Collective arrangement between competent international organisations on cooperation and coordination regarding selected areas in areas beyond national jurisdiction in the North-East Atlantic

(OSPAR Agreement 2014-09 (Update 2018 Annex 2, 2021 Annex 1b, 2023 Annex 1a and 1b, Update 2024 addition of Rules of Procedure))

1. This collective arrangement between competent international organisations applies to selected areas in areas beyond national jurisdiction in the North-East Atlantic as specified in Annex 1 to this collective arrangement.

2. Competent international organisations should inform each other of any new area that they notify as being covered by this collective arrangement, as well as of any area being removed from being covered by this collective arrangement and any change regarding the border or status of an area previously notified. Annex 1 should be updated in accordance with such information.

3. Competent international organisations referred to in this collective arrangement (see Annex 2) are entities that have international legal competence under relevant international law to protect the marine environment in the North-East Atlantic and/or manage human activities that can affect the marine environment in the North-East Atlantic.

4. The cooperation and coordination of competent international organisations regarding selected areas in areas beyond national jurisdiction in the North-East Atlantic should be based on:

   a. applicable internationally agreed principles, standards and norms;

   b. Memoranda of Understanding and other bilateral cooperation arrangements between competent international organisations (in Annex 2 to this Arrangement);

   c. scientific evidence;

   d. relevant binding and non-binding international instruments, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic; the Convention on the Future Multilateral Cooperation in North-East Atlantic Fisheries; the FAO Code of Conduct for responsible fisheries; the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules in the Area; the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Sulphites in the Area; the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Cobalt-Rich Crusts and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto.

5. The competent international organisations should, within the framework of their respective mandate, competence, principles and rules, cooperate and seek coordination to ensure that suitable

measures for the conservation and management of these areas are implemented, informed, where appropriate, by conservation objectives established for these areas.

6. To this end the international organisations should:

   a. inform each other, as appropriate, of any relevant updated scientific information and environmental assessment and monitoring data;

   b. notify and inform each other of existing and proposed human uses relating to any area in Annex 1;

   c. cooperate, where appropriate, on environmental impact assessments, strategic environmental assessments and equivalent instruments;

   d. consult annually to review their respective objectives in relation to the areas listed in Annex 1, the status of the areas concerned and existing measures;

   e. cooperate to obtain a better knowledge of the areas concerned through, where appropriate, developing exchange of data, sharing of databases and collecting data in standardised formats;

   f. consult the coastal State in those cases where the areas listed in Annex 1 are superjacent to areas under national jurisdiction, as appropriate.

Collective Arrangement - Annex 1

Selected areas beyond national jurisdiction in the North-East Atlantic[1]

This arrangement between competent international organisations applies to the following areas beyond national jurisdiction in the North-East Atlantic:

Collective Arrangement - Annex 2

Memoranda of Understanding and other bilateral cooperation arrangements betweencompetent international organisations[2]

Collective Arrangement - Annex 3

Criteria and Procedures Governing Observership of Non-Governmental Organisations at Meetings under the Collective Arrangement[3]

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[1] Explanatory note:
This annex will include all areas that have been notified pursuant to paragraph 2 of this Arrangement. This will presumably include areas established as components of the OSPAR Network of Marine Protected Areas; areas NEAFC has closed to bottom fishing; and any other areas where a competent international organisation has established area-based management measures.

[2] Explanatory note:
This annex will include the Memoranda of Understanding between the competent international organisations that have agreed to this collective arrangement. This will include the Memorandum of Understanding between the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) and the OSPAR Commission. As other organisations join the collective arrangement, the relevant Memoranda of Understanding will then be added to this annex

[3] Adopted in 2024

ANNEX 1A

Notification by NEAFC on areas covered by the *Collective arrangement between competent international organisations on cooperation and coordination regarding selected areas in areas beyondnational jurisdiction in the North-East Atlantic*

The following shall be included in Annex 1 of the collective arrangement as notified by NEAFC.

Management measures

NEAFC's protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems in the NEAFC Regulatory Area is set out in Recommendation 19:2014, as amended (https://www.neafc.org/system/files/draft-Recommendation-19-2014-VME-protection-as-amended-by-Rec-09-2015-Rec-10-2018-Rec-10-2021-Rec-06-Rec-07-2023-Rec-12-2024-and-Rec-13-2024.pdf). This Recommendation is legally binding on all NEAFC Contracting Parties.

General overview

NEAFC started to implement measures to address the possible adverse impacts of bottom fisheries in the early 2000s. Measures were directed at conserving the deep-sea fish species (target resources and by-catch species), but were also aimed to address the effects of bottomfisheries on other components of the marine ecosystem, in particular epifauna susceptible tolasting damage from bottom-touching fishing gear (i.e. VME taxa).

The first area closures to protect VMEs were agreed in 2004, following a proposal by Norway. Over the following years, closures were seen as a primary tool to protect VMEs but then as an integrated element of a more general comprehensive approach. This approach included 1) defining the 'existing bottom fishing areas', i.e. areas that had been recently fished and where fisheries could continue relatively unrestricted, and 2) ensuring that bottom fishing outside theseareas (i.e. in 'new bottom fishing areas') where only exploratory fisheries subject to various restrictive conditions. These conditions now include a pre-assessment of the proposed activities.Proposed exploratory bottom fisheries can only commence after having been assessed by PECMAS and approved by the Commission.

Initially, the work accomplished in NAFO was used as a basis in formulating the general approach for NEAFC. If ICES advice suggests that VMEs are present or likely, subareas withinboth the areas defined as 'existing bottom fishing areas' and 'new fishing areas' have been closedto bottom fishing to prevent significant adverse impacts on VMEs. The parts of 'existing bottomfishing areas' that are not closed are subject to various measures, including reporting duties and an encounter protocol. An encounter with a VME results in a temporary closure in the relevant area. Similar encounter provisions are valid for exploratory fisheries in 'new fishing areas' and vessels have observer requirements.

NEAFC's work to protect VMEs began a few years before the adoption of UNGA Resolution61/105 in 2006, and the Resolution was therefore obviously not an influence on the initial development of NEAFC's measures to protect VMEs. However, the Resolution and the FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas (2008) became important documents for the continued development of NEAFC's regulations.

Following the initial closures agreed in 2004, and some additions in the following years, NEAFC's biggest step in adopting area closures to protect VMEs was taken in 2009 when several new closures were

adopted, including very large areas on the Mid Atlantic Ridge.

NEAFC has now closed the areas where it has concluded, on the basis of the best available scientific information, that VMEs occur or are likely to occur. No bottom fisheries should therefore be taking place in the NEAFC Regulatory Area that will result in significant adverse impacts on VMEs. Several of NEAFC's closures are not based on the identification of specific individual VMEs, but rather on the likelihood of there being VMEs somewhere in the vast closedareas on the Mid Atlantic Ridge.

An extensive review of NEAFC's bottom fishing regulation was carried out in 2012. It concludedthat the measures that were in place were sufficient for NEAFC to be acting consistently with therelevant UNGA Resolutions and the FAO Guidelines. However, it also suggested various furtherimprovements to NEAFC's regime. This led to the adoption of Recommendation 19:2014, whichreplaced previous general measures to protect VMEs.

The measures that are in place ensure that the only areas where bottom fisheries can legally take place in the NEAFC Regulatory Area, apart from the restricted exploratory fisheries, are in areas that are well known bottom fishing areas where the best available scientific advice has suggestedthat VMEs do not occur or are unlikely to occur. As the possible fishing areas where VMEs are known to occur or likely to occur have either been closed to bottom fishing or lie in 'new fishing areas' that are likely to remain largely unfished, fishing vessels are not expected to encounter VMEs. However, NEAFC maintains the encounter provisions for both 'new' and 'existing' fishing areas as an important instrument to ensure that any encounters, however unlikely, will be reactedto in an appropriate manner.

The currently used bottom fishing areas in the NEAFC Regulatory Area are therefore only areaswhere the best available scientific information indicates that there is unlikely to be significant adverse impacts on VMEs.

Fishing vessels conducting bottom fisheries in the NEAFC Convention Area are also subject tovarious other measures. This includes management measures for deep-sea species, and various control measures such as catch reporting, at-sea inspections and VMS surveillance.

NEAFC continues to develop its management in this context, and has a recurring request for scientific advice from ICES regarding any new information on the occurrence of VMEs in theNEAFC Regulatory Area. NEAFC also carried out a review of the entire recommendation in 2019 and as a consequence adopted further actions to continue to improve implementation.

Areas covered by specific measures

All parts of the NEAFC Regulatory Area (i.e. the high seas parts of the NEAFC ConventionArea) are subject to measures to protect VMEs:

- In "existing bottom fishing areas", bottom fishing is authorised but is subject to variousmeasures, including reporting duties and an encounter protocol. An encounter with a VME results in a temporary closure in the relevant area.
- In "restricted bottom fishing areas", that is areas outside closed areas and existing bottom fishing areas, the only bottom fishing activities that can be authorised are exploratory fisheries subject to various restrictive conditions. These conditions include a pre-assessment of the proposed activities. Proposed exploratory bottom fisheries can only commence after having been assessed byPECMAS and approved by the Commission. Other conditions on these exploratory fisheries include and encounter protocol and on-board observers.
- In areas closed for the protection of VMEs, no bottom fishing activities can be authorised.

For the purposes of NEAFC's Recommendation on the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems in the NEAFC Regulatory Area (Recommendation 19:2014, as amended), "bottom fishing activities" means the use of fishing gear that is likely to contact the seafloor during the normal course of fishing operations. This is consistent with the FAO definition of the term.

List of areas

Areas defined as "existing bottom fishing areas" are:

(a) Hatton Bank (HAR 1 – 5);
(b) Josephine Seamount (JOS 1);
(c) Mid-Atlantic Ridge (MAR 1 – 5);
(d) Barents Sea (BAR 1); and
(e) Reykjanes Ridge.

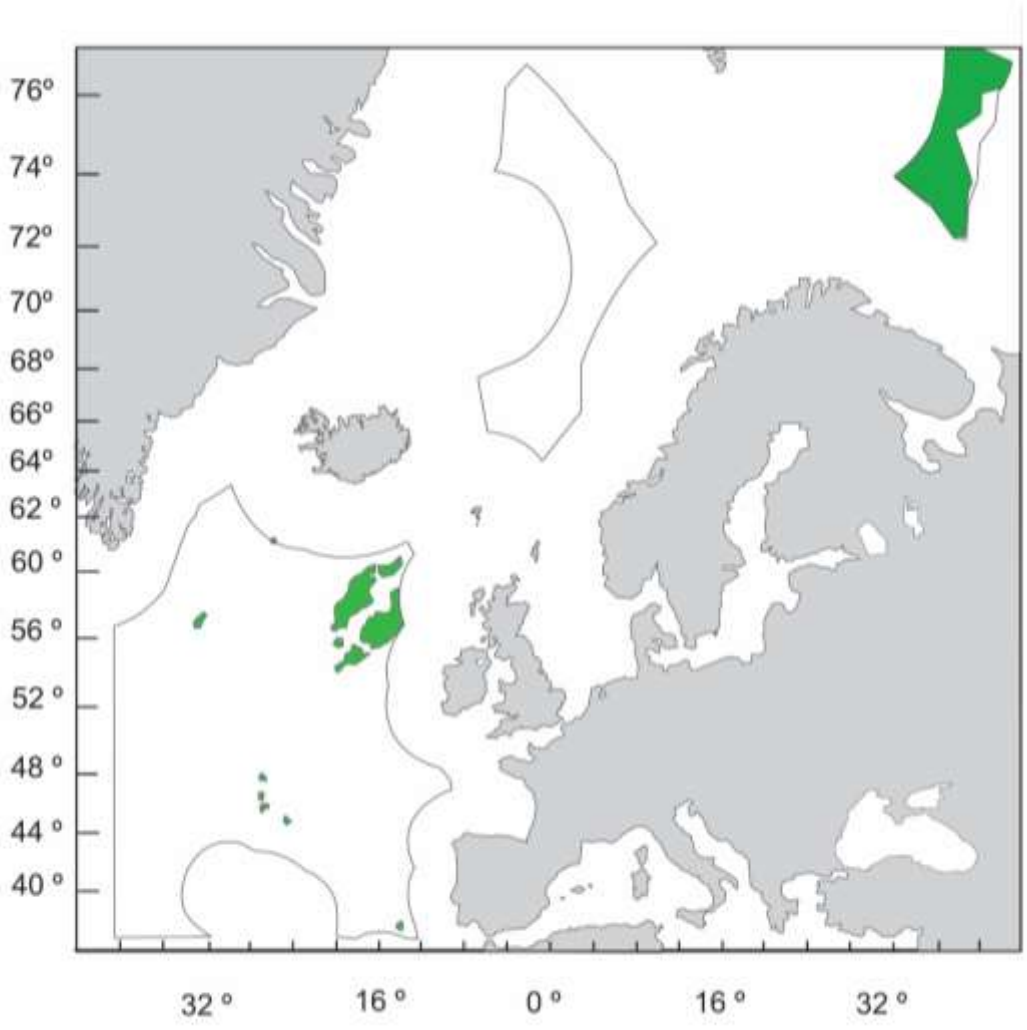
Areas defined as areas closed for the protection of VMEs are:

(a) Northern MAR Area;
(b) Middle MAR Area (Charlie-Gibbs Fracture Zone and sub-Polar Frontal Region);
(c) Southern MAR Area;
(d) Altair Seamount;
(e) Antialtair Seamount;
(f) Hatton Bank 1;
(g) Rockall Bank;
(h) Logachev Mounds;
(i) West Rockall Mounds;
(j) Edora's bank;
(k) Southwest Rockall Bank;
(l) Hatton-Rockall Basin; and
(m) Hatton Bank 2.

