



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels
MARE.C.5/NG/vr

Subject: 2025 fishing opportunities recommendation for herring in 6a North, herring in 6a South and 7bc and Irish Sea herring.

Dear Mr Sverdrup,

Thank you for your letter regarding the PELAC position on the setting of 2025 fishing opportunities for herring stocks.

I acknowledge that the delays in the publication of the advice have led to the delay in your recommendations. Decisions on TAC setting were already made during the annual consultations in December, but I note that the outcome of these consultations between the EU and the United Kingdom for herring in 6a North, herring in 6a South and 7bc were in line with your recommendations.

In relation to the Celtic Sea and Irish Sea mixing, my services are closely following this particular issue. While I appreciate your request to revoke the advice and for ICES to undertake a benchmark, the decision to initiate a benchmark is for ICES internal considerations. It should be noted however that in its recent advice for the Irish Sea, Celtic Sea and Southwest Ireland stock, ICES mentions “*that the consequences of the status of the Celtic Sea herring stock are being evaluated* (¹).”

Thank you once again for your dedication and efforts. I am looking forward to our continued fruitful cooperation. Should you have any further questions on this reply, please contact Ms Julia Rubeck, our Advisory Councils coordinator, via the functional mailbox MARE-AC@ec.europa.eu, as well as Norman Graham via Norman.Graham@ec.europa.eu.

Yours sincerely,

Charlina VITCHEVA

(¹) <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.27202638>

Mr Esben Sverdrup-Jensen
Chair Pelagic Advisory Council
info@pelagic-ac.org

