

### 6.3.38 Sandeel (*Ammodytes* spp.) in Division IVa, SA 7 (Northern North Sea, Shetland)

#### ICES stock advice

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, no increase in the fisheries should take place unless there is evidence that this will be sustainable. This corresponds to zero catch in 2015.

#### Stock development over time

Catch statistics are available for sandeel area 7 (SA 7). The available information is inadequate to evaluate stock status or trends. The state of the stock is therefore unknown.

san\_ns7 2015

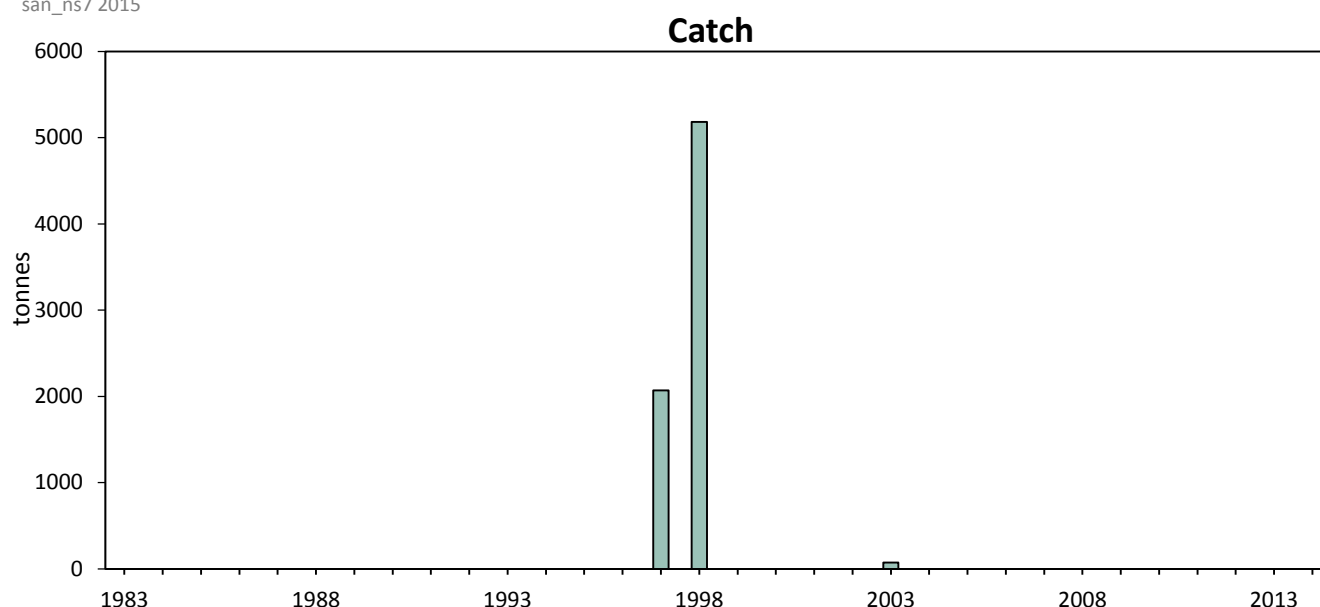


Figure 6.3.38.1 Sandeel in the Shetland area (SA 7). ICES estimates of catch (in tonnes).

#### Stock and exploitation status

Table 6.3.38.1 Sandeel in the Shetland area (SA 7). State of the stock and fishery, relative to reference points.

		Fishing pressure				Stock size			
		2012	2013	2014		2013	2014	2015	
Maximum Sustainable Yield	$F_{MSY}$	?	?	?	Undefined	MSY	?	?	?
Precautionary approach	$F_{pa}$ , $F_{lim}$	?	?	?	Undefined	$B_{pa}$ , $B_{lim}$	?	?	?
Management plan	$F_{MGT}$	?	?	?	Undefined	$SSB_{MGT}$	?	?	?
Qualitative evaluation	-	→	→	→	Very low	-	?	?	?
									Insufficient information

## Catch options

For stocks without information on abundance or exploitation ICES considers that a precautionary reduction of catches should be implemented, unless there is ancillary information clearly indicating that the current level of exploitation is appropriate for the stock (ICES, 2012).

For this stock, current catches are zero. ICES advises that when the precautionary approach applied, no increase in the fisheries should take place unless there is evidence that this will be sustainable. This corresponds to zero catch in 2015.

**Table 6.3.38.2** Sandeel in the Shetland area (SA 7). The catch options. For stocks in ICES categories 3–6, one catch option is possible. This is highlighted in bold.