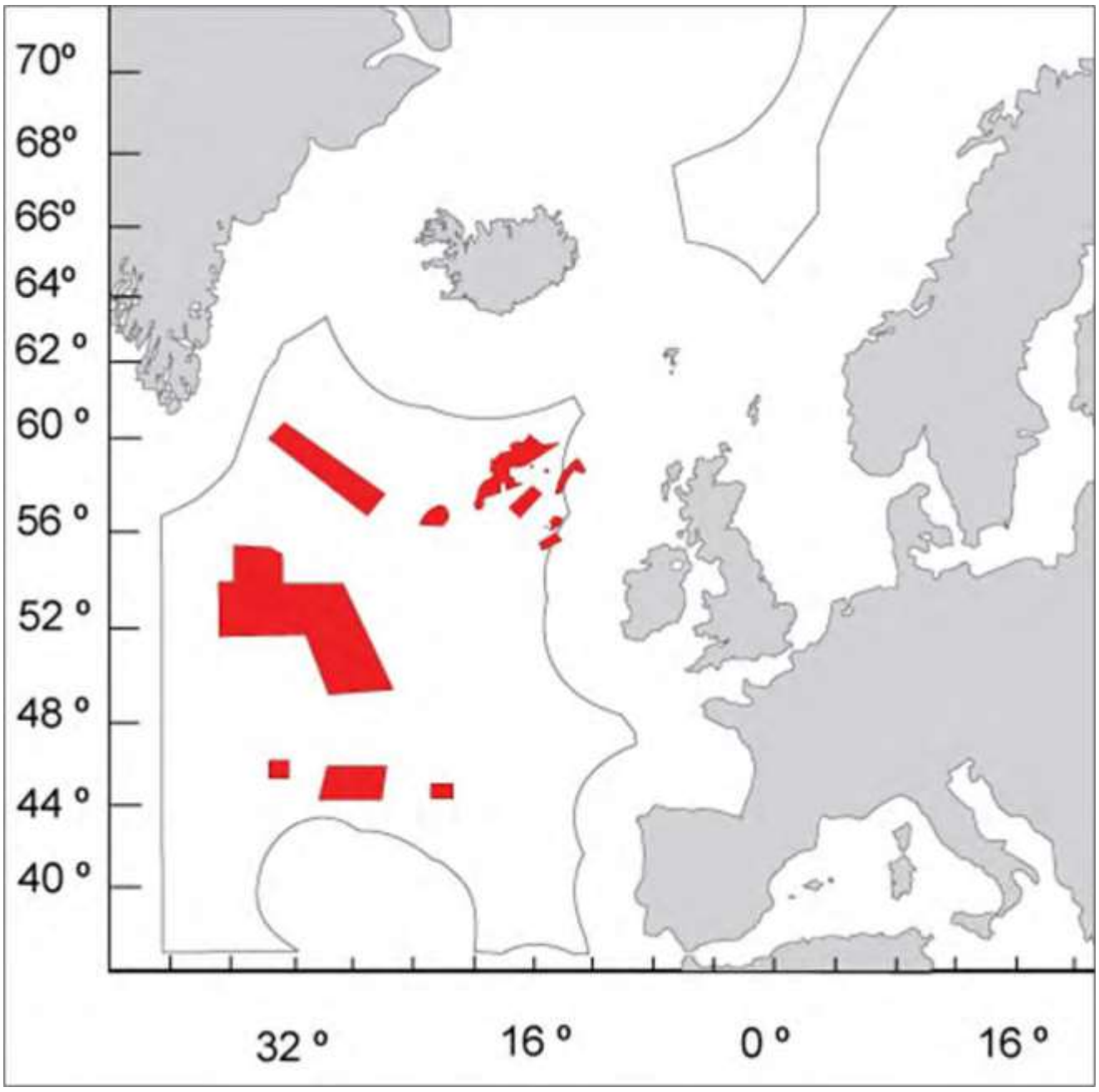
Maps

Following are maps showing the areas defined by NEAFC as “existing bottom fishing areas” andareas closed for the protection of VMEs. Only the parts of the areas that are in the NEAFC Regulatory Area (i.e. in the high seas) form a part of the “existing” and closed areas.

Existing Bottom Fishing Areas



Area closures for the protection of VMEs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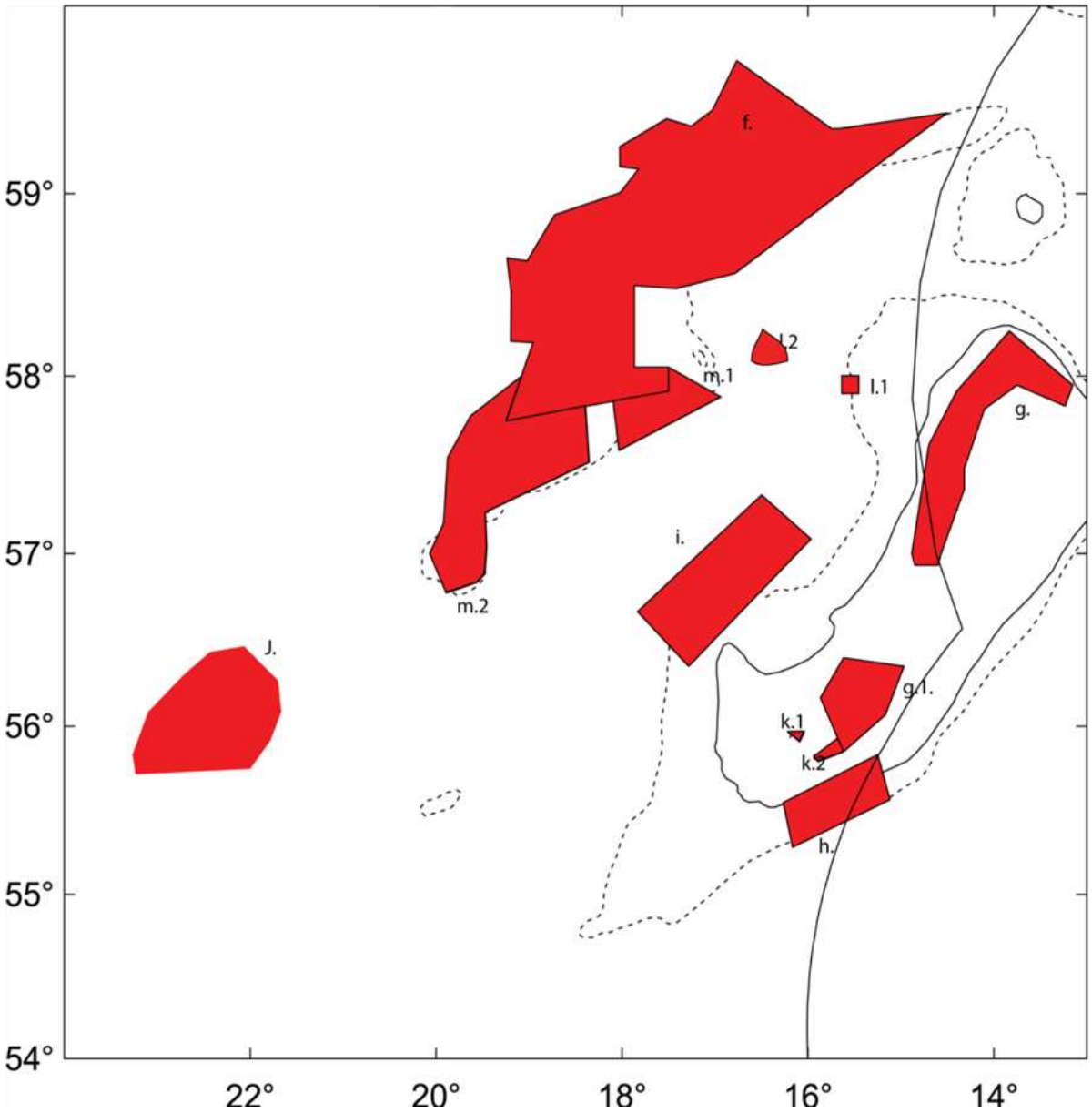
Close-up of Hatton Rockall Closures



Coordinates

Following are the coordinates of the border of the areas defined by NEAFC as “existing bottom fishing areas” and areas closed for the protection of VMEs. Only the parts of the areas that are inthe NEAFC Regulatory Area (i.e. in the high seas) form a part of the “existing” and closed areas.

Coordinates of Existing Bottom Fishing Areas

(Hatton Bank HAR 1 – 5; Josephine Seamount JOS 1; Mid-Atlantic MAR 1 – 5; Barents SeaBAR 1 and Reykjanes Ridge)

HAR 1				
	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	60.0557	-14.2048	60°03.34	-14°12.29
2	59.6708	-14.0275	59°40.25	-14°01.65
3	59.5262	-14.2562	59°31.57	-14°15.37
4	59.3197	-14.6393	59°19.18	-14°38.36
5	59.2495	-14.8738	59°14.97	-14°52.43
6	59.1178	-14.9539	59°07.07	-14°57.23
7	59.0620	-15.7430	59°03.72	-15°44.58
8	58.9765	-15.9202	58°58.59	-15°55.21
9	59.0620	-16.3034	59°03.72	-16°18.20
10	59.2992	-16.5207	59°17.95	-16°31.24
11	59.6160	-16.5207	59°36.96	-16°31.24
12	59.6160	-15.4456	59°36.96	-15°26.74
13	59.8005	-14.8280	59°48.03	-14°49.68
14	60.0670	-14.3420	60°04.02	-14°20.52
15	60.0557	-14.2048	60°03.34	-14°12.29

HAR 2				
	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	59.6998	-16.7094	59°41.99	-16°42.56
2	59.2496	-16.8066	59°14.97	-16°48.39
3	59.1530	-17.4699	59°09.18	-17°28.19
4	58.9913	-17.3384	58°59.48	-17°20.30
5	59.0884	-16.9552	59°05.30	-16°57.31
6	58.9618	-16.7094	58°57.71	-16°42.56
7	58.4600	-17.4584	58°27.60	-17°27.51
8	58.1897	-17.5156	58°11.38	-17°30.94
9	58.0901	-17.2297	58°05.41	-17°13.78
10	57.9720	-17.2412	57°58.32	-17°14.47
11	57.9144	-17.1039	57°54.86	-17°06.23
12	57.8292	-17.0925	57°49.75	-17°05.55
13	57.5511	-17.7844	57°33.07	-17°47.06
14	57.4928	-18.2075	57°29.57	-18°12.45

15	57.2955	-18.4935	57°17.73	-18°29.61
16	57.2151	-18.8194	57°12.91	-18°49.16
17	57.0662	-19.3512	57°03.97	-19°21.07
18	56.4992	-19.5399	56°29.95	-19°32.39
19	56.6127	-20.0202	56°36.76	-20°01.21
20	56.3791	-20.4377	56°22.75	-20°26.26
21	56.3791	-20.6435	56°22.75	-20°38.61
22	56.4992	-20.8494	56°29.95	-20°50.96
23	56.6190	-20.8494	56°37.14	-20°50.96
24	56.8354	-20.4262	56°50.13	-20°25.57
25	57.2368	-20.5635	57°14.21	-20°33.81
26	57.5818	-20.5635	57°34.91	-20°33.81
27	57.8566	-20.1803	57°51.40	-20°10.82
28	57.9235	-19.8830	57°55.41	-19°52.98
29	58.4809	-19.2425	58°28.85	-19°14.55
30	58.6806	-19.2826	58°40.84	-19°16.95
31	58.9766	-18.9967	58°58.59	-18°59.80
32	59.2145	-18.2876	59°12.87	-18°17.26
33	59.2700	-17.9216	59°16.20	-17°55.30
34	59.5001	-17.6643	59°30.01	-17°39.86
35	59.6998	-16.7094	59°41.99	-16°42.56

HAR 3				
	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	54.9406	-17.2011	54°56.44	-17°12.07
2	54.5810	-18.0303	54°34.86	-18°01.82
3	54.4083	-18.3962	54°24.50	-18°23.77
4	54.4781	-19.0538	54°28.69	-19°03.23
5	54.4150	-19.3112	54°24.90	-19°18.67
6	53.9767	-19.9516	53°58.60	-19°57.10
7	54.1847	-20.1289	54°11.08	-20°07.73
8	54.3350	-20.1003	54°20.10	-20°06.02
9	54.6373	-19.3912	54°38.24	-19°23.47
10	54.9800	-19.2540	54°58.80	-19°15.24
11	55.0685	-18.7393	55°04.11	-18°44.36
12	55.4303	-18.6822	55°25.82	-18°40.93
13	55.4076	-18.4134	55°24.46	-18°24.80
14	55.1438	-17.7730	55°08.63	-17°46.38
15	54.9505	-18.0303	54°57.03	-18°01.82
16	54.9800	-17.1325	54°58.80	-17°07.95
17	54.9406	-17.2011	54°56.44	-17°12.07

HAR 4				
	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	58.4869	-14.7537	58°29.21	-14°45.22
2	58.0659	-14.7766	58°03.96	-14°46.59
3	57.4928	-14.6851	57°29.57	-14°41.11
4	56.9385	-14.5479	56°56.31	-14°32.87
5	56.5812	-14.3020	56°34.87	-14°18.12
6	55.5696	-15.4571	55°34.18	-15°27.42
7	55.5146	-15.7887	55°30.88	-15°47.32
8	55.3914	-15.9488	55°23.48	-15°56.93
9	55.2116	-16.7523	55°12.69	-16°45.14
10	55.2884	-16.8972	55°17.30	-16°53.83
11	55.4329	-16.8667	55°25.98	-16°52.00
12	55.5223	-16.6862	55°31.34	-16°41.17
13	55.5081	-17.5842	55°30.49	-17°35.05
14	55.5656	-17.6744	55°33.94	-17°40.46
15	55.2221	-18.0232	55°13.32	-18°01.39
16	55.3183	-18.2793	55°19.10	-18°16.76
17	55.6856	-17.9905	55°41.14	-17°59.43
18	55.7960	-17.8706	55°47.76	-17°52.23
19	56.4973	-17.7834	56°29.84	-17°47.00
20	56.5994	-17.8215	56°35.97	-17°49.29
21	56.6983	-17.6308	56°41.90	-17°37.85
22	56.7509	-17.3955	56°45.05	-17°23.73
23	56.8948	-17.1325	56°53.69	-17°07.95
24	56.9167	-16.7780	56°55.00	-16°46.68
25	57.1904	-16.7094	57°11.42	-16°42.56
26	57.1532	-15.7887	57°09.19	-15°47.32
27	57.2708	-15.3942	57°16.25	-15°23.65
28	57.6188	-15.3054	57°37.13	-15°18.32
29	57.8415	-15.3104	57°50.49	-15°18.63
30	57.9537	-15.4859	57°57.22	-15°29.15
31	58.0668	-15.4376	58°04.01	-15°26.26
32	58.2131	-15.4859	58°12.79	-15°29.15
33	58.3882	-15.2392	58°23.29	-15°14.35
34	58.3628	-15.1350	58°21.77	-15°08.10
35	58.5018	-14.9024	58°30.11	-14°54.14
36	58.4869	-14.7537	58°29.21	-14°45.22

HAR 5				
	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	55.8531	-19.9630	55°51.19	-19°57.78
2	55.4368	-19.7457	55°26.21	-19°44.74
3	55.3361	-20.2375	55°20.17	-20°14.25
4	55.4855	-20.7236	55°29.13	-20°43.41
5	55.7856	-20.4548	55°47.14	-20°27.29
6	55.8531	-19.9630	55°51.19	-19°57.78

