



***Mixed-Stock Fisheries Report (Tabled by Norway)***

In several fjords and coastal regions, mixed-stock fisheries have not been permitted for many years due to low management target attainment. However, in 2020, restricted mixed-stock fisheries were still in operation in most fjords and along the Norwegian coast.

The regulation of these fisheries is based upon estimates of spawning target attainment of approximately 50 percent of the stocks most likely to be exploited in the actual fjord or coastal region. Since not all exploited stocks are assessed, it can't be ruled out that 2020 MSFs targeted stocks below conservation limits.

In general, only bag nets and rod and line are allowed, but in fjord and coastal regions in Finnmark, bend nets were also permitted. In addition to restrictions on fishing gear, the main regulatory measures are length of fishing season and the number of fishing days per week. In 2020 length of fishing season were reduced by one week (three fishing days) in one fjord in western parts of Norway due to low target attainment in exploited stocks recent years.

956 fishermen participated in mixed-stock fisheries in fjord and coastal regions in 2020. This is a five percent increase compared to 2019. Overall 975 bag nets and 419 bend nets were used. The total catch was 219 tonnes, 7 percent decrease from 2019. Though there was an overall reduction in catches, the south half of Norway had an increase in catches. Mixed-stock fisheries are most extensive in Troms and Finnmark County, representing 50 percent of the fishermen, 55 percent of total gear and 42 percent of the total catches. No in-season measures in mixed-stock fisheries were considered necessary in 2020. There is a steady increase in fishermen using the system for electronic reporting of catches.