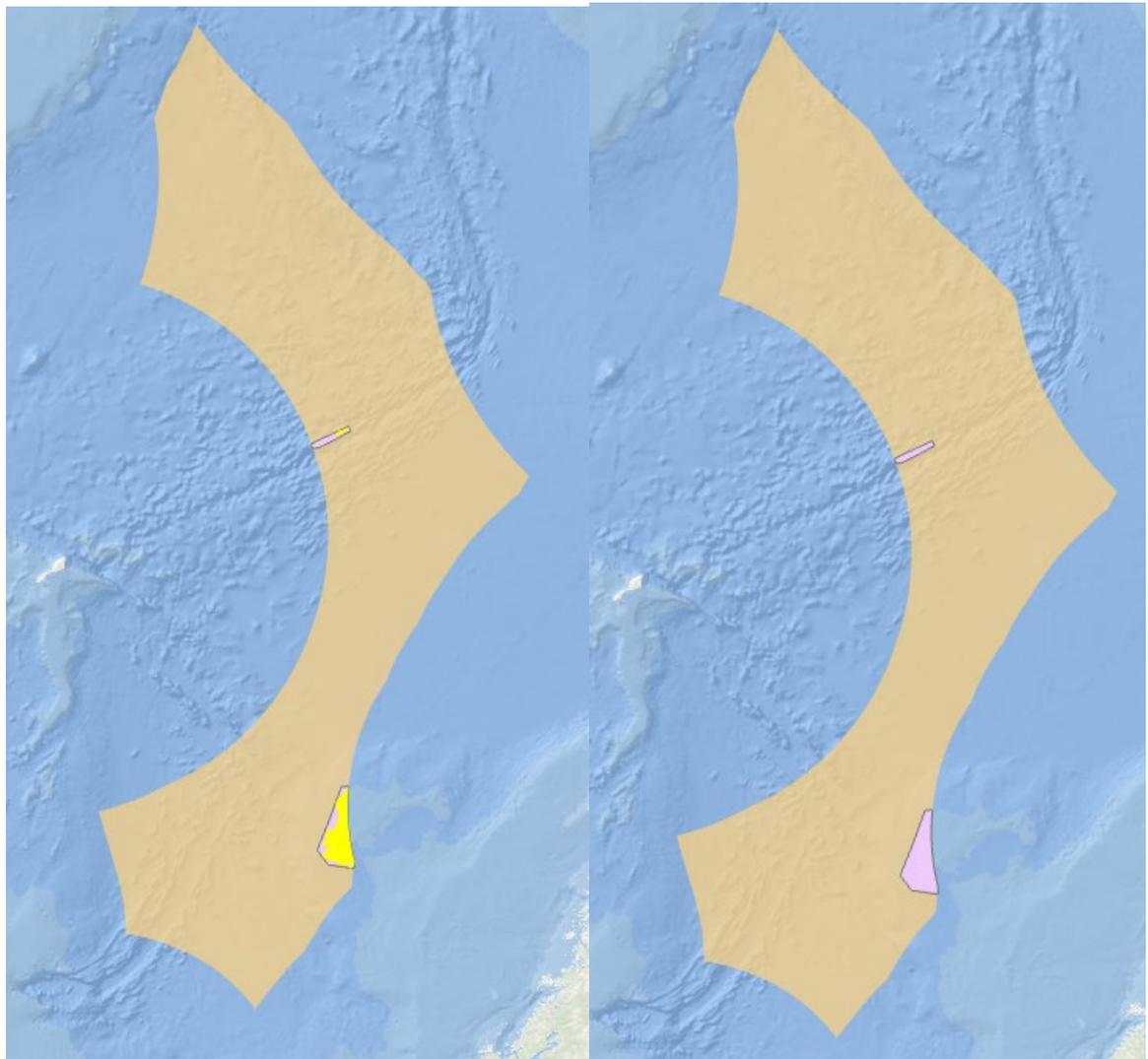
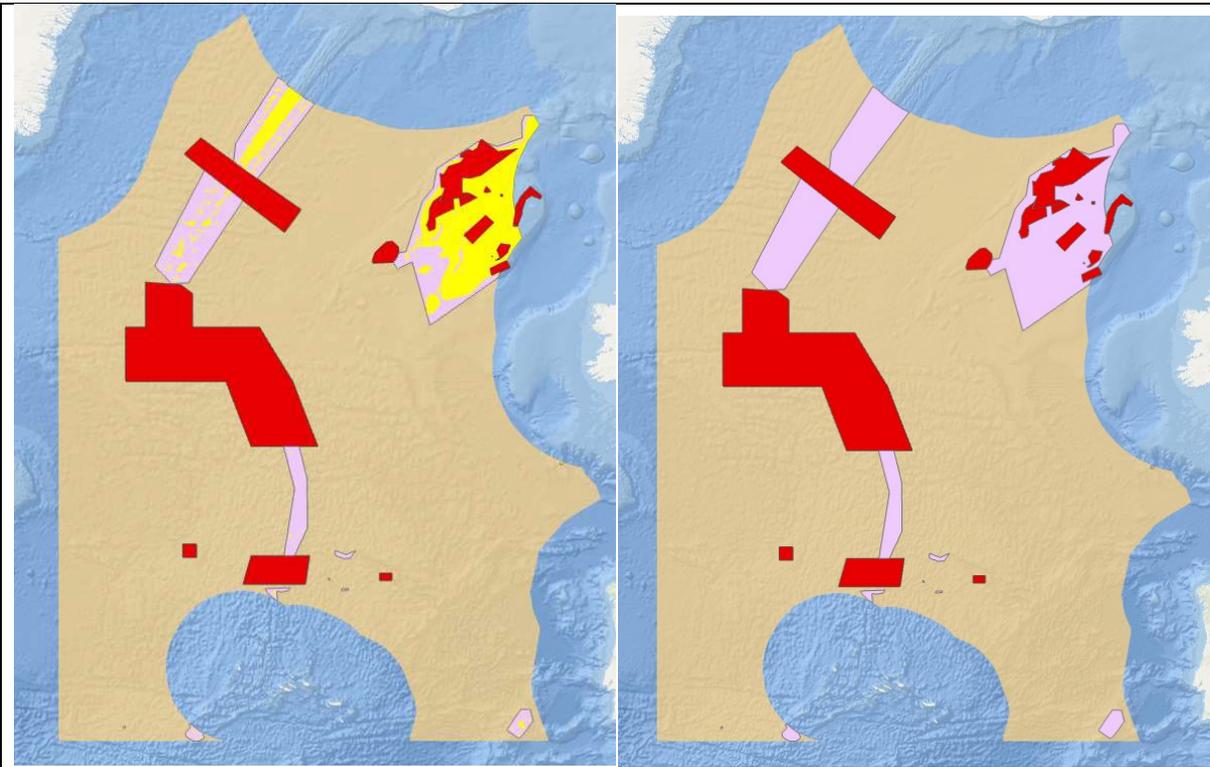