JOS 1				
	Lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	37.0621	-14.1703	37°03.73	-14°10.22
2	36.7150	-14.1044	36°42.90	-14°06.26
3	36.5521	-14.1854	36°33.12	-14°11.13
4	36.5622	-14.2668	36°33.73	-14°16.01
5	36.7029	-14.5385	36°42.17	-14°32.31
6	36.8795	-14.5560	36°52.77	-14°33.36
7	37.0560	-14.2415	37°03.36	-14°14.49
8	37.0621	-14.1703	37°03.73	-14°10.22

MAR 1				
	Lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	57.1717	-33.3419	57°10.30	-33°20.51
2	57.0976	-33.1241	57°05.85	-33°07.45
3	56.7293	-33.4885	56°43.76	-33°29.31
4	56.4943	-33.5696	56°29.66	-33°34.18
5	56.3731	-34.0165	56°22.39	-34°00.99
6	56.5289	-34.2443	56°31.73	-34°14.66
7	56.7449	-34.1446	56°44.69	-34°08.68
8	57.1517	-33.5070	57°09.10	-33°30.42
9	57.1717	-33.3419	57°10.30	-33°20.51

MAR 2				
	Lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	44.7495	-25.2187	44°44.97	-25°13.12
2	44.4873	-24.9684	44°29.24	-24°58.10
3	44.3749	-25.2867	44°22.50	-25°17.20
4	44.5689	-25.4261	44°34.13	-25°25.57
5	44.7977	-25.3331	44°47.86	-25°19.99
6	44.7495	-25.2187	44°44.97	-25°13.12

MAR 3				
	Lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	45.6840	-27.2571	45°41.04	-27°15.42
2	45.4763	-27.1426	45°28.58	-27°08.56
3	45.4286	-27.4180	45°25.72	-27°25.08
4	45.2023	-27.6218	45°12.14	-27°37.31
5	45.1872	-27.7613	45°11.23	-27°45.68
6	45.4913	-27.8757	45°29.48	-27°52.54
7	45.6690	-27.6683	45°40.14	-27°40.10
8	45.6690	-27.2571	45°40.14	-27°15.42
9	45.6840	-27.2571	45°41.04	-27°15.42

MAR 4				
	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	46.3844	-27.6218	46°23.06	-27°37.31
2	46.0528	-27.6469	46°03.17	-27°38.81
3	46.0528	-27.9186	46°03.17	-27°55.12
4	46.3992	-27.9186	46°23.95	-27°55.12
5	46.3992	-27.6683	46°23.95	-27°40.10
6	46.3844	-27.6218	46°23.06	-27°37.31

MAR 5				
	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	47.5556	-27.4395	47°33.34	-27°26.37
2	47.2919	-27.3036	47°17.51	-27°18.21
3	47.2919	-27.8042	47°17.51	-27°48.25
4	47.4638	-27.9437	47°27.83	-27°56.62
5	47.7243	-27.8042	47°43.46	-27°48.25
6	47.5556	-27.4859	47°33.34	-27°29.16
7	47.5556	-27.4395	47°33.34	-27°26.37

BAR 1			
Order	Latitude	Longitude	Type
1	74.1356	41.0604	old
2	73.7439	41.36	old
3	73.4273	41.0317	old
4	73.1143	40.7075	old
5	72.6406	40.5967	old
6	72.1881	40.5433	old
7	72.2545	39.7799	old
8	72.681	38.8237	old
9	73.0749	37.6254	old
10	73.373	36.6445	old
11	73.6367	35.364	old
12	73.9028	34.1123	old
13	73.9778	33.7019	old
14	74.2908	35.0644	old
15	74.576	36.0207	old
16	74.9065	36.9441	old
17	74.9377	37.00	old
18	75.1947	37.00	old
19	75.5264	37.5368	old
20	75.8002	38.00	old
21	77.3222	38.00	old
22	77.19	39.0197	new
23	77.077	40.1494	new
24	76.957	41.5452	new
25	76.857	42.9472	new
26	76.8138	43.978	new
27	76.635	43.6305	new
28	76.3275	43.222	new
29	76.1361	43.0563	new
30	76.02	42.0669	old
31	75.5715	42.1034	old
32	75.0994	39.5952	old
33	74.135	41.0604	old

Reykjanes Ridge				
	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	60.9844	-27.0000	60°59.07	-27°00.00
2	60.8811	-27.4432	60°52.86	-27°26.59
3	60.8893	-27.6897	60°53.36	-27°41.38
4	60.9592	-27.8432	60°57.55	-27°50.59
5	61.0295	-27.7756	61°01.77	-27°46.53
6	61.1569	-28.0560	61°09.41	-28°03.36
7	61.1901	-28.0221	61°11.41	-28°01.33
8	60.9844	-27.0000	60°59.07	-27°00.00

Coordinates of areas closed for the protection of VMEs

Area (a): Northern MAR Area

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	59.7500	-33.50000	59°45.00	-33°30.00
2	57.5000	-27.50000	57°30.00	-27°30.00
3	56.7500	-28.50000	56°45.00	-28°30.00
4	59.2500	-34.50000	59°15.00	-34°30.00
5	59.7500	-33.50000	59°45.00	-33°30.00

Area (b): Middle MAR Area (Charlie-Gibbs Fracture Zone and sub-Polar FrontalRegion)

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	53.5000	-38.0000	53°30.00	-38°00.00
2	53.5000	-36.8170	53°30.00	-36°49.00
3	55.0760	-36.8170	55°04.53	-36°49.00
4	54.9830	-34.6890	54°58.99	-34°41.36
5	54.6860	-34.0000	54°41.18	-34°00.00
6	53.5000	-34.0000	53°30.00	-34°00.00
7	53.5000	-30.0000	53°30.00	-30°00.00
8	51.5000	-28.0000	51°30.00	-28°00.00
9	49.0000	-26.5000	49°00.00	-26°30.00
10	49.0000	-30.5000	49°00.00	-30°30.00
11	51.5000	-32.0000	51°30.00	-32°00.00
12	51.5000	-38.0000	51°30.00	-38°00.00
13	53.5000	-38.0000	53°30.00	-38°00.00

Area (c): Southern MAR Area

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	44.5000	-30.5000	44°30.00	-30°30.00
2	44.5000	-27.0000	44°30.00	-27°00.00
3	43.2500	-27.2500	43°15.00	-27°15.00
4	43.2500	-31.0000	43°15.00	-31°00.00
5	44.5000	-30.5000	44°30.00	-30°30.00

Area (d): Altair Seamount

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	45.0000	-34.5833	45°00.00	-34°35.00
2	45.0000	-33.7500	45°00.00	-33°45.00
3	44.4167	-33.7500	44°25.00	-33°45.00
4	44.4167	-34.5833	44°25.00	-34°35.00
5	45.0000	-34.5833	45°00.00	-34°35.00

Area (e): Antialtair Seamount

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	43.7500	-22.8333	43°45.00	-22°50.00
2	43.7500	-22.0833	43°45.00	-22°05.00
3	43.4167	-22.0833	43°25.00	-22°05.00
4	43.4167	-22.8333	43°25.00	-22°50.00
5	43.7500	-22.8333	43°45.00	-22°50.00

Area (f): Hatton Bank

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	59.4333	-14.5000	59°26.00	-14°30.00
2	59.2000	-15.1333	59°12.00	-15°08.00
3	58.5667	-16.7833	58°34.00	-16°47.00
4	58.4833	-17.4167	58°29.00	-17°25.00
5	58.5000	-17.8667	58°30.00	-17°52.00
6	58.0500	-17.8667	58°03.00	-17°52.00
7	58.0500	-17.5000	58°03.00	-17°30.00
8	57.9167	-17.5000	57°55.00	-17°30.00
9	57.7500	-19.2500	57°45.00	-19°15.00
10	58.1858	-18.9585	58°11.15	-18°57.51
11	58.1928	-19.1995	58°11.57	-19°11.97
12	58.4625	-19.1942	58°27.75	-19°11.65
13	58.6515	-19.2380	58°39.09	-19°14.28
14	58.6352	-19.0215	58°38.11	-19°01.29
15	58.8857	-18.7257	58°53.14	-18°43.54
16	59.0048	-18.0218	59°00.29	-18°01.31
17	59.1335	-17.8218	59°08.01	-17°49.31
18	59.1458	-18.0245	59°08.75	-18°01.47
19	59.2527	-18.0260	59°15.16	-18°01.56
20	59.4028	-17.5203	59°24.17	-17°31.22
21	59.3628	-17.2560	59°21.77	-17°15.36
22	59.4485	-17.0277	59°26.91	-17°01.66
23	59.7115	-16.7660	59°42.69	-16°45.96
24	59.3495	-15.7458	59°20.97	-15°44.75
25	59.3500	-15.6667	59°21.00	-15°40.00
26	59.4333	-14.5000	59°26.00	-14°30.00

Area (g): Rockall Bank

North West Rockall:

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	57	-14.8833	57°00.00	-14°53.00
2	57.6167	-14.7	57°37.00	-14°42.00
3	57.9167	-14.4	57°55.00	-14°24.00
4	58.25	-13.8333	58°15.00	-13°50.00
5	57.95	-13.15	57°57.00	-13°09.00
6	57.8333	-13.2333	57°50.00	-13°14.00
7	57.95	-13.75	57°57.00	-13°45.00
8	57.8167	-14.1	57°49.00	-14°06.00
9	57.4833	-14.3167	57°29.00	-14°19.00
10	57.3667	-14.3167	57°22.00	-14°19.00
11	57	-14.5667	57°00.00	-14°34.00
12	56.9333	-14.6	56°56.00	-14°36.00
13	56.9333	-14.85	56°56.00	-14°51.00
14	57	-14.8833	57°00.00	-14°53.00

South-West Rockall (Empress of Britain Bank):

Area 1

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	56.4	-15.6167	56°24.00	-15°37.00
2	56.35	-14.9667	56°21.00	-14°58.00
3	56.0667	-15.1667	56°04.00	-15°10.00
4	55.85	-15.6167	55°51.00	-15°37.00
5	56.1667	-15.8667	56°10.00	-15°52.00
6	56.4	-15.6167	56°24.00	-15°37.00

Area 2

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	55.9483	-16.1883	55°56.90	-16°11.30
2	55.97	-16.1883	55°58.20	-16°11.30
3	55.9717	-16.0467	55°58.30	-16°02.80
4	55.9483	-16.0467	55°56.90	-16°02.80
5	55.9483	-16.1883	55°56.90	-16°11.30

Area 3

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	55.8317	-15.9333	55°49.90	-15°56.00
2	55.8083	-15.9333	55°48.50	-15°56.00
3	55.805	-15.8433	55°48.30	-15°50.60
4	55.8267	-15.8433	55°49.60	-15°50.60
5	55.8317	-15.9333	55°49.90	-15°56.00

Area (h): Logachev Mounds

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	55.2833	-16.1667	55°17.00	-16°10.00
2	55.5667	-15.1167	55°34.00	-15°07.00
3	55.8333	-15.25	55°50.00	-15°15.00
4	55.55	-16.2667	55°33.00	-16°16.00
5	55.2833	-16.1667	55°17.00	-16°10.00

Area (i): West Rockall Mounds

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	57.3333	-16.5	57°20.00	-16°30.00
2	57.0833	-15.9667	57°05.00	-15°58.00
3	56.35	-17.2833	56°21.00	-17°17.00
4	56.6667	-17.8333	56°40.00	-17°50.00
5	57.3333	-16.5	57°20.00	-16°30.00

Area (j): Edora's Bank

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	56.4333	-22.4333	56°26.00	-22°26.00
2	56.4667	-22.0667	56°28.00	-22°04.00
3	56.2667	-21.7	56°16.00	-21°42.00
4	56.0833	-21.6667	56°05.00	-21°40.00
5	55.9167	-21.7833	55°55.00	-21°47.00
6	55.75	-22	55°45.00	-22°00.00
7	55.7167	-23.2333	55°43.00	-23°14.00
8	55.8333	-23.2667	55°50.00	-23°16.00
9	56.0833	-23.1	56°05.00	-23°06.00
10	56.3	-22.7167	56°18.00	-22°43.00
11	56.4333	-22.4333	56°26.00	-22°26.00

Area (k) Southwest Rockall Bank

Area 1

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	55.9694	-16.2196	55°58.16	-16°13.18
2	55.9706	-16.0427	55°58.24	-16°02.56
3	55.9144	-16.0925	55°54.86	-16°05.55
4	55.9694	-16.2196	55°58.16	-16°13.18

Area (k) Southwest Rockall Bank

Area 2

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	55.9310	-15.6806	55°55.86	-15°40.84
2	55.8500	-15.6167	55°51.00	-15°37.00
3	55.7977	-15.8968	55°47.86	-15°53.81
4	55.8215	-15.9399	55°49.29	-15°56.39
5	55.9310	-15.6806	55°55.86	-15°40.84

Area (l) Hatton–Rockall Basin

Area 1

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	58.0025	-15.4538	58°00.15	-15°27.23
2	58.0025	-15.6377	58°00.15	-15°38.26
3	57.90317	-15.6377	57°54.19	-15°38.26
4	57.90317	-15.4538	57°54.19	-15°27.23
5	58.0025	-15.4538	58°00.15	-15°27.23

Area 2

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	58.1077	−16.6192	58° 06.46	-16° 37.15
2	58.2656	−16.4744	58° 15.93	-16° 28.46
3	58.1129	−16.1733	58° 06.77	-16° 10.40
4	58.0572	−16.1738	58° 03.43	-16° 10.43
5	58.0248	−16.4197	58° 01.49	-16° 25.19
6	58.0436	−16.6159	58° 02.62	-16° 36.96
7	58.1077	−16.6192	58° 06.46	-16° 37.15

Area (m) Hatton Bank 2

Area 1

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	57.8626	-18.0978	57°51.76	-18°05.87
2	57.9167	-17.5000	57°55.00	-17°30.00
3	58.0500	-17.5000	58°03.00	-17°30.00
4	57.8850	-16.9388	57°53.10	-16°56.33
5	57.5851	-18.0335	57°35.11	-18°02.01
6	57.8626	-18.0978	57°51.76	-18°05.87

Area (m) Hatton Bank 2

Area 2

	lat	lon	LAT	LON
1	57.9993	-19.0842	57°59.96	-19°05.05
2	57.7500	-19.2500	57°45.00	-19°15.00
3	57.8345	-18.3970	57°50.07	-18°23.82
4	57.5188	-18.3547	57°31.13	-18°21.28
5	57.2348	-19.4738	57°14.09	-19°28.43
6	57.0368	-19.4588	57°02.21	-19°27.53
7	56.8853	-19.4828	56°53.12	-19°28.97
8	56.8370	-19.5604	56°50.22	-19°33.62
9	56.7780	-19.8954	56°46.68	-19°53.72
10	57.0007	-20.0704	57°00.04	-20°04.22
11	57.1718	-19.9207	57°10.31	-19°55.24
12	57.5445	-19.8773	57°32.67	-19°52.64
13	57.7780	-19.6310	57°46.68	-19°37.86
14	57.9993	-19.0842	57°59.96	-19°05.05

ANNEX 1B

OSPAR Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic

Notification by OSPAR on areas covered by the Collective arrangement between competent international organisations on cooperation and coordination regarding selected areas in areas beyond national jurisdiction in the North-East Atlantic

The following information is presented and shall be included in Annex 1 of the collective arrangement:

From the OSPAR perspective, the selected areas are the OSPAR Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) that have been established collectively in areas beyond national jurisdiction within the OSPAR maritime area of the North-EastAtlantic:

1. Milne MPA
2. Charlie Gibbs South MPA
3. Altair High Seas MPA
4. Antialtair High Seas MPA
5. Josephine Seamount High Seas MPA
6. Mid Atlantic Ridge North of the Azores High Seas MPA
7. Charlie Gibbs North High Seas MPA
8. North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA

As concerns the Milne and Charlie Gibbs South Marine Protected Areas, the water column and seabed have been designated through collective action under the OSPAR Commission.

