

8 Stocks with limited data

Three herring stocks have very little data associated with them and have been poorly described in recent reports. These are Clyde herring, part of Division 6aN (Section 5.11 in ICES 2005a), herring in 7.e,f and herring in the Bay of Biscay (Subarea 8). In this section, only the time-series of landings are maintained.

8.1 Clyde herring

In 2011, under the provisions of the TAC and Quota Regulations (57/2011), the European Commission delegated the function of setting the TAC for certain stocks which are only fished by one Member State, to that Member State. This provision currently applies to herring in the Firth of Clyde with TAC setting responsibility delegated to Scotland. The stock is as such not an ICES stock with limited data, but it has been decided to continue to display the updated historical landings table for reasons of continuity. Since 1998 the agreed TAC for Clyde herring has never been reached. No reported catches occurred since 2014 apart from in 2021 where 180 tonnes were caught. The TAC in the Clyde from 2015 to 2021 was set at 583 tonnes, but was reduced to 466 tonnes in 2022 (Table 12.1). In 2022, landings amount to 0 tonnes (Figure 12.1)

8.2 Division 7.e.f

This section is not dedicated to a 'stock', instead relating to a species in a region where data are available. The stock structure of herring populations in this area is not clear, therefore further work is required.

Figure 12.1 shows the time-series of landings over the period 1974–2021 in Division 7.e and 7.f. Data are taken from the ICES historical and official nominal databases and adjusted, where possible, with data supplied by working group members. Landings statistics are presented in table 12.2 (7.e) and 12.3 (7.f).

Since 1999, landings in Division 27.7.e are stable and have fluctuated between 5 and 800 t except in 2008 where they reached more than 1000 t (Figure 12.1). In 2022, landings amount to 6 tonnes (Figure 12.1).

In Division 27.7.f, it can be seen that there was a pulse of landings in the late 1970s. Since then landings have fluctuated between 200 t and a very few tonnes in recent years, without any obvious trend. In 2022, landings amount to 200 tonnes. (Figure 12.2).

8.3 Subarea 8 (Bay of Biscay)

In the Bay of Biscay, French landings peaked at 1660 t in 1976, declining gradually to very low levels by the late 1980s. Landings by the Netherlands had peaked in 1985 (8619 t), and more recently there was a sudden pulse of Dutch landings of 7575 t in 2002, declining to low levels since (Figure 12.2, Table 12.3). Data before 2005 were taken from the ICES Historical Catches database. Data for later years were adjusted, where possible, with data supplied by working group members and from ICES official and preliminary catch statistics. In 2022, landings amount to 1 tonne (Figure 12.3).

8.4 Division 6.aN, spring spawners

Following the WKNSCS benchmark in 2022 (ICES, 2022), the combined assessment for herring in 6.a, 7.b-c was split into separate assessments for 6.aN and 6.aS, 7.b-c following the genetic splitting of the acoustic survey. These methods were only able to split out the autumn spawning component in 6.aN (Farrell, *et.al.*, 2021), therefore the biomass estimates and assessment in place is not relevant to the spring spawning population found in the Minch. The fishery in division 6.aN is focused on the autumn spawning herring around Cape Wrath, and therefore there is no recent catch information available for the spring spawning population.

8.5 Tables and Figures

Table 12.1 Herring from the Firth of Clyde. Catch in tonnes by country, 1959–2021. Spring and autumn-spawners combined.

