



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES
THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Brussels,
Ares (2010)

Mr. Sam Lambourn
NWWRAC
Board Iscaigh Mhara
Crofton Road
Dun Laoghaire
Co. Dublin
Ireland

Subject: Plaice VIId and Plaice VIIe

Dear Mr Lambourn,

I am pleased to reply to the NWWRAC's opinion concerning plaice and sole, following from the Commission's non-paper. I have taken note that the NWWRAC opinion is not a consensus view.

The objective of separate stock management is, naturally, to bring both stocks within safe biological limits and, as already agreed by Member States, to conform to maximum sustainable yield management by 2015. These objectives have been widely discussed elsewhere and are not necessarily repeated in non-papers of the Commission dealing with specific issues

Concerning the practical issue of stock mixing between the two areas, I invite you to read the latest STECF advice on this subject where some workable solutions are proposed. I would be pleased to hear your opinion about these options.

Yours sincerely,

Lowri EVANS