Annex

ICES request form ICES Request Form

Request from	NEAFC
Committee making the request	
Contact within organisation	
Content contact person	
Request announced	January 2024
Request received	January 2024
Outcome of request required by client	
Request code (client)	
Request code (ICES)	[completed by ICES]
Details of request	Request from NEAFC concerning Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures
<p>In its response to the NEAFC request on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures in relation to long-term biodiversity/ecosystem benefits of NEAFC’s closed areas and areas restricted to bottom fishing, ICES advises <i>inter alia</i> the following: <i>ICES advises that the restricted bottom fishing areas in NEAFC RAs achieve in situ biodiversity/ecosystem benefits as long as no bottom fishing activities occur. NEAFC RA 1, RA 2, and RA 3 contain biodiversity attributes as articulated in the CBD guidance (CBD, 2018, Annex III, Section B). The restricted bottom fishing areas can potentially be opened to exploratory fishing. As such any bottom fishing in these areas may preclude them from satisfying sustained governance for long-term biodiversity benefits.</i></p> <p>ICES is requested to advise on whether this advice applies to each of the areas identified in AM 23-34 Rev 1, Annex 2, figure 2, the lilac polygons and to the additional lilac polygons identified from shapefiles provided by NEAFC to ICES (23 April 2024, zip files “NEAFC_OECM_lilac_areas.zip” and “NEAFC_restricted_areas_shallower_than 1400m depth.zip”). The combined set of lilac polygons is shown in Figure 1..</p> <p>Figure 1. (OECM designations based on restricted areas at depth shallower than 1400m.Areas shallower than 1400m in yellow, suggested VME Restricted Area OECM outlines in lilac.</p>	



Intended use of the request output	
Planning ICES	-
Request (budget) accepted	
ICES contact person	
WG(s) involved	work will be done by ICES in parallel to the agreed ICES advice process to provide Advice to support NEAFC 5 yearly Review of Recommendation 19:2014 on the protection of VME. Preparation by the same select core group of experts, and a targeted ICES workshop to review/compiling evidence base required to evaluate Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures, as set out in the NEAFC request.
Preparation timing	
Review group	ICES Working Group on Deep-water Ecology (WGDEC)
Advice drafting group	3-6 September
ACOM Web-conference	23 September 2024
Release date	30 September 2024