock), it is not necessary to extend the survey to Niedersachsen and Bremen.
Request for derogation for the recreational fishery	III.D	Sampling data for eel	NS&EA	pending	2011	There is no sampling of the recreational fishers of Niedersachsen and Bremen, as no licensing system exists for recreational fishers in the North Sea. A necessary extension of the survey to Niedersachsen and Bremen will be evaluated according to results from the Pilot Study.
Request on the sampling of fish stocks	III.E	Sampling data for <i>Spattus sprattus</i> (Baltic), <i>Clupea harengus</i> (ICES I, II); <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> , <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> , <i>Solea solea</i> (IV), <i>Micromesistius poutassou</i> , <i>Scomber scombrus</i> , <i>Trachurus trachurus</i> (NA)	Baltic, NS&EA, NA	approved	2009/2011	Data are necessary for assessment purposes despite no sampling obligation exists
Request on joint sampling of <i>Pollachius virens</i> from the Skagerrak and the North Sea	III.E	Sampling data for <i>Pollachius virens</i>	NS&EA	pending	2011	Catches in the <u>Skagerrak</u> are belonging to the same saithe stock as in the northern North Sea targeted by the same fishing metier. Fishing activities in the Skagerrak occur only <u>irregularly</u> ; therefore, the stock will be sampled mainly in the North Sea.
Request on sampling in the CECAF area	III E	Sampling data on <i>Sardinella</i>	Other	approved	2011	Sampling of <i>Sardinella</i> is carried out by The Netherlands (multilateral agreement)
Request on sampling in the SPFRMO area	III E	Sampling data on small pelagics	Other	approved	2012	No sampling planned due to negligible catches of small pelagics by Germany in the SPFRMO area in 2011 (total 470 tons), with no significant increase expected for 2012-2013.

II B REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION

II B1 ATTENDANCE OF INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

In Table II.B.1, all meetings and workshops for international co-ordination with German participation are listed. Germany had originally planned to participate in the RCM LDF, ICES WGISDAA, WKHAB (renamed to WKBUT), WKSPRAT, WKLIFE3 and WKG MSE, but could not do so due to conflicting dates with regard to other commitments for the staff involved.

II B2 FOLLOW-UP OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Source	Message	Follow-up
RCM NS&EA 2012 Recommendation	In respect of the development of the RDB and the protection of the data and the ownership of the data, a draft Data Policy Document has been established. The data policy document is based on the current situation but need to be reviewed in all its aspects in order to be satisfactory for all MS. The data policy document is a “flexible” document and must be updated as the needs and the development of the RDB are changing. For example, a new data policy document will be prepared if there are changes to the exchange format (update is needed). The National Correspondents (NC) from all MS are requested to read through the document, and sent all remarks and/or suggestions for improvements to the chair of the relevant RCM and to the RDB Steering Group (RDB-SG). Even if the NC has no specific remarks or suggestions, it is recommended to send a notification that the document has been read. Based on the input from the NCs, an updated version will be presented at the next NC Coordination meeting organized by the EC.	Germany did not have any specific comments to the Data Policy Document and notified this to the RDB-SG.
RCM NS & EA 2013 Recommendation 6	RCM recommends that MS document their interpretation of trips, samples and sampling events and describe what the TripID and SampleID represent in their uploaded data.	In the next RDB upload, Germany will provide a summary document including the interpretation of these key fields.
RCM NA 2013 Recommendation 2	MS to document Quality Control and Quality Approach procedures in summary for review at the next RCM.	Germany will provide information on QC/QA procedures before the next RCMs (June/Aug-Sep 2014).

Germany participates in the Regional Co-ordination Meetings (RCMs) for the Baltic, North Sea & Eastern Arctic, North Atlantic and Long Distance Fisheries. Apart from regional (multilateral) agreements established at the RCMs, Germany currently holds bilateral agreements with Denmark, Sweden, The Netherlands and the UK on sampling foreign-flag vessels, as well as with Poland on eel sampling, see Annex 4. These agreements are of general nature and are being discussed in detail (sampling levels etc.) at the relevant RCMs. See sections on 'regional coordination' for the various sampling parameters in the individual sections below. In addition, Germany is part of a multilateral agreement on sampling in the CECAF area in 2012-2013, see Annex 4, which was extended recently to the years 2014-2015.

For follow-up of STECF recommendations, see section VII.

III MODULE OF THE EVALUATION OF THE FISHING SECTOR

III A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE FISHING SECTOR

Table III.A.1 shows a general overview on the German fisheries activities in 2013. In the Baltic and North Sea & Eastern Arctic regions, demersal, pelagic and a small fraction of industrial fisheries were conducted. In the North Atlantic, pelagic fisheries were dominating over demersal fisheries.

III B ECONOMIC VARIABLES

BALTIC SEA, NORTH SEA AND EASTERN ARCTIC, AND NORTH ATLANTIC

III B 1 ACHIEVEMENTS: RESULTS AND DEVIATION FROM NP PROPOSAL

The numbers of vessels per fleet segment have been updated throughout. If segments had no more vessels left, they were still kept in the table for consistency with the NP.

On the “Imputed value of unpaid labour”: The basis number for an average annual salary has been adjusted to 33.360 €, which in the meantime had been published by the Federal Statistical Office as update.

On “Energy costs”: A distinction between types of fuel has been applied. Based on experts’ interviews and evidence from collected data, three different average fuel prices per liter have been calculated: one for vessels < 30kW (often fuelled with petrol), one for vessels between 30 and 3000 kW (gasoil, tax reduced) and one for larger vessels > 3000 kW (crude oil).

On the Value of physical capital (**estimation of capital value and capital costs**): The basis for the calculation of physical capital has been the price per GT unit. **The price per GT unit has been determined** as gross value from net prices of newly built vessels during the last ten years. In the NP, it was stated that the price per GT will be distinguished by fleet segment. Due to the low number of actual building prices, this concept could not be applied. Instead, the same price per GT unit has been applied to all fleet segments. Based on the **price index** for 2010 (**producer price** for commercial products, investment goods), a **gross price of € 9.608 per GT** was applied. The transformation to 2012 is being done using the 2012 price index as part of the PIM procedure. The determination of price per capacity unit is clearly described in the NP.

Several experts have been interviewed to receive specific **life time** and **share** information, but it transpired that there is no uniform pattern. Therefore, the figures as used in the Study on Capital Value (“FISH/2005/03”) have been applied: Shares per cent of total investment were 60-20-10-10, and life times were 25-10-5-7 years (hull-engine-electronics-other). **Depreciation rates** are directly linked to the life times.

According to **recent recommendations (PGECON 2012)**, the depreciation scheme has been changed **from linear to degressive**. Therefore, the depreciation rates had to be **changed to 0.07 (hull), 0.25 (engine), 0.5 (electronics) and 0.35 (other eq.)**, again following the study “FISH/2005/03”. Moreover, the current value (formerly known as replacement value) has been used as basis for depreciation, following the advice issued by the workshop on the PIM method in Naples (2011).

Clustering of the pelagic vessels is irrelevant in practice, as the data cannot be published for confidentiality reasons anyway (only one company represented in this segment).

In the Commission Decision 2010/93/EU, active vessels are defined as having “been engaged in any fishing operation (more than zero days) during a calendar year”. For vessels without logbook obligation (i.e. vessels < 8m LOA), there is no exhaustive information on fishing days. However,

information on landings is exhaustively available. Germany resolved that vessels < 8m are regarded as inactive if no landings have been reported.

This procedure has been applied for as derogation in the NP and has been approved by STECF.

In table III.B.1, numbers and rates refer to unit response rates, as described in the guidelines.

III B 2 DATA QUALITY: RESULTS AND DEVIATION FROM NP PROPOSAL

Error and accuracy indicators for variables related to employment and capital values or imputed value of unpaid labour: these variables are calculated using different input parameters/variables, e.g. effort data, like days at sea (for FTE), or estimates for prices per capacity units (€/GT) or capacity data.

These input data can be regarded as constants, which are implemented in the models as provided by the studies on FTE and capital value estimation. Accuracy and precision of the results are therefore determined by the quality of the stipulated procedures and not so much by the input variables, the quality of which is indicated in the table anyway. Therefore, it is more than doubtful whether the indication of accuracy and sampling strategy are really appropriate or conducive in any respect. The same applies to the debt/asset ratio, of which the capital value is a component.

SGRN 10-02 had asked the European Commission for clarification on this issue, but this has not been provided in due time.

Often a non-reported variable is identical with zero. Rather than providing the value “zero”, the respondents tend to leave the field blank, which is in a first automatic approach interpreted as non-reporting. In the case of obviousness (e.g. missing crew wages for small vessels with a crew number of 1, i.e. the owner alone), a zero has been assumed. In other cases, no straightforward assumption of that kind was made, following a conservative approach. Then a non-filled item was regarded as non-response. This might in several cases lead to virtually low response rates, e.g. for “other income”.

The data collection scheme “C” (non-probability sampling) as indicated in the NP has been changed to “B” (probability sampling) in 2011, as during the SGECA 10-03 meeting (harmonisation of sampling strategies), it has been decided that the data derived from FADN are to be regarded as random (=probability) sampling. This has already been endorsed for the NP 2012 by STECF 11-19.

In several cases, the **coefficient of variation (CV)** could not be calculated, because the population and/or the number of responses was very small. In the frequent case of small population numbers of unclustered segments, no CV could be provided, and the related box is marked “NA”.

Inactive vessels have been introduced into Table III.B.1. A sample rate of 100% has been indicated as the requested economic variables have been derived from other variables which have been collected exhaustively.

For very few segments with few vessels and with minor general importance, only some of the economic data could be collected, even though all these segments were sampled exhaustively. Respective owners had been contacted repetitively to push the issue, though without success in some cases. National legislation has no sway to enforce responses and the segments are negligible compared with others. Therefore, Germany has concluded to derive reasonable estimates as a feasible approach.

As there is no common approach to “**evaluate the representativeness of the data** collected on the respondents”, Germany has applied the same approach as comprehensively described in the NP. This is based upon a comparison of fractions of different transversal variables, which are associated with the vessel with responses. E.g. if the relative number of vessels for which answers have been received is similar to the relative number of days at sea or income from landings, then there is good evidence that the sample is representative. It has to be stated repetitively that the concept of “representativeness” is not scientifically or statistically defined. In particular, there is no quantitative indicator of “representativeness”.

As a “**qualitative description regarding the assessment of quality of data collected**”, it can be stated that the quality of data could be kept at high level, in particular due to sufficient coverage and

response numbers. Germany has managed to achieve very high sample rates for all segments which are of major importance with respect to total landings or employment. Low rates or non-responses almost exclusively occurred on segments with few vessels and also on segments with few and small vessels. Visually, these small segments of minor importance cannot be distinguished from the important ones in the report table. However, a closer look at the size of both the segments and the vessels associated with it highlights the comprehensiveness of the data collected for the German fleet.

As Germany applies **no non-probability sampling**, the column “Other variability indicators (d)” in Table III.B.3 has been left blank.

Information about calculation procedures of derived indicators (e.g. FTE) is provided comprehensively in the German NP. In almost all cases, they are **derived using transversal data** which are available exhaustively. Therefore, they can be regarded as highly accurate.

III B 3 FOLLOW-UP OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

No recommendations.

III B 4 ACTIONS TO AVOID SHORTFALLS

No shortfalls.

OTHER REGIONS

Only one vessel is assigned to “Other Regions”, and all data for that vessel have been received. Where appropriate, any specification provided for the aforementioned supraregion applies to “Other Regions” as well.

III C METIER-RELATED VARIABLES

For information collected during the sampling year regarding the number of sampled trips and numbers of age and length sampling, refer to Tables III.C.3 to III.C.6.

III C BALTIC SEA

III C 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

Legend:

At sea: Number of trips sampled by an observer on board fishing vessel (concurrent) at sea

Other: Number of trips sampled in a harbour or by a fisherman at sea (self sampling)

Total: Sum of all trips

NP: No trip planned

2224 PTM_SPF_32-104_0_0

Sampled metiers: PTM_SPF_32-104_0_0, PTB_SPF_32-104_0_0, PTB_SPF_32-89_0_0,

At sea: 0 / 2 = 0%, Other: 10/10=100%, Total: 10 / 12 = 83%.

Since the bycatch of this metier is negligible (virtually 100% herring), the at-sea sampling effort had been stopped since 2012. Instead, the two trips planned for at-sea sampling were sampled on shore.

2224 PTB_SPF_16-31_0_0

Sampled metiers: PTB_SPF_16-31_0_0

At sea: 0 / 0 = NP, Other: 3 / 2 = 150% , Total: 3 / 2 = 150%

2224 GNS_SPF_32-109_0_0

Sampled metiers: GNS_SPF_32-109_0_0, FYK_SPF_>0_0_0 , FPN_SPF_>0_0_0

At sea: 0 / 0 = NP, Other: 21 / 16 = 131%, Total: 21 / 16 = 131%

Due to a long and cold winter, the herring fishing season extended over a longer period of time in 2013.

2224 OTB_DEF_>=105_1_120

Sampled metiers: OTB_DEF_>=105_1_120, PTB_DEF_>=105_1_120, PTM_DEF_>=105_1_120, OTB_DEF_>=90_0_0, PTB_DEF_>=90_0_0

At sea: 10 / 10 = 100%, Other: 19 / 20 = 95%, Total: 29 / 30 = 97%

2224 GNS_DEF_110-156_0_0

Sampled metiers: GNS_DEF_110-156_0_0 , GTR_DEF_110-156_0_0 ; LLS_DEF_0_0_0

At sea: 24 / 6 = 400%, Other: 13 / 2 = 650%, Total: 37 / 8 = 463%

This metier is sampled more intensively than proposed in the National Programme in the last years for several reasons. This metier contributes significant amounts to the total landings, especially of Western Baltic cod (>30%) but also for flatfish. Despite this importance, there is a lack in biological data from this metier, not only regarding length distributions but also the discards (e.g. discard assumed as zero by Denmark). Thus, our sampling fills an important gap in the stock assessment input data. Moreover, this fleet involves a great proportion of the German fishing vessels in the Baltic Sea with considerable variations in species composition, gear settings, temporal and spatial extent, which was not fully recognised when the NP was designed. Finally, potential bycatch issues exist (marine mammals and birds) and more intensive sampling was initiated to fulfill national and international requirements.

2224 GNS_FWS_>0_0_0

Derogation in place since 2012.

2532 PTM_SPF_32-104_0_0

Sampled metiers: PTB_SPF_32-104_0_0, PTM_SPF_32-104_0_0

At sea: 0 / 0 = NP, Other: 0 / 1 = 0%, Total: 0 / 1 = 0%

This metier was not sampled during the randomized activities in 2013. However, our improved sampling covered the commercial fishing activities on the target species (sprat) – see ‘2532 PTM_SPF_16-31_0_0’ below.

2532 OTB_DEF_>=105_1_120

Sampled metiers: OTB_DEF_>=105_1_120, OTM_DEF_>=105_1_120, OTB_DEF_>=105_1_110

At sea: 2 / 4 = 50%, Other: 6 / 6 = 100%, Total: 8 / 10 = 80%

Lack of free bunks limited the number of vessels that could take a scientific observer.

2532 PTB_SPF_16-31_0_0

Sampled metiers: OTB_SPF_16-31_0_0, PTM_SPF_16-31_0_0, PTB_SPF_16-31_0_0

At sea: 0 / 0 = NP, Other: 21 / 1 = 2100%, Total: 21 / 1 = 2100%

A self-sampling cooperation was initiated with the two main trawlers targeting sprat in 2012 and successfully continued in 2013.

The overall number of commercial samples in the Baltic in 2013 was higher than in previous years for two reasons: 1) improved vessel selection and contact procedure, resulting in more at-sea sampling and self-sampling opportunities (however, without causing additional costs); 2) improved work organization in the lab, where more samples were worked up.

III C 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

A trial of the COST package within the AR2009 indicated that the analytical calculation of CVs was not feasible. To our knowledge, no new routines facilitating the implementation of COST for the fulfilment of the DCF requirements were released since April 2010. Therefore, the number of sampled individuals and the precision were calculated by R routines (see Annex 3) using the COST/FishFrame data structure as basis.

III C 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

Source	Message	Follow-up
RCM Baltic 2012	To ensure possibilities for adequate sampling of biological and métier related data including landings in foreign MS, it is recommended that the national authorities ensure that national institutes have online access to national logbook data and national VMS data as this is needed for carrying out cost efficient DCF obligations.	Germany already has access to commercial-fleet data on the disaggregated logbook-level. Additionally, landings per vessel, day and species are provided. The institute is in consultation with national authorities to improve access to VMS-data
RCM Baltic 2012	- MS should upload all landing data into the Regional Data Base allowing the RCM to analyse the possible needs for bilateral agreements. - The RCMs should each year perform an analysis on landings in foreign countries and conclude were bilateral agreements needed to be made. MS should set up agreements, fixing the details of sampling, compilation and submission of data in each case when it is	- all national landings data are uploaded each year, together with sampling data, following DCF-regulations - follow-up to be fulfilled by RCM Baltic 2013 - Updated bilateral agreements are in place with Denmark and Sweden.

	indicated by the RCM that a bilateral agreement is needed. To include the agreed analysis in FishFrame would be very convenient and time saving. 3. MS should set up agreements, fixing the details of sampling, compilation and submission of data in each case it is concluded by the RCM that a bilateral agreement is needed.	
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III C 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

In accordance with the recommendations from WKACCU 2008, WKPRECISE 2009, WKMERGE 2010, SGPIDS 2011 and WKPICS1 2011, the TI-OF started in 2011 to improve the catch sampling program of the German commercial fishing fleet in the Baltic Sea. Hence, 2012 was the first year in which a randomized sampling scheme was implemented on a test stage. This involved a randomized vessel selection procedure. For the years 2008, 2009 and 2010, all vessels were stratified by target species, subdivision, vessel length class, gear type and month. The vessels in each stratum were ranked by their relative share to the stratum landing and those within the 90% threshold of cumulative landing (for active gear) were listed (60% for passive gear). From these lists, vessel owners are contacted randomly and the phone calls are documented. In addition, a number of quality indicators are recorded in accordance with SGPIDS 2012 and WKPICS2 2012. Since 2013, vessel drawlists are only compiled by stock and gear type (active, passive) using the list of active vessels from the last but one year.

It is important to note that once a randomized sampling is working, the primary sampling unit is no longer a métier but a vessel or a trip that has been randomly selected (WKPICS2 2012). The randomization process will result in métier coverage proportional to their use by the fisheries so that the completion of a planned number of samples by métier can no longer be the aim of a sampling program.

Through various trust-building programs such as ecolabelling initiatives, scientific cooperation and round tables with the fisheries associations, the TI-OF continuously works on maintaining good relationships to the fishing industry and attempts to further improve the cooperation with fishers.

Planning the number of sampled trips must reflect the sampling capacity and the scientific need for sampling. Usually, there is a significant discrepancy between the scientifically required sampling intensity and the sampling capacity in terms of (sea-going) staff. Thus, the number of trips was planned conservatively for 2013. On the other hand, conservative planning leads to exceeding the sampling plan resulting in so-called ‘oversampling’. However, oversampling may not be the right term, as for statistical purposes, the sampling intensities in terms of trips are usually not too high.

III C NORTH SEA AND EASTERN ARCTIC

III C 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

Sampling of fishing trips

According to the NP 2011-2013 (updated in October 2011), 14 fisheries were selected either by landings, effort or value. As the majority of the German North Sea fleet is landing in foreign countries and thus landings in German harbours are only minor (see section III.E General remarks), the main sampling strategy for all trips is concurrent sampling-at-sea.

In the following, each métier is listed and shortfalls are explained:

Fishing ground: Eastern Arctic (ICES Sub-areas I and II)

OTB_DEF_>=120_0_0

Target species: Saithe and cod. Peak season: 1st and 3rd quarter. Area: Northeast Arctic waters. Duration of trips: 4 weeks to 3 months. Sampling effort: Two observer trips were planned and carried out.

OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0

Target species: Atlanto-Scandian herring. Peak season: August to November. Area: Norwegian Sea. Duration of trips: 3 to 4 weeks. Sampling effort: One observer trip was planned. Due to short-term changes in the fishery, it was not possible to observe this fishery. However, one trip was sampled by self-sampling.

Fishing ground: North Sea and Skagerrak (ICES Sub-area IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId)

PTM_SPF_32-69_0_0

Target species: Herring. Peak season: September to November. Area: Skagerrak. Duration of trips: 1 week. Sampling effort: Sampled by Denmark and/or Sweden (Regional agreement).

GNS_DEF_100-119_0_0

Target species: Dab, sole and plaice. Peak season: April - June, September - October. Area: Skagerrak and Kattegat. Duration of trips: 1 to 3 days. Sampling effort: Sampled by Denmark and/or Sweden (Regional agreement).

OTB_CRU_90-119_0_0

Target species: Norway lobster. Peak season: June to December. Area: Skagerrak and Kattegat. Duration of trips: 1 to 3 days. Sampling effort: Sampled by Denmark and/or Sweden (Regional agreement).

GNS_DEF_90-99_0_0

Target species: Dab, sole and plaice. Peak season: July - October. Area: Skagerrak and Kattegat. Duration of trips: 1 to 3 days. Sampling effort: Sampled by Denmark and/or Sweden (Regional agreement).

OTB_DEF_>=120_0_0 (merged with PTB_DEF_>= 120_0_0, OTB_DEF_90-119_0_0, OTB_DEF_100-119_0_0 and SSC_DEF_>= 120_0_0)

Target species: Saithe, cod, haddock. Peak season: All year round. Area: Northern North Sea and Skagerrak. Duration of trips: 1 to 2 weeks. Sampling effort: 6 observer trips were planned, 7 trips were carried out.

(Rationale behind the merging: All involved vessel are operating similarly. This fishery is carried out by approx. 10 vessels targeting demersal fish in the northern North Sea. Due to economic considerations, some boats may switch between target species (saithe, cod and haddock) and fishing methods (OTB, PTB, SSC). The fishing area belongs to EU waters as well as to Norwegian waters. In both waters, different mesh size regulations apply. In Norwegian waters, a mesh size larger than 120mm is compulsory, while in European waters, smaller mesh sizes are allowed. Furthermore, the same fishery crosses sometimes the border to ICES Division IIa and is taking place in a few rectangles in that area just across that border.)

TBB_CRU_16-31_0_0

Target species: Brown shrimp. Peak season: March to October with peaks in the 2nd and 3rd quarter. Area: German North Sea coastal waters. Duration of trips: 1 to 3 days. Sampling effort: 8 observer trips were planned, 7 trips were carried out. The last trip is missing due to bad weather conditions during November and December 2013.

OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0

Target species: Herring, mackerel. Peak season: Restricted fishing season for mackerel in the North Sea – January/February and 4th quarter; Herring – 3rd quarter/December. Area: North Sea and English Channel. Duration of trips: 3 to 4 weeks. Sampling effort: 2 observer trips were planned and carried out.

PTM_DEF_<16_0_0

Target species: Sandeel. Restricted fishing season. Area: Northern North Sea. Duration of trips: 6 to 10 days. Sampling effort: This metier changed and is recently carried out by single boats only (OTB_DEF_<16_0_0 and OTM_DEF_<16_0_0). However, the German share of the sandeel Union TAC was 0.14% (Council Regulation 297/2013) and thus negligible. At the RCM NS&EA, the sampling coverage by Denmark (94.3% of TAC) and Sweden (3.5% of TAC) was regarded as sufficient.

