

**Question for written answer E-010673/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Matthias Groote (S&D)

Subject: Electro-fishing

A pilot electro-fishing project for which the Netherlands have administrative and scientific responsibility was initiated in 2014. The project has been set up for three years and so far 84 electro-fishing licences have been granted to fishermen.

1. When are the first research results from the pilot project expected and will they be published?
2. Has the Commission already started to prepare electro-fishing regulations, for example in the form of clear specifications as to what the gear should look like and under what circumstances it can be used?
3. Will measures be taken to limit the scope of electro-fishing to certain species of fish, such as flatfish, and to prohibit electro-fishing for crabs, as they are not subject to a catch quota and stocks might be put at risk?