For Altair, Antialtair, Josephine and Mid Atlantic Ridge North of the Azores, the water column has been designated as an MPA as a collective action by the OSPAR Commission, with a commitment from Portugal to protect the underlying seabed;

For Charlie-Gibbs North, and the North-Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin the designation by the OSPAR Commission is for the water column only.

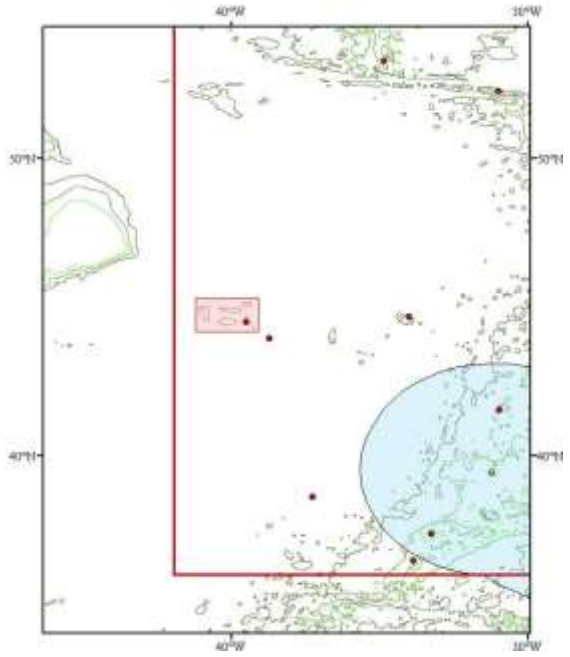
Information has been provided in the subsequent pages on their location, boundaries, conservation objectives, key human activities of relevance and the species and habitats of particular concern. In addition, the information provided is supported through the provision of URL links to the documentation supporting the designation and management of these sites. These links are provided in Appendix 1 and include:

- The Decisions for the establishment of the MPAs, which are legally binding on the Contracting Parties to OSPAR;
- Recommendations for the management of these Marine Protected Areas;
- Background documentation setting out how the OSPAR criteria for MPA designation have been met;

- Documentation on any species or habitats that are of particular conservation concern to OSPAR and occur within these selected areas;
- Any measures adopted by OSPAR to protect these species and habitats of concern.

1. Milne Seamount Complex Marine Protected Area

The Milne Seamount Complex Marine Protected Area in an area of approximately 21 000 km^2 bounded by the following coordinates[1] is established as a component of the OSPAR Network of Marine Protected Areas:



Latitude N	Longitude W
45,30 º	41,22 º
45,30 º	39,10 º
44,18 º	39,10 º
44,19 º	41,22 º

Objectives:

Conservation Vision[2]

Maintenance and where appropriate, restoration of the integrity of the functions and biodiversity of the various ecosystems of the Milne Seamount Complex so they are the result of natural environmental quality and ecologicalprocesses.

Cooperation between competent authorities, stakeholder participation, scientific progress and public learning are essential prerequisites to realize the vision and to establish a Marine Protected Area subject to good governance, sustainable utilization and adequate regulations. Best available scientific knowledge and the precautionary principleform the basis for conservation.

General Conservation Objectives[3, 4]

1. To **protect and conserve** the range of habitats and ecosystems including the water column of the Milne Seamount Complex for resident, visiting and migratory species as well as the marine communities associated with keyhabitats.

2. To **prevent** loss of biodiversity, and promote its recovery where practicable, so as to maintain the naturalrichness and resilience of the ecosystems and habitats, and to enable populations of species, both known and unknown, to maintain or recover natural population densities and population age structures.

3. To **prevent** degradation of, and damage to, species, habitats and ecological processes, in order to maintain

[1] All coordinates are in decimal degrees on the WGS84 datum.
[2] The conservation vision describes a desired long-term conservation condition and function for the ecosystems in the entire Charlie-Gibbs Fracture Zone. The vision aims to encourage relevant stakeholders to collaborate and contribute to reach the objectives set for the area.
[3] Conservation objectives are meant to realize the vision. Conservation objectives are related to the entire Charlie-Gibbs Fracture Zone or, if it is decided to subdivide, for a zone or subdivision of the area, respectively.
[4] It is recognized that climate change may have effects in the area, and that the MPA may serve as a reference site to study these effects.

thestructure and functions - including the productivity - of the ecosystems**.**

4. To **restore** the naturalness and richness of key ecosystems and habitats, in particular those hosting high naturalbiodiversity.

5. To provide a **refuge** for wildlife within which there is minimal human influence and impact.

Specific Conservation

Objectives[5]Water Column

a. To prevent deterioration of the environmental quality of the bathypelagic and epipelagic water column (for example toxic and non-toxic contamination[6]) from levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems, and where degradation from these levels has already occurred, to recover environmental quality to levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems.

b. To prevent other physical disturbance (for example acoustic).

c. To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate the epipelagic and bathypelagic ecosystems, including their functions for resident, visiting and migratory species, such as: cetaceans, and mesopelagic and bathypelagic fish populations.

Benthopelagic Layer

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate:

a. Historically exploited **fish populations** (target and bycatch species) at/to levels corresponding to populationsizes above safe biological limits[7] with special attention also given to **deep water elasmobranch species**, including threatened and/or declining species.

b. Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities to levels characteristic of natural ecosystems.

Benthos

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate to levels characteristicof natural ecosystems:

a. The **epibenthos and its hard and soft sediment habitats,** including threatened and/or declining species and habitats such as seamounts and coral gardens.

b. The **infauna of the soft sediment benthos**, including threatened and/or declining species and habitats.

c. The **habitats associated with seamounts**.

Species and habitats of concern

	OSPAR Listed features	**Other features of special concern**
Species	Orange roughy Blue whale Leatherback turtle Portuguese dogfish Gulper shark Leafscale gulper shark	Cetaceans Deep water sharks Oceanic seabirds like Cory's Shearwater (*Calonectris diomedia*)

[5] Specific Conservation Objectives shall relate to a particular feature and define the conditions required to satisfy the general conservation objectives. Each of these specific conservation objectives will have to be supported by more management oriented, achievable, measurable and time bound targets.

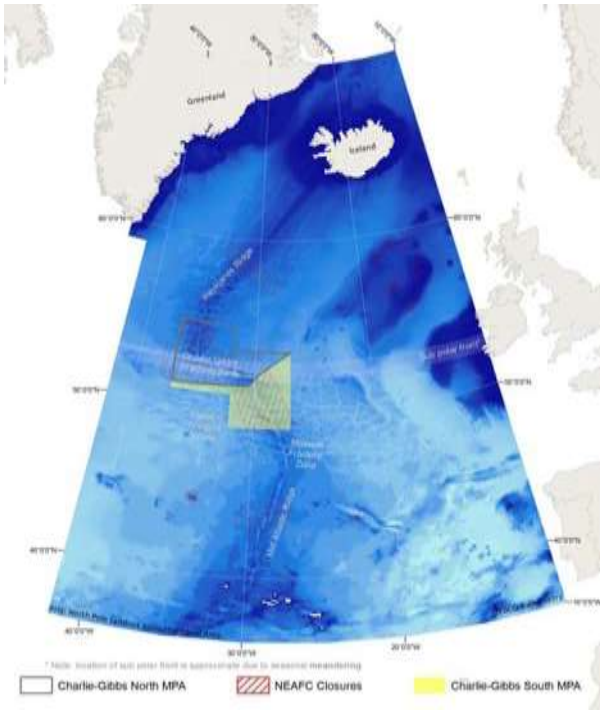
Habitats	Seamounts Deep-sea sponge aggregations *Lophelia pertusa* reefs Coral Gardens	Deepwater and epipelagic ecosystems, including their function for migratory species; Habitats associated with seamount structures, including their function as recruitment and spawning areas; Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities, including commercially fished species; Hard substrate habitats and associated epibenthos, including cold water corals and sponges; Soft sediment habitats and associated benthos, including "coral gardens" of non-scleractinian corals.

Key human activities of relevance:

- Deep sea and high seas fishing using fixed and mobile gears (both at the seabed and in the water column)
- Vessel traffic
- Seabed mining or other resource exploitation
- Bioprospecting
- Cable laying
- Military sonar

2. Charlie-Gibbs South Marine Protected Area

The Charlie-Gibbs South Marine Protected Area in an area of 145,420 km^2 bounded by the followingcoordinates[6] is established as a component of the OSPAR Network of Marine Protected Areas:



Latitude N	Longitude W
49,00 º	32,00 º
51,00 º	32,00 º
51,00 º	37,00 º
51,40 º	37,00 º
51,40 º	35,34 º
51,50 º	30,70 º
51,64 º	30,44 º
51,91 º	30,02 º
52,20 º	29,77 º
53,50 º	27,00 º
49,00 º	27,00 º
49,00 º	32,00 º

Objectives:

Conservation Vision

Maintenance and, where appropriate, restoration of the integrity and natural quality of the functions and biodiversity of the various ecosystems of the Charlie-Gibbs South MPA so that they are the result of natural environmental quality and ecological processes.[7]

Cooperation between competent authorities, stakeholder participation, scientific progress and public learning are essential prerequisites to realize the vision and to establish a Marine Protected Area subject to good governance, sustainable utilization, and adequate regulations, in conformity with UNCLOS. Best available scientific knowledge and the precautionary principle form the basis for conservation.

General Conservation Objectives

a. To protect and conserve the range of habitats and ecosystems including the water column of the Charlie-Gibbs South MPA for resident, visiting and migratory species as well as the marine communities associated with key habitats.

b. To prevent loss of biodiversity, and promote its recovery where practicable, so as to maintain the natural richness and resilience of the ecosystems and habitats.

c. To prevent degradation of, and damage to, species, habitats and ecological processes, in order to maintain the structure and functions - including the productivity - of the ecosystems.

d. To restore the naturalness and richness of key ecosystems and habitats, in particular those hosting high

[6] All coordinates are in decimal degrees on the WGS84 datum.

[7] Recognizing that species abundances and community composition will change over time due to natural processes.

natural biodiversity.

e. To provide a refuge for wildlife within which there is minimal human influence and impact.

Specific Conservation ObjectivesWater Column

a. To prevent deterioration of the environmental quality of the bathypelagic and epipelagic water column (e.g. toxic and non-toxic contamination[8]) from levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems.

b. To prevent other physical disturbance (e.g. so that the introduction of energy, including underwater noise, are at levels that do not adversely affect the marine environment).

c. To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate the epipelagic and bathypelagic ecosystems, including their functions for resident, visiting and migratory species, such as: cetaceans, and mesopelagic and bathypelagic fish populations.

Benthopelagic Layer

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate:

a. Historically harvested fish populations (target and bycatch species) at/to levels corresponding to population sizes above safe biological limits[9] with special attention also given to deep water elasmobranch species, including threatened and/or declining species, such as Portuguese dogfish, Leafscale gulper shark and Gulper shark.

b. Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities.

Benthos

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate:

a. The epibenthos and its hard and soft sediment habitats, including threatened and/or declining species and habitats such as seamounts, deep-sea sponge aggregations, *Lophelia pertusa* reefs and coral gardens.

b. The infauna of the soft sediment benthos, including threatened and/or declining species and habitats.

c. The habitats associated with ridge structures.

Species and habitats of concern

	OSPAR Listed features	Other features of special concern
Species	Orange roughy Blue whale Leatherback turtle Portuguese dogfish Gulper shark Leafscale gulper shark	

[8] This includes synthetic compounds (e.g. PCBs and chemical discharge), solid synthetic waste and other litter (e.g. plastic) and non-synthetic compounds (e.g. heavy metals and oil).

[9] "Safe biological limits" used in the following context: "Populations are maintained above safe biological limits by ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources in the deep-seas and preventing significant adverse impacts on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheriesin the High Seas, 2008).

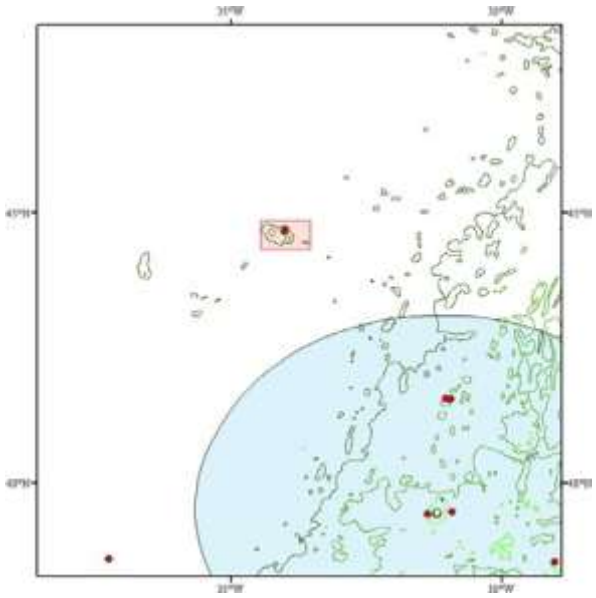
Habitats	Seamounts Deep Sea Sponge Aggregations *Lophelia pertusa* Reefs Coral Gardens	Deepwater and epipelagic ecosystems, including their function for migratory species; Habitats associated with ridge structures, including their function as recruitment and spawning areas; Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities, including commercially fished species; Hard substrate habitats and associated epibenthos, including cold water corals and sponges; Soft sediment habitats and associated benthos, including "coral gardens" of nonscleractinian corals; The meandering sub-polar frontal ecosystem.