TBB_DEF_70-99_0_0

Target species: Sole and plaice. Peak season: All year round. Area: Southern North Sea. Duration of trips: 4 to 6 days. Sampling effort: 4 observer trips were planned, 4 trips were carried out.

OTB_DEF_70-99_0_0

Target species: Flatfish. Peak season: All year round. Area: Central and Southern North Sea. Duration of trips: 5 to 8 days. Sampling effort: 2 observer trips were planned and carried out, but the fishery switched to the bigger mesh size range of 100-119mm.

OTB_MCD_70-99_0_0

Target species: Mixed crustaceans (*Nephrops*) and demersal fish. Peak season: June to October. Area: Southern North Sea. Duration of trips: 4 to 6 days. Sampling effort: sampling done by Denmark according to regional (RCM NS&EA) agreement.

Length measurements:

For most of the fish stocks and brown shrimp, the number of length and age measurements well exceeded the planned and requested minimum number of measurements. As most of the measurements are taken on observer trips, the reason for over-sampling is often that all fish of a once randomly chosen subsample have to be measured in order to calculate the retained and discarded fraction of the whole catch. Another reason is that once an observer is onboard, the entire trip is being sampled (i.e. sampling does not stop after a few hauls or fishing days, but lasts until the end of that trip). This "oversampling" onboard is done without any additional costs. However, minor additional costs occur in the institute in terms of additional staff time for sampling processing.

Atlanto-scandian herring (Norwegian spring-spawning herring in I,II) was only sampled by self-sampling (see above) which leads to an undersampling of length measurements.

III C 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

A trial of the COST package within the AR2009 indicated that the analytical calculation of CVs was not feasible. To our knowledge, no new routines facilitating the implementation of COST for the fulfilment of the DCF requirements were released since April 2010. Therefore, the number of sampled individuals and the precision were calculated by R routines (see Annex 3) using the COST/FishFrame data structure as basis.

III C 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

Source	Message	Follow-up
RCM NS&EA 2012	(no relevant recommendations)	
RCM NS&EA 2013	(no relevant recommendations)	

III C 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Based on the list of fishing vessels supplied by the Federal Agency for Agriculture and Food (BLE), Germany is always trying to reach a wide participation of vessels in the observer programme and to include vessels which have not been sampled by observers before. Although this is partially successful, there are always vessel owners, of smaller vessels in particular, which are not willing to allow observers onboard. Based on the present situation, random sampling of the fleet is yet not fully implemented. This leads also to an opportunistic sampling strategy, taking sampling opportunities when they occur, irrespective if they are planned or not. Other deviations occurred because of short-notice changes in the fishing behaviour. When more or other than the planned trips were carried out, opportunities for samplings were taken which arose due to contacts with the fishing industry. Although Council Regulation 199/2008 states that vessel owners “shall take observers on board” and the Federal fisheries research institutes hold a co-operation agreement with the German Fisheries Association, this situation remains to be difficult for several metiers.

III C NORTH ATLANTIC AND NAFO

III C 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

Sampling of fishing trips:

After metier merging, six fisheries were selected either by landings, effort or value. Four of these metiers are dealt with by the RCM North Sea and Eastern Arctic since autumn 2009, but belong to the North Atlantic region according to Commission Regulation 665/2008 and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU. As the majority of the German North Atlantic fleet is landing in foreign countries and thus landings in German harbours are only minor (see section III.E General Remarks), the main sampling strategy for all trips is concurrent sampling-at-sea.

In the following, each metier is listed and shortfalls are explained:

Fishing ground: Iceland, Greenland and Irminger Sea (ICES Sub-areas XII and XIV and Division Va)

OTB_DEF_>=120_0_0

Target species: Greenland halibut and cod. Peak season: 2nd/3rd quarter. Area: East Greenland (ICES Div. XIVb). Duration of trips: 4 weeks to 3 months. Sampling effort: 2 observer trips were planned and carried out.

OTM_DEF_>=120_0_0

Target species: Redfish. Peak season: 2nd/3rd quarter. Area: Irminger/Labrador Sea (ICES Sub-areas XII and XIV, NAFO Sub-areas 1-2). Duration of trips: 4 weeks to 3 months. In 2013, this fishery has been carried out by only one German-flagged vessel in one 2-week trip. The planned sampling of this fishery could not be carried out due to logistic problems indicated by the ships owners. However, redfish in this fishing ground could be sampled as by-catch of the *OTB_DEF_>=120_0_0* metier.

Fishing ground: NAFO areas

OTB_DEF_>=120_0_0

Target species: Greenland halibut and cod. Peak season: 3rd/4th quarter. Area: West Greenland (NAFO Div. 1D). Duration of trips: 6 weeks to 3 months. Sampling effort: 1 observer trip was planned and carried out.

Fishing grounds: Western waters (ICES Sub-areas VI-VIII, mainly West of Scotland and West of Ireland)

OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0

Target species: Mackerel, horse mackerel, blue whiting. Peak season: March to June/October/November. Area: West British waters and Bay of Biscay. Duration of trips: 3 to 4 weeks. Sampling effort: 3 observer trips were planned, two trips were conducted. Due to logistic problems indicated by the ship owners, it was not possible to place an observer onboard of an additional third trip. However, one additional trip on a German-flagged vessel was sampled by a Dutch colleague.

FPO_CRU_all_0_0

Target species: Deep-sea red crab. Peak season: All year round. Area: West of Ireland, West of Scotland. Duration of trips: Long soaking times of the pots simulate high effort - 4 weeks. Fishing by landings and value is negligible. Germany applied for derogation for this métier because this fishery consists of four Spanish-owned but German-flagged vessels which are exclusively operating from Spanish and Irish ports. The RCM NA 2012 regarded the “onboard monitoring unnecessary owing to 1) the small by-catch of finfish, and 2) the return of undersized crustaceans alive.”. The target species *Chaecon affinis*, however, is not listed in Appendix VII of COM Decision 2010/93/EU.

GNS_DEF_>=220_0_0

Target species: Anglerfish. Peak season: All year round. Area: North East Atlantic. Duration of trips: 4 weeks. Target species: Deep water crustaceans. Peak season: All year round. Area: West of Ireland, West of Scotland. Duration of trips: Long soaking times of the set nets simulate high effort - 4 weeks. Landings are <200t (2012). Germany applied for derogation for this métier because this fishery consists of four Spanish-owned but German-flagged vessels which are exclusively operating from Spanish and Irish ports. Germany will re-evaluate the current international fishing situation in order to reach a sampling agreement with relevant MS at the RCM NA 2014.

Length measurements:

For most of the fish stocks, the number of length and age measurements well exceeded the planned and requested minimum number of measurements. As most of the measurements are taken on observer trips, the reason for over-sampling is often that all fish of a once randomly chosen subsample has to be measured in order to calculate the retained and discarded fraction of the whole catch. Another reason is that once an observer is onboard, the entire trip is being sampled (i.e. sampling does not stop after a few hauls or fishing days, but lasts until the end of that trip). This is often the case on trips with low discard rates like most of the high-seas fishing trips. This "oversampling" onboard is done without any additional costs. However, minor additional costs occur in the home laboratory in form of additional staff time for sampling processing.

In several cases, the planned sample sizes have not been achieved. Note that Germany has provided sufficient length measurements and age samples to the relevant ICES working groups for assessment purposes.

III C 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

A trial of the COST package within the AR2009 indicated that the analytical calculation of CVs was not feasible. To our knowledge, no new routines facilitating the implementation of COST for the fulfilment of the DCF requirements were released since April 2010. Therefore, the number of sampled individuals and the precision were calculated by R routines (see Annex 3) using the COST/FishFrame data structure as basis. Due to some compatibility problems with the COST format, which for example does not allow NAFO areas, not all precision estimates could be calculated.

III C 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

Source	Message	Follow-up
RCM NA 2012 Recommendation	RCM NA 2012 recommends that the metier descriptions for fishing grounds under the remit of the RCM be updated by each MS in as much detail as possible. These descriptions to be used as a tool, in conjunction with outputs from the RDB, to identify metiers that could be combined for regionally coordinated sampling plans.	Germany has checked the metier descriptions that were provided to the RCM NA 2010 and updated them accordingly when there were changes necessary.
RCM NA 2013	(no relevant recommendations)	

III C 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Based on the list of fishing vessels supplied by the Federal Agency for Agriculture and Food (BLE), Germany is always trying to reach a wide participation of vessels in the observer programme and to include vessels which have not been sampled by observers before. Although this is partially successful, there are always vessel owners, of smaller vessels in particular, which are not willing to allow observers onboard. Based on the present situation, random sampling of the fleet is yet not fully implemented. This leads also to an opportunistic sampling strategy, taking sampling opportunities when they occur, irrespective if they are planned or not. Other deviations occurred because of short-notice changes in the fishing behaviour. When more or other than the planned trips were carried out, opportunities for samplings were taken which arose due to contacts with the fishing industry. Although Council Regulation 199/2008 states that vessel owners “shall take observers on board” and the Federal fisheries research institutes hold a co-operation agreement with the German Fisheries Association, this situation remains to be difficult for several metiers.

III C LONG DISTANCE FISHERIES

III C 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

Two fisheries were selected either by landings, effort or value. These parts of the fleet are entirely landing in foreign countries and were not sampled by Germany. In the following, both metiers are listed and the shortfalls are explained:

OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0

Target species: *Sardinella*. Peak season: -. Area: Mauritanian/Moroccan waters (CECAF area). Duration of trips: 3 to 4 weeks. A multilateral sampling agreement was reached in 2011 (see Annex 4) and a sampling plan implemented from 2012 onwards. However, the fishery closed end of April 2012 and was not carried out in 2013.

OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0

Target species: Jack Mackerel. Peak season: -. Area: South Pacific. Duration of trips: 4 weeks to three months. No fishing trip was carried out in the South Pacific area in 2013. Furthermore, Germany has received a derogation to sample this fishery (ref. Ares(2010)512785 of 16/08/2010).

III C 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

not relevant

III C 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

Source	Message	Follow-up
RCM LDF 2011 recommendation	To implement a joint observer program in the fishery of small pelagic in the CECAF area during the years 2012 and 2013.	This agreement, with Germany as participant, was concluded in 2011. It was recently extended to 2014-2015.
RCM LDF 2012	(no relevant recommendations)	
RCM LDF 2013	RCM LDF recommends to renew a joint observer program in the pelagic trawl fishery for small pelagic species in the CECAF area for another two years period.	The multilateral agreement was recently extended to 2014-2015, with Germany being one of the signers.
RCM LDF 2013	RCM LDF recommends the implementation of the multilateral agreement on a joint sampling program of fisheries activity in the SPRMFO area	A draft agreement will be discussed at the next RCM LDF (June 2014), where Germany will participate.

III C 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No actions necessary.

III D RECREATIONAL FISHERIES

III D BALTIC SEA

III D 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

Cod

The German marine recreational data collection program follows a multiannual multi-stage survey design (for further information, see Strehlow *et al.*, 2012). An off-site survey (mail-diary) is used to estimate effort. On-site, a stratified random sample of access points and days is used to estimate catch rates (CPUE). The sampling protocol covers the entire year. Length distributions of recreational catches are collected by onboard measurements of charter vessels trips. Commercial/survey length-weight relationships and age-length keys were used for conversion of recreational catch numbers to biomass and length at age.

The planned and achieved sampling is summarized in the following tables.

The table below compares the number of samples planned with the number of samples realized and explains the reasons for the shortfalls. In addition, the numbers of interviewed anglers are given.

Shore angling and wading				
No. of samples planned	No. of samples achieved	Deviation to planned sampling	Reason(s) for shortfalls	No. of anglers interviewed
84	84	0		411
Boat, charter boat angling, trolling				
192	240	+48	The oversampling is a result of on-board sampling of charter boats to obtain length distributions	3008

The table below provides the numbers of samples and length measurements of cod from charter vessel sampling.

Sample Type	Samples	Harvest n	Release n
Boat, charter boat angling, trolling	44	2236	1366

A nationwide telephone screening survey was planned and funding secured in June 2013. The nationwide screener of 50.000 households will be followed by a 1-year telephone-diary recall survey and quarterly contacts. This survey will estimate catch and effort for the entire German marine recreational fishery in the Baltic Sea and started in May 2014. Survey results will allow cross-checking the results of the multiannual intercept survey concerning data quality and precision. It will further deliver new effort estimates for a number of target species and fishing modes as well as capture the socio-economic importance of the marine recreational sector.

Marine recreational fisheries surveys conducted by MS revealed that the recreational fishery removes considerable amounts of biomass from the western Baltic cod stock (ICES, 2010; ICES, 2011; Sparrevohn & Storr-Paulsen, 2012; Strehlow *et al.*, 2012). Recreational harvest of western Baltic cod in 2010 accounted for 25% of the total landings (commercial landings + recreational harvest). Due to the large impact of the marine recreational fishery, recreational fisheries data were included into the western Baltic cod stock assessment in 2013. MS covered by this decision are Germany, Denmark and Sweden. The longest available time series of recreational fisheries including biological data is from

Germany. Accordingly, German data were included in the assessment. In a next step, Danish and Swedish data will follow; ICES WGRFS is coordinating the regional sampling efforts.

A pilot study to estimate the survival of caught and released cod in the western Baltic recreational fisheries was carried out in 2012 (Weltersbach and Strehlow, 2013). The goals of this pilot study were (i) to estimate the immediate and delayed post-release mortality rate of undersized cod, (ii) to examine factors affecting survival and (iii) to investigate the effects of catch-and-release (physical condition and behaviour in the cages) on cod.

The adjusted survival rates for angled cod ranged from 100.0 to 72.7% (overall mean 88.8% $\pm$ 22.0%). Our findings suggest that a substantial amount of recreationally released cod survive and thus cannot be classified as removals from the western Baltic cod stock. Overall, this study is an important step to increase the precision of the recreational cod biomass removals, to improve the future stock management of western Baltic cod, and ensure that the recreational fishery is in accordance with the objectives of the CFP.

Finally, the list of access points was revised and updated. Fishing modes were consolidated into three categories (boat/beach/charter boat) to reduce variance and improve accuracy. Avidity, expenditure and demographic data were included.

Salmon

The development of the trolling fishery for salmon around the Island of Rügen was observed. In recent years, this trolling fishery has rapidly expanded attracting mainly non-resident anglers. Although the main season covers only two months, estimates range from 6-8000 individuals removed by the recreational fishery.

In 2013, the first contact were made with the stakeholders representing the recreational salmon fishery and mailings were provided to the German boat angling association to gain support.

A pilot study is planned for 2014 to estimate recreational removals. Furthermore, various biological data (e.g. length, weight, age) will be collected and genetic (stock structure analysis) investigations are planned.

In 2013, a pelagic longliner was sampled to obtain biological data (length, weight, scales (age), tissue samples (genetics)) for future use and developments of weight-length and length-age keys.

Sea trout

In 2013, a pilot study was initiated. During the spring fishing season, a bus route survey was conducted from a stratified random sample of fishing sites, days, fishing time and sampling direction to recruit panelist and collect biological data (length, weight, scales and tissue samples). Altogether, 300 panelists were recruited for a 1-year diary and recalled quarterly to remind them to fill in the provided diary and provide quarterly expenditure data. Next to catch data, the survey will provide detailed economic data. Avid anglers were supplied with a toolkit to collect scale (age) and tissue samples (genetics) since there is no commercial data available for this species.

Eels

A pilot study was carried out to estimate eel harvests of the recreational passive gear fishery. The 1-year telephone-diary-recall survey was implemented in August 2011 and ended in July 2012. The panel consisted of 180 recreational passive gear fishermen of which 120 were recruited from the Baltic Sea across 7 strata. Participants were recalled every 4 months to remind them to fill in the provided diary. Survey results are still not available since the data are very inconsistent. However, preliminary analysis showed that eel catches from the recreational passive gear fishery are negligible.

In 2013, funding was secured for a nationwide telephone screening survey followed by a 1-year telephone diary survey. This survey will provide eel data of the recreational rod and line fishery.

Sharks

Derogation requested, as there is no recreational fishery for sharks in German Baltic Sea waters or from German vessels.

III D 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

An analysis of the estimated annual recreational cod harvest data by means of bootstrapping analysis (95% confidence interval, $\alpha = 0.025$) estimated a relative deviation between 14.9% as minimum and 17.3% as maximum for the harvest in numbers from 2005-2010.

Year	Minimum estimates ($\alpha = 0.025$)	Maximum estimates ($\alpha = 0.025$)
2005	-13.3	12.6
2006	-11.8	12.1
2007	-10.7	12.5
2008	-14.9	17.3
2009	-12.2	13.2
2010	-11.7	12.9

No bootstrap was calculated for the 2012/2013 estimates, but it would be expected to fall into the same boundaries as in the previous years (see table above). For an overview of statistical estimators from effort and CPUE data, see Strehlow *et al.* (2012).

During ICES WGRFS 2013, the scorecard system to evaluate the quality of recreational catch estimates was further developed – building on experiences from WKACCU, WKPICS, etc. This included the development of guidelines for best practice in recreational sampling schemes together with a set of guiding questions. The German multiannual on-site survey was evaluated using the set of questions and no major concerns for bias were detected. The off-site survey was evaluated accordingly and several bias issues identified. Accordingly, a new nationwide telephone screening survey and associated 1-year telephone diary survey with quarterly recalls was designed and funding secured in 2013. The survey was launched in May 2014.

At the end of 2013, all regional survey agents were visited and an on-site quality control of their work performed.

III D 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

Source	Message	Follow-up
ICES WGBAST 2013	Catch estimates of the recreational salmon and sea trout fisheries are defective or completely missing from part of the countries. Studies to estimate these catches should be carried out.	Germany has initiated a recreational sea trout survey in 2013 to estimate recreational removals. First results will be available in 2014. Furthermore, the survey was extended to collect biological data, such as length and weights; scales for age reading and tissue samples for genetic stock structure analyses. Stakeholder involvement with the recreational salmon fishery was initiated in 2013 to gain stronger support for a planned salmon survey in 2014.

III D 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

see section III.D.1 Baltic Sea

III D NORTH SEA AND EASTERN ARCTIC

III D 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

Cod

According to a pilot study from 2004-2006 (Schultz *et al.* 2007), German recreational fishery cod catches in the North Sea have no impact on the stock. Annual cod catches from charter vessels amount to approximately 30 t. Other fishing techniques (e.g. boat angling, shore angling) as well as the recreational passive gear fishery have no further relevance concerning cod catches. A second pilot study was carried out in August 2011 to verify these findings. Preliminary results show that there has been no change and that catches have even declined due to a decline in the charter boat fishery.

A nationwide telephone screening survey was planned and funding secured in June 2013. The nationwide screener of 50.000 households will be followed by a 1-year telephone-diary recall survey and quarterly recalls. This survey will estimate catch and effort for the entire German marine recreational fishery in the North Sea and started in May 2014. It will further deliver new effort estimates for a number of target species and fishing modes as well as capture the socio-economic importance of the marine recreational sector.

Eels

A pilot study was carried out to estimate eel harvests of the recreational passive gear fishery. The 1-year telephone-diary-recall survey was implemented in August 2011 and ended in July 2012. The panel consisted of 180 recreational passive gear fishermen of which 60 were recruited from the North Sea across two strata. Participants were recalled every 4 months to remind them to fill in the provided diary.

See above for cod

Sharks

A pilot study was carried out in August 2011 to estimate recreational shark catches in the German North Sea. Preliminary findings show that recreational shark catches are marginal and have no impact on the stocks.

See above for cod

III D 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

not relevant

III D 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

see above III D 3 Baltic Sea

III D 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

not relevant

III D NORTH ATLANTIC

No recreational fisheries in this region.

III D LONG DISTANCE FISHERIES

No recreational fisheries in this region.

III E BIOLOGICAL STOCK-RELATED VARIABLES

GENERAL REMARKS

Several reasons imply that the collection of métier-related variables (section III.C) as well as the collection of stock-related variables (section III.E) should be handled at the same time in the German NP. Sampling-at-sea is an optimal strategy to reach this goal, due to

- the necessity to sample on board of freezer trawlers and trawlers with processing units. This is the case in the fishery for pelagic species, as these are landed in frozen packages. The same is true for landings of demersal species from waters off Norway and Greenland which are landed as partly processed products.
- monitoring discarding. It would be highly ineffective not to sample the landings and other biological data at the same time.
- providing the possibility to sample at the same time landings, discards and to take otoliths and samples for sex and maturity.
- discards of species listed in Appendix VII of Commission Decision 2010/93/EU as by-catch in fisheries directed towards other species can only be recorded on board.
- 71%, 61%, 62% and 68% of the landings in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 respectively, from stocks that have to be sampled occurred in foreign countries, which confirms the situation in recent years.

Due to the reasons mentioned above, Germany prefers in most cases to sample catches **at sea** (especially in the North Sea and North Atlantic).

The status of a scientific observer on board of a German fishing vessel still is a guest status. Article 11(3) of Council Regulation 199/2008 stipulates that samplers shall be accepted onboard, which did however not improve this situation. The possibility for biological sampling depends on the hospitality of ship owners and companies. Based on the present situation, random sampling of the fleet is still difficult and might be not optimal in future (even if a new legal basis for onboard sampling is in place), since there will remain some excuses to refuse an observer.

Data are gathered in connection with sampling of commercial sources (observer trips, harbour and self sampling) and on surveys. Data are sampled on a yearly basis. Table III.E.3 provides an overview over the species by region/fishing ground/area/stock that were sampled during 2013. Note that for some species (e.g. redfish and Greenland halibut), otoliths were only taken but not read due to lacking consensus on age reading methodology and validity.

The indications of the planned minimum numbers of individuals to be measured for the different variables are based on experiences with the German sampling scheme and survey catches until 2008. Even with the possibilities to adjust the numbers within the updates for the programme it is not always possible to predict accurately if these planned numbers are reachable and realistic. In the following the most common reasons for over- and undersampling are listed:

Reasons for oversampling:

For most of the fish stocks and brown shrimp, the number of length and age measurements well exceeded the planned and requested minimum number of measurements. As most of the measurements are taken on observer trips, the reason for "oversampling" is often that all fish of a once randomly chosen subsample have to be measured in order to calculate the retained and discarded fraction of the whole catch. Another reason is that once an observer is onboard, the entire trip is being sampled (i.e. sampling does not stop after a few hauls or fishing days, but lasts until the end of that trip). This additional sampling onboard is done without any additional costs. However, minor additional costs occur in the home laboratory in form of additional staff time for sampling processing. The sometimes very high numbers for weight@length (=individual weights) are taken on observer trips without additional costs in order to get reliable weight-length relationships.

Reasons for undersampling:

In several cases, the planned sample sizes have not been achieved. In some cases this is due to the

general rule for observers to collect stock-based variables of 12 fish per length class and area. If only very few length classes occur during a fishing trip, this rule can lead to undersampling in terms of the planned numbers. However, note that Germany has provided sufficient length measurements and age samples to the relevant ICES working groups for assessment purposes.

III E BALTIC SEA

III E 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

The required, planned and achieved sampling is summarized in Table III.E.3. General reasons for oversampling are explained above under “General remarks”. Oversampling did not cause significant additional eligible costs.

Germany is obliged to sample seven stocks in the Baltic Sea.

See Annex 2 for a description of the European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) data collection in German freshwaters.

Clupea harengus SD22-24 IIIa: This species was sampled according to the plan.

Gadus morhua SD22-24, SD25-32: Baltic cod was sampled according to the plan.

