OSPAR Commission 1 of 4

Over view of OSPAR’s activities with relevance to the ocean

affairs and UN Law of the Sea 2014 – 2015.

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use the OSPAR’s common indicators of the state of the environment, hence able to link up across OSPAR’s
themes.
In order to support such integration work as the cumulative effects analysis, OSPAR is mapping the
footprint of fishing activity in the North-East Atlantic. This is a step forward in assessing pressures from all
human activities on sea floor integrity and understanding the impact on benthic habitats. This is the first
time that this kind of information has been available in Europe at this scale. It was developed for OSPAR by
the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas, using OSPAR’s Contracting Party fisheries’ VMS
and log book data http://www.ices.dk/news-and-events/news-archive/news/Pages/ICES-maps-the-intensity-of-fishing-activities-affecting-the-seabed-.aspx.
While OSPAR has now adopted a further four Recommendations on the OSPAR list of
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