

2021-02-17

**To whom it may concern**

**Notification of Real Time Closure in Swedish Waters**

Please be informed that the Swedish Coastguard by inspection of a fishing vessel in accordance with the Agreed record of fisheries consultations between the European Union and Norway on technical measures in Skagerrak in Gothenburg 6 September 2018 and Commission delegated regulation (EU) 2019/2201 of 1 October 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council with detailed rules for the implementation of real-time closures for Northern prawn fisheries in the Skagerrak, has revealed that the amount of juvenile prawns is found to be too high.

Due to this information, a decision has been made by the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, to close an area for the period from 17<sup>th</sup> of February 2021 to 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2021.

Straight lines between the following positions limit the closed area:

1. 58°24,450N 10°34,600E
2. 58°24,450N 10°42,530E
3. 58°14,300N 10°42,530E
4. 58°14,300N 10°34,600E

The area is closed for fishery targeting northern prawns using demersal trawls with a mesh size of at least 35mm and a sorting grid with a minimum bar spacing of 19 mm.

Fishing targeting northern prawns in the closed area is allowed when both of the following criteria are met;

- 1) Vessels using a bottom trawl with a mesh size in the extension piece and codend of at least 35 mm, equipped with a sorting grid with a maximum bar spacing of 19 mm in the upper part of the grid and a minimum bar spacing of 9,5 mm in the lower part of the grid. Behind the lower part of the grid is an unblocked outlet to the seafloor. Mesh size of at least 35 mm applies posterior to the sorting grid.
- 2) Vessels wishing to use that exemption shall notify their intention and gear use to the Fisheries Monitoring Centre of the coastal Member State before entering the closed area. The notification can be made via phone +46 771 10 15 00 or via email [fmc@havochvatten.se](mailto:fmc@havochvatten.se)

The Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management reserves itself the right to close the area also for specific fishing vessels targeting Northern prawn using the above exempted gear (see 1) if they upon inspection show large numbers of juvenile prawn in the catch.

Best regards,

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Analyst