



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE/D3/MMO/Ares

Sabine Rosset
Director of Bloom
N 62 bis. Avenue Parmentier, 75011
Paris
FRANCE

Subject: Action requested against The Netherlands's illegal licenses for electric fishing

Dear Ms. Rosset,

Thank you very much for your letter of 19 March 2020 in which you reiterate the concerns of your association regarding the number of licenses that the Netherlands administration may have issued to operate with pulse fishing. We note that your concerns relate to your complaint registered under the reference CHAP(2019)02717.

As you are aware, the new technical measures regulation (Regulation (EU) 2019/1241) entered into force on 14 August 2019. This regulation prohibits fishing with electric pulse trawl as of 1 July 2021. Until then no more than 5% of the beam trawler fleet per Member State is allowed to use the electric pulse trawl (Part D of Annex V of the Regulation).

As indicated in our correspondence of 24 September 2019¹, your complaint concerns issues for which we have already opened an EU Pilot procedure under reference EUP(2019)9494, in order to ask for relevant information from the Member State concerned. Following a first reply from the Member State, further complementary detailed information was requested whose assessment is currently ongoing. Before this assessment is completed, the Commission is neither in a position to provide you with an accurate state of play, nor to make any statement concerning compliance with the concerned EU provisions.

As also indicated in our letter of 24 September 2019, you will be informed of the results of this assessment and of any measure taken concerning it.

Yours sincerely,

Bernhard FRIESS
Acting Director-General

¹ Letter with reference ARES(2019)5935902