Limanda limanda SD22-32: Achieved dab sampling exceeded the plan. The planned number of 200 individuals was set precautionarily low due to limitations in age reading capacity. However, the age reading capacity in the institute increased recently, allowing an increase in sampling intensity. Increased stock size led to increased sample sizes in BITS surveys (*cf.* ICES WGBFAS 2012). Moreover, since trawlers targeting Western Baltic cod had difficulties to find cod in quarter 3 and 4, fishermen shifted towards flatfish so that our trips sampled more dab.

Platichthys flesus SD22-32: Flounder was sampled in excess due to conservative planning. The increased age reading capacity of staff allowed for increased sampling intensity. The by-catch sampling in the cod fishery contributed largely to the high number of fish sampled. Moreover, since trawlers targeting Western Baltic cod had difficulties to find cod in quarter 3 and 4, fishermen shifted towards flatfish so that our trips sampled more flounder.

Sprattus sprattus SD22-32: Baltic sprat was sampled slightly in excess due to conservative planning.

Sander lucioperca IIIId: No pikeperch were sampled during 2013, as no FWS metiers were sampled. A derogation for Germany to sample freshwater species metiers is in force since 2012.

Additional sampling:

Flatfish species such as brill, turbot and plaice were sampled without obligation within the German DCF. Specimens of these species are obtained as by-catch from the commercial cod fishery and from survey samples. Biological parameters from these species are length, weight, age, sex and maturity. The sampling of all flatfish species in the Baltic Sea is justified with respect to the HELCOM and ICES initiatives on stock assessment strategies for Baltic flatfish (WKFLABA 2010 and 2012, WGBFAS 2013, WKBALFLAT 2013). Germany samples plaice, given its status as a G1 species with landings not reflecting the catch because quota restrictions force the German fishers to discard significant amounts. Germany received a derogation to sample freshwater species from 2012 onwards.

Salmo salar SD 25: Germany initiated a first harbour sampling for salmon caught in SD25 (LLS_ANA_0_0_0) to obtain biological data. Next to length and weight measurements, scales and tissue samples were collected for age reading and genetic stock structure analysis, respectively. This sampling scheme is closely linked to German recreational survey efforts.

III E 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

A trial of the COST package within the AR2009 indicated that the analytical calculation of CVs was not feasible. To our knowledge, no new routines facilitating the implementation of COST for the fulfilment of the DCF requirements were released since April 2010.

Therefore, the precision were calculated by R routines (see Annex 3) using the COST/FishFrame data structure as basis. CV calculations were only done for the commercial sampling data. Due to some compatibility problems with the COST format, not all precision estimates could be calculated. As the calculation of CVs has currently no other justification than only to present them in the AR without any other analysis, Germany will develop new routines when precisions are revised and standardised calculation methods for all MS are recommended within the new EU MAP.

III E 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

Source	Message	Follow-up
RCM Baltic 2012 (revised from RCM Baltic 2010)	Current sampling level of cod in the Baltic recommended to be analysed. Therefore, it is agreed that the data must be available in the RDB-FishFrame at latest 1st October 2012.	Data for cod (sample data 2009 to 2012) will be completely uploaded prior to the deadline (July 2013) and available for RCM Baltic 2013.
RCM Baltic 2013	No recommendation on a regional or national level was formulated by RCM Baltic 2013	No follow-up needed
WGBAST 2013	The amount of undersized salmon in longline fisheries and in the catch of other fisheries (e.g. pelagic trawling and coastal trapnet fishing) should be evaluated. When the salmon fishing is closed in the midstream of the fishing season as a result of quota fill up and fishing for the other species continues with the same gears, amounts of salmon that are released back to sea should be evaluated.	Germany conducted a harbor sample of a pelagic longliner fishing for salmon in SD 25. During this trip no undersized salmon were caught, only few individuals were lost due to seal damage.

III E 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Achieved sampling intensities higher than the planned values are explained above.

For statistical reasons, the achieved sampling intensities cannot be considered too high. The occurrence of oversampling rather reflects conservative planning.

III E NORTH SEA AND EASTERN ARCTIC

III E 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

Table III.E.3 provides an overview on planned and achieved numbers of fish for age, weight, sex and maturity. **Reasons for oversampling and undersampling are explained in the beginning of this chapter under “General remarks”.** Germany was obliged to sample 14 stocks in this region, after applying the exemption rules for stock-related variables (Commission Decision 2010/93/EU, chapter III.B.B2.5).

See Annex 2 for a description of the European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) data collection in German freshwaters.

Skagerrak and Kattegat (ICES Division IIIa):

Pollachius virens: According to Commission Decision 2010/93/EU, saithe in the Skagerrak has to be sampled. Catches in the Skagerrak, however, are belonging to the same saithe stock as in the northern North Sea targeted by the same fishing metier. As fishing activities in the Skagerrak occur only irregularly, the stock was sampled mainly in the North Sea. Therefore, sampling numbers are merged for ICES areas IIIa, IVabc and VIId.

North Sea and Eastern Channel (ICES Sub-area IV and Division VIId):

The planned numbers for *Pollachius virens* and *Gadus morhua* for weight@age, maturity@length, maturity@age, sex-ratio@length and sex-ratio@age were too large and could not be fulfilled. Also, maturity@length and maturity@age numbers for *Limanda limanda* could not be fulfilled. Usually, these parameters are collected on surveys and not by commercial sampling. The numbers of samples on surveys are lower than on commercial sampling trips.

Eastern Arctic (ICES Sub-areas I and II): Entries for weight@age for *Gadus morhua*, *Melanogrammus aeglefinus* and *Pollachius virens* and for maturity@length, maturity@age, sex-ratio@length and sex-ratio@age for *Melanogrammus aeglefinus* were accidentally listed in the NP 2011-2013 Table III.E.3 and were deleted. These variables for the listed species are never collected during observer trips in ICES I-II, as the ICES AFWG receives sufficient data from Norway and Russia, which are the main fishing nations in this area. This was stated in the 2011 AR and accepted by the evaluators.

Additional sampling:

For the North Sea and Eastern Arctic region, several stocks were sampled by Germany despite there is no obligation by the DCF rules for stock-related variables to do so. However, sampling data are used regularly for assessment purposes in the ICES HAWG, WGWIDE and WGNSSK, respectively. Furthermore, all stocks are targeted by fishing metiers which have to be sampled by Germany. These stocks are highlighted in green colour in Table III.E.3: *Clupea harengus* in ICES Sub-areas I and II; *Melanogrammus aeglefinus*, *Pleuronectes platessa* and *Solea solea* in the North Sea and Eastern Channel.

The planned sample size for *Clupea harengus* in ICES I/II has not been reached. In 2013, data were collected by self-sampling of the fishery. In the sample, there were only very few length classes occurring. Following the rule to collect stock-based variables of 12 fish per length class and area, this rule can lead to undersampling in terms of the planned numbers.

Note that Germany has provided sufficient length measurements and age samples to the relevant ICES working groups for assessment purposes.

III E 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

A trial of the COST package within the AR2009 indicated that the analytical calculation of CVs was not feasible. To our knowledge, no new routines facilitating the implementation of COST for the fulfilment of the DCF requirements were released since April 2010.

Therefore, the precision were calculated by R routines (see Annex 3) using the COST/FishFrame data structure as basis. CV calculations were only done for the commercial sampling data. Due to some compatibility problems with the COST format not all precision estimates could be calculated. As the calculation of CVs has currently no other justification than only to present them in the AR without any other analysis, Germany will develop new routines when precisions are revised and standardised calculation methods for all MS are recommended within the new EU MAP.

III E 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

Source	Message	Follow-up
RCM NS&EA 2012 Recommendation	Where it was identified that bilateral agreement is required, according to the rules agreed upon at the RCM NS&EA 2011 and endorsed by the LM8 and STECF 11-19, MS are requested to establish or update a bilateral agreement on sampling of landings abroad. MS to evaluate the need for such an agreement based on the overview provided by the RCM NS&EA.	Germany regularly monitors the need for bilateral agreements and acts accordingly. Bilateral agreements with DK, NL and UK are in place.
RCM NS&EA 2013	(no relevant recommendations)	

III E 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

See at the beginning of this chapter under “General remarks” and paragraph III C4 for the North Sea area.

III E NORTH ATLANTIC AND NAFO SA1-2

III E 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

Table III.E.3 provides an overview on planned and achieved numbers of fish for age, weight, sex and maturity. **Reasons for oversampling and undersampling are explained in the beginning of this chapter under “General remarks”.**

Stocks in the NAFO areas:[^]

Reinhardtius hippoglossoides. The under-sampling for age of Greenland halibut was due to the fact that the observer was not allowed to take otoliths because of the reduction of product value by cutting the fish. Every part of the body of Greenland halibut is commercially utilised. Even the heads are sold separately to Asian markets. As there is still no agreement on the methods of age reading for the use of age reading in the assessment, Germany did not insist to take otoliths.

Gadus morhua. Due to time restrictions and quality assurance during the fish processing, it was not possible to take maturity and sex sample for the observer. However, 73% of the planned number for maturity and sex sampling was reached on surveys.

In accordance with the international agreement between Greenland and the EU, additional samples (20 cod per fishing day incl. weight and sex) were taken by the German observer for the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources.

Additional sampling:

Three stocks were sampled by Germany despite there is no obligation by the DCF rules for stock related variables to do so. However, sampling data are used regularly for assessment purposes at ICES WGWIDE. Furthermore, all stocks are targeted by fishing métiers which must be sampled by Germany. These stocks are highlighted in green colour in Table III.E.1: *Micromesistius poutassou*, *Scomber scombrus*, *Trachurus trachurus*.

However, due to logistical reasons, a fishing trip directed on blue whiting could not be observed. Therefore, length measurements and age samples could only be derived from by-catches in other fisheries and the planned numbers of measurements were not reached.

III E 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

A trial of the COST package within the AR2009 indicated that the analytical calculation of CVs was not feasible. To our knowledge, no new routines facilitating the implementation of COST for the fulfilment of the DCF requirements were released since April 2010.

Therefore, the precision were calculated by R routines (see Annex 3) using the COST/FishFrame data structure as basis. CV calculations were only done for the commercial sampling data. Due to some compatibility problems with the COST format not all precision estimates could be calculated. As the calculation of CVs has currently no other justification than only to present them in the AR without any other analysis, Germany will develop new routines when precisions are revised and standardised calculation methods for all MS are recommended within the new EU MAP.

III E 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

Source	Message	Follow-up
RCM NA 2012 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends MS put in place bilateral agreements for sampling of landings abroad where applicable.	Germany regularly monitors the need for bilateral agreements and acts accordingly. A bilateral agreement with NL is in place.
RCM NA 2013	(no relevant recommendations)	

III E 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

See at the beginning of this chapter under “General remarks” and paragraph III C4 for the North Atlantic area.

III E LONG DISTANCE FISHERIES

III E 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

Table III.E.3 provides an overview on required, planned and achieved numbers of fish for age, weight, sex and maturity. Germany was obliged to sample two stocks after applying the exemption rules for stock-related variables (Commission Decision 2010/93/EU, chapter III.B.B2.5) for other regions, namely: *Sardinella aurita* and *Trachurus* spp.

Germany had received a derogation to sample these stocks (ref. Ares(2010)512785 of 16/08/2010). Furthermore, a multilateral sampling agreement for the CECAF area was reached in 2011 (see Annex 4) and a sampling plan implemented from 2012 onwards. However, no German fishery was carried out neither in the CECAF area nor in the South Pacific during 2013. Therefore, no sampling of the fishery was possible.

III E 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

not relevant

III E 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

No relevant RCM LDF recommendations in 2011, 2012 and 2013.

III E 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

not relevant

III F TRANSVERSAL VARIABLES

III F 1 CAPACITY

III F 1 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

All results achieved as planned, no deviation.

III F 1 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

As all capacity data are derived from the fleet register, which by definition represents the population, it is not meaningful to apply any data quality issues in the context of the DCF.

III F 1 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

No recommendations.

III F 1 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No shortfalls.

III F 2 EFFORT

III F 2 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

All results achieved as planned, no deviation.

III F 2 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

As all effort data for vessels > 8m are derived from the logbooks, which are to be submitted exhaustively by European legislation, it is neither required (see footnote “c” in corresponding table) nor meaningful to apply any data quality issues in the context of the DCF.

Effort data for vessels < 8m have been collected via random sampling survey. For these data, statistical characteristics have been calculated and provided in Table III.F.1.

III F 2 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

No recommendations.

III F 2 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No shortfalls.

III F 3 LANDINGS

III F 3 1 Achievements: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

All results achieved as planned, no deviation.

III F 3 2 Data quality: Results and Deviation from NP Proposal

As all landings data are derived from the sales notes, which are to be submitted exhaustively by European legislation, it is not meaningful to apply any data quality issues in the context of the DCF.

III F 3 3 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

No recommendations.

III F 3 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No shortfalls.

III G RESEARCH SURVEYS AT SEA

III G 1 ACHIEVEMENTS: RESULTS AND DEVIATION FROM NP PROPOSAL

In 2013, Germany conducted 13 surveys supported within the DCF and participated in the Atlanto-Scandian Herring Acoustic Survey conducted by Denmark, as well as the Blue Whiting Survey conducted by The Netherlands and Ireland. There were no changes in strategy or design, except when it was co-ordinated with the relevant ICES planning/working group. Of course, the number of hauls and length of hydroacoustic tracks depended on weather conditions as well as on the performance of the equipment and/or of the vessel, but were for all surveys within the range of records for the former survey years. For the number of hauls and sampling activities, refer to Table III.G.1. The following text provides a short description of all surveys carried out in 2013, with a map of the achieved sampling activities.

Note that possible small deviations from days-at-sea planned to days-at-sea achieved are – if not otherwise stated – due to minor adaptations of the 2013 vessel schedule during late 2012 and early 2013.

BALTIC SEA:

1 Baltic International Trawl Survey (BITS) in the 1st and 4th Quarter

The survey in the 1st quarter was planned from 04/02/13 to 22/02/13 with FRV “Solea” but due to technical problems it took place from 18/02/13 to 05/03/13. The survey in the 4th quarter was conducted from 23/10/13 to 08/11/13 also with FRV “Solea”. Shortfalls were due to technical problems and bad weather conditions.

Refer to Fig. III.G.1 a and b for the fishery hauls and hydrography stations conducted on the German parts of the Baltic International Trawl Survey in spring and autumn.

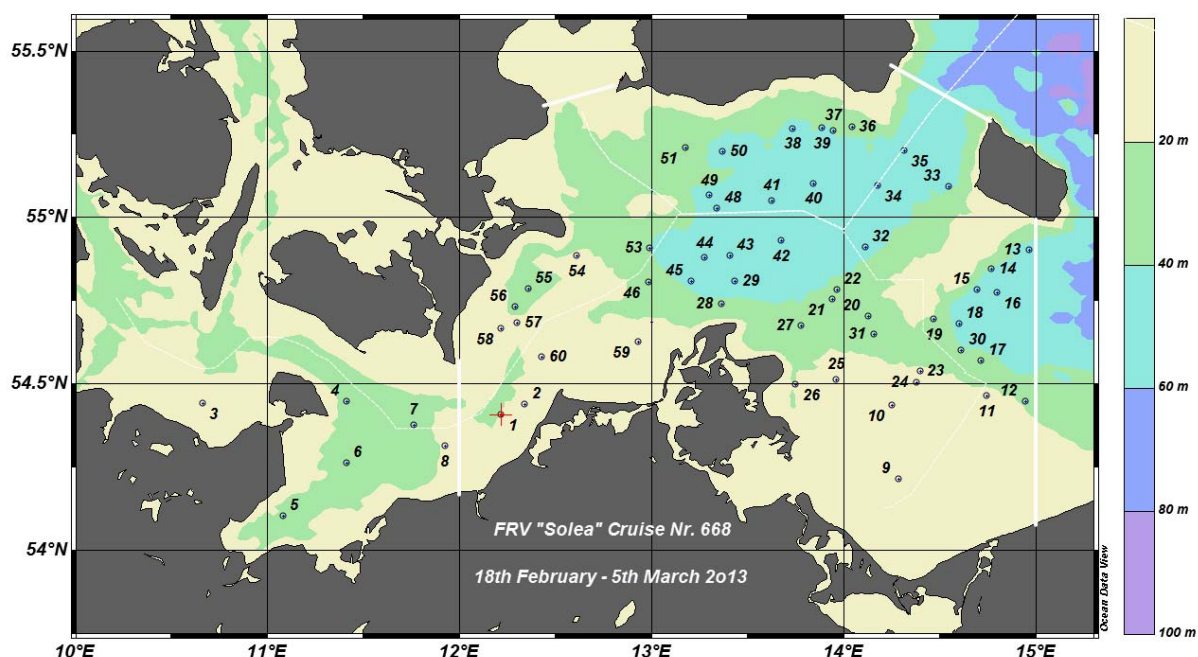


Fig. III.G.1a: Baltic International Trawl Survey – Station grid (BITS, 1st quarter 2013).

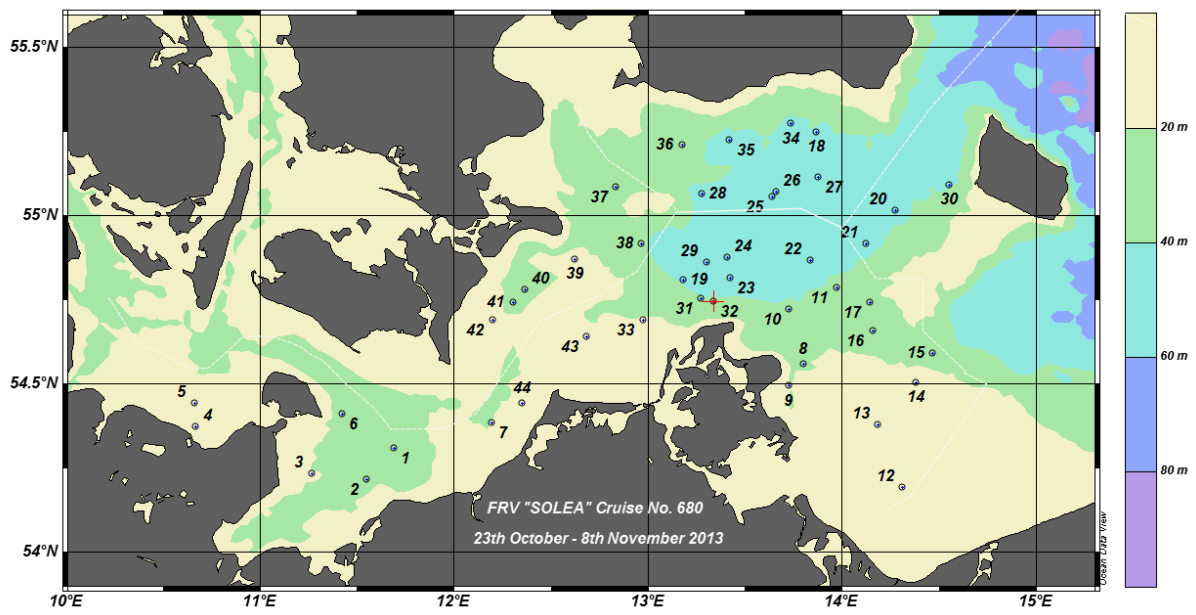


Fig. III.G.1b: Baltic International Trawl Survey – Station grid (BITS, 4th quarter 2013).

2 Baltic International Acoustic Survey

The survey took place from 30/09/13 to 18/10/13 with FRV „Solea“. Refer to Fig. III.G.2 for the cruise track and fishery stations conducted on the German part of the Baltic International Acoustic Survey (BIAS).

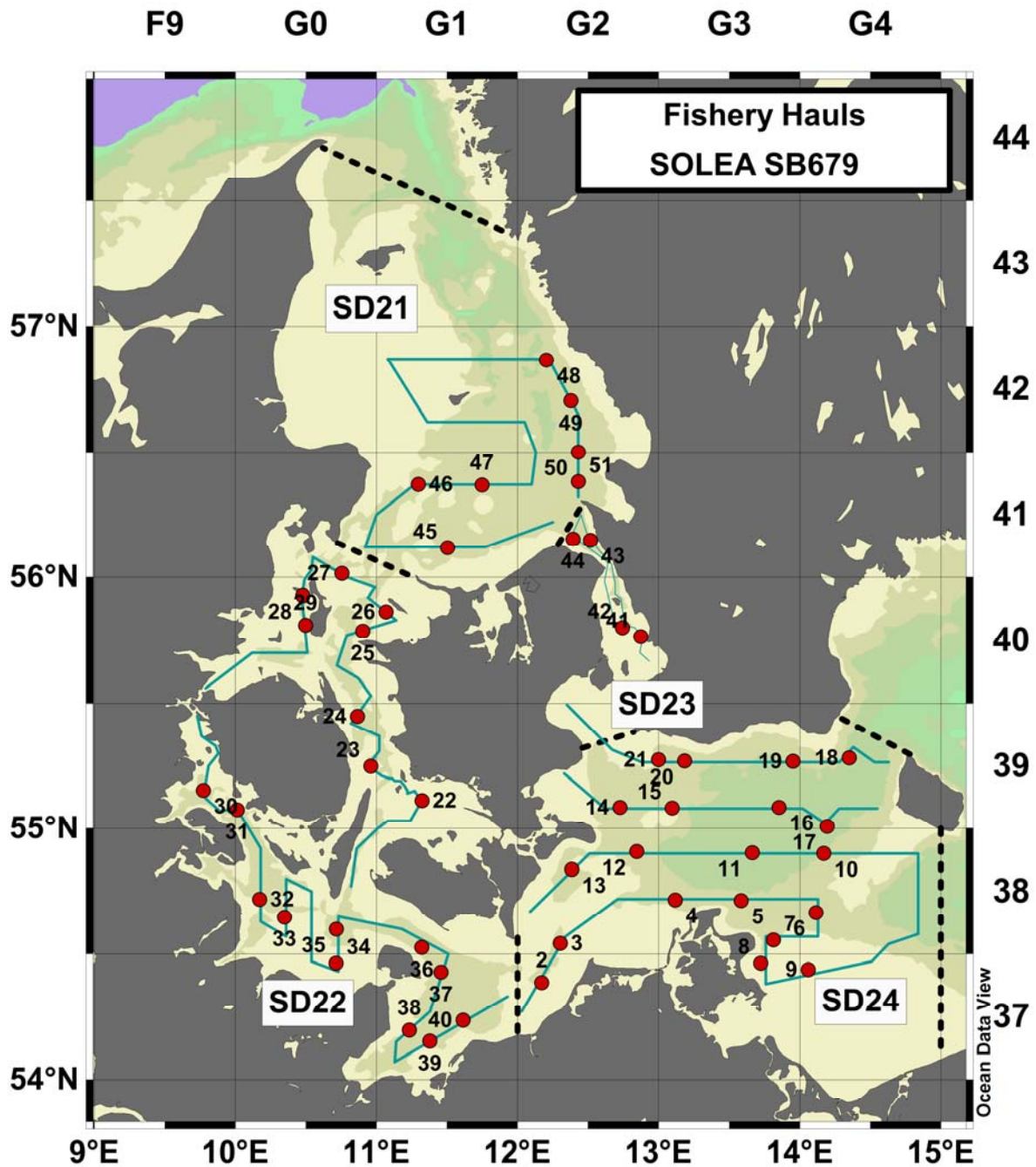


Fig. III.G.2: Cruise track (lines) and trawl positions (red dots) of FRV „SOLEA“ cruise 679 in October 2013

3 Baltic Sprat Acoustic Survey

The survey took place from 02/05/13 to 22/05/13 with FRV “SOLEA”. Refer to Fig. III.G.3 for the cruise track and trawl stations conducted on the German part of the Baltic Sprat Acoustic Survey (SPRAS). Occurring shortfalls/oversamplings were under the margin of 10%.

