

(Letterhead of the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries)
Deputy Secretary General

To the Russian Federal Agency for Fishery

Your ref.

Our ref.
15/2046-94

Date
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Snow crab from EU States in Norwegian ports

Reference is made to previous conversations and your letter of 13 May 2016 regarding snow crab from EU States in Norwegian ports.

We are aware that EU vessels fish for snow crab on the Russian continental shelf in Loop Hole without permission from the Russian authorities. We do not know whether Russia has introduced a national regulation that prohibits this type of activity or whether the Russian Coast Guard enforces any ban on the Russian continental shelf in the Loop Hole.

Combating illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing is a priority task for Norwegian authorities. However, it is difficult under Norwegian legislation to introduce a landing ban for snow crab harvested on the Russian part of the shelf in the Loop Hole as long as such catches are accepted by the Russian authorities and violations of any Russian fishing regulations are not enforced on the Russian side.

Kind regards

Arne Røksund

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