Average catch (2012, 2013, 2014)		<b>0 tonnes</b>
Uncertainty cap applied	NA	
Precautionary buffer applied	NA	

## Basis of the advice

**Table 6.3.38.3** Sandeel in the Shetland area (SA 7). The basis of the advice.

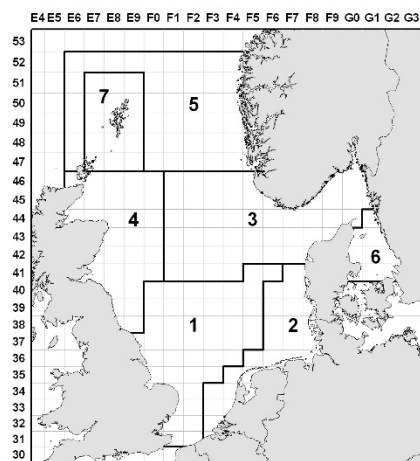
Advice basis	Precautionary approach.
Management plan	There is no management plan for sandeel in this area.

## Quality of the assessment

The available information is inadequate to evaluate stock status or trends.

## Issues relevant for the advice

The advice is expected to remain unchanged for several years unless information on stock status becomes available.



**Figure 6.3.38.2** Sandeel in the Shetland area (SA 7). Sandeel are largely sedentary after settlement and form a complex of local (sub-) stocks in the North Sea. To avoid local depletion, ICES advice for sandeel is provided separately for seven areas in Division IIIa and Subarea IV. Advice for sandeel in the Shetland area (SA 7) specifically applies to sandeel in rectangles 47–51 E7–E9.

## Reference points

No reference points have been defined for sandeel in this area.

## Basis of the assessment

**Table 6.3.38.4** Sandeel in the Shetland area (SA 7). The basis of the assessment.

ICES stock data category	5.3.0 (ICES, 2015a).
Assessment type	No assessment (ICES, 2015b).
Input data	Commercial catch statistics.
Discards and bycatch	Discarding is considered to be negligible.
Indicators	None.
Other information	Last benchmark in 2010 ( <a href="#">ICES, 2010</a> ).
Working group	Herring Assessment Working Group ( <a href="#">HAWG</a> ).

## Information from stakeholders

There is no information available.

## History of advice, catch, and management

**Table 6.3.38.5** Sandeel in the Shetland area (SA 7). History of ICES advice, the agreed TAC, and ICES estimates of catch. Weights in thousand tonnes.

Year	ICES advice	Catch corresponding to advice	EU TAC	ICES catch SA 7
2005 *	No advice			0
2006 *	No advice			0
2007 *	No advice			0
2008 *	No advice			0
2009 *	No advice			0
2010 *	No advice			0
2011	No increase in effort unless there is evidence that this is sustainable.		0	0
2012	No increase in effort unless there is evidence that this is sustainable.		0	0
2013	No increase in effort unless there is evidence that this is sustainable.	0	0	0
2014	No new advice, same as for 2013	0	0	0 **
2015	Precautionary approach	0		

\* Advice for Subarea IV, excluding the Shetland area.

\*\* Preliminary.

## History of catch and landings

**Table 6.3.38.6** Sandeel in the Shetland area (SA 7). Catch distribution by fleet in 2014 as estimated by ICES.

Total catch (2014)	Landings	Discards
0	0	0

**Table 6.3.38.7** Sandeel in the Shetland area (SA 7). History of catch as estimated by ICES.

Year	Catch (tonnes)
1983	0
1984	0
1985	0
1986	0
1987	0
1988	0
1989	0
1990	0
1991	0
1992	0
1993	0
1994	0
1995	0
1996	0
1997	2068
1998	5182
1999	0
2000	0
2001	0
2002	0
2003	73
2004	0
2005	0
2006	0
2007	0
2008	0
2009	0
2010	0
2011	0
2012	0
2013	0
2014	0

### Summary of the assessment

There is no assessment for sandeel in this area.

### Sources and references

ICES. 2010. Report of the Benchmark Workshop on Sandeel (WKSAN), 6–10 September 2010, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2010/ACOM:57. 201 pp.

ICES. 2012. ICES Implementation of Advice for Data-limited Stocks in 2012 in its 2012 Advice. ICES CM 2012/ACOM 68. 42 pp.

ICES. 2015a. General context of ICES advice. *In* Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2015. ICES Advice 2015, Book 1, Section 1.2.

ICES. 2015b. Sandeel in Divisions IIIa and IV. *In* Report of the Herring Assessment Working Group for the Area South of 62°N (HAWG), 10–19 March 2015, ICES HQ, Denmark. ICES CM 2015/ACOM:06.