

Northern Fishing Alliance - Cod Group

Mark Dickey-Collas
ACOM chair
ICES
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1st October 2021,

North Sea cod

Dear Mark,

Many thanks for your reply to our letter of July 1st (North Sea Cod). We appreciate the candour in which you have replied although we remain disappointed and concerned in relation to some of the assumptions and the impact those assumptions have on the cod advice. Our position remains that scant regard has been paid to the prevailing situation where a distortion to fleet activities is delivering a tangible reduction in F on the cod stock. Reopening of the advice would however provide an opportunity to take a fresh look at the areas of concern to us although we appreciate that the same process and people may deliver a similar output.

Regarding our offer of an independent industry survey, we accept your counsel on the matter and will seek to enter discussions with our respective national institutes in the hope of planning a way forward.

Our group was pleased at your personal support for a workshop/symposium on North Sea cod

We fully appreciate the pressures on ICES and accept that, by necessity, planning for such an event will have to be beyond the end of this year. As a group we would welcome the opportunity to be central with others in the planning of the event, especially regarding setting the agenda thus ensuring the areas of concern to us, and indeed others, are covered.

Thank you again for taking the time to respond to our group and we look forward to an ongoing dialogue on this issue. We are especially enthused about future collaboration and cooperation on an event that has potential to shed great light and direction.

We look forward to your response. Yours Sincerely



Mike Park
On behalf of the Cod Group