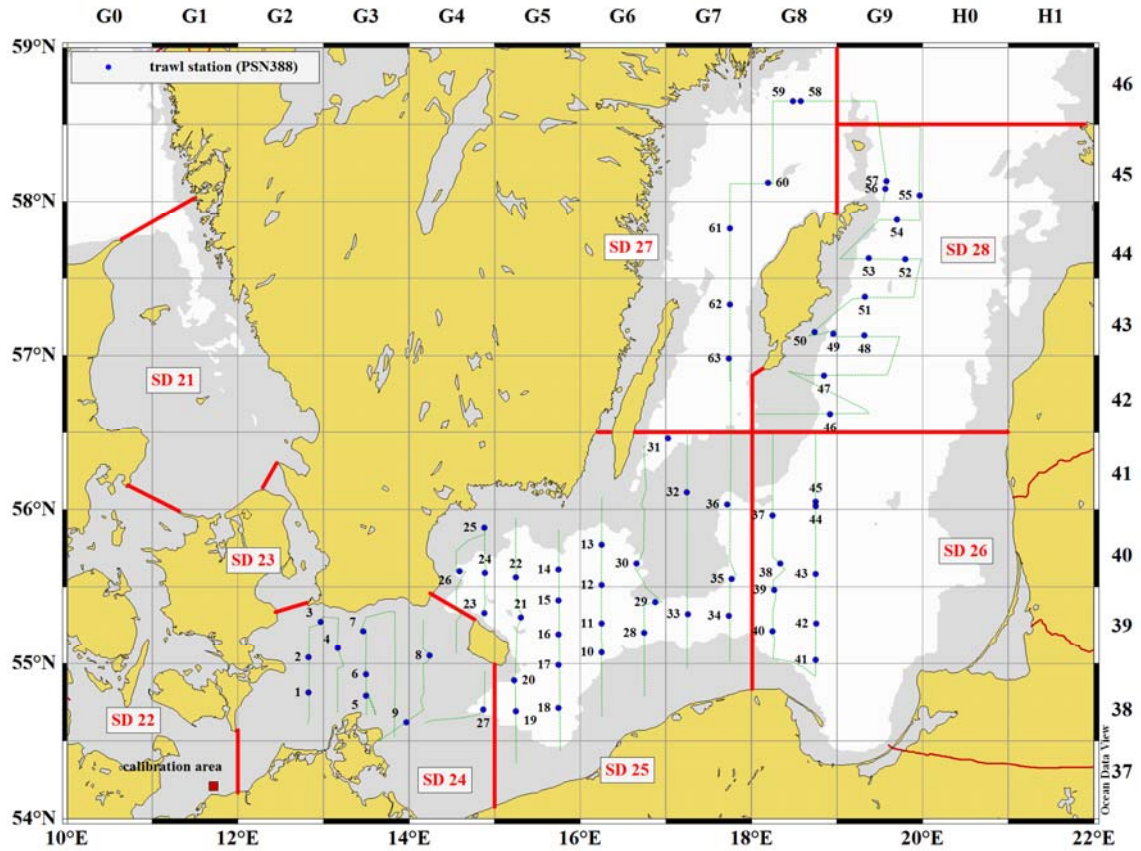


Fig. III G.3: Hydroacoustic tracks and trawl stations (Cruise No. 628 of FRV “SOLEA”, May 2013)

4 (Rügen) Herring Larvae Survey

The Rügen Herring Larvae Survey (RHLS) in the western Baltic (ICES area IIIId/ 24) took place during 16 weeks in March-June in 2013 on FRV “Clupea”. Additionally, the last week of February was included in the survey since the retreating ice cover allowed for it. Figure III.G.4 shows the survey area and station grid. 100% of the planned sampling program could be realized.

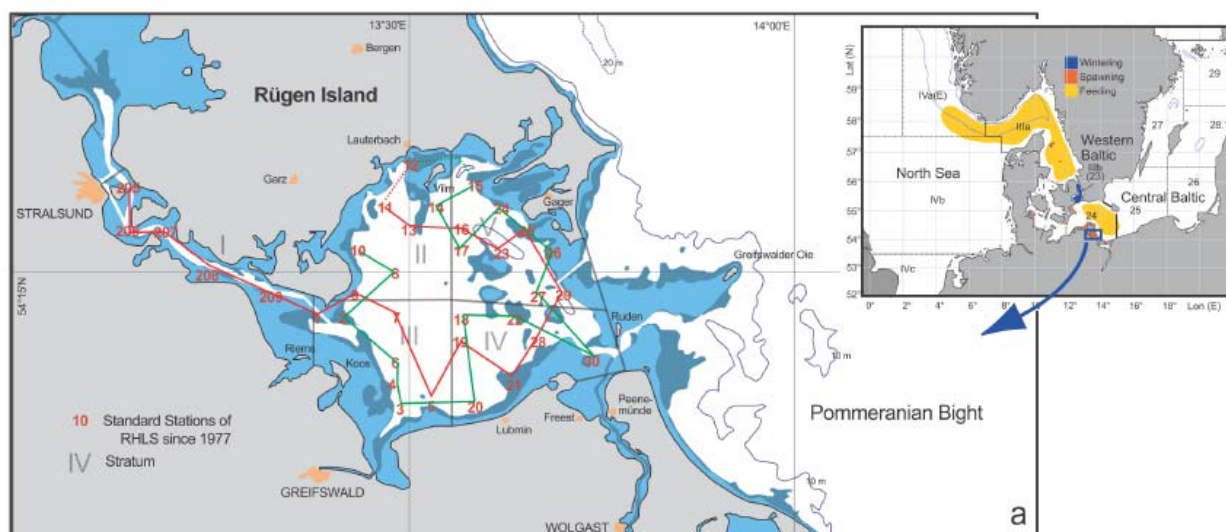


Fig. III G.4: Rügen Herring Larvae Survey in 2013. Stations for ichthyoplankton hauls and CTD casts.

NORTH SEA AND EASTERN ARCTIC:

5 International Bottom Trawl Survey (IBTS) in Quarter 1

In 2013, the survey in quarter 1 was conducted from 22/01/13 to 21/02/13 on FRV “Walther Herwig III”. Bad weather conditions over the entire survey impaired the progress of the survey. Therefore, only 65 of the planned 77 rectangles could be sampled. Please refer to Fig III.G.5 for the allocation of the fishing positions.

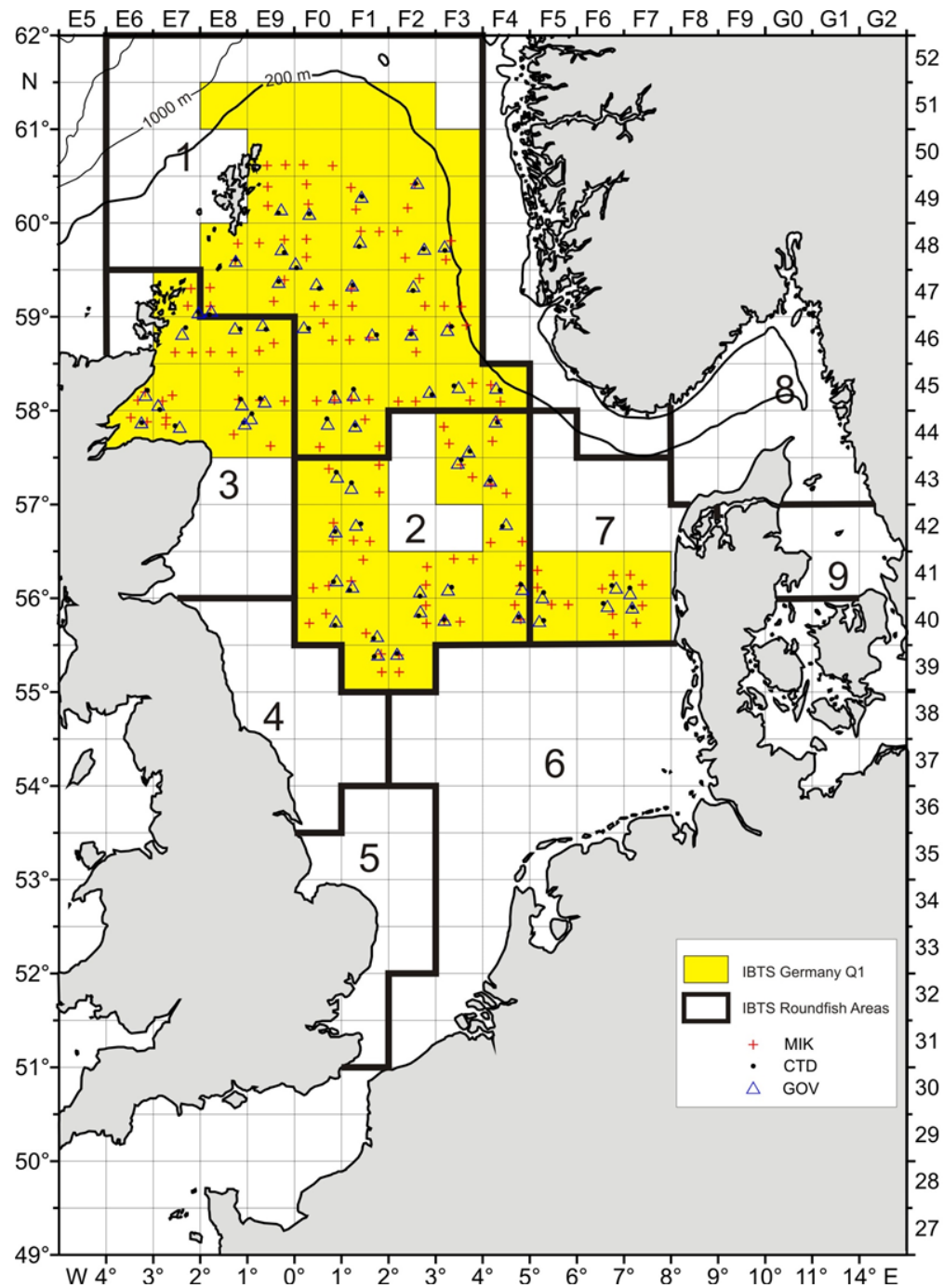


Fig. III G.5: International Bottom Trawl Survey (IBTS) 1st quarter. GOV-hauls, CTDs und MIK-stations within the 362nd “Walther Herwig III” cruise.

6 International Bottom Trawl Survey (IBTS) in Quarter 3

The IBTS survey in Quarter 3 was conducted in conjunction with a national survey from 26/07/13 to 20/08/13 on FRV “Walther Herwig III”. 9 days within this period were devoted to IBTS, the other days to a programme on national expenses (German Small-scale Bottom Trawl Survey, GSBTS). In 2013, due to a winch failure, the cruise had to be terminated before completion of the programme. Unfortunately, no other survey partner was able to conduct the remaining IBTS hauls. Please refer to Fig. III.G.6 for the cruise track of the German part of the International Bottom Trawl Survey in Quarter 3.

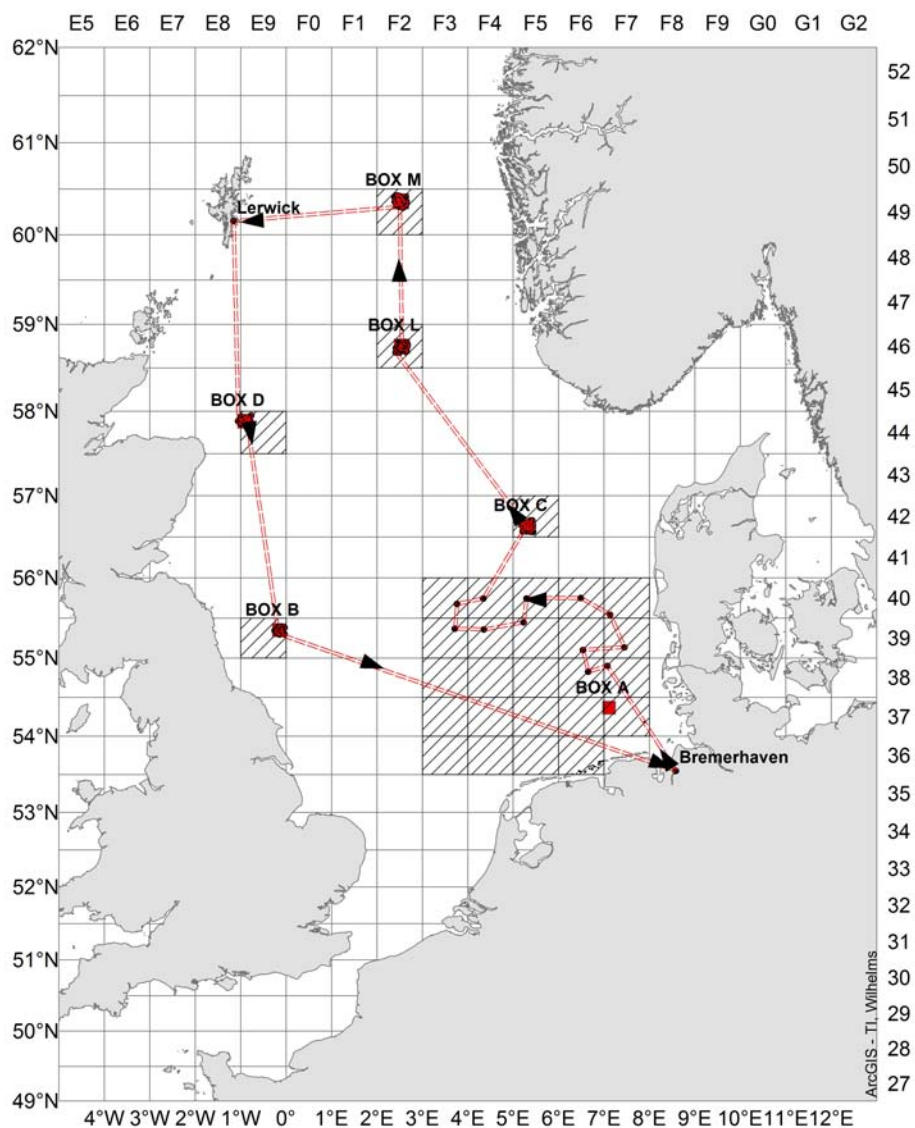


Fig. III.G.6: International Bottom Trawl Survey (IBTS) 3rd quarter: Cruise track of WH366, GSBTS and IBTS, 26/07/-20/08/2013. Hatched area: ICES rectangles sampled within the IBTS, letters: areas of investigation (Boxes) within the GSBTS.

7 North Sea Beam Trawl Survey (BTS)

In 2013, the survey took place from 17/08/13 to 31/08/13 on FRV “Solea”. Fig. III.G.7 shows the trawl positions of the German part of the North Sea Beam Trawl Survey in 2013. Shortfalls and deviations: 19 additional hauls (= 6 additional statistical rectangles) were carried out due to changed requirements of WGBEAM leading to an oversampling (143%).

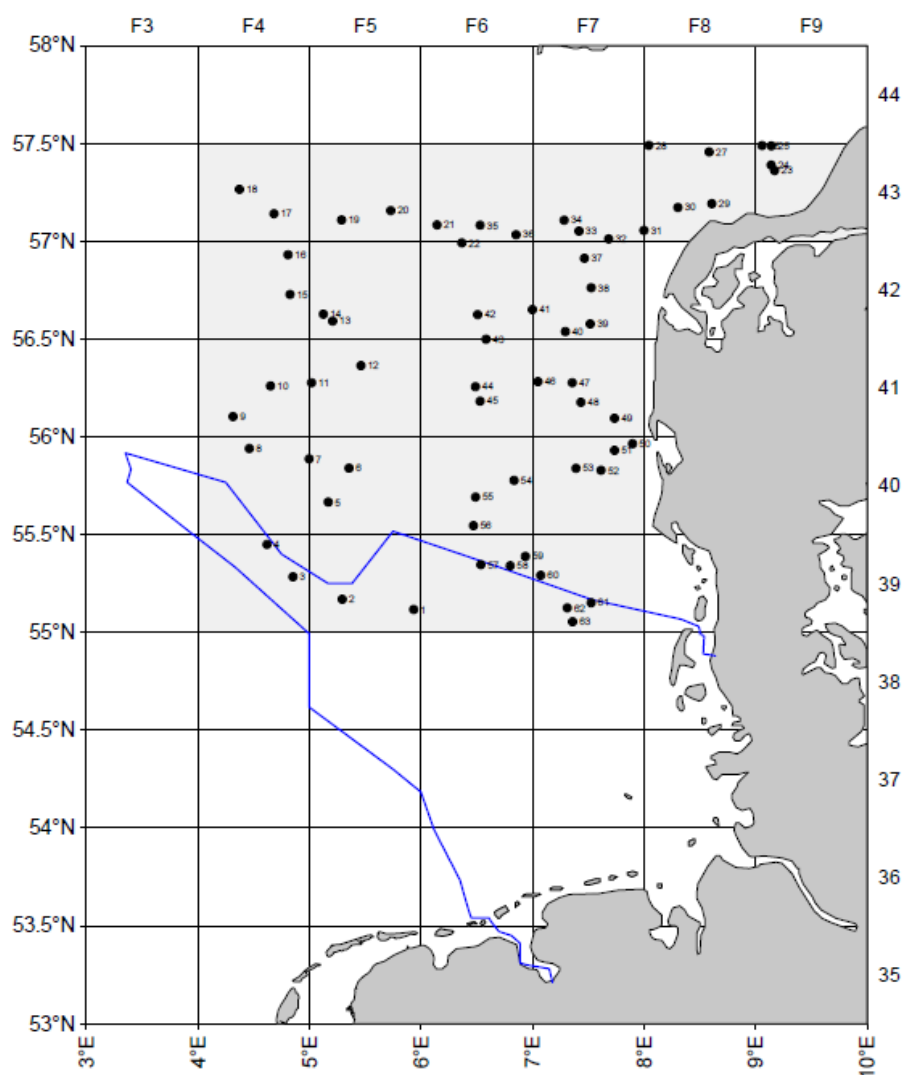


Fig. III.G.7: North Sea Beam Trawl Survey (BTS). Trawl positions 2013.

8 Demersal Young Fish Survey (DYFS)

The German part of the survey, which is conducted GER and NL, consisted of five components (short trips on chartered small fishing cutters) which took place in five different areas (Fig. III.G.8) in Sep/Oct 2013. Since the new German research vessel FRV “CLUPEA” came in operation in 2012, it was finally possible to improve the regional coverage and sampling intensity along the German coast line. In accordance with ICES WGBEAM and WGCAN, “CLUPEA” fished for 12 days in that area to improve data for the combined surveys which resulted in a considerable increase of achieved days at sea as well as hauls achieved.

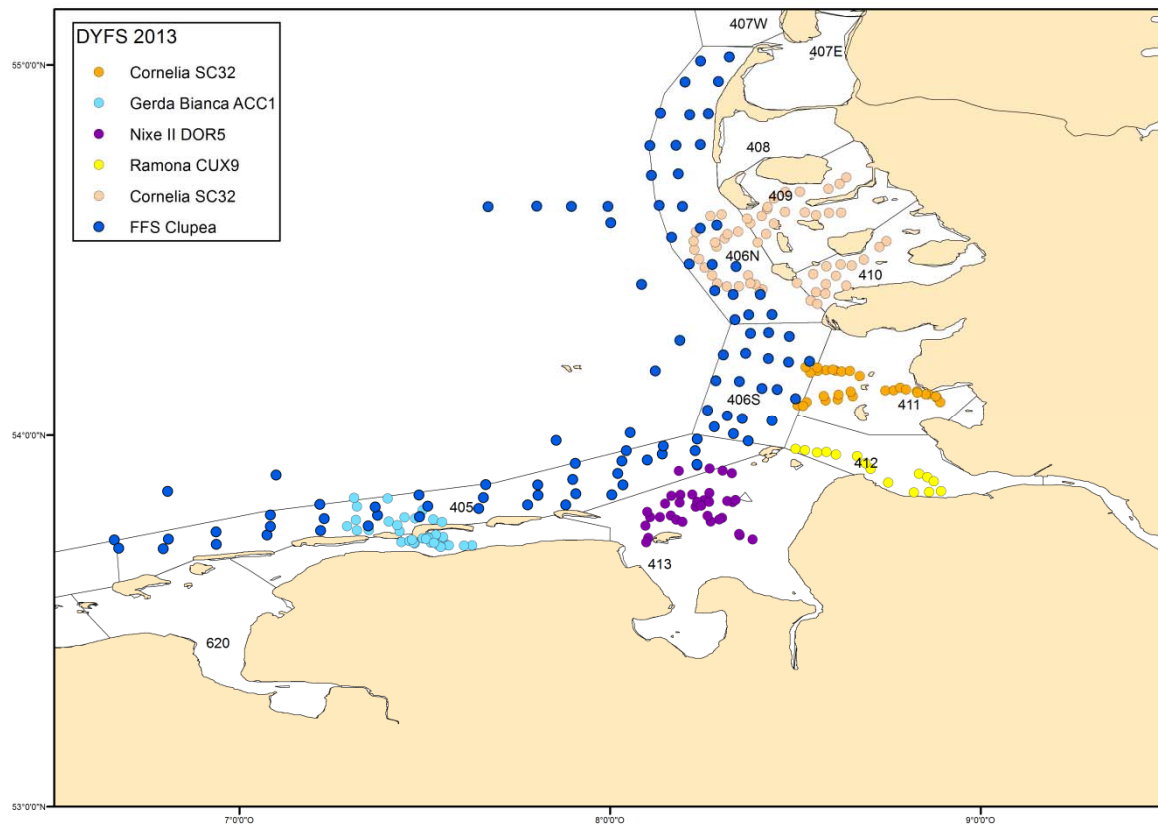


Fig. III.G.8: Stations sampled in the German DYFS 2013. Black circles: chartered vessels, red circles: FRV Clupea

9 International Ecosystem Survey in the Nordic Seas

Germany participated in this survey with one scientist and contributed to the financial share in order to support Denmark to conduct the survey. The survey took place from 30/04/13 to 28/05/13.

10 International Redfish Survey (Norwegian Sea)

Based on the decision of ICES WGRS, this survey was not conducted in 2013.

11 Herring Larvae Survey (North Sea)

The herring larvae surveys took place in the Channel area of the North Sea from 02/01/13-09/01/13 and in the Orkney/Shetland area from 18/09/13-27/09/13 on FRV “Walther Herwig III”. Fig. III.G.11 a) and b) shows the positions of the plankton hauls.

Shortfalls and deviations: Shortfalls in number of days at sea are due to bad weather conditions. However, with regard to the Working Group for International Pelagic Surveys (ICES WGIPS), only 75 stations are left to be covered in the first half of January leading to an 89% coverage. The cruise in September had to be shortened due to time constraints in the vessel's annual work plan. As a consequence, only the most important parts in the Orkney/Shetland area could be sampled in the remaining time of the survey.