Year	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
All Catches																
Total	10 530	15 680	10 848	3 989	7 073	14 509	15 096	9 807	7 929	9 433	10 594	7 763	4 088	4 226	4 715	4 061
Year	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Catches																
Total	3 664	4 139	4 847	3 862	1 951	2 081	2 135	4 021	4 361	5 770	4 800	4 650	3 612	1 923	2 343	2 259
Year	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Scotland	713	929	852	608	392	598	371	779	16	1	78	46	88	-	-	-
Other UK	-	-	1	-	194	127	475	310	240	0	392	335	240	-	318	512
Unallo- cated*	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Discards	**	**	**	**	**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Agreed TAC	2 900	2 300	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000
Total	731	929	853	608	586	725	846	1089	256	1	480	381	328	0	318	512
Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Scotland	163	54	266	48	90	118	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	180	0
Other UK	458	622	488	301	-	184	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unallo- cated*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Discards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Agreed TAC	800	800	800	720	720	720	648	648	583	583	583	583	583	583	583	466
Total	621	676	754	349	90	302	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	180	0

*Calculated from estimates of weight per box and in some years estimated bycatch in the sprat fishery

**Reported to be at a low level, assumed to be zero, for 1989–1995.

Table 12.2. Stocks with limited data. Landings of herring in Divisions 7.e. Source: ICES official landings database 2009 – 2019, national databases and ICES preliminary catch statistics 2020 and 2021.

Country	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
UK	0	89	57	231	32	14	3	148	69	199	162	83	151	161	69	221	206	399	294	855	430	446	471	482
Denmark	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	194	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	10	9	0	0	0
France	193	21	8	12	50	27	21	56	176	195	0	2	18	0	1	0	0	86	42	3	12	503	22	551
Germany	0	0	0	0	19	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	0	8	147	292	17	234	133	566	470	2110	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poland	0	0	262	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
total	193	118	474	535	118	276	157	770	715	2504	356	85	169	161	70	221	296	485	355	868	451	949	493	1033

Country	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	2022*
UK	377	165	159	193	163	315	199	66	189	106	78	130	185	218	162	274	435	268	204	22	11	8	11	6	5
Denmark	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
France	26	0	335	526	500	497	496	516	516	502	499	489	493	486	278	7	314	3	1	0	380	193	0	0	1
Germany	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	433	0	2	6	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total 7.e	403	165	494	719	663	812	695	582	705	608	1010	619	680	710	440	281	753	272	205	23	391	201	12	6	6

*Preliminary data

Table 12.3. Stocks with limited data. Landings of herring in Divisions 7.f. Source: ICES official landings database 2009 – 2019, national databases and ICES preliminary catch statistics 2020 and 2021.

Country	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Belgium	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
France	469	83	226	99	69	27	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	101	1233	692	611	173	137	22	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	154	0	0	0	0	0	0
UK	21	1	27	1	0	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	18	1	5	2	1	1	1	3	2	3	3	8
USSR	0	2062	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Germany	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total 7.f	591	3379	1006	711	242	165	42	25	3	1	2	2	18	1	5	2	2	155	1	3	2	3	3	8

Country	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	2022*
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
France	0	0	150	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
UK	14	12	81	0	5	21	47	198	76	115	29	8	23	78	113	136	20	111	227	28	3	4	1	65	200
USSR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Germany	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	0
Total 7.f	14	12	231	1	5	21	47	198	76	115	29	8	23	104	113	136	20	111	227	28	3	9	1	84	200

*Preliminary data

Table 12.4. Stocks with limited data. Landings of herring in Subarea 8. Source: ICES Official Landings database (2006–2020), Historical Catches database (1974–2005), and ICES preliminary catch statistics (2021–2022).

Country	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Denmark	0	0	0	0	210	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
France	974	1115	1660	613	285	386	531	0	0	0	292	227	272	595	255	0	0	0	141	181	68	193	98	86
Ireland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	8619	0	0	977	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portugal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0
Spain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
UK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
USSR	0	35	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total 8	974	1150	1677	613	525	386	531	0	0	0	292	8846	272	595	1232	0	0	3	141	181	69	193	98	86

[illegible]

Country	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	2022*
UK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
USSR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total 8	64	0	312	280	7922	1665	1411	64	220	142	153	89	490	357	22	7	5	5	4	2	3	1	1	2	1