Key human activities of relevance:

- Deep sea and high seas fishing using fixed and mobile gears (both at the seabed and in the
- water column)
- Vessel traffic
- Seabed mining or other resource exploitation
- Bioprospecting
- Cable laying
- Underwater noise

3. Altair Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area

The Altair Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area in an area of approximately 4409 km^2 of the high seas bounded by the following coordinates[10] is established as a component of the OSPAR Network of Marine Protected Areas:



Latitude N	Longitude W
44.86º	34.46º
44.86º	33.54º
44.32º	33.54º
44.32	34.46º

The boundaries of the Marine Protected Area in this Decision may be reviewed by the OSPAR Commission, taking into account progress made in establishing the outer limits of the extended continental shelf of Portugal in accordance with Article 76 of, and Annex II to, UNCLOS.

Objectives:

The conservation vision and general and specific conservation objectives contained in this Annex were endorsed by the OSPAR Commission in 2009 for the entire area of the Altair Seamount. They should be taken into account when implementing the programmes and measures set out the Recommendation only in so far as they are related to the area of the Altair Seamount High Seas MPA. Therefore, the references to the benthic habitats and sedentary species are included for informative reasons only.

Conservation Vision

Maintenance and, where appropriate, restoration of the integrity of the functions and biodiversity of the various ecosystems of the Altair Seamount so that they are the result of natural environmental quality and ecological processes.

Cooperation between competent authorities, stakeholder participation, scientific progress and public learning are essential prerequisites to realize the vision and to establish a Marine Protected Area subject to good governance, sustainable utilization, and adequate regulations in conformity with UNCLOS. Best available scientific knowledge and the precautionary principle form the basis for conservation.

General Conservation Objectives

a. To protect and conserve the range of habitats and ecosystems including the water column of the Altair Seamount for resident, visiting and migratory species as well as the marine communities associated with key habitats.

b. To prevent loss of biodiversity, and promote its recovery where practicable, so as to maintain

[10] All coordinates are in decimal degrees on the WGS84 datum.

the natural richness and resilience of the ecosystems and habitats, and to enable populations of species, both known and unknown, to maintain or recover natural population densities and population age structures.

c. To prevent degradation of, and damage to, species, habitats and ecological processes, in order to maintain the structure and functions - including the productivity - of the ecosystems.

d. To restore the naturalness and richness of key ecosystems and habitats, in particular those hosting high natural biodiversity.

e. To provide a refuge for wildlife within which there is minimal human influence and impact.

Specific Conservation ObjectivesWater Column

a. To prevent deterioration of the environmental quality of the bathypelagic and epipelagic water column (e.g. toxic and non-toxic contamination[11]) from levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems, and where degradation from these levels has already occurred, to recover environmental quality to levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems.

b. To prevent other physical disturbance (e.g. so that the introduction of energy, including underwater noise, is at levels that do not adversely affect the marine environment).

c. To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate the epipelagic and bathypelagic ecosystems, including their functions for resident, visiting and migratory species, such as: cetaceans, and mesopelagic and bathypelagic fish populations.

Benthopelagic Layer

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate:

a. Historically exploited fish populations (target and bycatch species) at/to levels corresponding to population sizes above safe biological limits[12] with special attention also given to deep water elasmobranch species, including threatened and/or declining species, such as Portuguese dogfish, Leafscale gulper shark and Gulper shark.

b. Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities to levels characteristic of natural ecosystems.

Benthos

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate to levels characteristic of natural ecosystems:

a. The epibenthos and its hard and soft sediment habitats, including threatened and/or declining speciesand habitats such as seamounts, deep-sea sponge aggregations, coral reefs and coral gardens.

b. The infauna of the soft sediment benthos, including threatened and/or declining species and habitats.

c. The habitats associated with seamount structures.

[11] This includes synthetic compounds (e.g. PCBs and chemical discharge), solid synthetic waste and other litter (e.g. plastic) and non-synthetic compounds (e.g. heavy metals and oil).

[12] "Safe biological limits" used in the following context: "Populations are maintained above safe biological limits by ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources in the deep-seas and preventing significant adverse impacts on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheriesin the High Seas, 2008).

Species and habitats of concern

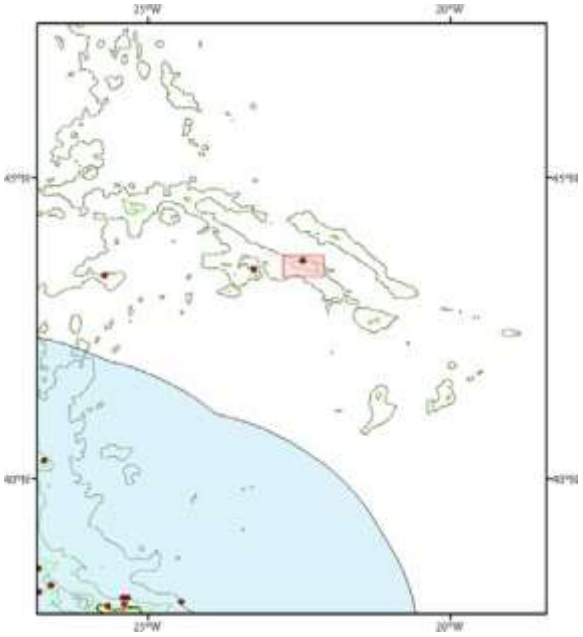
	OSPAR Listed features	Other features of special concern
Species	Orange roughy Blue whale Leatherback turtle Loggerhead turtle Portuguese dogfish Gulper shark Leafscale gulper shark	Cetaceans Deep water sharks Oceanic seabirds (e.g. Cory's Shearwater (*Calonectris diomedea)*
Habitats	Seamounts Deep Sea Sponge Aggregations *Lophelia pertusa* Reefs Coral Garden	Deepwater and epipelagic ecosystems, including their function for migratory species; Habitats associated with seamounts, including their function as recruitment and spawning areas; Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities, including commercially fished species; Hard substrate habitats and associated epibenthos, including cold water corals and sponges; Soft sediment habitats and associated benthos, including "coral gardens" of non-scleractinian corals

Key human activities of relevance:

- Deep sea and high seas fishing using fixed and mobile gears (both at the seabed and in the water column)
- Vessel traffic
- Seabed mining or other resource exploitation
- Bioprospecting
- Cable laying
- Military sonar

4. Antialtair Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area

The Antialtair Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area in an area of approximately 2208 km^2 of the high seas bounded by the following coordinates[13] is established as a component of the OSPAR Network of Marine Protected Areas:



Latitude N	Longitude W
43.82º	22.78º
43.82º	22.10º
43.36º	22.10º
43.36º	22.78º

The boundaries of the Marine Protected Area in this Decision may be reviewed by the OSPAR Commission, taking into account progress made in establishing the outer limits of the extended continental shelf of Portugal in accordance with Article 76 of, and Annex II to, UNCLOS.

Objectives:

The conservation vision and general and specific conservation objectives contained in this Annex were endorsed by the OSPAR Commission in 2009 for the entire area of the Antialtair Seamount. They should be taken into account when implementing the programmes and measures set out the Recommendation only in so far as they are related to the area of the Antialtair Seamount High Seas MPA. Therefore, the references to the benthic habitats and sedentary species are included for informative reasons only.

Conservation Vision

Maintenance and, where appropriate, restoration of the integrity of the functions and biodiversity of the various ecosystems of the Antialtair Seamount so that they are the result of natural environmental quality and ecological processes.[14]

Cooperation between competent authorities, stakeholder participation, scientific progress and public learning are essential prerequisites to realize the vision and to establish a Marine Protected Area subject to adequate regulations, good governance and sustainable utilization. Best available scientific knowledge and the precautionary principle form the basis for conservation.

General Conservation Objectives [15]

a. To protect and conserve the range of habitats and ecosystems including the water column of the Antialtair Seamount for resident, visiting and migratory species as well as the marine communities associated with key habitats.

b. To prevent loss of biodiversity, and promote its recovery where practicable, so as to maintain

[13] All coordinates are in decimal degrees on the WGS84 datum.

[14] Recognizing that species abundances and community composition will change over time due to natural processes.

[15] It is recognized that climate change may have effects in the area, and that the MPA may serve as a reference site to studythese effects.

the natural richness and resilience of the ecosystems and habitats, and to enable populations of species, both known and unknown, to maintain or recover natural population densities and population age structures.

c. To prevent degradation of, and damage to, species, habitats and ecological processes, in order to maintain the structure and functions - including the productivity - of the ecosystems.

d. To restore the naturalness and richness of key ecosystems and habitats, in particular those hosting high natural biodiversity.

e. To provide a refuge for wildlife within which there is minimal human influence and impact.

Specific Conservation ObjectivesWater Column

a. To prevent deterioration of the environmental quality of the bathypelagic and epipelagic water column (e.g. toxic and non-toxic contamination[16]) from levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems, and where degradation from these levels has already occurred, to recover environmental quality to levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems.

b. To prevent other physical disturbance (e.g. so that the introduction of energy, including underwater noise, is at levels that do not adversely affect the marine environment).

c. To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate the epipelagic and bathypelagic ecosystems, including their functions for resident, visiting and migratory species, such as: cetaceans, and mesopelagic and bathypelagic fish populations.

Benthopelagic Layer

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate:

a. Historically exploited fish populations (target and bycatch species) at/to levels corresponding to population sizes above safe biological limits[17] with special attention also given to deep water elasmobranch species, including threatened and/or declining species, such as Portuguese dogfish, Leafscale gulper shark and Gulper shark.

b. Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities to levels characteristic of natural ecosystems.

Benthos

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate to levels characteristic of natural ecosystems:

a. The epibenthos and its hard and soft sediment habitats, including threatened and/or declining speciesand habitats such as seamounts, deep-sea sponge aggregation, coral reefs and coral gardens.

b. The infauna of the soft sediment benthos, including threatened and/or declining species and habitats.

c. The habitats associated with seamounts.

[16] This includes synthetic compounds (e.g. PCBs and chemical discharge), solid synthetic waste and other litter (e.g. plastic) and non-synthetic compounds (e.g. heavy metals and oil).

[17] "Safe biological limits" used in the following context: "Populations are maintained above safe biological limits by ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources in the deep-seas and preventing significant adverse impacts on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheriesin the High Seas, 2008).

Species and habitats of concern

	OSPAR Listed features	Other features of special concern
Species	Orange roughy Blue whale[18] Leatherback turtle Portuguese dogfish Gulper shark Leafscale gulper shark	Cetaceans Deep water sharks Oceanic seabirds like Cory's Shearwater
Habitat	Seamounts Deep Sea Sponge Aggregations *Lophelia pertusa* Reefs Coral Gardens	Deepwater and epipelagic ecosystems, including their function for migratory species; Habitats associated with seamount structures, including their function as recruitment and spawning areas; Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities, including commercially fished species; Hard substrate habitats and associated epibenthos, including cold water corals and sponges; Soft sediment habitats and associated benthos, including "coral gardens" of non-scleractinian corals;

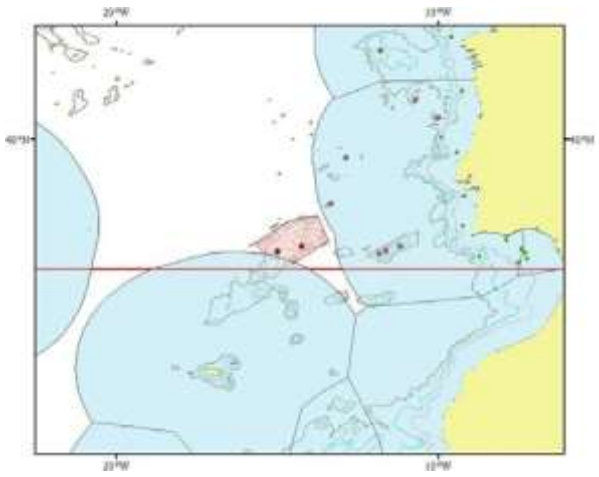
Key human activities of relevance:

- Deep sea and high seas fishing using fixed and mobile gears (both at the seabed and in the water column)
- Vessel traffic
- Seabed mining or other resource exploitation
- Bioprospecting
- Cable laying
- Military sonar

[18] The presence of these species is strongly suspected, based upon their known geographic distribution and habitat associations, but remainsto be proven by direct observations.

5. Josephine Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area

The Josephine Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area in an area of approximately 19,370 km^2 of the high seas bounded by the following coordinates[19] is established as a component of the OSPAR Network of Marine Protected Areas:



Latitude N	Longitude W
37.46 º	14.65 º
37.63 º	13.75 º
36.86 º	13.42 º
36.18 º	14.45 º
36.76 º	15.72 º
36.45 º	15.39 º

The boundaries of the Marine Protected Area in this Decision may be reviewed by the OSPAR Commission, taking into account progress made in establishing the outer limits of the extended continental shelf of Portugal in accordance with Article 76 of, and Annex II to, UNCLOS.

Objectives:

The conservation vision and general and specific conservation objectives contained in this Annex were endorsed by the OSPAR Commission in 2009 for the entire area of the Josephine Seamount. They should be taken into account when implementing the programmes and measures set out the Recommendation only in so far as they are related to the area of the Josephine Seamount High Seas MPA. Therefore, the references to the benthic habitats and sedentary species are included for informative reasons only.

Conservation Vision

Maintenance and, where appropriate, restoration of the integrity of the functions and biodiversity of the various ecosystems of the Josephine Seamount so that they are the result of natural environmental quality and ecological processes.[20]

Cooperation between competent authorities, stakeholder participation, scientific progress and public learning are essential prerequisites to realize the vision and to establish a Marine Protected Area subject to good governance, sustainable utilization, and adequate regulations in conformity with UNCLOS. Best available scientific knowledge and the precautionary principle form the basis for conservation.

General Conservation Objectives [21]

a. To protect and conserve the range of habitats and ecosystems including the water column of the Josephine Seamount for resident, visiting and migratory species as well as the marine communities

[19] All coordinates are in decimal degrees on the WGS84 datum.

[20] Permanent footnote: Recognizing that species abundances and community composition will change over time due to natural processes.

[21] It is recognized that climate change may have effects in the area, and that the MPA may serve as a reference site to studythese effects.

associated with key habitats.

b. To prevent loss of biodiversity, and promote its recovery where practicable, so as to maintain the natural richness and resilience of the ecosystems and habitats, and to enable populations of species, both known and unknown, to maintain or recover natural population densities and population age structures.

c. To prevent degradation of, and damage to, species, habitats and ecological processes, in order to maintain the structure and functions - including the productivity - of the ecosystems.

d. To restore the naturalness and richness of key ecosystems and habitats, in particular those hosting high natural biodiversity.

e. To provide a refuge for wildlife within which there is minimal human influence and impact.