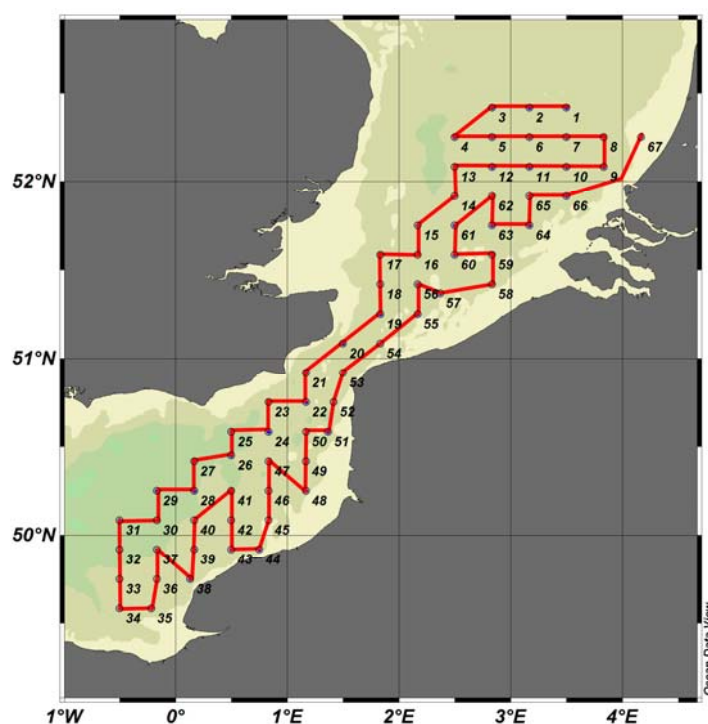


Figure III. G 11a: Cruise track WH 361 (January 2013)

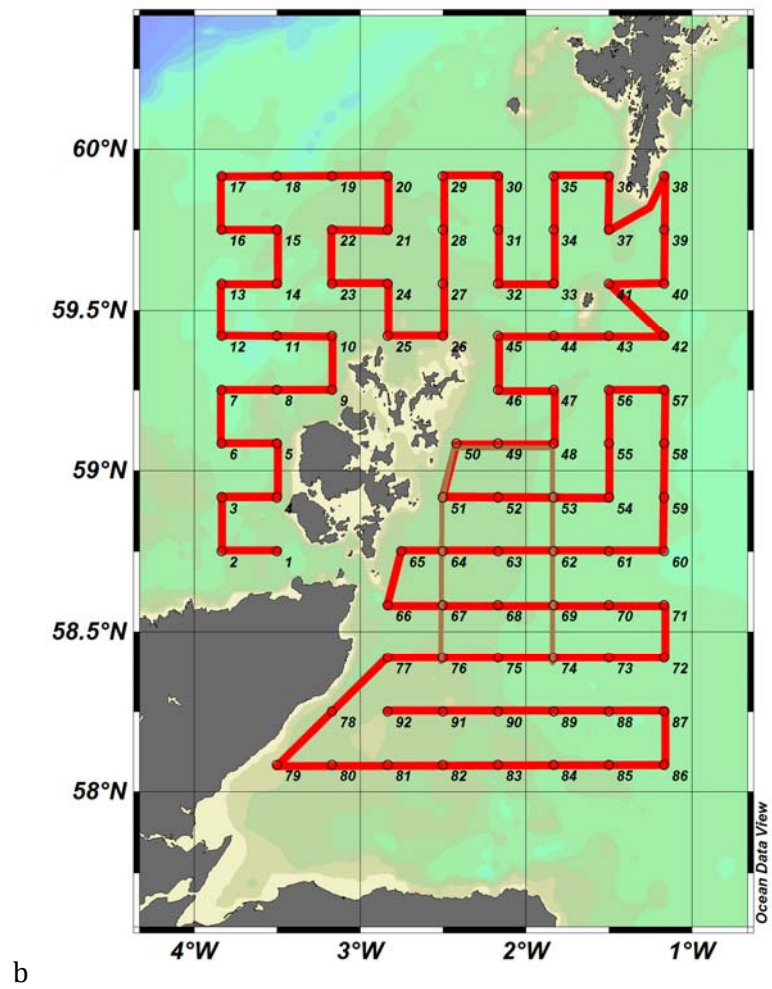


Figure III. G 11b: Cruise track WH 368 (September 2013).

12 North Sea Herring Acoustic Survey

The survey took place from 27/06/13 to 16/07/13 on FRV “Solea”. Fig III.G.12 shows the cruise track and trawl positions of the German part of the North Sea Herring Acoustic Survey. The substantial oversampling in terms of fishing hauls was due to the number of shoals found in the investigation area. Compared to the planned number of hauls, which was based on the average number of hauls from the years before, this leads to nearly a doubled number of hauls. An exact planning of these validation hauls is not possible.

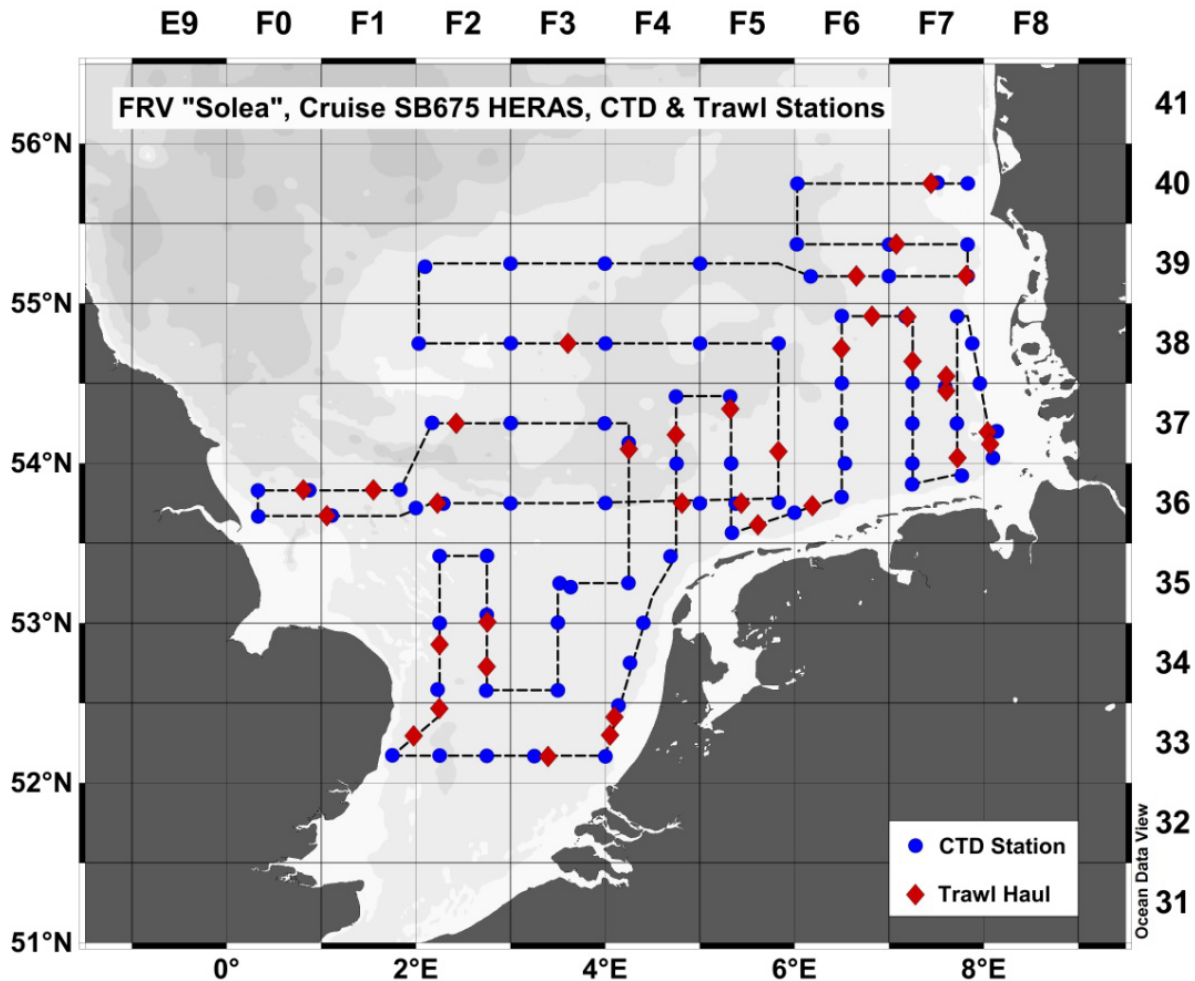


Fig. III.G.12: North Sea Herring Acoustic Survey 2013. Cruisetrack (dashed line) as well as CTD and trawl haul stations of FRV “Solea” cruise 675. ICES statistical rectangles are indicated in the top and right axis.

13 International Redfish Trawl and Acoustic Survey

The German part of the survey was carried out from 21/06/13-18/07/13 on FRV "Walther Herwig III". Fig. III.G.13 shows the hydro-acoustic cruise tracks. Although the number of days at sea was lower than planned due to technical problems, the full hydroacoustic track length could be achieved.

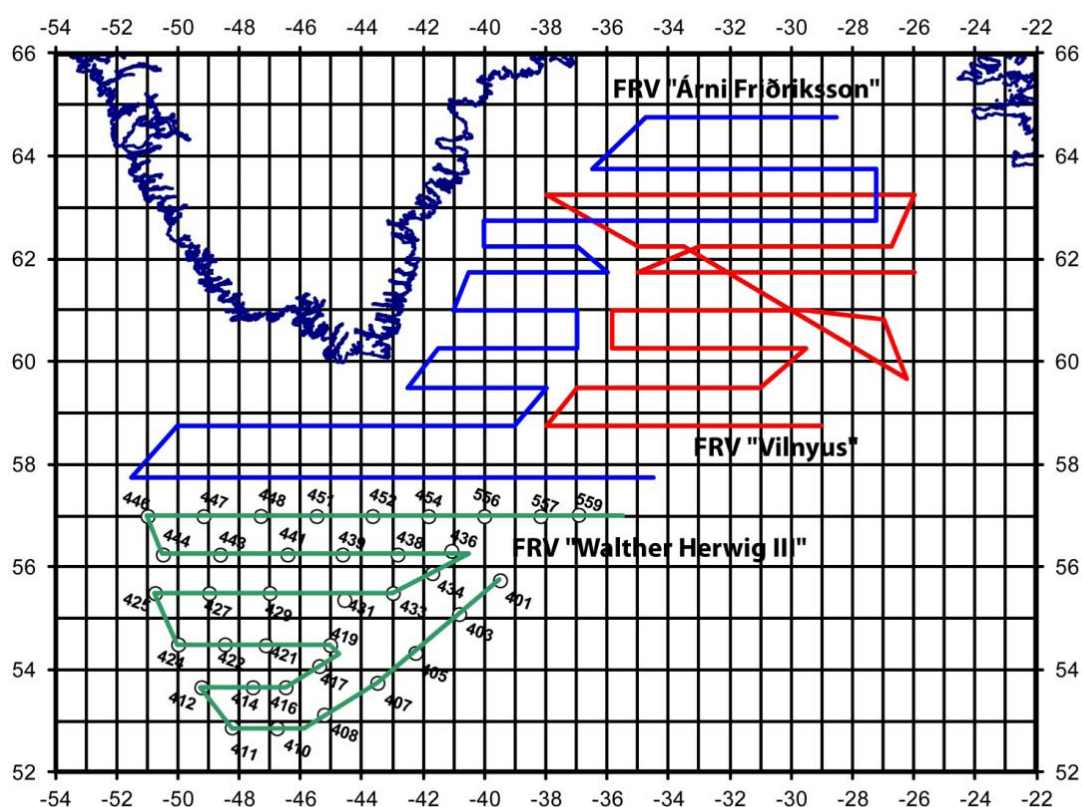


Fig. III.G.13: International Redfish Trawl and Acoustic Survey 2013. Hydroacoustic survey tracks (green line) and hydrographic stations of FRV 'Walther Herwig III'. The tracks of the Icelandic vessel (blue line) and Russian vessel (red line) are indicated as well.

14 Greenland groundfish survey

The Greenland groundfish survey was carried out from 07/10/13-11/11/13 on FRV “Walther Herwig III”. Fig III.G.14 shows the investigation area. There were no shortfalls due to very favorable weather conditions so that survey goals were fully achieved in a shorter time than planned.

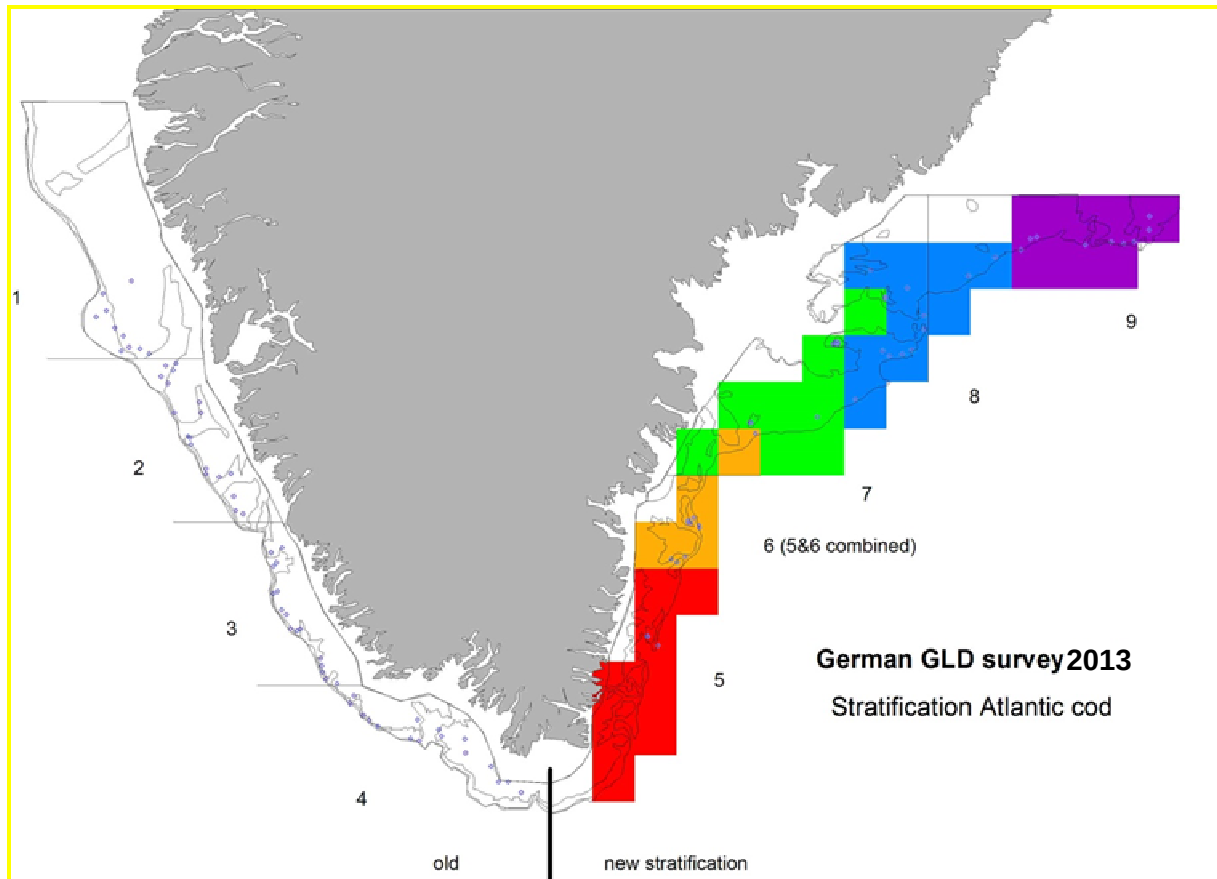


Fig. III.G.14: Greenland groundfish survey 2013. Investigation area and sampling strata.

15 Blue whiting survey

Germany participated in this survey and provided staff (one scientist) for the Dutch part of the survey and contributed to the financial share in order to support the Netherlands and Ireland to conduct the survey. The different survey parts took place from 19/03/13 to 12/04/13.

16 Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Survey

The German part of the mackerel and horse mackerel egg survey was carried out from 20/03/13-25/04/13 on FRV “Walther Herwig III”. Fig III.G.16 shows the cruise track and station grid. The survey was hampered by very bad weather conditions which led to severe shortfalls in the number of plankton sampling stations and fishing hauls.

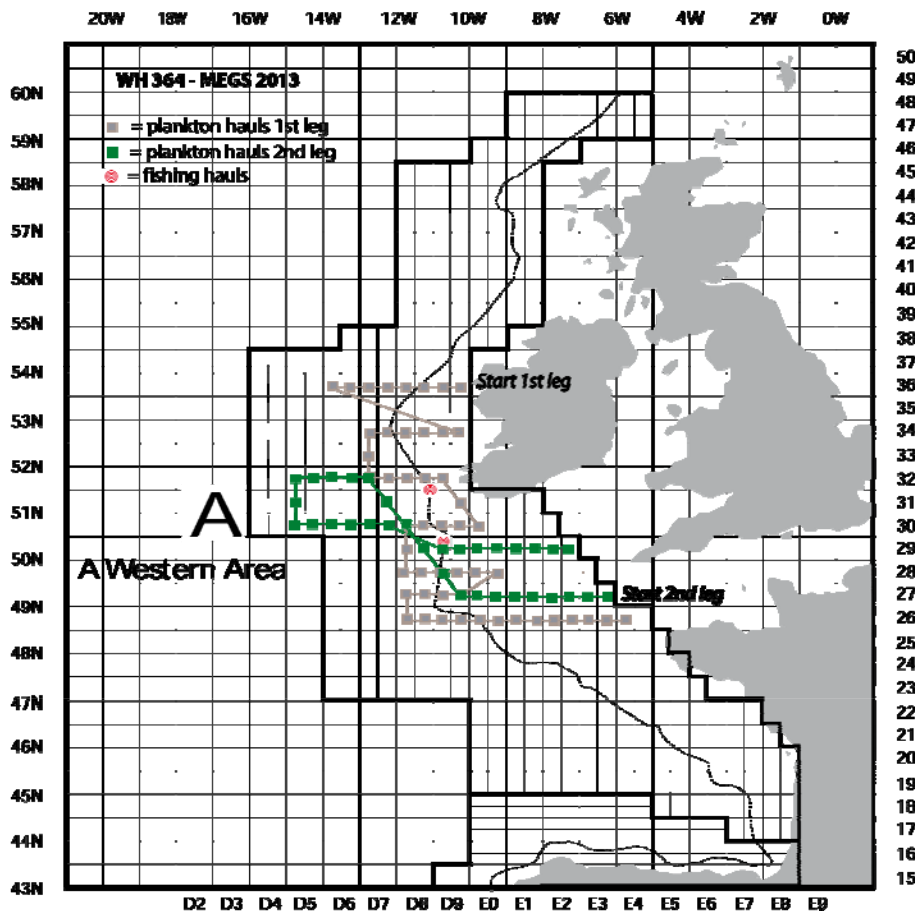


Fig. III.G.16: Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Survey 2013. Cruise track, positions of plankton hauls (Nackthai) and fishing hauls (PSN 205).

III G 2 DATA QUALITY: RESULTS AND DEVIATION FROM NP PROPOSAL

The reasons for occurring shortfalls are explained in the section above. Changes in survey design were only made within the requirements of the responsible planning/working groups.

III G 3 FOLLOW-UP OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

No relevant RCM recommendations. Recommendations and requests from survey planning groups are generally followed up as part of the international collaboration within ICES.

III G 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Bad weather conditions: No action is possible.

Technical problems: Vessels and equipment are always kept in good conditions; however, sudden technical problems cannot be prevented.

IV MODULE OF THE EVALUATION OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE AQUACULTURE AND THE PROCESSING INDUSTRY

IV A COLLECTION OF ECONOMIC DATA FOR THE AQUACULTURE

IV A 1 ACHIEVEMENTS: RESULTS AND DEVIATION FROM NP PROPOSAL

According to the DCF, it is mandatory to collect data on marine aquaculture and for eel and salmon companies. As there are no salmon aquaculture companies in Germany, only data for companies producing marine species and eels are in the focus of the German program. In the NP 2011-2013, Germany planned to sample the four eel aquaculture plants. Unfortunately, as the owners of the plants were not willing to answer very specific questionnaires especially due to confidentiality reasons, Germany has not sampled those four eel plants in 2013. Due to confidentiality reasons, a publication would not have been possible. This is true for the only oyster farm in Germany as well. Hence, Germany can only provide production value numbers for the oyster farm.

For the blue mussel business, data are more easily available as they are part of the fleet. In addition to the data coming from logbooks and landing statistics, a questionnaire has been sent out. The results are given in Tables IV.A.2 and IV.A.3. Additionally, a thorough investigation of the cost structure in the sector has been undertaken (see Buck et al. 2010). The results have been used for cross-checking of the sample data in order to ensure the data to represent the sector appropriately.

The stable number of questionnaires replied seems to be a success of Germany's strategy to visit trade fairs, to take part in activities of the farmers during the mussel season and to conduct research projects in the mussel sector in order to support the blue mussel business.

IV A 2 DATA QUALITY: RESULTS AND DEVIATION FROM NP PROPOSAL

The results are presented in Table IV.A.3 with the values of the indicators.

As the answer to the questionnaire is not mandatory and given the thorough analysis of the sector by Buck et al. (2010), the achieved sampling rate seems to be sufficient even if the planned rate of 100% was not reached. Employment data have been taken from the National Agency for Employment and from the questionnaire. Indicators on employment presented here are related to the questionnaire.

IV A 3 FOLLOW-UP OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

No relevant recommendations available

IV A 4 ACTIONS TO AVOID SHORTFALLS

Eel and oyster farms have been contacted directly by phone call. As the results could not be published due to confidentiality reasons, Germany stated in its AR 2011 and 2012 that it assumes these actions to be sufficient also in the following years. This means, questionnaires to the oyster company and phone calls to the eel producers have been done, but no further actions are undertaken if no response is the result in this segment. This has been accepted by STECF. For the blue mussel segment, data seem to be sufficient and no further actions will be undertaken as long as the results remain the same. Even if not mandatory, Germany tries to collect data on profitability of recirculation systems in the following years as well, since there is a trend to build and operate more of these closed systems.

IV B COLLECTION OF DATA CONCERNING THE PROCESSING INDUSTRY

IV B 1 ACHIEVEMENTS: RESULTS AND DEVIATION FROM NP PROPOSAL

Data have been collected by the Institute of Sea Fisheries and the Federal Statistical Office (Details are mentioned in the NP 2011-2013) and since 2012 for employment also from the Federal Agency for Employment. Results are presented in Tables IV.B.1 and IV.B.2 with the information collected during the sampling year 2013.

Since enterprises with 20 and more employees are responsible for more than 90% of sector's sales and employment, low response rates in the segments with less employees do not affect the results in terms of representation of the sector eminently. The data collected represent between 50% and 80% of the sector's whole sales. The exceptions are data for debt and net value of assets. Here, the willingness to provide data voluntarily differs distinctly. Nonetheless, the coverage rate is still above 30%.

Data for debt are calculated from the interest payment of the enterprises, taking market interest rates for enterprises. Then it is compared with the data of the enterprises that have provided data, if the amount is in an appropriate range. In Table IV.B.2, the response to the questionnaire is reported.

Even if not mandatory, Germany asked for the volume of fish raw material, the species, the region where it came from (Germany/EU/Rest of the world) and if it was fish from wild catch or from aquaculture.