*Preliminary data

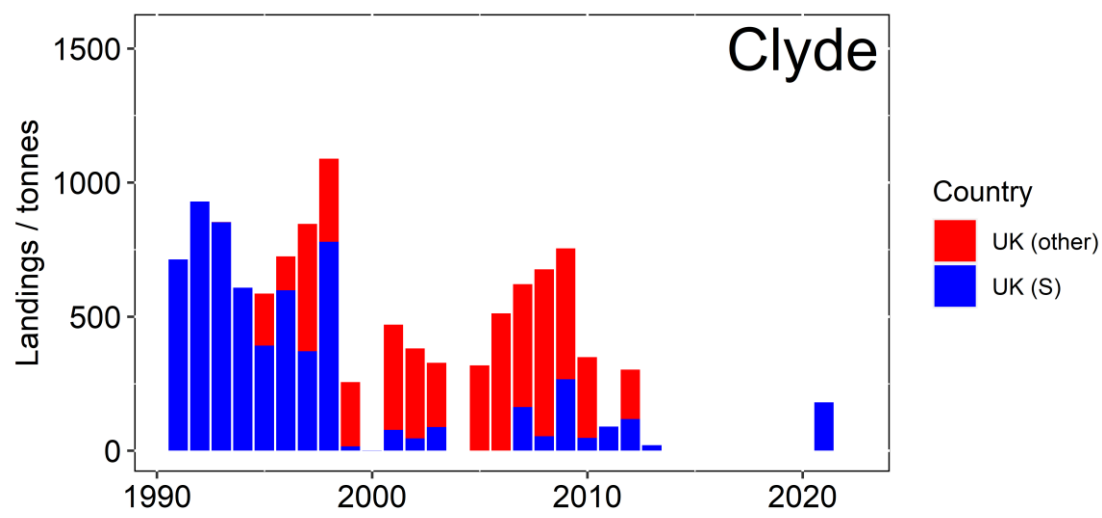


Figure 12.1. Stocks with limited data. Landings over time of herring in the Firth of Clyde.

