



**DEUTSCHER  
ANGELFISCHER-  
VERBAND e.V.**



**Sportfiskarna**

Sveriges Sportfiske- och Fiskevårdsförbund

+ danish Charterboats

## **Bag-Limit 2019**

**Position: DAFV (DE), Sportfiskerforbund (DK), SportFiskarna (SE)**

### **Status quo**

- With the introduction of the bag limit on the 1 January 2017, recreational fisherman in Subdivisions 22-24 of the western baltic sea were allowed to catch five cods per day; and three cods during the closed-season from 01.02. - 31.03. (EU Regulation 2016/1903)
- No quota increases for 2018. (Roll-over); also bag-limit.
- The stock surveys from Thünen Institut (TI) concerning the cod year-class 2016 are raising hopes in the fishing community. Expectations of a significant change in the current bag limit in 2019 are high.

### **Our view and demand**

The affected national associations for recreational Anglers in europe DAFV (DE), Sportfiskerforbund (DK), Sportfiskarna (SE) and its member associations are struggling with the current bag-limit. From our point of view, we regard it as an inappropriate instrument.

The negative effects on the economically weak coastal regions along the coast of Germany, Danmark and Sweden are obvious. Charter boats go broke, anglers simply stay home or go to other places. The economic damage, in particular for the tourism sector is more serious than that for commercial fishing sector, which is compensated for its losses from national and EU funds.

Considering the possible increase of the quota for commercial fisheries in 2019, organized anglers expect analogous consideration of recreational fisheries based on scientific findings.

The organized anglers have recognized that they need to make their contribution to stock recovery as protectors and users of the cod-stock in the western baltic. In 2016, we issued a resolution together and offered our help. We will continue to offer this assistance.

Anglers have demonstrably contributed to the stock recovery of the western cod stock. It is therefore only logical to involve them accordingly to the commercials in the anticipated recovery.

### **Questions to be discussed:**

- If it should stay with the bag limit. How are we measured?

Answer: If there is a doubling of the quota for professional fisheries, we should be measured by this and tie our demands analogously to the quotas for professional fisheries.

Doubled ratio of professional fishermen is expected to be 100% fished out. Removal by anglers is significantly lower. Doubling a bag limit does not automatically mean doubling landings by anglers. For example, estimated for 2017 were 1754 t but only 932 t were caught by recreational anglers (rod and line).

Selling fish for recreational fishermen is illegal. COM's thinkings, that a higher bag-limit could incentivise illegal sales is simply a misbelief.

Conclusion: Huge psychological effect for the anglers, expectation is not clouded, anglers come back to the coast.