IV B 2 DATA QUALITY: RESULTS AND DEVIATION FROM NP PROPOSAL

Results of the data quality evaluation may be found in Table IV.B.2 with the values of the accuracy and other indicators. As indicated in the guidelines, Germany does not provide CV for data from Structural Business Statistics. As the volume of fish raw material is not mandatory to collect, CV has not been calculated. For the remaining variables, CV is presented in Table IV.B.2.

For debt, volume of fish raw material and total value of assets coverage rate is reported as other variability indicator.

This procedure is equivalent to the accepted procedure of the former reporting years.

IV B 3 FOLLOW-UP OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

No relevant recommendations available

IV B 4 ACTIONS TO AVOID SHORTFALLS

not relevant

V MODULE OF THE EVALUATION OF EFFECTS OF THE FISHING SECTOR ON THE MARINE ECOSYSTEM

V 1 ACHIEVEMENTS: RESULTS AND DEVIATION FROM NP PROPOSAL

No deviations occurred in 2013.

V 2 ACTIONS TO AVOID SHORTFALLS

not relevant

VI MODULE FOR MANAGEMENT AND USE OF THE DATA

VI 1 ACHIEVEMENTS: RESULTS AND DEVIATION FROM NP PROPOSAL

Central database services were provided at the BLE in Bonn as in previous years, without deviations from the aims set out in the NP 2011-13.

Several data calls (Annual Economic Report, effort, fish processing industry, aquaculture, RCMs) had to be answered in 2013, which was done within the respective deadlines and with complete and quality-checked data. Data were transmitted to regular data users such as ICES assessment working groups, see Table VI.1. No deviations occurred.

VI 2 ACTIONS TO AVOID SHORTFALLS

not relevant

VII FOLLOW-UP OF STECF RECOMMENDATIONS

Source	Recommendation to MS	MS action
STECF PLEN 09-02	STECF recommends that MS: • include in their NPs for the period 2011-2013, a methodological report to describe the sampling strategies. STECF also recommends that MS adhere to the guidelines for the preparation of the methodological report given in Table 4.1.1 below (adapted from the report of the STECF-SGECA 09-02). • include in their annual Technical Reports, the data quality indicators given in Table 4.2.2 below (discussed under TOR 2 of STECF-SGECA 09-02).	Germany has considered and followed these recommendations in the NP 2010 implementation and reporting, as well as in the NP 2011-13.
STECF PLEN 09-03	STECF recommends that at least Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, The Netherlands, Portugal and Spain should participate in the RCM on Long-Distant Fisheries, considering their fisheries in the CECAF area, South Pacific, Indian Ocean and 'other regions where fisheries are operated by EU vessels and managed by RFMOs'.	Germany has participated in the RCM LDF 2010 and will participate in the RCM LDF 2012.
SGRN 10-01 (Evaluation of NP proposals 2011-2013)	SGRN recommends MS to refer to ICES WKMERGE (ICES, 2010) for guidelines how to use sampling frame. SGRN notes that many National Programme proposals would have benefited from more thoroughly descriptions of the sampling designs, and recommends MS to make this description effort when revising their programmes 2012-2013. Table III.C.2 – SGRN considers that merging across regions & fishing grounds is not appropriate, and recommends MS sampling frame reflects the broader geographical area of the métier.	When preparing the NP proposals, Germany followed these recommendations.
SGRN 10-01 (Evaluation of NP proposals 2011-2013)	General comments regarding the fish processing industry: 1. SGRN recommends MSs to consult with the national statistical offices in order to improve efficiency and guarantee consistency in the data collection process. Efficiency can be improved because national statistical offices could already have information required to be collected under the DCF. Data consistency will be met if the same definitions are applied.	Germany does consult with the national statistical offices in order to improve efficiency and guarantee consistency in the data collection process.
STECF EWG 11-08 (Evaluation of AR 2010)	EWG 11-08 recommends that information and descriptions of the method/software used for calculation of CV's should be included (or referred to) in the AR if not provided in NP.	We included the methodology of CV calculations in this report (see section III.C.2 and Annex 3).
STECF EWG 11-08 (Evaluation of AR 2010)	EWG 11-08 recommends for the AR tables, Table II.B.1 (list of eligible meetings) that is provided by the Commission should be used and	Done.

	all meetings and not only the meetings attended should be provided.	
STECF EWG 11-08 (Evaluation of AR 2010)	EWG 11-08 recommends that Table III.C.1, III.C.2 and III E 1 should not to be deleted from the AR. Maintaining the tables is what is expected. This should be included in the revision of the AR guidelines.	Done.
STECF EWG 11-08 (Evaluation of AR 2010)	EWG 11-08 recommends that for the calculation of Capital value, all MS shall use PIM (Perpetual Inventory Method) in the future. A Workshop has already explained the method (DCF Workshop on Capital Valuation, Naples June 2011). MS should use this report in next AR . Also explore the need for a Training Workshop. This Report should be made available on the on DCF WEB site.	We used the PIM methodology for capital value calculations, see section III.B.1.
STECF EWG 11-08 (Evaluation of AR 2010)	EWG 11-08 recommends that files with filters, hidden cells, track changes, coloured cells etc should not be submitted in AR	Done.
STECF EWG 11-08 (Evaluation of AR 2010)	EWG 11-08 recommends that non conformities in the tables of the AR needs to be explained in the text.	Done.
STECF EWG 12-01 (Review of DCF 2014-2020 part 1)	STECF recommends that the roles of the institutions involved in the collection and analysis of transversal data should be discussed and clearly defined in a dialogue between all relevant parties, i.e. research institutes, control & enforcement agencies and fishing industry representatives.	Germany stays in regular contact and exchange of information between research institutes, the control and enforcement agency and the fishing industry with regard to the collection and analysis of transversal data.
STECF EWG 12-08 (Eval. AR 2011)	(no relevant recommendations to MS)	
STECF EWG 12-15 (Review of DCF 2014-2020 part 2)	(no relevant recommendations to MS)	
STECF EWG 12-20 (Eval. NP 2013)	(no STECF recommendations)	
STECF EWG 13-02 (Review DC-MAP1)	(no STECF recommendations)	
STECF EWG 13-05 (Review DC-MAP2)	(no STECF recommendations)	
STECF EWG 13-07 (Eval. AR 2012)	(no STECF recommendations)	

VIII LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Acronym/ Abbreviation	Explanation
aeglef.	aeglefinus
AFWG	ICES Arctic Fisheries Working Group
BITS	Baltic International Trawl Survey
BLE	Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung (Federal Agency for Agriculture and Food)
BMI	Bundesministerium für Inneres (Ministry for Internal Affairs)
BMEL	Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Ministry for Food and Agriculture) [formerly BMELV]
BRZ	Bruttoreaumzahl (gross tonnage)
COST	Common Open Source Tool (software package for precision calculations)
CPUE	Catch per unit effort
CTD	Conductivity-Temperature-Depth probe
DATRAS	Database for trawl surveys
DCF	Data Collection Framework
DYFS	Demersal Young Fish Survey
EU	European Union
EWG	Expert Working Group (of STECF)
FADN	Farm Accountancy Data Network system
FI	TI Institut für Fischereiökologie (Institute of Fisheries Ecology)
FTE	Full time employment
Funct.	Functional
FWS	Freshwater species (target species assemblage)
FYK	Fish traps
GNS	Set nets/Gill nets
gt	Gross Tonnage
HAWG	ICES Herring Assessment Working Group
HERSUR	Herring Survey
JRC	Joint Research Centre
IBTS	International Bottom Trawl Survey
IBTSWG	ICES International Bottom Trawl Survey Working Group
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
kW	kilowatt
LDF	Long-distance Fisheries
LOA	Length overall
MIX	Mixed fisheries
MV	(Federal Country of) Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
NACE	Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community (Nomenclature statistique des Activités économiques dans la Communauté Européenne)
NAFO	Northwest Atlantic Fishery Organisation
NASC	Nautical Area Scattering Coefficient
No	Number
NP	National Programme
NR	Not relevant
NWWG	ICES North-Western Working Group
OF	TI Institut für Ostseefischerei, Rostock (Institute of Baltic Sea Fisheries)

OTB	Otter trawl bottom
OTM	Otter trawl midwater
PGCCDBS	ICES Planning Group on Commercial Catch, Discards and Biological Sampling
poutas.	poutassou
PTB	Two ship trawl bottom
PTM	Two ship trawl midwater
RCM	Regional Co-ordinating meeting
Reg.	Regulation
SC	Scientific Council
SF	Institut für Seefischerei, Hamburg (Institute of Sea Fisheries)
SGRN	STECF Subgroup on research need and data collection
SH	(Federal Country of) Schleswig-Holstein
StBA	Statistisches Bundesamt (Federal Statistical Office)
STECF	Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries
TAC	Total allowable catch
TBB	Beam trawl
TI	Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institute, Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries
TTB	Twin trawl (Special gear which is used by the demersal fishery)
UK	United Kingdom
WG	Working Group
WGBAST	ICES Baltic Salmon and Trout Assessment Working Group
WGBEAM	ICES Working Group on Beam Trawl Surveys
WGBIFS	ICES Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group
WGBFAS	ICES Baltic Fisheries Assessment Working Group
WGECO	ICES Working Group on Ecosystem Effects of Fishing Activities
WGFAST	ICES Working Group on Fisheries Acoustic Science & Technology
WGIPS	ICES Working Group for International Pelagic Surveys
WGMEGS	ICES Working Group on Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Survey
WGNSSK	ICES Working Group on the Assessment of Demersal Stocks in the North Sea and Skagerak
WGRFS	ICES Working Group on Recreational Fisheries Surveys
WGRS	ICES Working Group on Redfish Surveys
WGWIDE	ICES Working Group on the Assessment of Wide Distributed Species
WKBALFLAT	ICES Benchmark Workshop on Baltic Flatfish Stocks
WKFLABA	ICES/HELCOM Workshop on Flatfish in the Baltic Sea

IX COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS AND REFLECTIONS

No comments

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XI ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: MINUTES OF NATIONAL CO-ORDINATION MEETING 2013 [IN GERMAN]

Datenerhebungsprogramm (DCF): Nationales Koordinierungstreffen 2013 **[TI-SF, Hamburg, Do. 12.12.2013, 10:00-16:30 Uhr]**

Teilnehmer/innen: TI-OF, Rostock: Steffen Hagemann, Dr. Uwe Krumme (Protokoll), Sven Stötera, Dr. Harry Strehlow, Dr. Andrés Velasco, Marc-Simon Weltersbach

TI-SF, Hamburg: Michael Ebeling, Olga Goni, Sakis Kroupis, Timo Meißner, Christian Schulte, Dr. Christoph Stransky (Sitzungsleitung), Jens Ulleweit (Protokoll)

TI-FI: Marko Freese, Jan-Dag Pohlmann

BLE Ref. 522, Hamburg: Imanuel Jeske, Wolfgang Wern

BLE Ref. 414, Bonn: Anna Diamant, Vilma Plum

Verhindert: TI-OF: Cornelia Albrecht, Andreas Gebel, Tom Jankiewicz, Sven Peters, Dr. Christopher Zimmermann; TI-SF: Dr. Jörg Berkenhagen, Eckhard Leu, Kay Panten, Thilo Weddehage; ; BLE Ref. 522: Steffen Holz; TI-MA, Braunschweig: Solveig Helmert

Beginn: 10:15 Uhr

Tagesordnung:

1. Kurze Vorstellung der Teilnehmer
Kurze Begrüßung und Vorstellung der Tagesordnung durch den Nationalen Korrespondenten (Stransky), Vorstellung der Teilnehmer (alle)
2. Datenerhebung 2013: Erfolge & Probleme
 - a. Beprobungen auf See, Kommunikation mit der Fischerei
OF: Der Umfang an Mitfahrten und biologischen Proben entspricht den Vorgaben des Jahresplans. Die Zusammenarbeit mit der Fischerei läuft verhältnismäßig gut. Dieses Jahr wurde erstmals die Langleinenfischerei beprobt. Sowohl die West- als auch die Ost-dorschquote werden dieses Jahr wohl nicht abgefischt. Größere Mengen Seelachs werden in der aktiven, passiven und Angelfischerei gefangen. Aus einer Anlange in DK sind während eines Sturms große Mengen Regenbogenforellen entkommen, die jetzt von der Fischerei gefangen werden. Der Schollenbeifang ist im Westen ein Problem, da er die Fischerei auf Dorsch begrenzt und in Zukunft als „choke species“ im Rahmen der Anlandepflicht wirken dürfte.
SF: Der Umfang an Mitfahrten und biologischen Proben entspricht weitestgehend den Vorgaben des Jahresplans. Von 32 geplanten Beprobungsreisen in den verschiedenen Metiers wurden bisher 28 Reisen durchgeführt. Die Bedingungen an Bord sind teilweise schwierig. Verbauungen auf den Kuttern erschweren die Beprobung an Bord, insbesondere bei Krabbenkuttern. Teilweise ist die Discardbeprobung schwierig, da der unerwünschte Fanganteil direkt wieder über Bord geht. Die Beprobung der Krabbenfischerei wird aufgrund der Bedingungen an Bord weitestgehend von zwei Beprobungen pro Mitfahrt durchgeführt. Dies ist eventuell nach Meinung der Beprober auch für andere Metiers in Zukunft erforderlich. Die Mitnahme von Beprobungen sollte klar verpflichtend sein. Die Beprobung verläuft weiterhin ad hoc und nicht zufallsbasiert.
 - b. Beprobung der Freizeitfischerei
Die Angeldaten für Westdorsch sind nach dem Benchmark-Prozess dieses Frühjahr erstmals mit in das Assessment eingeflossen. Dies ist der erste Bestand in EU-Gewässern, bei dem das Assessment mit Daten aus der Angelfischerei gerechnet wird. Inwieweit es in Zukunft eine Quote für Angler geben wird, ist unklar. Dieses Jahr wurde die Beprobung und Erfassung der Angelfischerei auf Meerforelle mit viel Aufwand gestartet (Rekrutierung von Anglern zur Führung von Fangtagebüchern). Erste Ergebnisse zeigen, dass es außerdem eine hohe Diskrepanz zwischen offiziellen Anlandungen und wahren Anlandungen der kommerziellen Fischerei gibt. Das Mixing-Problem Meerforelle-Lachs

soll durch genetische Analysen angegangen werden. Ab nächstem Jahr im Herbst soll der Fokus auf Lachs liegen. Eine deutschlandweite Telefonumfrage ist weiterhin in Planung, um aktuelle Aufwandsdaten der Ostseefischerei zu erheben.

- c. Beprobung der kommerziellen Fischerei auf Aal in Binnengewässern
FI: Der Nutzen der Aalbeprobungen für ein Assessment ist weiterhin gering. Um das Probenmaterial trotzdem maximal zu nutzen, werden diverse weitere Parameter erfasst (z.B. Krankheitsdaten, Schadstoffbelastung etc.). Die Kooperation mit den Ländern zwecks Zusammenarbeit beim Aalmonitoring gestaltet sich weiterhin schwierig. Die Probleme, die sich durch die föderale Struktur für die Beprobung ergeben, scheinen ein deutscher Sonderfall zu sein.
- d. Datenerhebung im Bereich Ökonomie
 - i. Flottenökonomie: lief gut; Anlandungen, Erlöse und Aufwand über Logbücher und Anlandedatei; zusätzlich Erhebung von Aufwandszahlen für Fahrzeuge unter 8m; Kostendaten über Testbetriebsnetz und eigene Erhebungen (Daten von rund 280 Fahrzeugen), womit die Flotte sehr gut abgedeckt ist, jedoch sind manche Zahlen fragwürdig
 - ii. Fischverarbeitung: hier können Daten verwendet werden, die standardmäßig sowieso schon erfasst werden
 - iii. Aquakultur: im Binnenbereich gibt es eine große Diskrepanz in der Anzahl an Fischereibetrieben zwischen den Quellen (Statistisches Bundesamt, Leibniz-Institut in Potsdam), was auf unterschiedliche methodische Ansätze bei der Erfassung zurückzuführen ist. Dieses Problem ist aber kurzfristig erstmal nicht zu lösen.
- e. Logbuch- und Anlandedaten: werden jetzt quartalsweise auf den Server hochgeladen. Von TI-Seite gibt es nur minimale Beanstandungen.
- f. Zugang zu VMS-Daten: auch VMS-Daten sollen in Zukunft vierteljährlich verfügbar sein. In der BRD haben wir eine etwas andere Rechtslage als in anderen Ländern, was die Bereitstellung von VMS-Daten angeht (z.B. Schottland). Bei Gesprächen in der Vergangenheit gab es zwischen BLE und der Fischerei offenbar Absprachen, nach denen die VMS-Daten nicht ohne weiteres gestreut werden, sondern ausschließlich für Kontrollzwecke durch die BLE benutzt werden. Die zeitnahe Bereitstellung der VMS-Daten ist auch vor dem Hintergrund des Datenschutzes unklar.
Für eine Verbesserung der zufallsbasierten Beprobung benötigt das TI zeitnahe Daten. Bei der Diskussion wurde klar, dass das TI für die zeitnahe Nutzung (d.h. tageweise) allerdings gar nicht komplette Rohdaten benötigt, sondern simple Auszüge zu „Welche Schiffe waren gestern in Gebiet X aktiv“ würden ausreichen. Entsprechende Masken, die die Rohdaten aggregieren, sollten relativ leicht erstellbar sein. Den Zustand „aktiv fischend“ ließe sich durch einfache Abfragen zuordnen (z.B. Schiffe mit der Eigenschaft „Schiff in den letzten 24 h mit Geschwindigkeit 2-4 kn während >1h“ könnten als aktiv fischend eingestuft und als Liste an SF und OF übermittelt werden). Das TI wird versuchen, in Kürze einen entsprechenden Bedarfsantrag an die BLE zur Übermittlung aggregierter Informationen bezüglich Aktivitätsstatus der Schiffe in ICES-Gebieten basierend auf VMS-Informationen zu stellen.

3. Datenverarbeitung und Datenbanken: Stand & Zukunft

- a. Nationale Datenbank(en), Logbuch-/Anlandedaten: strukturelle Änderungen
Discardtabellen: Herr Wern stellt die neuen Discardtabellen vor. Informationen zu Discards werden in Zukunft nicht auf Holbasis verfügbar sein, sondern nur als Summe aller Discards während einer Reise. Diese Form der Datenerfassung ist offensichtlich eine Verschlechterung der Datenqualität für die Wissenschaft und die Teilnehmer fragen sich, inwieweit hier – im Gegensatz zu den positiven Erwartungen im Rahmen der anstehenden Anlandepflicht – an anderer Stelle gezielt versucht wird, Informationen über Discards zu vernebeln. Es sollte geprüft werden, inwieweit zumindest die Reisenummern ergänzt werden können, um eine sinnvolle Verschneidung von Logbuch- und Discardtabellen zu ermöglichen.
- b. Regionale Datenbanken (RDB, FishFrame): Einpflegen der deutschen Daten und Hochladen verlief dieses Jahr relativ problemlos. Die Teilnehmer hoffen, dass sich die Funktionalität von FishFrame durch finanzielle Förderung der EU bald weiter verbessert.

4. Datennutzung

- a. Daten-Abruf durch die EU
 - i. Ökonomie: Flotte (Feb. 2013); Aquakultur (Mai-Juni 2013); Fischverarb. (Aug-Sep 2013):
Allgemein guter Ablauf mit guter Kooperation aller beteiligten Institutionen, anfallende Unstimmigkeiten mit JRC wurden schnell geklärt.
 - ii. Fischereiaufwand (März-Mai 2013):
Ist aufwendiger Datencall, mehrere STECF Gruppen werden bedient, hat politisch größtes Gewicht für Quoten etc.
Für Deutschland insgesamt gute Deckung von Aufwandsdaten und Quoten, die Baseline wurde gut getroffen.
Nächstes Jahr werden weitere Gruppen mit diesen Daten versorgt, da regionale Discardpläne im Rahmen der Anlandepflicht erstellt werden müssen, auch wird es Forschung zu Überlebensraten geben.
- b. ICES-Datenabrufe, Kontakt zu ICES-EGs ohne dt. Teilnahme:
Keine Bemerkungen, Deutschland hat i.d.R. innerhalb der Fristen Daten gemeldet
- c. Datenübermittlung (Tabellen der EU-KOM auf Basis der Antworten von Datennutzern):
Tabellen wurden im Rahmen der Evaluierung der Jahresberichte behandelt, nur wenige Anmerkungen für Deutschland.

5. Regionale Koordinierung: Ergebnisse der RCMs, Bilaterale/Regionale Abkommen

- a. RCM Baltic (Tallinn, 26.-30.8.2013)
- b. RCM Long-Distance Fisheries (Constanta/Rumänien, 2.-6.9.2013)
- c. RCM North Sea & Eastern Arctic (Vigo, 9.-13.9.2013)
- d. RCM North Atlantic (Sukarrieta, 16.-20.9.2013)
- e. Liaison Meeting (Brüssel, 8.-9.10.2013)

Bis auf RCM Long Distance Fisheries waren alle Koordinierungstreffen mit deutscher Beteiligung. Die Einrichtung der regionalen Datenbanken (RDBs) ist noch nicht vollständig in allen Ländern etabliert, aber auf gutem Weg. Die RDBs werden in den Gruppen zum regionalen Ranking genutzt, um die wichtigsten Metiers regional zu identifizieren. Zukünftig werden auch Discardmengen als Kriterium neben Aufwand, Anlandemenge und Wert genutzt werden.

Regionale Absprachen und „task sharing“ sind allgemein immer noch schwierig zu vereinbaren, insbesondere weil jeder Mitgliedstaat seine eigenen Ressourcen schützen will. So ist die Einrichtung regionaler Alterslesezentren theoretisch eine gute Idee, aber nur wenige Länder wollen ihre Expertise abgeben, da es nationale Altersleser für bestimmte Arten überflüssig machen könnte. Dies zeigt die Grenzen der regionalen Koordinierung.

Deutschland hat für alle RCMs Daten geliefert, die Datenabrufe liefen gut.

Deutschland hat nur geringen Aufwand bei Fernfischereien (Südpazifik und Mauretanien/Marokko). Für Mauretanien und Marokko besteht eine multilaterale Vereinbarung, dass eine holländische Firma unsere Beprobungspflichten abdeckt. Die Kosten dafür werden international geteilt.

In allen RCMs war die Auswirkung der Anlandepflicht Thema, hier bestehen viele Unsicherheiten, beispielsweise zu Kontrollen, zur Einführung von Videoüberwachung etc. Weitere Diskussionspunkte waren neue statistisch abgesicherte Beprobungsstrategien, danach werden Hafen- und Observerbeprobungen weiterhin Hauptstütze der Datensammlung sein. Observerdaten werden insbesondere wichtig für die Bestimmung von Beifangarten / „choke species“.

Das "Liaison Meeting" führt alle Empfehlungen der RCMs und anderer Gruppen zusammen. Der Report ist noch nicht fertig und wird verteilt, wenn final.

Kritik insbesondere zur Ostsee RCM: Hier muss sich Arbeitsweise ändern, wenn das Treffen tatsächlich für Koordinierung genutzt werden soll. Die Angaben für bestimmte qualitätsrelevante Parameter sind zwischen den meisten Ländern noch nicht standardisiert, daher ist eine robuste Qualitätskontrolle noch nicht möglich.

Es lässt sich feststellen, dass die RCMs ihr eigentliches Ziel, die regionale Koordinierung noch nicht voll umgesetzt haben. Die Zukunft der RCGs ist noch unklar; aber wahrscheinlich sollen dort in Zukunft deutlich wichtigere Aufgaben gelöst und

weitereichende Entscheidungen getroffen werden. Eine reibungslose Überführung des RCMs in RCGs wird bezweifelt.