Specific Conservation ObjectivesWater Column

a. To prevent deterioration of the environmental quality of the bathypelagic and epipelagic water column (e.g. toxic and non-toxic contamination[22]) from levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems, and where degradation from these levels has already occurred, to recover environmental quality to levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems.

b. To prevent other physical disturbance (e.g. acoustic).

c. To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate the epipelagic and bathypelagic ecosystems, including their functions for resident, visiting and migratory species, such as: cetaceans, and mesopelagic and bathypelagic fish populations.

Benthopelagic Layer

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate:

a. Historically exploited fish populations (target and bycatch species) at/to levels corresponding to population sizes above safe biological limits[23] with special attention also given to deep water elasmobranch species, including threatened and/or declining species, such as Portuguese dogfish, Leafscale gulper shark and Gulper shark.

b. Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities to levels characteristic of natural ecosystems.

Benthos

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate to levels characteristic of natural ecosystems:

a. The epibenthos and its hard and soft sediment habitats, including threatened and/or declining speciesand habitats such as seamounts and coral gardens.

b. The infauna of the soft sediment benthos, including threatened and/or declining species and habitats.

c. The habitats associated with seamounts.

[22] This includes synthetic compounds (e.g. PCBs and chemical discharge), solid synthetic waste and other litter (e.g. plastic) and non-synthetic compounds (e.g. heavy metals and oil).

[23] "Safe biological limits" used in the following context: "Populations are maintained above safe biological limits by ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources in the deep-seas and preventing significant adverse impacts on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheriesin the High Seas, 2008).

Species and habitats of concern

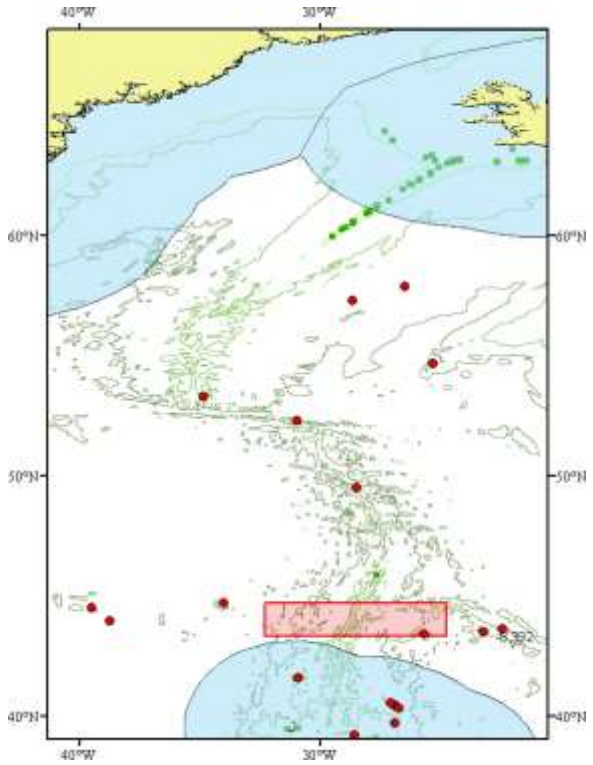
	OSPAR Listed features	Other features of special concern
Species	Orange roughy Blue whale Leatherback turtle Portuguese dogfish Gulper shark Leafscale gulper shark	Cetaceans Deep water sharks Oceanic seabirds
Habitats	Seamounts Deep Sea Sponge Aggregations *Lophelia pertusa* Reefs Coral Gardens	Deepwater and epipelagic ecosystems, including their function for migratory species; Habitats associated with seamounts, including their function as recruitment and spawning areas; Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities, including commercially fished species; Hard substrate habitats and associated epibenthos, including cold water corals and sponges; Soft sediment habitats and associated benthos, including "coral gardens" of non-scleractinian corals.

Key human activities of relevance:

- Deep sea and high seas fishing using fixed and mobile gears (both at the seabed and in the water column)
- Vessel traffic
- Seabed mining or other resource exploitation
- Bioprospecting
- Cable laying
- Military sonar

6. MAR North of the Azores High Seas Marine Protected Area

The Mid-Atlantic Ridge North of the Azores High Seas Marine Protected Area in an area of approximately 93,568 km^2 of the high seas bounded by the following coordinates[24] is established as a component of the OSPAR Network of Marine Protected Areas:



Latitude N	Longitude W
43.30º	24.80º
43.30º	32.30º
44.70º	32.30º
44.70º	24.80º

The boundaries of the Marine Protected Area in this Decision may be reviewed by the OSPAR Commission, taking into account progress made in establishing the outer limits of the extended continental shelf of Portugal in accordance with Article 76 of, and Annex II to, UNCLOS.

Objectives:

The conservation vision and general and specific conservation objectives contained in this Annex were endorsed by the OSPAR Commission in 2009 for the entire area of the MAR North of the Azores. They should be taken into account when implementing the programmes and measures set out in the Recommendation only in so far as they are related to the area of the MAR North of the Azores High Seas MPA. Therefore, the references to the benthic habitats and sedentary species are included for informative reasons only.

Conservation Vision

Maintenance and, where appropriate, restoration of the integrity of the functions and biodiversity of the various ecosystems of the MAR North of the Azores so that they are the result of natural environmental quality and ecological processes.[25]

Cooperation between competent authorities, stakeholder participation, scientific progress and public learning are essential prerequisites to realize the vision and to establish a Marine Protected Area subject to good governance, sustainable utilization, and adequate regulations in conformity with UNCLOS. Best available scientific knowledge and the precautionary principle form the basis for conservation.

[24] All coordinates are in decimal degrees on the WGS84 datum.

[25] Recognizing that species abundances and community composition will change over time due to natural processes.

General Conservation Objectives [26]

a. To protect and conserve the range of habitats and ecosystems including the water column of the MAR North of the Azores for resident, visiting and migratory species as well as the marine communities associated with key habitats.

b. To prevent loss of biodiversity, and promote its recovery where practicable, so as to maintain the natural richness and resilience of the ecosystems and habitats, and to enable populations of species, both known and unknown, to maintain or recover natural population densities and population age structures.

c. To prevent degradation of, and damage to, species, habitats and ecological processes, in order to maintain the structure and functions - including the productivity - of the ecosystems.

d. To restore the naturalness and richness of key ecosystems and habitats, in particular those hosting high natural biodiversity.

e. To provide a refuge for wildlife within which there is minimal human influence and impact.

Specific Conservation Objectives

Water Column

a. To prevent deterioration of the environmental quality of the bathypelagic and epipelagic water column (e.g. toxic and non-toxic contamination[27]) from levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems, and where degradation from these levels has already occurred, to recover environmental quality to levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems.

b. To prevent other physical disturbance (e.g. so that the introduction of energy, including underwater noise, is at levels that do not adversely affect the marine environment).

c. To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate the epipelagic and bathypelagic ecosystems, including their functions for resident, visiting and migratory species, such as: cetaceans, and mesopelagic and bathypelagic fish populations.

Benthopelagic Layer

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate:

a. Historically exploited fish populations (target and bycatch species) at/to levels corresponding to population sizes above safe biological limits[28] with special attention also given to deep water elasmobranch species, including threatened and/or declining species, such as Portuguese dogfish, Leafscale gulper shark and Gulper shark.

b. Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities to levels characteristic of natural ecosystems.

Benthos

To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate to levels characteristic of natural ecosystems:

a. The epibenthos and its hard and soft sediment habitats, including threatened and/or declining

[26] It is recognized that climate change may have effects in the area, and that the MPA may serve as a reference site to studythese effects.

[27] This includes synthetic compounds (e.g. PCBs and chemical discharge), solid synthetic waste and other litter (e.g. plastic) and non-synthetic compounds (e.g. heavy metals and oil).

[28] "Safe biological limits" used in the following context: "Populations are maintained above safe biological limits by ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources in the deep-seas and preventing significant adverse impacts on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheriesin the High Seas, 2008).

speciesand habitats such as seamounts, deep-sea sponge aggregations, coral reefs and coral gardens.

b. The infauna of the soft sediment benthos, including threatened and/or declining species and habitats.

c. The habitats associated with mid-ocean ridges and seamount structures.

Species and habitats of concern

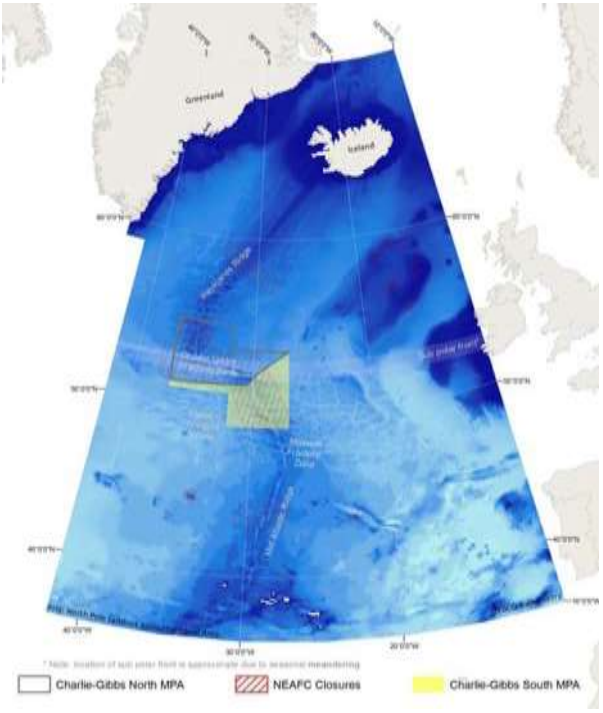
	OSPAR Listed features	Other features of special concern
Species	Orange roughy Portuguese dogfish Leafscale gulper shark Loggerhead turtle juvenilles	Cetaceans; Deep water sharks; Pelagic fish (e.g. blue shark (*Prionace glauca*), sword-fish (*Xiphias gladius*); Mesopelagic and bathypelagic fish stocks (e.g. Black scabbardfish (*Aphanopus carbo*), Orange roughy; Oceanic seabirds like Cory Shearwater
Habitat	Seamounts Deep Sea Sponge Aggregations *Lophelia pertusa* Reefs Coral Gardens	Deepwater and epipelagic ecosystems, including their function for migratory species; Habitats associated with seamounts, including their function as recruitment and spawning areas; Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities, including commercially fished species; Hard substrate habitats and associated epibenthos, including cold water corals and sponges; Soft sediment habitats and associated benthos, including "coral gardens" of non-scleractinian corals

Key human activities of relevance:

- Deep sea and high seas fishing using fixed and mobile gears (both at the seabed and in the water column)
- Vessel traffic
- Seabed mining or other resource exploitation
- Bioprospecting
- Cable laying
- Military sonar

7. Charlie-Gibbs North High Seas Marine Protected Area

The Charlie-Gibbs North High Seas Marine Protected Area is an area of high seas of approximately 177,700 km^2 bounded by the following coordinates[29] and is established as a component of the OSPAR Network of Marine Protected Areas:



Latitude N	Longitude W
55,00 º	37,00 º
55,00 º	32,00 º
53,50 º	32,00 º
53,50 º	27,00 º
52,20 º	29,77 º
51,91 º	30,02 º
51,64 º	30,44 º
51,50 º	30,70 º
51,40 º	35,34 º
51,40 º	37,00 º
55,00 º	37,00 º

Objectives:

Conservation Vision

Maintenance and, where appropriate, restoration of the integrity and natural quality of the functions and biodiversity of the various ecosystems of the Charlie-Gibbs North High Seas Marine Protected Area so that they are the result of natural environmental quality and ecological processes.

Cooperation between competent authorities, stakeholder participation, scientific progress and public learning are essential prerequisites to realize the vision and to establish a Marine Protected Area subject to good governance, sustainable utilization, and adequate regulations, in accordance with UNCLOS. Best available scientific knowledge and the precautionary principle form the basis for conservation.

General Conservation Objectives[30]

a. To protect and conserve the range of habitats and ecosystems including the water column of the Charlie-Gibbs North High Seas Marine Protected Area for resident, visiting and migratory species as well as the marine communities associated with key habitats;

b. To prevent loss of biodiversity, and promote its recovery where practicable, so as to maintain the natural richness and resilience of the ecosystems and habitats;

c. To prevent degradation of, and damage to, species, habitats and ecological processes, in order to maintain the structure and functions - including the productivity - of the ecosystems;

d. To restore the naturalness and richness of key ecosystems and habitats, in particular those hosting

[29] All coordinates are in decimal degrees on the WGS84 datum.

[30] It is recognized that climate change may have effects in the area, and that the Charlie-Gibbs North High Seas Marine Protected Area may serve as a reference site to study these effects

high natural biodiversity;

e. To provide a refuge for wildlife within which there is minimal human influence and impact.

Specific Conservation Objectives[31]

Water column

a. To prevent deterioration of the environmental quality of the, bathypelagic and epipelagic water column (e.g. toxic and non-toxic contamination[32]) from levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems, and where degradation from these levels has already occurred, to restore, where practicable, environmental quality to levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems;

b. To limit other physical disturbance (e.g. so that the introduction of energy, including underwater noise, are at levels that do not adversely affect the marine environment);

c. To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate the epipelagic and bathypelagic ecosystems, including their functions for resident, visiting and migratory species, such as: cetaceans, and mesopelagic and bathypelagic fish populations;

d. To protect, maintain and, where in the past impacts have occurred, restore where appropriate:

   i. historically harvested fish populations (target and bycatch species) at/to levels corresponding to population sizes above safe biological limits[33] with special attention also given to deep water elasmobranch species, including threatened and/or declining species, such as Portuguese dogfish,Leafscale gulper shark and Gulper shark;

   ii. benthopelagic habitats and associated communities[34];

Species and habitats of concern

	OSPAR Listed features	**Other features of special concern**
Species	Orange roughy Blue whale Leatherback turtle Portuguese dogfish Gulper shark Leafscale gulper shark	
Habitats		Deepwater and epipelagic ecosystems, including their function for migratory species; Benthopelagic habitats and associated communities[35], including commercially fished species

Key human activities of relevance:

- Deep sea and high seas fishing using fixed and mobile gears (in the water column)
- Vessel traffic
- Bioprospecting
- Military sonar

[31] Specific Conservation Objectives shall relate to a particular feature and define the conditions required to satisfy the general conservation objectives. Each of these specific conservation objectives will have to be supported by more management oriented, achievable, measurable and time bound targets.

[32] This includes synthetic compounds (e.g. PCBs and chemical discharge), solid synthetic waste and other litter (e.g. plastic) andnon-synthetic compounds (e.g. heavy metals and oil).

[33] "Safe biological limits" used in the following context: "Populations are maintained above safe biological limits by ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources in the deep-seas and preventing significant adverse impacts on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas, 2008).

[34] This does not include sedentary species.

[35] This does not include sedentary species.

