

Contact information:

E-mail: annelie.rosell@pelagic.se

Phone: +46 725 808 186

Date: 2025-09-09

Recipient: Naturvårdsverket

Dnr.: NV-25-035793

Opinion on the planned the offshore wind farm projects 14.E.1, 14.E.2, 14.E.3 and 14.E.4

The Swedish Pelagic Federation producer organization (SPF) represents the Swedish pelagic fishery after e.g. herring, sprat, sandeel and mackerel in the Gulf of Bothnia, the Baltic Sea, Kattegatt, Skagerrak, the North Sea and the Atlantic. Our members fish with vessels from 5-65 meters pelagic trawls, purse seines, hooks and nets. Our members account for approx. 90% of the annual total fished volume in Sweden.

The Swedish Fishermen's Producers' Organisation (SFPO) is Sweden's largest organisation for professional fishermen. The association represents around 220 fishing vessels that operate primarily in demersal fishing. The members fish on the terms of nature and the manager. SFPO has members along the entire Swedish coast, from Koster to Kalix. The association stands for long-term sustainable fishing, and its members are among the best when it comes to gentleness, selectivity and quality.

SPF och SFPO thank you for the opportunity to participate in this consultation.

Potential cross-border effects and environmental consequences of the project that may affect Sweden

The planned wind farms located in areas 14.E.1, 14.E.2, 14.E.3, 14.E.4 in the Polish exclusive economic zone can potentially have a negative effect on fish stocks caught by Swedish fishermen through underwater noise, vibrations, changing currents sediment spread in connection with wind turbines or electromagnetic fields around cables. The present knowledge about these influencing factors and their effect on the underwater fauna is severely lacking. SPF therefore consider that it is of utmost importance that these factors and their cumulative effects on fish and other underwater fauna are carefully investigated in the forthcoming Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

Possible negative effects from a wind farm on fish spawning, foraging for food, migrations etc. may pose serious consequences in the long term for our members, if important fish stocks are affected negatively.

Participation in the environmental impact assessment (EIA)

SPF and SFPO believe that Sweden should participate in the continued progress of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). It is essential that the possible effects of the planned wind farm on fish stocks in the Baltic Sea are carefully investigated and that the cumulative effects of this and other planned and existing wind farms in the Baltic Sea are taken into account in the analysis.

The EIA should describe the expected effects on the fish stocks and fishery during both construction and continuous operation and decommissioning of the wind farm. For fishing practices, a reference timeframe of at least 10-15 years should be used.

If you have any questions related to our response or our pelagic fishery in general, please contact us!

Best regards,

Annelie Rosell

Swedish Pelagic Federation PO

Mathias Ivarsson

Sveriges Fiskares Producentorganisation