Report back on potential effects of the cod fishing ban

17th Jastarnia Group Meeting, Poland
WGBYC 2020 report Polish gillnet fisheries (cod) fishing effort

Comparing the temporal variation of fishing effort between 2018 and 2019, also in Polish waters there is a decrease of gillnet fisheries due to the ban of cod fishing set in place in August 2019.

WGBYC report for 2021 not available yet, the ICES WGBYC meeting planned for September 2021.
Cod closures

Council Regulation (EU) 2020/1579 of 29 October 2020 fixing for 2021 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea put;

• A ban on directed catches of eastern cod stock and western cod stock in the ICES SD 24 (due to mixing) all year round.

Derogations (vessels still allowed to catch cod):

In the ICES 24 vessels below 12 m, fishing with gillnets and longlines or similar passive gears within 6 Nm at the water depth shallower than 20.

• Total fishing ban for ICES SD 25 and 26 from 1 May until 31 of August

Derogations (vessels still allowed to fish):

In the ICES 25 and ICES 26 vessels below 12 m, fishing with gillnets and longlines or similar passive gears within 6 Nm at the water depth shallower than 20 m.
Derogations for pelagic fisheries

ICES 25 the water cannot be deeper than 50 m (mesh size smaller than 45 mm) and landings are sorted out.

- **Total fishing ban** in the ICES SD 24 during the period from 15 of May until 15 August plus

Derogations (vessels allowed to fish):
For the vessels below 12 m fishing with the use of gillnets and longlines at the waters shallower than 20 m etc... for pelagic fisheries it is up to 6 Nm and up to 40 m of water depth and landings are sorted out.

*The highest effects of cod fishing ban on the PL fishing fleet have the total fishing closures.*
ICES advice for cod for 2022

Not fully known yet, likely the advice from 2021 will be repeated for 2022 (means „0” catches).