

## Draft compromise on electric pulse

### Article 7(b)

"It shall be prohibited to catch or harvest marine species using the following methods:

- a) .....
- b) electric current except under the specific provisions of Annex V, part E of this regulation."

### Annex V - Part E

1. Fishing with electric pulse trawl shall be prohibited in all Union waters after 31 December 2021.

2. Until 31 December 2021, fishing with electric pulse trawl in ICES divisions IVb and IVc shall continue to be allowed under the conditions defined in accordance with second indent of paragraph 1 article 27 of this Regulation, regarding the characteristics of the pulse used and control monitoring measures in place south of a rhumb line joined by the following points, which shall be measured according to the WGS84 coordinate system:

- a point on east coast of the United Kingdom at latitude 55°N
- east to latitude 55°N, longitude 5°E
- north to latitude 56°N
- east to a point on the west coast of Denmark at latitude 56°N

The following conditions shall apply:

- (a) no more than 5% of the beam trawler fleet per Member State use the electric pulse trawl;
- (b) the maximum electrical power in kW for each beam trawl is no more the length in metres of the beam multiplied by 1,25;
- (c) the effective voltage between the electrodes is no more than 15 V;
- (d) the vessel equipped with an automatic computer management system which records the maximum power used per beam and the effective voltage between electrodes for at least the last 100 tows. It is not possible for non-authorized personnel to modify this automatic computer management system;
- (e) it is prohibited to use one or more tickler chains in front of the footrope.

3. New licenses shall not be granted to any vessel during this period.

4. The Commission shall request in due time an advice from ICES on the impact of electric pulse fishing on marine ecosystems, including sensitive habitats or non-target species, and shall present an assessment report on the basis of this scientific advice by 1 July 2020. In case of a positive assessment, the Commission may submit a legislative proposal on the use of this fishing method, in accordance with the Treaty.

5. Until 31 December 2021 in the waters up to 12 nautical miles from baselines under their sovereignty or jurisdiction, Member States may take non discriminatory measures to restrict or prohibit the use of electric pulse trawl. Member States shall inform the Commission and the Members States concerned of the measures put in place under this paragraph.

Article 29, para 1(e) (new)

"(e) in case of electric pulse trawl fishing, vessels conducting scientific research must follow a specific scientific protocol as part of a scientific research plan that has been reviewed or validated by ICES."