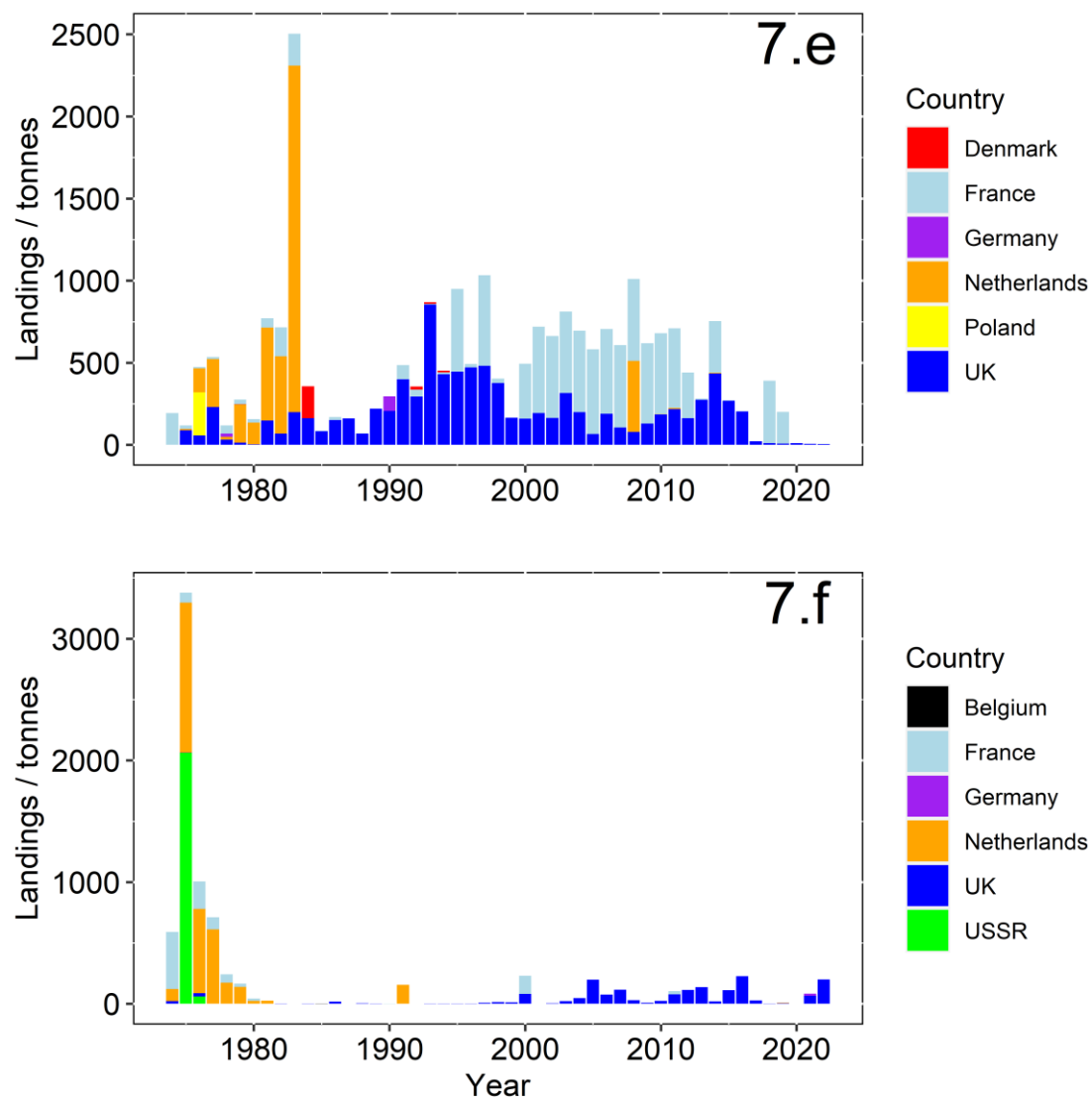


Figure 12.2. Stocks with limited data. Landings over time of herring in divisions 7.e (upper panel) and 7.f (lower panel).

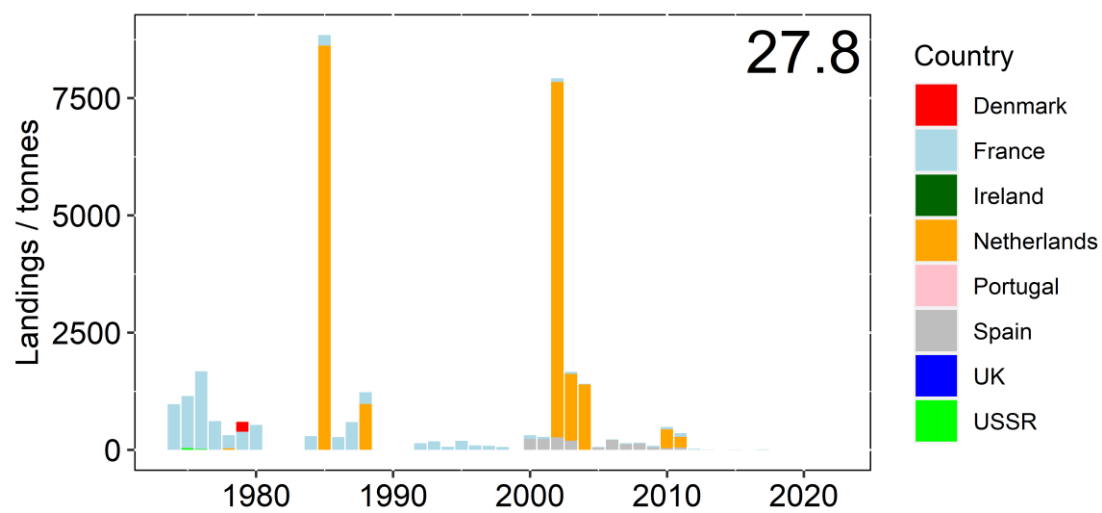


Figure 12.2. Stocks with limited data. Landings over time of herring in Subarea 8.