



**MISSION OF NORWAY
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION**

No 06/2015

Enclosures

NOTE VERBALE

The Mission of Norway to the European Union presents its compliments to the Directorate General for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs of the European Commission and has the honour to inform of regulations relating to a prohibition against harvesting snow crabs in Norway's territorial waters, including the territorial waters of Svalbard, the Economic Zone of Norway and the Fisheries Protection Zone around Svalbard.

These regulations entered into force as of 1 January 2015.

This notification is forwarded by e-mail. The original Note Verbale will be forwarded by mail today. An unofficial English translation of the Regulation is also enclosed.

The Mission of Norway to the European Union avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Directorate General for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs of the European Commission the assurances of its highest consideration.

Brussels, 24 June 2015

European Commission
Directorate General for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs
Rue de la Loi 200
B-1049 Brussels

Regulations relating to a prohibition against harvesting snow crabs

Implementing legislation: Adopted by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries on 19 December 2014 under section 16 of the Act of 6 June 008 No. 37 relating to the management of wild living marine resources (Marine Resources Act) and section 4 of the Act of 17 July 1925 No. 11 relating to Svalbard.

Amendments: Amended by the Regulations of 19 February 2015 No. 137.

Section 1. *General prohibition*

It is prohibited for Norwegian and foreign vessels to harvest snow crabs in Norway's territorial waters, including the territorial waters of Svalbard, the Economic Zone of Norway and the fisheries protection zone around Svalbard. For Norwegian vessels, the prohibition also applies in international waters.

Section 2 *Exemptions*

Exemptions from the prohibition against harvesting snow crabs may be granted to vessels that have been issued with commercial licences under the Act relating to the right to participate in fishing and hunting. If the scope of a commercial licence is restricted to particular species, an exemption may only be granted if the commercial licence applies to harvesting of snow crabs. Exemptions will be granted on the following conditions:

- Vessels that are engaged in harvesting snow crabs may be required to report information in addition to that recorded in the catch logbook if the Institute of Marine Research needs data. For example, sampling of the catch may be required.
- Observers from the Institute of Marine Research and the Directorate of Fisheries shall be entitled to participate free of charge in operations on board vessels engaged in harvesting snow crabs.

Applications for exemptions must be sent to the Directorate of Fisheries.

Section 3. *Authorisation*

The Directorate of Fisheries may amend these regulations and adopt further provisions if this is necessary for conducting or completing fishing activities in a rational or proper manner.

Section 4 *Infringement fine*

Any business or person that wilfully or negligently contravenes provisions set out in or issued under these regulations may be required to pay an infringement fine under section 59 of the Act of 6 June 2008 No. 37 relating to the management of wild living marine resources and the Regulations of 20 December 2011 No. 1437 relating to the use of coercive fines and infringement fines under the Marine Resources Act.

Section 5 *Penal measures*

Any person that wilfully or negligently contravenes provisions set out in or issued under these regulations is liable to a penalty under sections 61, 64 and 65 of the Act of 6 June 2008 No. 37 relating to the management of wild living marine resources (Marine Resources Act). Complicity or an attempt to contravene the said provisions is liable to the same penalties.

Section 6 *Entry into force*

These regulations enter into force on 1 January 2015.