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Date:	1st of May 2019
Our reference:	1819/PAC68
Subject:	Request for inclusion density dependence component to ICES workshop on a Research Roadmap for Mackerel (WKRRMAC)
CC:	Carl O'Brien (Cefas)

Dear Mark,

On behalf of the Pelagic AC I would like to submit a request for the upcoming ICES workshop on a Research Roadmap for Mackerel (WKRRMAC), which will take place from 7 – 9th of May 2019 in Bremerhaven. This request is unanimously endorsed by the Executive Committee of the Pelagic AC.

During the Pelagic AC Working Group I meeting held on 25 April 2019, our members received a presentation by Henrik Sparholt regarding the ongoing Fmsy project (www.fmsyproject.net). In light of this presentation, it was concluded amongst our members that the concept of density dependence would be a valuable insight for the future development and understanding of the mackerel stock perception. Given that the WKRRMAC is intended to look forward and build a roadmap for future science in relation to mackerel, we believe this concept would be a fitting contribution and worthwhile to explore during this workshop. We therefore kindly ask that you include the density dependence component to the workshop agenda.

We are fully aware this request comes at a late stage and apologize for this, but we hope you are in a position to accommodate this request nevertheless.

In addition, we recommend ICES to include this concept on the list of future research requirements (Annex 5) of the 2019 inter-benchmark report on the assessment of NEA mackerel.

We would be grateful for your cooperation and look forward to receiving your response.

Kind regards,

Jesper Raakjær
Chairman Pelagic AC

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