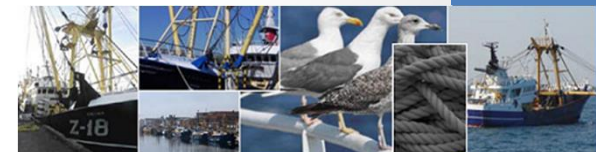




# Choke Species & Zero TAC Species

*DG MARE Seminar on the Landing Obligation  
Brussels – 24 February 2016*

Rederij  
Emiel B.

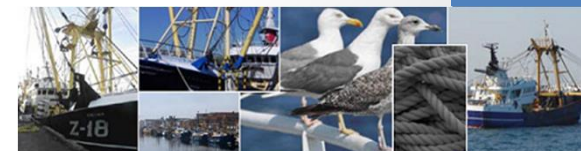


# Rederscentrale



” Belgian PO & Fishing Vessel Owner Federation

” Represented in





# Choke Species

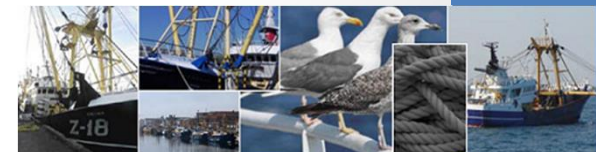
**Species subject to a landing obligation**



**Species for which no quota is available**

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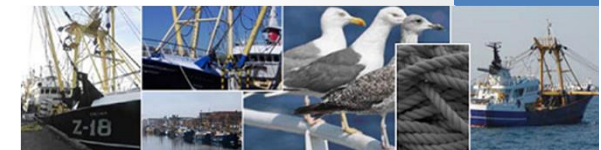
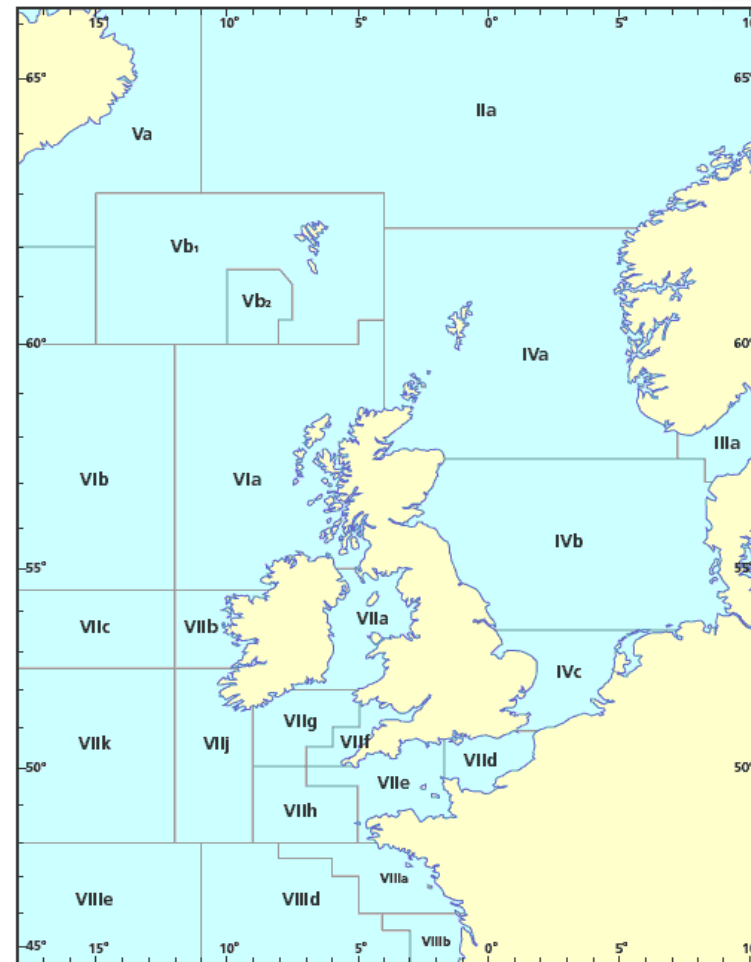
By vessel, metier/gear type, fleet segment,  
member state, EU (includes zero TAC species)





# Chokes for Belgian fleet

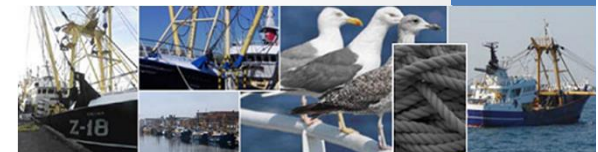
- “ 67 vessels
- “ Majority working on different fishing grounds over different periods of a calendar year.
- “ Approx 70 TACs IIIa – VIIIb = approx 70 risks of choke species by 2019, if Landing Obligation not properly managed.



## *Views on Choke Species in the European fisheries*



- “ For many fisheries the Landing Obligation is operationally impossible without mitigation measures.
- “ Many fishing vessel owners and crews consider the Landing Obligation as unachievable and lose interest to invest and/or work in fisheries.
- “ Choke species come in addition to these operational and motivational issues of the Landing Obligation.
- “ Issues with choke species need to be resolved to make the CFP work.



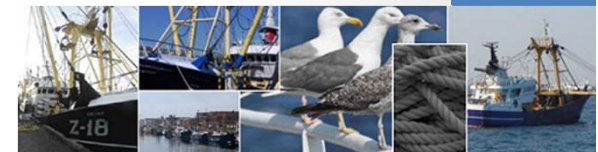


## How to resolve Choke Species Issues

“ Continue work on avoidance & minimisation of unwanted catches => recognition needed for fisheries initiatives. (Gear, real-time or periodic area avoidance, ...)

*If this one does not entirely resolve the choke issues:*

“ Application of the survival exemption. Landing everything means unnecessary actual increase of fishing mortality. Obtain scientific evidence whilst survival exemption is applied.



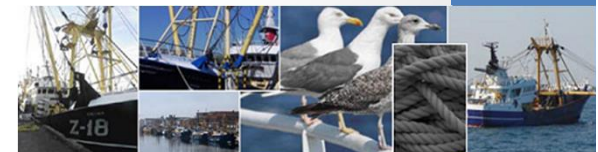


## How to resolve Choke Species Issues

” Technical Measures and Survival trials in many Member States => Collate & analyse for generalized application.

*If the above does not entirely resolve the choke issues:*

- ” De-minimis exemption: make it work for all species for which quota are exhausted.
- ” Adjustment to TACs & Quota: MS should assign quota uplift where it is needed.
- ” Interspecies flexibilities: use of this tool under the existing rules is difficult to assess.

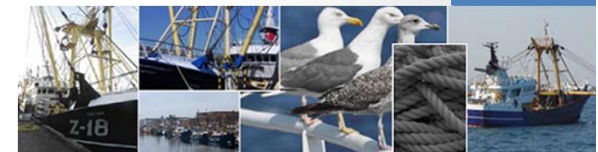




# How to resolve Choke Species Issues

***If not resolved by all the above the Choke Species Issues will have to be addressed by reviewing existing regulations:***

- “ New grouping of TACs (e.g. Norway Others).
- “ For some species it might not be necessary to keep catch limits in place (less TACs).
- “ Always allow fisheries to continue as long as quota available for target species.
- “ Zero TAC => Treat as prohibited species.
- “ Review art. 15 of the CFP.







Thank you for your attention!

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