Sampling scheme identifier: **PT-ELE-fishery-independent-stow nets**

MS: **PRT**
Region: North-East Atlantic
Sampling scheme identifier: PT-ELE-fishery-independent-stow nets
Sampling scheme type: Diadromous (scientific)
Observation type: Scientific observer on rivers, lagoons, etc. (SciObs water body)
Time period of validity: 2025-2027
Short description (max 100 words): Sampling scheme (Work Plan - Table 2.3) aiming at sampling recruits of glass eel, as well as length and biological variables (weight) of glass eel in two "Management Unit / River" (ES_Min that corresponds to Body of water Minho; and PT_Port in which the sampled Body of water is Mondego).
Description of the population
Population: Recruits of glass eel as well as length and biological variables (weight) of glass eel in two "Management Unit / River" ES_Min and PT_Port. **Population targeted:** Recruits of glass eel as well as length and biological variables (weight) of glass eel in lower estuary of two "Management Unit / River" ES_Min and PT_Port. **Population sampled:** Recruits of glass eel as well as length and biological variables (weight) of glass eel in lower estuary in one Body of water (Minho) of "Management Unit / River" ES_Min and in one "Body of water" (Mondego) of "Management Unit / River" PT_Port. Population not sampled: Remaining bodies of water of the two "Management Unit / Rivers" Es_Min and PT_Port, and remaining reaches of the "Body of water" Minho of the "Management Unit / River" ES_Min and of the "Body of water" Mondego of the "Management Unit / River" PT_Port. **Stratification:** Stratification is used to improve sampling coverage through the year (by month).
Sampling design and protocols
Sampling design description: Method – stow nets: In each "Body of water" sampled with this method, one site (in lower estuary) is sampled one night per month (in each of the 7 months between November and May); in each month, the site is selected by SRSWOR. In each stow net, the total weight of glass eel caught is determined, and a subsample of individuals is sampled for biological variables (individual length, weight and pigmentation stage). **Is the sampling design compliant with the 4S principle?:** NA – Diadromous sampling scheme.

Regional coordination:
N.

Link to sampling design documentation:
Documentation will be developed in 2025-2027.

Design follows international recommendations:
Y.
Sampling design in line with international recommendations, e.g. from ICES WGEEL (Working Group on Eels).

Link to sampling protocol documentation:
Documentation will be developed in 2025-2027.

Protocol follows international recommendations:
Y.
Sampling protocol in line with international recommendations, e.g. from ICES WGEEL (Working Group on Eels).

Sampling implementation

Recording of refusal rate:
N.
Recording of refusal rate will be developed in 2025-2027.

Monitoring of sampling progress within the sampling year:
The number of PSU per sampling scheme executed versus planned is monitored monthly. When necessary and possible, the number of PSU planned but not executed (due to operational/logistical constraints) is rescheduled.

Data capture

Means of data capture:
Biological data is collected with measuring board/tape (variable length) and scale (variable weight).

Data capture documentation:
Documentation will be developed in 2025-2027.

Quality checks documentation:
Documentation will be developed in 2025-2027.

Data storage

National database:
Local database.

International database:
NA.

Quality checks and data validation documentation:
N.
Documentation will be developed in 2025- 2027.

Sample storage

Storage description:
Biological samples are stored at FCUL/CIIMAR.

Sample analysis:
N.
Documentation will be developed in 2025-2027.

Data processing
Evaluation of data accuracy (bias and precision): Documentation will be developed in 2025-2027. **Editing and imputation methods:** Documentation will be developed in 2025-2027. **Quality document associated to a dataset:** Documentation will be developed in 2025-2027. **Validation of the final dataset:** Data quality checks are carried out yearly to detect before response to data calls.