Abschließend wurde festgestellt, dass die finanziellen Beteiligungen an den internationalen Surveys zum Blauen Wittling und Atlantoskandischen Hering bestehen bleiben, obwohl aufgrund der Verzögerung der Etablierung des EMFF die Finanzierungshöhe noch nicht geklärt ist.

f. bilaterales Treffen mit den Niederlanden (IJmuiden, 28.2.2013)

Es besteht eine gute regionale Zusammenarbeit mit NL. Ein gemeinsamer Report zur Discardbeprobung in der pelagischen Fischerei wurde dieses Jahr fertig gestellt und ein weiterer zur Krabbenfischerei ist in Arbeit. Ein zukünftiges Ziel ist die Harmonisierung der Beprobungsmethoden.

6. Ergebnisse relevanter Arbeitsgruppen, Workshops und Konferenzen:

a. STECF-Expertenarbeitsgruppen (EWGs), PGECON

3 Gruppen haben sich mit den Details des neuen DC-MAP beschäftigt. DC-MAP ist noch nicht ausgearbeitet. Die letzte Gruppe wurde im Grunde von der EU-Kommission nur zur Überprüfung/Überarbeitung des Textes der Rahmenverordnung hinsichtlich des Reformpaketes (Beispiel Anlandepflicht, Beifänge, nachhaltige Aquakultur) genutzt. Die praktische Durchführungsverordnung ist noch nicht fertig, soll aber im Laufe des nächsten Jahres fertiggestellt werden.

Im nächsten Jahr werden dazu 2-3 Treffen stattfinden, erstes Treffen in Hamburg im Feb. 2014 unter Vorsitz von Dr. Stransky. Organisation der Treffen nach März 2014 noch nicht klar, da die Finanzierung durch EMFF noch nicht steht.

b. ICES-Expertengruppen (PGCCDBS, SGPIDS, WKPICS3, WKBYC, WKDCF-NF, WKIND...):

Allgemein wird festgestellt, dass immer mehr Gruppen zum Thema Beprobungsstrategie, Datenqualität, Discardbeprobungen, Beifangdaten etc. entstehen.

SGPIDS: Themen waren die zufallsbasierte Beprobung und die Kontaktaufnahme zu Fischern. Es stellte sich heraus, dass „response rates“ und „rejection rates“ international nicht vergleichbar sind. Die Vereinheitlichung, dass man immer nach Möglichkeiten fragen soll, bei der nächsten Fangreise mitfahren zu können, funktioniert nur bedingt. Z.B. ist bei der Stellnetzfisherei bei geringen Fangmengen im Sommer eine Beprobung wenig sinnvoll, auch wenn die nächste Reise beprobt werden könnte.

WKPICS: Hier wurden Qualitätsindikatoren behandelt, im Speziellen: Wie ist die räumlich-zeitliche Abdeckung der Beprobung der kommerziellen Fischerei und die Qualität der Beprobungen im Vergleich zu den Anforderungen der Assessment-Gruppen? In einer zweiten Gruppe wurden statistische Ansätze zur Beprobung verschiedener Fischereien besprochen. Es existieren offenbar SAS-Routinen zur möglichen Verschneidung von Logbuch- und Beprobungsdaten, die OF und SF im Laufe des nächsten Jahres gemeinsam an Daten der Ostsee testen wollen.

Die Umsetzung von Qualitätsindikatoren in DC-MAP ist noch unklar und noch nicht in einem Zustand, der den Ansprüchen der Audits der Kommission genügen würde. Eine einfache Kontrolle der Qualität von Seiten der Kommission (z.B. Mindestanzahl an genommenen Otolithen wurde erreicht) ist mit dem geplanten Verfahren nur bedingt möglich. Dafür sind die Tabellen in der Lage, aussagekräftige Informationen zur tatsächlichen Datenqualität zu liefern; allerdings ist diese Information i.d.R. nur eingeschränkt gegen Sollzahlen abzu prüfen. Die geplanten RCGs können/sollen hier ggf. Input leisten.

SGPIDS und WKPICS werden zu WKCATCH zusammengefasst, die im nächsten November in Kopenhagen tagen wird.

7. Europäischer Meeres- und Fischereifonds (EMFF), Mehrjahresprogramm zur Datenerhebung (DC-MAP):

Die Ausführung des EMFF ist zurzeit tagesaktuell in der Schwebe, momentan findet ein sogenannter „Trilog“ zwischen Rat, Parlament und Kommission statt, entscheidend ist der resultierende Kompromissvorschlag.

Finanzen werden in Art. 15 EMFF behandelt; aktuell liegt der Rahmen zwischen 344 Mio. und 550 Mio. Euro. Nach unserer Meinung muss er maximal ausgeschöpft werden, nur dann wird EMFF wegen der Ausweitung auf Binnengewässer, 28 (statt 22/23) teilnehmenden Mitgliedsländern und höherer Kofinanzierung durchführbar sein. Dann stünde auch größeres Budget für Deutschland für gesamte Datensammlung zur Verfügung. Die Entscheidung wird den Rahmen für die nächsten Jahre setzen.

8. Datenqualität: Beprobungsanleitung, Datenvalidierung:

Kurze Diskussion: Überprüfung der Beprobungsanleitung und evtl. Aktualisierung.

Datenvalidierungen / Konsistenzprüfungen werden zurzeit durch Frau Goni sichergestellt.

9. Pilotprojekte (Studien):

Zurzeit: Evaluierung der europäischen Datenerhebung.

Neuausschreibungen für Pilotprojekte stehen an, deutsche Beteiligung je nach Ausschreibungen.

Horizon 2020: Evtl. interessant: „Towards a gradual elimination of discards in European fisheries“, mögliche SF-Beteiligung über Alexander Kempf koordinieren, Gesamtkoordination über Clara Ulrich am DTU Aqua, OF wird über C. Zimmermann Kontakt mit C. Ulrich aufnehmen

10. Vollständig dokumentierte Fischerei (Kamera-Projekte): Ergebnisse 2013, Ausblick:

Projekt zum Seevögel- und Meeressäugerbeifang auf drei Freester Stellnetzkuttern in der Ostsee abgeschlossen. Seevögel werden beigeangefangen, kein einziger Schweinswal. Die Verteilung der Beifänge war extrem linksschief, d.h. bei sehr wenigen Ausfahrten werden mehrere Vögel beigeangefangen und bei >95% der Reisen gar keine. Eine Beproberabdeckung müsste daher 100%ig sein, das ist nicht möglich, daher sind Kamerasysteme die einzige Möglichkeit sicherzustellen, dass alle Beifänge registriert werden.

An einem weiteren Projekt nehmen zwei Nordseekutter und zwei Ostseekutter teil. Es zeigt sich, dass nur die Nordseekutter kooperativ sind, da sie im Gegensatz zu Ostseekuttern Quotenanreize haben.

Aus Innovationsmitteln der BLE läuft noch das Projekt „Automat“ (FISH-EM) bis 2015. Hier geht es um die Entwicklung eines eigenen Kamerasystems. Vorhandenes kanadisches System von „Archipelago“ ist extrem teuer und arbeitsaufwendig, ärgerlich ist auch, dass Verbesserungsvorschläge von „Archipelago“ nicht angenommen wurden. In Dänemark und Spanien gibt es schon weiter fortgeschrittene Kamerasystem-Entwicklungsprojekte, die auch das Ziel haben, einen möglichen zukünftigen Markt in Europa zu erschließen.

11. Internetportal dcf-germany.de:

Läuft gut, „europäisches Vorbild“, Manuals zur Reifebestimmung etc. evtl. einfügen (aus Urheberrechtsgründen nur in einem Mitgliederbereich?). Hier könnte ggf. abgewartet werden, bis dies im Rahmen von DC-MAP tatsächlich erforderlich wird.

12. Veröffentlichungen:

2013 sind verschiedene Veröffentlichungen aus DCF-Datensammlung entstanden. Als Referenz für DCF in Literaturlisten kann die Rahmenverordnung (zurzeit: VO (EG) Nr. 199/2008) aufgeführt werden.

Zudem werden (als Link) ergänzt:

Ferter, K., Weltersbach, M. S., Strehlow, H. V., Vølstad, J. H., Alós, J., Arlinghaus, R., Armstrong, M., Dorow, M., de Graaf, M., van der Hammen, T., Hyder, K., Levrel, H., Paulrud, A., Radtke, K., Rocklin, D., Sparrevohn, C. R., and Veiga, P. 2013. Unexpectedly high catch-and-release rates in European marine recreational fisheries: implications for science and management. ICES J. Mar. Sci. 70: 1319-1329.

Weltersbach S, Strehlow HV 2013. Dead or alive – estimating post-release mortality of Atlantic cod in the recreational fishery. ICES J. Mar. Sci. 70: 864-872.

van Overzee HMJ, van Helmond ATM, Ulleweit J, Panten K 2013. Discard sampling of the Dutch and German pelagic freezer fishery operating in European waters in 2011 and 2012. Stichting DLO, Centre for Fisheries Research (CVO), CVO report: 13.013, 68 Seiten.

13. Verwaltung (Zeiterfassung, Reisekostenabrechnungen, Finanzen, Personal):
Im SF wird zurzeit elektronische Projektzeiterfassung „TIMO“ getestet, soll nach erfolgreichen Tests im gesamten Thünen-Bereich eingeführt werden.

Belege zu Reisekostenabrechnung bitte noch für 2013 weiter sammeln, evtl. zukünftig nicht mehr nötig. Reisestelle muss Unterlagen 5 Jahre lang vorhalten.

Rückerstattung der für Datensammlung getätigten Ausgaben sollte nach Möglichkeit wie zuvor jährlich beantragt werden. Die Erstattung soll theoretisch zukünftig schneller erfolgen. Allerdings wird EMFF voraussichtlich erst 2016 in Kraft treten, d.h. die nächsten 2 Jahre müssen durch vorhandenen Finanzpuffer bewältigt werden.

Zukünftig wird es nur 2% Vorauszahlung für das Gesamtpaket (deutsches Operationelles Programm) geben, d.h. weitaus weniger als zuvor.

Stellenverlängerungen der befristeten DCF-Stellen sind bewilligt.

14. Planung für 2014:

- a. Sonderfangerlaubnisse 2014
OF: beantragt und erhalten, SF: beantragt.
- b. Bedarf an Koordinierungstreffen, bilateralen Treffen etc.
 1. Gespräch zur Aal- und Lachsbeprobung
 2. Gespräch zur Datenbank TI-BLE, auch wegen der zukünftigen Discardeinträge
 3. Bilaterales Treffen D-NL Anfang April 2014
- c. Jahres- und Finanzbericht 2013: Einreichfrist **31.5.2014!**
In 2014 noch gleiches Prozedere wie Jahre zuvor!

15. Sonstiges:

Die Evaluierung der Jahresberichte lief für Deutschland sehr zufriedenstellend, Deutschland mit Finnland und Polen einzige Länder mit sehr guter „overall compliance“.

Ende der Sitzung: 16:40 Uhr

ANNEX 2: EEL SAMPLING

European Eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) data collection within the EU Data Collection Framework (DCF, Reg. 199/2008) in German freshwater habitats

The European eel population (all stages: glass eel, yellow eel and silver eel) has decreased drastically during the last century. Indications state that the eel stock has continued to decline in 2012. The WGEEL recruitment index (five year average) is currently at its lowest historical level, less than 1% for the North Sea and 5% elsewhere in the distribution area with respect to 1960-1979 (ICES WGEEL 2012). The European Commission adopted a multiannual community program pursuant to Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 to establish a community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy (Commission Decision 2008/949/EC). Due to its catadromous life cycle, sampling of European Eel data also in freshwater has become mandatory in the DCF since 2009.

Sampling in Germany in 2013 has started in spring. Due to little experience with DCF sampling in freshwaters, sampling until the end of 2013 was considered an extension of the previously mentioned “pilot” phase (see DCF Annual Reports 2009-2010). Data collection was coordinated and performed by the Institute of Fisheries Ecology of the Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute, where temporal positions for two scientists have been established for the DCF work on eels.

In this “pilot” phase, sampling focused on gathering biological parameters of eel in commercial catches of inland fisheries. During the ongoing sampling period from 2011 to 2013, the proposal for the German national program intended the gathering of 600 eels from the Baltic sea and 300 eels from the North Sea, including the respective discharging river basin districts (RBD; according to Water Framework Directive, see Figure 1). However, recent sampling aimed at 600 eels from North Sea and 300 eels from the Baltic Sea, which has proven to be a more practical approach. If possible, 100 silver and 100 yellow eels per RBD were sampled, according to Commission Decision 2010/93/EU. In some RBD's (e.g. Eider), the collection of eels was difficult due to low catches in 2013, thus sample sizes were not fully achieved. Exceptions were made for the RBD Meuse, where no commercial fishery exists in its German part and the RBD Danube, which is not considered a natural habitat of the European eel according to Council Regulation (EC) 1100/2007. Consequently, sampling was not required based on DCF standards. Due to low catches of commercial fishermen in the RBD Oder, no samples were available in Germany. Thus, in 2013, samples were gathered in a bilateral agreement between Poland and Germany (see Annex 4), with Poland being responsible for reporting DCF data for the Oder RBD to the EU, allowing Germany access to the respective data. However, samples gathered under this agreement are also mentioned in this report. A similar approach will be used for future sampling. In total, 901 eels were sampled in 2013 (see Table 1).

Yellow eels were mostly collected in spring/summer and silver eels in autumn 2013 (for detailed information see Table 1 & Fig. 2). Analyses include length, weight, age, sex and maturity (detailed information in the list of biological variables). Although not mandatory under DCF regulations, additional parameters such as infestation with the invasive swim-bladder nematode *Anguillicola crassus*, fat content of eel muscle tissue and contamination with several pollutants (e.g. BFR's, PCB's & PAH's) have been analyzed as well, partly in cooperation with other institutions (e.g. Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht, Center for Materials and Coastal Research). Apart from –yet unpublished- ongoing research, the following results have been published in 2013:

1. M. Brinkmann, S. Stoffels, M. Freese, J.-D. Pohlmann, U. Kammann, R. Hanel, H. Hollert; “Biomarker investigation on the contaminant exposure of European Eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) in German rivers”; Conference Paper; SETAC Europe Annual Meeting 2013, Glasgow, Scotland; 01/2013
2. Roxana Sühring, Jonathan Byer, Marko Freese, Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Hendrik Wolschke, Axel Möller, Renate Sturm, Peter Hodson, Mehran Alaei, Reinhold Hanel, Ralf Ebinghaus; “From

glass to silver eel – brominated flame retardants and dechloranes in European and American Eels”; Sixth International Symposium On Flame Retardants, San Francisco; 04/2013

3. Ulrike Kammann, Markus Brinkmann, Marko Freese, Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Sandra Stoffels, Henner Hollert, Reinhold Hanel; “*PAH metabolites, GST and EROD in European eel (Anguilla anguilla) as possible indicators for eel habitat quality in German rivers*”, Environmental Science and Pollution Research 10/2013
4. Roxana Sühling, Jonathan Byer, Marko Freese, Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Hendrik Wolschke, Axel Möller, Peter V. Hodson, Mehran Alaei, Reinhold Hanel, Ralf Ebinghaus; “*Brominated flame retardants and Dechloranes in European and American eels from glass to silver life stages*”; Chemosphere 12/2013

Due to the limited number of commercial fishermen and better comparability, sampling was restricted to only few locations. To optimize comparability, eels were preferably collected downstream in the system (Figure 2), close to the estuaries. If necessary, exceptions from this general approach were made. At present, no data on the fishery itself were gathered in the frame of the DCF. Fishery catch data collection has to be performed as part of the Eel Management Plans under the administrative constraints of Council Regulation (EC) 1100/2007 by German regional authorities (Bundesländer = Federal Countries).



Eider, Schlei/Trave, Elbe, Warnow/Peene, Oder, Weser, Ems, Rhine, Meuse and Danube. According to the submitted Eel Management Plans of Germany in December 2008 (EU Council Regulation 1100/2007) we adopted the 9 RBD's (Report on the eel stock and fishery in Germany 2008) for the EU-DCF.

Figure 1: River Basin Districts (RBD) in the Federal Republic of Germany

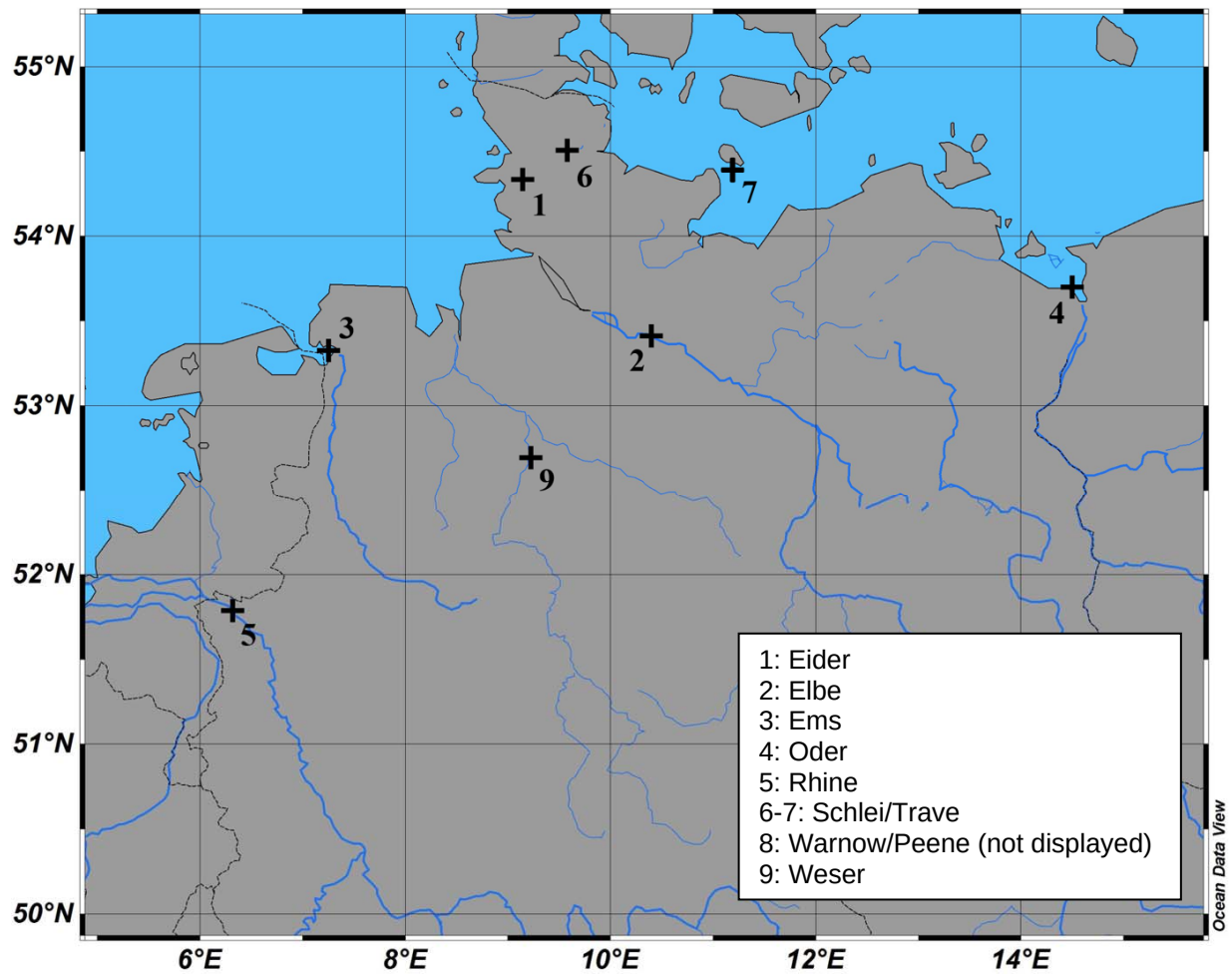


Figure 2: Overview of the spatial resolution for concurrent sampling of eels in German River Basin Districts (RBD) (Black crosses: Places of commercial eel catches, where samples were collected. For the Warnow/Peene RBD, eel were collected from several small fisheries, which are not shown in this map.)

Table 1: Sampling scheme per RBD in the year 2013.

No.	RBD	Sampling period	Sample size (n)*			Gear
			Y	S	Total	
1	Eider	Mai 2013	24	5	29	fyke net
1	Eider	November 2013	1	24	25	fyke net
2	Elbe	Juli 2013	70	2	72	fyke net
2	Elbe	November 2013	6	18	24	trawl
3	Ems	Mai 2013	65	16	81	fyke net
3	Ems	Oktober 2013	5	34	39	fyke net
4	Oder	September 2013	87	98	185	fyke net
5	Rhine	September 2013	44	58	102	stow net
6	Schlei/Trave	June 2013	23	0	23	fyke net
6	Schlei/Trave	July 2013	27	0	27	fyke net
6	Schlei/Trave	November 2013	4	22	26	fyke net
7	Schlei/Trave	October 2013	2	39	41	fyke net
8	Warnow/Peene	August 2013	3	2	5	-
8	Warnow/Peene	Juli 2013	16	4	20	-
8	Warnow/Peene	September 2013	29	61	90	-
9	Weser	August 2013	84	1	85	fyke net
9	Weser	November 2013	3	24	27	stow net

* S = silver eel; Y = yellow eel

List of biological variables within European eel (*A. anguilla*) DCF-sampling specifications

length ^a, weight ^b, sex ^c, maturity ^d, age ^e

^a: total length was determined either immediately after catch (to the nearest 0.5 cm) or after thawing. In the second case the values were corrected by assuming a reduction of 2.5% according to Wickström *et al.* 1986

^b: total weight was determined either immediately after catch or after thawing. In the second case the values were corrected by assuming a reduction of 2.8% according to Wickström *et al.* 1986

^c: sex determination via macroscopic assessment of gonadal development

^d: determination of silvering index according to Durif *et al.* 2005

°: according to EU Council Regulation (1100/2007), 200 eels (100 yellow and 100 silver eels separately) were analyzed for each RBD. However, not for all RBDs 200 eels were available. To date, additional silver eel samples are still required for the rivers Trave and Oder. Age reading of otoliths was performed using a “cutting and burning” protocol (WKAREA 2009).

Proposal for the data collection of European Eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) in the EU-Data Collection Framework (2010/93/EU) for the period 2014-2016

To further gather biological information on European eel, Germany proposes to continue data collection of its commercial catches. However, to better address the urgent questions for an eel fisheries management, sampling scheme and especially the collected parameters should be adapted as compared to the first sampling phase. Besides length, weight, age, sex and maturity of the sampled eels, parasite infestation and especially contamination with harmful substances are important parameters.

Several reviews on parasites and contaminants in eels have emphasized their negative influences on migration and reproduction. Therefore, estimation of an effective spawner biomass requires the quantification of the adverse effects of contaminants, parasites, diseases, and low fat levels on the capacity of eels to migrate and successfully spawn (EIFAC/ICES Working Group on Eels 2009).

In line with the report of the 2011 session of the Joint EIFAAC/ICES Working Group on Eels and the ICES Advice (2011), we strongly recommend that eel quality issues like *Anguillicola crassus* infestation as well as pollution with harmful contaminants like PCB's, DDT, dieldrin and heavy metals especially for silver eels should be taken into account for the new EU Data Collection program.