8. North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA

The North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA is an area of 595,196 km^2 bounded by the following coordinates[36] and is established as a component of the OSPAR Network of Marine Protected Areas:

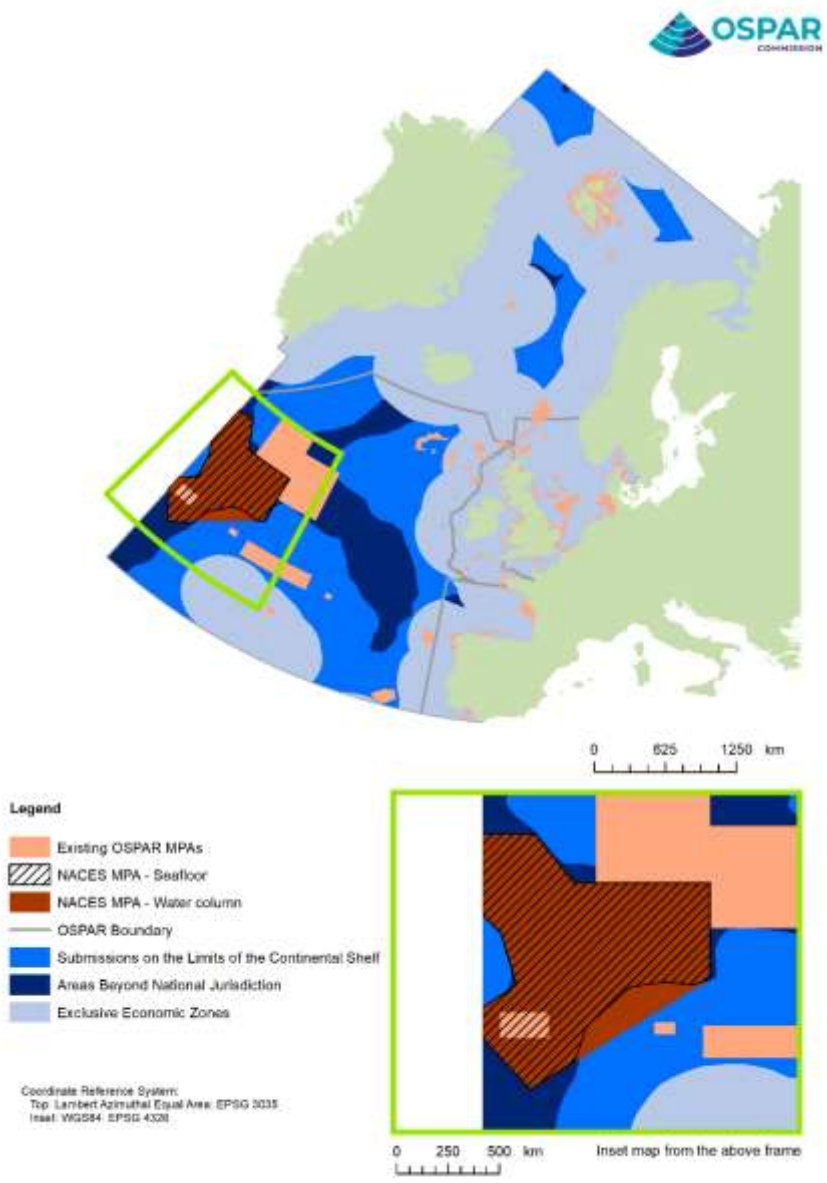


Table 1. NACES MPA in the high seas

Point	Longitude	Latitude
1	-39.681	53.122
2	-37.979	50.996
3	-31.998	50.994
4	-31.999	46.765
5	-39.916	41.911
6	-42.000	44.180
7	-42.000	45.492
8	-40.506	46.504
9	-41.173	48.762
10	-42.001	49.588
11	-42.000	53.118
12	-39.681	53.122

Table 2. NACES MPA in the Area

Point	Longitude	Latitude
1	-39.681	53.122
2	-37.979	50.996
3	-31.998	50.994
4	-31.999	46.765
5	-32.810	46.497
6	-33.990	46.642
7	-35.559	46.391
8	-37.425	44.701
9	-37.946	43.119
10	-39.916	41.911
11	-42.000	44.180
12	-42.000	45.492
13	-40.506	46.504
14	-41.173	48.762
15	-42.001	49.588
16	-42.000	53.118
17	-39.681	53.122

Objectives:

Conservation vision[37] :

Maintenance and, where appropriate, restoration of seabird populations, marine biodiversity and the integrity of the various ecosystems and their functions and processes within the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA (NACES MPA).

[36] All coordinates are in decimal degrees on the WGS84 datum.

[37] The conservation vision describes a desired long-term conservation condition and function for the ecosystems in the entire MPA. The vision aims to encourage relevant stakeholders to collaborate and contribute to reach objectives set for the area.

Method to achieve the vision:

Cooperation between competent authorities, stakeholder participation, scientific progress and public learning are essential prerequisites to realize the vision and to establish a Marine Protected Area at this site subject to adequate regulations, good governance and sustainable utilization. Long-term research and monitoring provide a detailed understanding of the biodiversity, ecosystem processes and oceanography related to seabirds and to the marine ecosystems of the Site. Best available scientific knowledge and the precautionary principle form the basis for conservation.

General conservation objectives[38], [39]

a. To protect and conserve the seabirds, marine biodiveirsty, habitats, ecosystems, and their processes and functions within the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.

b. To prevent loss of biodiversity, and promote its recovery where practicable, so as to maintain the natural richness and resilience of the ecosystems and habitats to enable populations of seabird species to maintain or recover natural population densities.

c. To prevent degradation of, and damage to, habitats and ecological processes including the bentho-pelagic coupling, nutrient fluxes, and connectivity, in order to maintain the structure and functions of marine ecosystems , in the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.

d. To provide a refuge for seabirds, to **maintain** migration corridors and freedom of movement for highly migratory and wide-ranging species, and to **protect** seafloor habitats including seamounts and abyssal plains from human activities that would have negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems.

e. To increase ecological understanding of the ecosystem and inform the effective management of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.

Specific conservation objectives:[40]

Pelagic wide-ranging and/or migratory species

a. To maintain or restore populations of pelagic seabirds and other pelagic wide-ranging and/or migratory species, including cetaceans, marine reptiles, cephalopods and fish, particularly globally and/or regionally threatened species using the Site (see Table 1):

    i. *direct* current and emerging pressures and human activities negatively affecting the seabirds and the other species, including fisheries (incidental by-catch), disturbance from shipping and extractive activities, and acute pollution, occurring in the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.

    ii. *indirect* current and emerging pressures and human activities negatively affecting the seabirds and other species, including fisheries (prey removal), disturbance from shipping and extractive activities, and pollution, occurring in the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.

b. To conserve (and restore where appropriate) the pelagic ecosystems, including their functions, biodiversity, processes and trophic linkages, in order to support the resident, visiting and migratory species using the Site see table 1.

c. To prevent deterioration of the environmental quality of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA from levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems, and where degradation from these levels occur, if applicable,

[38] Conservation objectives are meant to realize the vision. Conservation objectives are related to the entire MPA or, if it is decided to subdivide, for a zone or subdivision of the area, respectively

[39] It is recognised that climate change may have effects in the area, and that the MPA may serve as a reference site to study these effects

[40] Specific Conservation Objectives shall relate to a particular feature and define the conditions required to satisfy the general conservation objectives. Each of these specific conservation objectives will have to be supported by more management oriented, achievable, measurable and time bound targets.

to recover environmental quality to levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems.

Benthic habitats and species

a. To conserve the seafloor features occurring at the Site that are essential to support integrity of functions of the marine ecosystems, namely, abyssal plains, abyssal hills, basins, fracture zones, pillow lava, knolls, and seamounts.

b. To protect, maintain, and restore where appropriate:

   i. The benthic organisms and biogenic habitats, including threatened and/or declining species and habitats such as deep-sea sponge aggregations, and coral gardens.

   ii. The habitats listed in Table 1, including abyssal plains, seamounts and deep-sea elasmobranchs spawning grounds.

The list of pelagic and benthic species and habitats considered under the specific conservation objectives is presented in Table 1 below.

It is recognized that Table 1 includes species that are subject to management by relevant international organisations and bodies. Where the OSPAR Commission considers that action is desirable in relation to such a question, it shall draw that question to the attention of the authority or international body competent for that question. The inclusion of such species in this list must be read in this context.

Table 1.[41] *List of habitats and resident, visiting and migratory species of ecological significance in NACES MPA. Note that species and habitats that are also included in the OSPAR List of threatened and/or declining species are indicated with an X in the right-hand column. Table ordered alphabetically by the scientific name within taxonomic groups. seabird species considered under the specific conservation objectives of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.*

Common name	**Scientific name**	**Species listed as threatened and/or declining by OSPAR**
Seabirds		
Razorbill	*Alca torda*	
Little auk	*Alle alle*	
Bulwer's petrel	*Bulweria buwerii*	
Cory's shearwater	*Calonectris borealis*	
Atlantic puffin	*Fratercula arcitca*	
Northern fulmar	*Fulmarus glacialis*	
Leach's storm petrel	*Hydrobates leucorhous*[42]	
Bermuda petrel	*Pterodroma cahow*	
Desertas petrel	*Pterodroma deserta*	
Zino's petrel	*Pterodroma madeira*	
Great shearwater	*Ardena gravis*[43]	
Sooty shearwater	*Puffinus griseus*	
Macaronesian shearwater	*Puffinus baroli*	X[44]
Manx shearwater	*Puffinus puffinus*	
Black-legged kittiwake	*Rissa tridactyla*	X
Long-tailed jaeger	*Stercorarius lngicaudus*	
Parasitic jaeger[45]	*Stercorarius parasiticus*	

[41] This table includes species that are subject to management by relevant international organisations and bodies. Where the OSPAR Commission considers that action is desirable in relation to such a question, it shall draw that question to the attention of the authority or international body competent for that question. The inclusion of such species in this list must be read in this context.

[42] Synonymised as *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* (WoRMS, 2003)

[43] Synonymised as *Puffinus gravis* (WoRMS, 2023)

[44] OSPAR listed Little shearwater, Puffinus assimilis baroli, in 2003, the taxonomic grouping of the species has recently been reviewed and was referred to also as Audobons's shearwater, Puffinus iherminieri baroli. In 2021 the OSPAR List (Agreement 2008-6) was updated to change the name to Macaronesian shearwater (Puffinus baroli) which is used in this nomination proforma. The previously used names may feature in results presented in the nomination forma that precede 2021.

[45] Added to list March 2023 based on Harrison et al. (2021) tracking data

South polar skua	*Catharacta maccormicki*[46]	
Arctic tern	*Sterna paradisaea*	
Great skua	*Catharacta skua*[47]	
Common murre	*Uria aalgae*	
Thick-billed Murre	*Uria lomvia*	X
Sabine's gull	*Xema sabini*	
Cetaceans		
Sei whale	*Balaenoptera borealis*	
Blue whale	*Balaenoptera musculus*	X
Fin whale	*Balaenoptera physalus*	
Short-beaked dolphin	*Delphinus delphis*	
Pilot whale	*Gobicephala melas*	
Risso's dolphin	*Grampus griseus*	
Northern Bottlenose Whale	*Hyperoodon ampullatus*	
White-sided dolphin	*Lagenorhynchus acutus*	
Humpback whale	*Megaptera novaeangeliae*	
Sperm whale	*Physeter macrocephalus*	
Harbour porpoise	*Phocoena phocoena*	X[48]
Striped dolphin	*Stenella coeruleoalba*	
Marine reptiles		
Loggerhead turtle	*Caretta caretta*	X
Green sea turtle	*Chelonia mydas*	
Leatherback turtle	*Dermochelys coriacea*	X
Hawksbill turtle	*Eretmochelys imbricata*	
Kemp's Ridley	*Lepidochelys kempii*	
Fish		
Thorny skate	*Amblyraja radiata*	
European eel	*Anguilla anguilla*	X[49]
American eel	*Anguilla rostrata*	
Basking shark	*Cetorhinus maximus*	X
Grenadiers	*Coryphaenoides spp.*	
Atlantic cod	*Gadus morhua*	X
Shortfin mako shark	*Isurus oxyrinchus*	
Mesopelagic fish (>100 species)	*Full list of species of mesopelagic fish available in Annex 10 of the Background Document of the Site, available through ospar.org*	
Ocean sunfish	*Mola mola*	
Blue shark	*Prionace glauca*	
Scalloped hammerhead	*Sphyrna lewini*	
Bigeye tuna	*Thunnus obesus*	
Bluefin tuna	*Thunnus thynnus*	X
Cephalopods		
Paralarval cephalopods (>25 species)	*Full list of cephalopod species available in Annex 9 of the Background Document of the Site, available through ospar.org*	
Dumbo octopus	*Grimpoteuthis sp.*	
Atlantic gonate squid	*Gonatus steenstrupi*	
Atlantic cranch squid	*Teuthowenia megalops*	

[46] Synonymised as *Stercorarius maccormicki* (WoRMS, 2023)

[47] Synonymised as *Stercorarius skua* (WoRMS, 2023)

[48] Harbour porpoise- listed threatened and/or declining by OSPAR in 2003 in Regions II, III, and listed as occurring in All OSPAR Regions.

[49] European eel – listed threatened and/or declining by OSPAR in 2008 in Regions I, II, III, IV. European eel is listed as present in Regions I, II, III and IV, however, OBIS occurrence data shows presence of the species within the Site, it is therefore included in this nomination proforma.

