

## **ACOM**

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Subject: Editorial rights to stakeholder information

## Dear ACOM,

At this year's MIACO meeting one of the questions raised by the Pelagic AC was whether ICES retains the right to edit information submitted by stakeholders for information in the ICES advice sheets.

A particular example where ICES deleted stakeholder information without seeking prior consent is Celtic Sea herring. One of the comments from stakeholders has been that they prefer the management strategy developed by the Pelagic AC over MSY. However, under the section "Information from stakeholders" in the advice on Celtic Sea herring for 2017 this comment was deleted by ICES. Naturally, stakeholders are dissatisfied with this practice and are looking forward to receiving clarification from ICES on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Sean O'Donoghue

Chairman Working Group II

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