Considering the limited availability of glass eel for restocking purposes, a comprehensive data collection of these parameters (contaminants, parasites etc.) under the EU Data Collection Regulation would significantly contribute to the identification of suitable habitats for the production of high quality eel spawners.

Furthermore, no data on catch effort is collected within the DCF. Fishery data is collected as part of the Eel Management Plans under the administrative constraints of Council Regulation (EC) 1100/2007 by German regional authorities. We recommend the implementation of fishing effort data in the DCF, establishing a link between qualitative data (age, length etc.) and quantitative data (e.g. catch per unit effort), which would allow for a better estimation of the stock status.

ANNEX 3: R SCRIPTS FOR CALCULATING PRECISION (CVs)

Calculate analytical cv-values of length@age by species
by W.N. Probst, April 2011

```
len.age<-function(ca.table){
  if (ca.table[1,1]=="CA") ca.table<-ca.table[,1] # Remove the CA-column if necessary to make compatible with COST-columns
  ca.table<-subset(ca.table,is.na(ca.table[,21])==FALSE&is.na(ca.table[,20])==FALSE) # Remove all empty cases where age and length is not available
  source("D:/COST_DCF/cv.r") # Get the function to calculate CV
  summaries<-data.frame(0,0,0,0,0,0) # Create the template for the ouput table
  names(summaries)<-c("species","area","parameter","mean.length","mean.age","mean.cv","n") # Give names to the columns of the output-table
  a<-split(ca.table,list(as.character(ca.table[,10]))) # Split data by species
  for (i in 1:length(a)){ # Start loop to go through calculataions species by species
    # Calculate lengths@age: mean , sd, n and cv and mean cv #
    la<-aggregate(a[[i]][,20],list(a[[i]][,21]),mean) # Create table with mean length per age group
    la.sd<-aggregate(a[[i]][,20],list(a[[i]][,21]),sd) # Table with SD of mean length per age group
    la.n<-aggregate(a[[i]][,20],list(a[[i]][,21]),length) # Table with number of observations per mean per age group
    la<-cbind(la[,1],la[,2],la.sd[,2],la.n[,2]) # Put the mean, sd and n together into the first table ("La")
    la<-as.data.frame(la) # Convert from matrix into data frame to be able to set names
    names(la)<-c("age","mean.length.at.age","sd","n") # Set names
    if (length(la$mean.length.at.age)>0) # Calculate CV if datais availale
      la$cv<-cv(la$mean.length.at.age,la$sd,la$n) else
      la$cv<-numeric(0)

    # Write results from 'La' into the summaries-table
    summaries[i,1]<-names(a)[i] # Put species name into summary table
    summaries[i,2]<-a[[i]][1,16] # Put stock names into summary table
    summaries[i,3]<-"-length@age" # Put parameter into summary table
    summaries[i,4]<-weighted.mean(la$mean.length.at.age,la$n) # Put weighted mean of all mean-lengths@age into summary table
    summaries[i,5]<-round(weighted.mean(la$age,la$n)) # Put weighted mean age of all sampled age groups into summary table
    b<-subset(la,is.na(la$cv)==FALSE) # Create subset 'b' to remove CVs with 'NA'
    summaries[i,6]<-weighted.mean(b$cv,b$n) # Put weighted mean CV into summary table
    summaries[i,7]<-sum(b$n) # Print out summary table
  }
}
summaries
}
```

Calculate analytical cv-values of weight@age by species
by W.N. Probst, April 2011

```
wgt.age<-function(ca.table){
  if (ca.table[1,1]=="CA") ca.table<-ca.table[,1] # Remove the CA-column if necessary to make compatible with COST-columns
  ca.table<-subset(ca.table,is.na(ca.table[,21])==FALSE&is.na(ca.table[,28])==FALSE) # Remove all empty cases where age and weight is not available
  source("D:/COST_DCF/cv.r") # Get the function to calculate CV
  summaries<-data.frame(0,0,0,0,0,0) # Create the template for the ouput table
  names(summaries)<-c("species","area","parameter","mean.weight","mean.age","mean.cv","n") # Give names to the columns of the output-table
  a<-split(ca.table,list(as.character(ca.table[,10]))) # Split data by species
  for (i in 1:length(a)){ # Start loop to go through calculataions species by species
    # Calculate lengths@age: mean , sd, n and cv and mean cv #
    la<-aggregate(a[[i]][,28],list(a[[i]][,21]),mean) # Create table with mean length per age group
    la.sd<-aggregate(a[[i]][,28],list(a[[i]][,21]),sd) # Table with SD of mean length per age group
    la.n<-aggregate(a[[i]][,28],list(a[[i]][,21]),length) # Table with number of observations per mean per age group
    la<-cbind(la[,1],la[,2],la.sd[,2],la.n[,2]) # Put the mean, sd and n together into the first table ("La")
    la<-as.data.frame(la) # Convert from matrix into data frame to be able to set names
    names(la)<-c("age","mean.weight.at.age","sd","n") # Set names
    if (length(la$mean.weight.at.age)>0) # Calculate CV if datais availale
      la$cv<-cv(la$mean.weight.at.age,la$sd,la$n) else
      la$cv<-numeric(0)

    # Write results from 'La' into the summaries-table
    summaries[i,1]<-names(a)[i] # Put species name into summary table
    summaries[i,2]<-a[[i]][1,16] # Put stock names into summary table
    summaries[i,3]<-"-weight@age" # Put parameter into summary table
    summaries[i,4]<-weighted.mean(la$mean.weight.at.age,la$n) # Put weighted mean of all mean-lengths@age into summary table
    summaries[i,5]<-round(weighted.mean(la$age,la$n)) # Put weighted mean age of all sampled age groups into summary table
    b<-subset(la,is.na(la$cv)==FALSE) # Create subset 'b' to remove CVs with 'NA'
    summaries[i,6]<-weighted.mean(b$cv,b$n) # Put weighted mean CV into summary table
    summaries[i,7]<-sum(b$n) # Print out summary table
  }
}
summaries
}
```

Calculate analytical cv-values of maturity@age by species
by W.N. Probst, April 2011

```
mat.age<-function(ca.table){
  if (ca.table[1,1]=="CA") ca.table<-ca.table[,1] # Remove the CA-column if necessary to make compatible with COST-columns
  ca.table<-subset(ca.table,is.na(ca.table[,31])!=F&ca.table[,31]!="UNDEF") # Remove all empty cases where age is not available
  ca.table[,31]<-as.numeric(ca.table[,31]) # Set maturity data to numeric values
  source("D:/COST_DCF/cv.r") # Get the function to calculate CV
  summaries<-data.frame(0,0,0,0,0) # Create the template for the output table
  names(summaries)<-c("species","parameter","mean_mat_age","cv","n") # Give names to the columns of the output-table
  a<-split(ca.table,list(as.character(ca.table[,10]))) # Split data by species
  if (length(a)>0){
    for (i in 1:length(a)){ # Start loop to go through calculations species by species
      # Calculate lengths@age: mean, sd, n and cv and mean cv #
      m.a<-aggregate(a[[i]][,31],list(a[[i]][,21]),mean) # Create table with mean length per age group
      m.a.sd<-aggregate(a[[i]][,20],list(a[[i]][,21]),sd) # Table with SD of mean length per age group
      m.a.n<-aggregate(a[[i]][,20],list(a[[i]][,21]),length) # Table with number of observations per mean per age group
      m.a<-cbind(m.a[,1],m.a[,2],m.a.sd[,2],m.a.n[,2]) # Put the mean, sd and n together into the first table ("la")
      m.a<-as.data.frame(m.a) # Convert from matrix into data frame to be able to set names
      names(m.a)<-c("age","mean.mat","sd","n") # Set names
      if (length(m.a$mean.mat)>0) # Calculate CV if data is available
        m.a$cv<-cv(m.a$mean.mat,m.a$sd,m.a$n) else
        m.a$cv<-numeric(0)

      # Write results from 'la' into the summaries-table
      summaries[i,1]<-names(a)[i] # Put species name into summary table
      summaries[i,2]<- "maturity@age"
      summaries[i,3]<-weighted.mean(m.a[,2],m.a[,4]) # Put parameter into summary table
      summaries[i,4]<-mean(na.omit(m.a$cv)) # Put mean CV into summary table
      if (length(which(m.a$n>1))>0) # Put number of observations (n) into summary table if data is available
        summaries[i,5]<-sum(m.a$n[which(m.a$n>1)]) else
        summaries[i,5]<-0
    }
  } # Print out summary table
  summaries
}
```

Calculate analytical cv-values of mean sex-ratio@age by species
by W.N. Probst, April 2011

```
sr.age<-function(ca.table){
  if (ca.table[1,1]=="CA") ca.table<-ca.table[,1] # Remove the CA-column if necessary to make compatible with COST-columns
  ca.table<-subset(ca.table,is.na(ca.table[,21])!=FALSE&is.na(ca.table[,11])!=FALSE) # Remove all empty cases where age and sex is not available
  source("D:/COST_DCF/cv.r") # Get the function to calculate CV
  summaries<-data.frame(0,0,0,0,0,0) # Create the template for the output table
  names(summaries)<-c("species","stock","parameter","mean.%F","cv","n") # Give names to the columns of the output-table
  a<-split(ca.table,list(as.character(ca.table[,10]))) # Split data by species
  for (i in 1:length(a)){ # Start loop by species
    s.r<-aggregate(a[[i]][,11],list(a[[i]][,21]),table) # Aggregate number of observations per sex per age-class
    s.r<-cbind(s.r[,1],as.data.frame(s.r[,2][,1:2])) # Rearrange 's.r'-table to turn it into a data-frame
    s.r$sex.ratio<-(s.r[,2]/(s.r[,2]+s.r[,3]))*100 # Calculate the sex-ratio as percentage of females
    names(s.r)<-c("age","No.F","No.M","sex.ratio") # Assign names to the 's.r'-table
    summaries[i,1]<-names(a)[i] # Put species name into summary table
    summaries[i,2]<-a[[i]][1,16] # Put stock name into summary table
    summaries[i,3]<- "sexratio@age(%F)" # Put parameter into summary table
    mean.sr<-weighted.mean(s.r$sex.ratio,(s.r$No.F+s.r$No.M)) # Calculate weighted mean (by n) of sex ratio
    sd.sr<-sd(na.omit(s.r$sex.ratio)) # Calculate sd of sex-ratios of age-class
    n.sr<-length(s.r$sex.ratio) # Here n is the number of age classes (not the number of measured individual fish!)
    summaries[i,4]<-mean.sr # Put the weighted mean to the summary table
    summaries[i,5]<-cv(mean.sr,sd.sr,n.sr) # Calculate and put the CV of n observed age classes
    summaries[i,6]<-sum(s.r[,2:3]) # Here the n refers to the number of sexed individuals (use this for the TRI)
  }
  summaries # Put the summary table out
}
```

ANNEX 4: BI- AND MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Bilateral Agreement between Denmark (DTU-Aqua) and Germany (Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute, vTI) for the collection of length and age samples in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, and its Commission Decision 2010/93/EU

Agreement:

Vessels fishing under the German register, which land for first sale into Denmark, will be sampled as part of the German National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008). The eventual additional sampling costs will be covered within the German National Sampling Programme 2011-2013.

Vessels fishing under the Danish register, which land for first sale into Germany, will be sampled as part of the Danish National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008). The eventual additional sampling costs will be covered within the Danish National Sampling Programme 2011-2013.

Description of sampling:

The sampling will be for length and age of discards and landings, sampling will be carried out in accordance with the respective National Sampling Programme.

Sampling intensity:

Levels and coverage of sampling will be as agreed at the annual meetings of the RCM Baltic and RCM North Sea & Eastern Arctic.

Data responsibility:

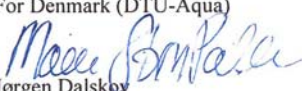
Germany is responsible for submitting the data from German vessels, and Denmark in the case of sampling Danish vessels, to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework. Both Member States will provide the required data for the species that are requested by the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and the data for the additional species to the respective other Member State as and when requested.

Contact persons:

In Denmark (DTU-Aqua): Marie Storr-Paulsen: msp@aqua.dtu.dk
In Germany (vTI): Kay Panten (North Sea): kay.panten@vti.bund.de
Nik Probst (Baltic): nikolaus.probst@vti.bund.de

Signatures:

For Denmark (DTU-Aqua)


Jørgen Dalskov

Danish National Correspondent

on behalf of Jørgen Dalskov

Date: 18 March 2010

For Germany (vTI)


Dr. Christoph Stransky

German National Correspondent

**Bilateral Agreement between Sweden (Institute of Marine Research) and
Germany (Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute, vTI) for the collection of length
and age samples in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down
detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, and its
Commission Decision 2010/93/EU**

Agreement:

Vessels fishing under the German register, which land for first sale into Sweden, will be sampled as part of the German National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008). The eventual additional sampling costs will be covered within the German National Sampling Programme 2011-2013.

Vessels fishing under the Swedish register, which land for first sale into Germany, will be sampled as part of the Swedish National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008). The eventual additional sampling costs will be covered within the Swedish National Sampling Programme 2011-2013.

Description of sampling:

The sampling will be for length and age of discards and landings, sampling will be carried out in accordance with the respective National Sampling Programme.

Sampling intensity:

Levels and coverage of sampling will be as agreed at the annual meetings of the RCM Baltic and RCM North Sea & Eastern Arctic.

Data responsibility:

Germany is responsible for submitting the data from German vessels, and Sweden in the case of sampling Swedish vessels, to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework. Both Member States will provide the required data for the species that are requested by the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and the data for the additional species to the respective other Member State as and when requested.

Contact persons:

In Sweden (IMR): Maria Hansson: maria.hansson@fiskeriverket.se

In Germany (vTI): Kay Panten (North Sea): kay.panten@vti.bund.de

Nik Probst (Baltic): nikolaus.probst@vti.bund.de

Signatures:

For Sweden (SBF)



Dr. Joakim Hjelm

Director Institute of Marine Research

For Germany (vTI)



Dr. Christoph Stransky

German National Correspondent

Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institut
Bundesforschungsinstitut für
Ländliche Räume, Wald und Fischerei
Institut für Seefischerei
Palmaille 9 • 22767 Hamburg

Date: 18 March 2010

Bilateral Agreement between The Netherlands (Centre for Fisheries Research, CVO) and Germany (Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute, vTI) for the collection of length and age samples in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, and its Commission Decision 2010/93/EU

Agreement:

Pelagic freezer trawlers fishing on herring, blue whiting, mackerel and horse mackerel, and beam trawlers fishing on plaice and sole under the German register, which land for first sale into The Netherlands, will be sampled as part of the German National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008). The eventual additional sampling costs will be covered within the German National Sampling Programme 2011-2013.

Description of sampling:

The sampling will be for length and age of discards and landings, sampling will be carried out in accordance with the German National Sampling Programme.

Sampling intensity:

Levels and coverage of sampling will be as agreed at the annual meeting of RCM North Sea & Eastern Arctic.

Data responsibility:

Germany is responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework. Germany will provide the required data for the species that are requested by the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and the data for the additional species to The Netherlands as and when requested.

Contact persons:

In The Netherlands (CVO): Sieto Verver: sieto.verver@wur.nl
In Germany (vTI-SF): Jens Ulleweit: jens.ulleweit@vti.bund.de

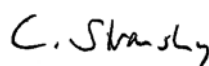
Signatures:

For The Netherlands (CVO)

For Germany (vTI)



Sieto Verver
Dpt. Head Centre for Fisheries Research



Dr. Christoph Stransky
German National Correspondent

Date: 24 March 2010

**Bilateral Agreement between the UK (Cefas) and Germany (vTI-SF)
for the collection of length and age samples in accordance with EC
Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application
of Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, and its Commission Decision
2010/93/EU**

Agreement:

Fishing activities of UK vessels in ICES Sub-Area I & II, which land for first sale into Germany, will be covered within the German National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008). Sampling costs will be included within the German National Sampling Programme from 2011- 2013.

Description of sampling:

These UK vessels are operating in the same metier as the German fleet and follow the same practices. Sampling for length and age of landings will be covered in accordance with the German National Sampling Programme. The metier is sampled by onboard observers.

Sampling Intensity:

Levels and coverage at the metier level will be as agreed at the annual co-ordination meeting of RCM NS&EA.

Data responsibility:

Germany will be responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework. Germany will provide the required data for the species that are requested by the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and the data for the additional species to the UK as and when requested.

Contact persons:

In the UK (Cefas): S. Warnes: steve.warnes@cefas.co.uk

In Germany (vTI-SF): K. Panten: kay.panten@vti.bund.de

Signatures:

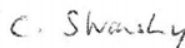
For UK (Cefas)



Carl O'Brien

Fisheries Division Director

For Germany (vTI-SF)



Dr. Christoph Stransky

German National Correspondent

Date: 19 March 2010

19 March 2010

Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institut
Bundesforschungsinstitut für
Ländliche Räume, Wald und Fischerei
Institut für Seefischerei
Palmaille 9 • 22767 Hamburg

Bilateral Agreement between Poland (NMFRI) and Germany (TI) for the collection of biological data in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, and its commission decision 2010/93/EU.

Agreement:

Biological sampling of yellow and silver eels from commercial fisheries in the Oder River Basin District will be covered within the Polish National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (Reg. 199/2008). Sampling costs will be included within the Polish National Programme.

Description of sampling:

Both Polish and German fisheries target eel in the Oder River Basin District and are using the same practices. Sampling for primary biological data will be covered in accordance with the Polish National Programme.

Sampling intensity:

The target sample sizes are 100 yellow and 100 silver eel from commercial fisheries in the Oder River Basin District. However, sample size might be adjusted to a lower level depending on the availability of eel from Polish commercial fisheries.

Data responsibility:

Poland will be responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework. Poland will provide the data for European eel, relevant for the Data Collection Framework, to Germany as and when requested.

Contact Persons

Poland: Tomasz Nermer; nermer@mir.gdynia.pl

Germany: Jan-Dag Pohlmann; jan.pohlmann@ti.bund.de

Signatures:

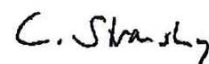
Poland



Dr. Zbigniew Karnicki

Polish National Correspondent

Germany



Dr. Christoph Stransky

German National Correspondent

Date: 07 May 2013

Multi-lateral agreement between Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland for biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in CECAF waters

Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland agree to co-operate in the biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in CECAF waters in 2012 and 2013. This agreement is in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation 199/2008 and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU.

Having regard the above mentioned Regulations and Decisions and the project description "Biological Data Collection of pelagic fisheries in CECAF water in compliance with the DCF" as discussed at the Regional Coordination Meeting for Long Distance Fisheries in Slovenia, May 2011, the following details apply to this agreement:

Partners

The following institutes are considered as partner within this agreement:

Member State	Institute	Contact person
Germany	Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute (vTI)	C. Stransky
Latvia	Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and environment	G. Kornilovs
Lithuania	The Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania	V. Grušauskas
The Netherlands	Centre for Fisheries Research (CVO)	F.A. van Beek
Poland	Sea Fisheries Institute	I. Wojcik

Coordination

The Netherlands coordinate the execution of this multi-lateral agreement. The Netherlands will contract independent contractor 'Corten Marine Research' (CMR) as agent between The Netherlands and IMROP, the Mauritanian Fisheries Research institute. CMR will hire Mauritanian observers from IMROP to carry out the actual sampling. CMR and IMROP will have an agreement in which the mutual obligations will be formalized; among others that only the additional costs for this specific task will be priced.

Sampling protocol

Biological sampling is carried on board fishing vessels in CECAF area by Mauritanian observers. These observers are instructed by CMR and follow the sampling protocol as described in "Biological Data Collection of pelagic fisheries in CECAF waters in compliance with the DCF", version 31-05-2011.

Data responsibility

CMR is responsible for data collection, quality control and delivery to the CECAF pelagic working group of all data collected under this agreement. CMR also reports all data to CVO and CVO will distribute the data to Partners.

Costs

The total costs for the sampling programme amount € 64,768,= per year. This sampling programme is eligible for 50% funding under the current DCF. The Netherlands will include the total costs in its Annual Cost Statement. The remaining 50% of the costs (€ 32,384,=) is paid for by all partners following a key based on average catches in 2006-2010.

Contributor	Share catches (2006-2010)	Contribution	Amount (€/year)
Netherlands	30,53%	30,53% of 32,384	9,887
Germany	3,76%	3,76% of 32,384	1,224
Poland	6,07%	6,07% of 32,384	1,966
Lithuania	32,67%	32,67% of 32,384	10,579
Latvia	26,95%	26,95% of 32,384	8,728
Subtotal partners			32,384
EU (through DCF)	-	50% of 64,768	32,384
Total contribution			64,768

The Netherlands sends each Partner an invoice per year, to which normal financial conditions apply.

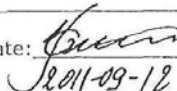
Access to vessels

On top of Council Regulation 199/2008 (Section 2, Article 11), each Partner ensures access to its fleet for Mauritanian observers under this agreement. Denied access to vessels does not exempt a Partner from legal or financial obligations.

Term

This agreement commences on January 1, 2012. With exception of financial obligations, this agreement ends on December 31, 2013. This agreement, with exception of financial obligations, is subject to dissolve prior to this date in case the pelagic fishery in the CEEAF area by EU vessels closes. Eventual remaining contributions will be pro rata reimbursed to Partners.

Signatures

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	Date: 2011-06-23
The Netherlands	Dirkjan van der Stelt	National Correspondent	Date: 2011-06-23
Latvia	Georgs Kornilovs	National Correspondent	Date: 2011-06-30
Lithuania	Vytautas Grušauskas	Director	Date:  2011-09-12
Poland	Ireneusz Wojcik	Senior Specialist	Date: 2011-06-23

Contributor	Share catches (2006-2010)	Contribution	Amount (€/year)
Netherlands	30,53%	30,53% of 32,384	9,887
Germany	3,76%	3,76% of 32,384	1,224
Poland	6,07%	6,07% of 32,384	1,966
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Subtotal partners			32,384
EU (through DCF)	-	50% of 64,768	32,384
Total contribution			64,768

*Latvia performs the payment if the necessary financing is available

The Netherlands sends each Partner an invoice per year, to which normal financial conditions apply.

Access to vessels

On top of Council Regulation 199/2008 (Section 2, Article 11), each Partner ensures access to its fleet for Mauritanian observers under this agreement. Denied access to vessels does not exempt a Partner from legal or financial obligations.

Term

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Signatures

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	Date: _____
The Netherlands	Dirkjan van der Stelt	National Correspondent	Date: _____
Latvia	Georgs Kornilovs	National Correspondent	Date: 30.06.2011. <i>G. Kornilovs</i>
Lithuania			Date: _____
Poland	Ireneusz Wojcik	Senior Specialist	Date: _____

Contributor	Share catches (2006-2010)	Contribution	Amount (€/year)
Netherlands	30,53%	30,53% of 32,384	9,887
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The Netherlands sends each Partner an invoice per year, to which normal financial conditions apply.

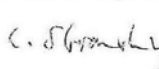
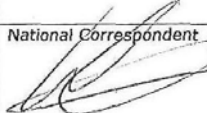
Access to vessels

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Term

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Signatures

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	Date: 23/06/2011 
The Netherlands	Dirkjan van der Stelt	National Correspondent	Date: 23/06/11 
Latvia	<NAAM>	<FUNCTIE>	Date: _____
Lithuania	<NAAM>	<FUNCTIE>	Date: _____
Poland	Ireneusz Wojcik	Senior Specialist	Date: 23/06/11 