Habitats		
Abyssal plains		
Abyssal hills		
Basins		
Coral gardens		X
Deep-sea elasmobranch spawning grounds		
Deep-sea sponge aggregations		X
Escarpments		
Fracture zones		
Knolls		
Northwest AtlanticMid-Ocean Channel		
Pillow lava		
Ridges		
Seamounts		X

Links to Relevant supporting documentation

For the designation and management of the selected areas

MPA		Title	Link
Milne MPA	EN	Background Document on the Milne Seamount Complex	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7253
	EN/FR	OSPAR Decision 2010/1 on the Establishment of the Milne Seamount Complex Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32821
		Décision OSPAR 2010/1 sur la création de la zone marine protégée du Complexe du mont sous-marin Milne	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32827
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2010/12 on the Management of the Milne Seamount Complex Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32833
		Recommandation OSPAR 2010/12 sur la gestion de la zone marine protégée du Complexe du mont sous-marin Milne	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32834
Charlie Gibbs South MPA	EN	Background Document on the Charlie-Gibbs Fracture Zone	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7251
	EN/FR	OSPAR Decision 2010/2 on the establishment of the Charlie-Gibbs South Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32822
		Décision OSPAR 2010/2 sur la création de la zone marine protégée Charlie-Gibbs méridionale	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32828
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2010/13 on the Management of the Charlie-Gibbs South Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32835
		Recommandation OSPAR 2010/13 sur la gestion de la zone marine protégée Charlie Gibbs méridionale	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32836
Altair High Seas MPA	EN	Background Document on the Altair Seamount Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7280
	EN/FR	OSPAR Decision 2010/3 on the Establishment of the Altair Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32823
		Décision OSPAR 2010/3 sur la création de la zone marine protégée du Mont sous-marin Altair Haute Mer	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32829
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2010/14 on the Management of the Altair Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32837
		Recommandation OSPAR 2010/14 sur la	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32838

		gestion de la zone marine protégée du mont sous-marin Altair Haute Mer	
Antialtair High Seas MPA	EN	Background Document on the Antialtair Seamount Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7279
	EN/FR	OSPAR Decision 2010/4 on the Establishment of the Antialtair Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32824
		Décision OSPAR 2010/4 sur la création de la zone marine protégée du Mont sous-marin Antialtair Haute Mer	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32830
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2010/15 on the Management of the Antialtair Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32839
		Recommandation OSPAR 2010/15 sur la gestion de la zone marine protégée du mont sous-marin Antialtair Haute Mer	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32840
Josephine Seamount High Seas MPA	EN	Background Document on the Josephine Seamount Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7278
	EN/FR	OSPAR Decision 2010/5 on the Establishment of the Josephine Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32825
		Décision OSPAR 2010/5 sur la création de la zone marine protégée du mont sous-marin Josephine en haute mer	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32831
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2010/16 on the Management of the Josephine Seamount High Seas Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32841
		Recommandation OSPAR 2010/16 sur la gestion de la zone marine protégée du mont sous-marin Josephine haute mer	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32842
Mid Atlantic Ridge North of the Azores High Seas MPA	EN	Background Document on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge North of the Azores Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7277
	EN/FR	OSPAR Decision 2010/6 on the Establishment of the MAR North of the Azores High Seas Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32826
		Décision OSPAR 2010/6 sur la création de la zone marine protégée de la dorsale médio-atlantique au Nord des Açores Haute Mer	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32832
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2010/17 on	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32843

		the Management of the MAR North of the Azores High Seas Marine Protected Area	
		Recommandation OSPAR 2010/17 sur la gestion de la zone marine protégée de la dorsale médio-atlantique au Nord des Açores Haute Mer	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32844
Charlie Gibbs North High Seas MPA	EN	Background Document on Charlie-Gibbs North High Seas MPA	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7307
	EN/FR	OSPAR Decision 2012/1 on the establishment of the Charlie-Gibbs North High Seas Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32912
		Décision 2012/1 sur la création de l'aire marine protégée Charlie Gibbs septentrionale haute mer	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32913
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2012/1 on the Management of the Charlie-Gibbs North High Seas Marine Protected Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32914
		Recommandation OSPAR 2012/1 sur la gestion de l'aire marine protégée Charlie-Gibbs septentrionale haute mer	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32915
North-Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA	EN	Background Document on North-Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA	https://www.ospar.org/documents?v=43885
	EN	Updated Background Document on North-Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA	https://www.ospar.org/documents?v=51436
	EN/FR	OSPAR Decision 2021/01 on the establishment of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area	https://www.ospar.org/documents?d=46308
		Décision OSPAR 2021/01 sur la création de l'aire marine protégée du courant Nord-Atlantique et du bassin maritime d'Evlanov	https://www.ospar.org/documents?d=46527
	EN/FR	Decision 2023/01 amending Decision 2021/01 on the establishment of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area	https://www.ospar.org/documents?v=52056 Consolidated text: https://www.ospar.org/documents?v=52057
		Décision 2023/01 amendant la Décision 2021/01 sur la création de l'aire marine protégée du courant Nord Atlantique et du bassin maritime d'Evlanov	https://www.ospar.org/documents?d=52218 Consolidated text: https://www.ospar.org/documents?d=52217
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2021/01 on the Management of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine	https://www.ospar.org/documents?d=46309

		Protected Area	
		Recommandation OSPAR 2021/01 sur la gestion de l'aire marine protégée du courant Nord-Atlantique et du Bassin maritime d'Evlanov	https://www.ospar.org/documents?d=46535
	EN/FR	Recommendation 2023/01 amending Recommendation 2021/01 on the management of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area	https://www.ospar.org/documents?v=52058 Consolidated text: https://www.ospar.org/documents?v=52059
		Recommandation OSPAR 2023/01 amendant la Recommandation 2023/01 sur la gestion de l'aire marine protégée du courant Nord Atlantique et du bassin maritime d'Evlanov	https://www.ospar.org/documents?d=52220 Consolidated text: https://www.ospar.org/documents?d=52219

For the protection and conservation of species and habitats of particular concern[50] occurring within the selected areas

Species	Language	Title	Link
Orange roughy	EN	Background Document for the Orange roughy - *Hoplostethus atlanticus*	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7257
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2010/7 on furthering the protection and restorationof the Orange Roughy (*Hoplostethus atlanticus*) in the OSPAR Maritime Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32849
		Recommandation OSPAR 2010/7 sur la promotion de la protection et restaurationde l'hoplostète orange (*Hoplostethus atlanticus*) dans la zone maritime d'OSPAR	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32850
Blue whale	EN	Background Document for Blue whale *Balaenoptera musculus*	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7232
	EN/FR	Recommendation 2013/9 on furthering the protection and conservation of the North Atlantic blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*) in the OSPAR maritime area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32979
		Recommandation OSPAR 2013/9 sur la	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32979
		promotion de la protection et conservation de la baleine bleue de l'Atlantique nord (*Balaenoptera musculus*) dans la zone maritime d'OSPAR	
Portuguese dogfish	EN	Background Document for Portuguese dogfish *Centroscymnus coelolepis*	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7211
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2014/5 on furthering the protection and conservationof the Portuguese dogfish (*Centroscymnus coelolepis*) in the OSPAR maritime area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32997
		Recommandation 2014/5 sur la promotionet conservation du Pailona commun (*Centroscymnus coelolepis*) dans la zone maritime d'OSPAR	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32998
	EN	Background Document for Gulper shark *Centrophorus granulosus*	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7214

[50] OSPAR Agreement 2008-06: The OSPAR List of threatened and/or declining species and habitats http://www.ospar.org/work-areas/bdc/species-habitats/list-of-threatened-declining-species-habitats

Gulper shark	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2014/3 on furthering the protection and conservation of the gulper shark (*Centrophorus granulosus*) in Regions IV and V of the OSPAR maritime area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32993
		Recommandation OSPAR 2014/3 sur la promotion de la protection et conservation du Squale-chagrin commun (*Centrophorus granulosus*) dans les régions IV et V de la zone maritime d'OSPAR	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32994
Leafscale gulper shark	EN	Background Document for Leafscale gulper shark *Centrophorus squamosus*	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7215
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2014/4 on furthering the protection and conservationof the leafscale gulper shark (*Centrophorus squamosus*) in the OSPAR maritime area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32995
		Recommandation OSPAR 2014/4 sur la promotion de la protection et conservation du petit Squale (*Centrophorus squamosus*) dans la zone maritime d'OSPAR	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32996
Loggerhead turtle	EN	Background Document for Loggerhead turtle *Caretta caretta* - Update	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7384
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2013/7 on furthering the protection and conservationof the loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) in Regions IV and V of the OSPAR maritime area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32974
		Recommandation OSPAR 2013/7 sur lapromotion de la protection et conservation de la tortue caouanne	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32975
		(*Caretta caretta*) dans les régions IV et V de la zone maritime d'OSPAR	
Leatherback turtle	EN	Background Document for Leatherback turtle *(Dermochelys coriacea)*	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7176
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2013/6 on furthering the protection and conservation of the leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) in the OSPAR maritime area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32972
		Recommandation 2013/6 sur la promotionde la protection et conservation de la tortue luth (*Dermochelys coriacea*) dans la zone maritime d'OSPAR	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32973

Habitat		Title	Link
Seamounts	EN	Background Document for Seamounts	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7222
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2014/9 on furthering the protection and conservation of seamounts in Regions I, IV and V of the OSPAR maritime area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=33006
		Recommandation 2014/9 sur la promotion de la protection et conservation des monts sous-marins dans les régions I, IV et V de la zone maritime d'OSPAR	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=33007
Deep Sea Sponge Aggregations	EN	Background Document for Deep-sea sponge aggregations	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7234
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2010/10 on furthering the protection and restoration of deep-sea sponge aggregations in the OSPAR Maritime Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32855
		Recommandation OSPAR 2010/10 sur la promotion de la protection et restauration des agrégats d'éponges d'eaux profondes dans la zone maritime d'OSPAR	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32856
Lophelia pertusa Reefs	EN	Background Document for Lophelia pertusa reefs	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7182
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2010/8 on furthering the protection and restoration of Lophelia pertusa reefs in the OSPAR Maritime Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32851
		Recommandation OSPAR 2010/8 sur la promotion de la protection et restauration des récifs de Lophelia pertusa dans la zone maritime OSPAR	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32852
Coral Gardens	EN	Background Document for Coral gardens	http://www.ospar.org/documents?v=7217
	EN/FR	OSPAR Recommendation 2010/9 on furthering the protection and restoration of coral gardens in the OSPAR Maritime Area	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32853
		Recommandation OSPAR 2010/9 sur la promotion de la protection et restauration des jardins de coraux dans la zone maritime d'OSPAR	http://www.ospar.org/documents?d=32854

Collective Arrangement - Annex 2

Part I: Memoranda of Understanding and other bilateral cooperation arrangements between competent international organisations that have agreed to the collective arrangement[2]

Title	Date	URL
Memorandum of Understanding between NEAFC and OSPAR	2008	http://www.ospar.org/site/assets/files/1357/mou_neafc_ospar.pdf http://neafc.org/system/files/opsar_mou.pdf

Part II: Memoranda of Understanding and other bilateral cooperation arrangements between NEAFC and other regional or global organisations of relevance to the subjects covered by the collective arrangement discussions

Title	Date	URL
Agreement of Cooperation between the International MaritimeOrganisation (IMO) and the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission	2009	http://neafc.org/system/files/IMO_Agreement-of-Cooperation-between-IMO-NEAFC_Dec2009.pdf

Part III: Memoranda of Understanding and other bilateral cooperation arrangements between OSPAR and other regional or global organisations of relevance to the subjects covered by the collective arrangement discussions

Title	Date	URL
MoU between the OSPAR Commission and the International Sea Bed Authority	2011	http://www.ospar.org/site/assets/files/1357/mou_isa.pdf
Agreement of Cooperation between the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the OSPAR Commission for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Commission)	1999	http://www.ospar.org/site/assets/files/1357/imo_oneils_letter_30_nov_1999_and_attachm ents_from_imo.pdf
MoU between the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the OSPAR Commission for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Commission) on the promotion of the London Convention and Protocol	2018	https://www.ospar.org/site/assets/files/1357/mou_imo_ospar_on_london_convention_and_protocol.pdf

[2] Explanatory note:
This annex will include the Memoranda of Understanding between the competent international organisations that have agreed to this collective arrangement. This will include the Memorandum of Understanding between the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) and the OSPAR Commission. As other organisations join the collective arrangement, the relevant Memoranda of Understanding will then be added to this annex

Criteria and Procedures Governing Observership of Non-Governmental Organisations at Meetings under the Collective Arrangement

OSPAR Agreement 2014-09 and NEAFC Reference S-HOD 24-06

A. Definition

Rule 1

1. For the purposes of these criteria and procedures:
   (a) "**Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO)**" means organisations that have been granted observer status by either the OSPAR Commission (OSPAR) and/or the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC).

B. NGO Observer Representation

Rules 2-4

2. NGOs which have been admitted as observers to OSPAR and/or that have been admitted as observers to the previous Annual Meeting of NEAFC may attend the meetings of the Collective Arrangement.
3. NGO observers will be invited to attend meetings of the Collective Arrangement, unless there is a breach of compliance as outlined in Rule 17, or until such time as they neither hold observership at OSPAR nor NEAFC.
4. NGO observers shall appoint a representative and alternate representative who will have primary responsibility for liaison with the OSPAR and/or NEAFC Secretariat.

C. Meeting Attendance

Rules 5-8

5. Two or more Contracting Parties to NEAFC and/or to OSPAR may choose to limit the participation of NGOs to particular meetings of the Collective Arrangement or agenda items, or parts thereof.
6. Subject to any decision to the contrary by OSPAR and NEAFC, NGO observers can send one delegate per observer to attend the meetings of the Collective Arrangement in person. If an NGO delegate is present in person at the meeting, then further members of this delegation can attend the meeting virtually in observer function only (not intervening).
7. The Meeting Chairs will determine whether a limit on the number of observers is required due to conference room capacity. The OSPAR and NEAFC Secretariats will transmit any such determination ahead of the meeting.
8. By special invitation of the Meeting Chairs, NGO observers which are not observers to OSPAR and/or NEAFC could be invited to participate in a meeting and/or present their work for a specific agenda item.

D. Documents

Rules 9-10

9. All observers admitted to a meeting shall be sent, or otherwise receive, the same documentation generally available to Contracting Parties and their delegations, except those documents deemed confidential by a Contracting Party or the Meeting Chairs.
10. NGO observers can provide information documents to the meeting through the OSPAR and/or NEAFC Secretariats.

E. Statements, Proposals, and other Activities

Rules 11-13

11. NGO observers attending the meetings of the Collective Arrangement can make oral statements during the meeting upon invitation of the Meeting Chairs.
12. No proposal by NGO observers shall be discussed unless discussion of this proposal is supported by at least one Contracting Party.
13. NGO observers may be invited to engage in other activities as appropriate and as approved by the Meeting Chairs.

F. Sharing of Information

Rules 14-16

14. NGO observers are not allowed to share information discussed at the Collective Arrangement meetings, if instructed by the Meeting Chairs that the item is restricted.
15. NGO observers are not allowed to issue press releases or other information to the media or use social media to publish details of the discussion on agenda items under discussion.
16. NGO observers shall not use visual or sound recording devices to record meeting proceedings.

G. Compliance with Rules and Procedures

Rules 17-18

17. Observer status to the Collective Arrangement shall impose certain obligations:
    a. to recognise the basic purposes and principles of the Collective Arrangement and not to hinder its work;
    b. to deliver only such information as is pertinent to the work of the Collective Arrangement;
    c. to refrain from using the meetings of the Collective Arrangement for the purpose of demonstrations;
    d. to respect the private character of the meetings and of the documents circulated for them; and
    e. to respect any specific requirements agreed to by the Contracting Parties relating to the participation of NGOs at the meetings of the Collective Arrangement.
18. All observers admitted to the meeting shall comply with all rules and procedures applicable to other participants in the meeting. Failure to conform to these rules or any other rules that for the conduct of observers at the meeting may result in removal from the meeting by the Meeting Chairs.