

NAFO manages International Fishery

NAFO is an **intergovernmental** organization founded in **1979** under the Convention on Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries.

NAFO is committed to ensuring the **long-term conservation** and **sustainable** use of the fishery resources in the Convention Area and, in so doing, to safeguard the marine ecosystems in which these resources are found.

NAFO achieves this goal through **international consultation and cooperation in science and fisheries management**.

NAFO manages the fisheries that take place in the **areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ)**, i.e. the waters beyond the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zones of the coastal States.



All NAFO fisheries conservation measures and regulations are compiled in the **NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures**, which are updated annually.

NAFO Convention

- **commitment** to the ecosystem approach;
- **enhancement** of the decision making process;
- **fortifying** international cooperation.

NAFO'S management is based on Science

NAFO's management measures are based on the scientific advice of fishery scientists from Contracting Parties. The Scientific Council meets several times each year to coordinate international data collections and provide advice to the Commission.

NAFO publishes the **Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science**, which includes scientific information pertaining to the fisheries of the Convention Area, including environmental and ecological factors affecting these fisheries.

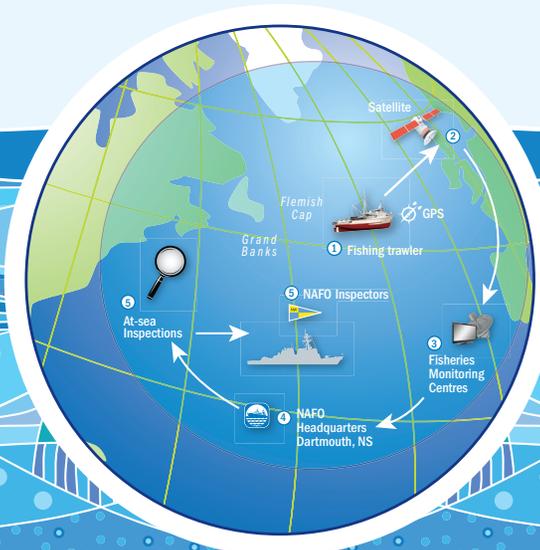


NAFO Monitors the fishery

NAFO requires that fishing vessels record and communicate their catches and fishing efforts. Reliability of these records is enhanced by the:

Observer Program. Each fishing vessel in the NAFO Regulatory Area must carry an independent observer on board, unless the Contracting Party is operating under partial withdrawal of observers, which allows for a reduction in coverage of no less than 25% of the fishing trips.

Vessel Monitoring System. Each vessel fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area must be equipped with a satellite monitoring device allowing the continuous reporting of their position, course and speed on an hourly basis.



NAFO Controls the fishery

NAFO sets and enforces **Total Allowable Catches (TACs)** and quotas, bycatch restrictions, minimum catch size, fishing season and area closures.

NAFO imposes a number of control measures on the international fishery in the Regulatory Area, e.g.:

- Authorization to fish
- Vessel and gear requirements
- Controlled chartering arrangements
- Product labelling requirements
- Catch reporting requirements

NAFO Inspects the fishery



NAFO inspectors conduct frequent and indiscriminate **at-sea inspections** in the international waters.

Inspections of catch and landings also take place in NAFO **registered ports**.



NAFO Frameworks

- **Precautionary Approach** is used for the improved protection of the resources. NAFO determines prudent resource management measures in the absence of sufficient scientific data.
- **Multi-year management plans** have been used on a more regular basis to provide greater certainty to the fishing industry.
- **Ecosystem Approach.** In the context of implementing the ecosystem approach to fisheries management, NAFO has closed areas to bottom trawling to protect Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) and seamounts.
- **Risk Based Management Strategies (RBMS).** Conservation plans and rebuilding strategies for depleted stocks are required under the UN Fish Stocks Agreement. Several NAFO stocks have been under moratorium for many years.
- **Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)** involves the evaluation of alternative management strategies encompassing clearly defined harvest control rules against a range of simulated realizations of the true fishery and fish stock dynamics. The aim of MSE is to identify those management strategies that are robust to the uncertainties while achieving performance targets required by managers.

Marine Species under NAFO management



Capelin



Atlantic cod



Splendid alfonsino



American plaice



Redfish



Thorny skate



Witch flounder



Yellowtail flounder

NAFO Contracting Parties



Canada



Cuba



Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands & Greenland)



European Union (EU)



France (in respect of St. Pierre & Miquelon)



Iceland



Japan



Norway



Republic of Korea



Russian Federation



Ukraine



United Kingdom (UK)



United States of America (USA)

Committed to **Conservation**

and **Management** of

Fisheries and **Ecosystems** in the

Northwest Atlantic



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