

Plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) in divisions 7.b–c (West of Ireland)

ICES stock advice

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, landings should be no more than 24 tonnes in each of the years 2018, 2019 and 2020. ICES cannot quantify the corresponding total catches.

Stock development over time

The stock status is unknown and only landings statistics are available. Landings since 2000 have been low.

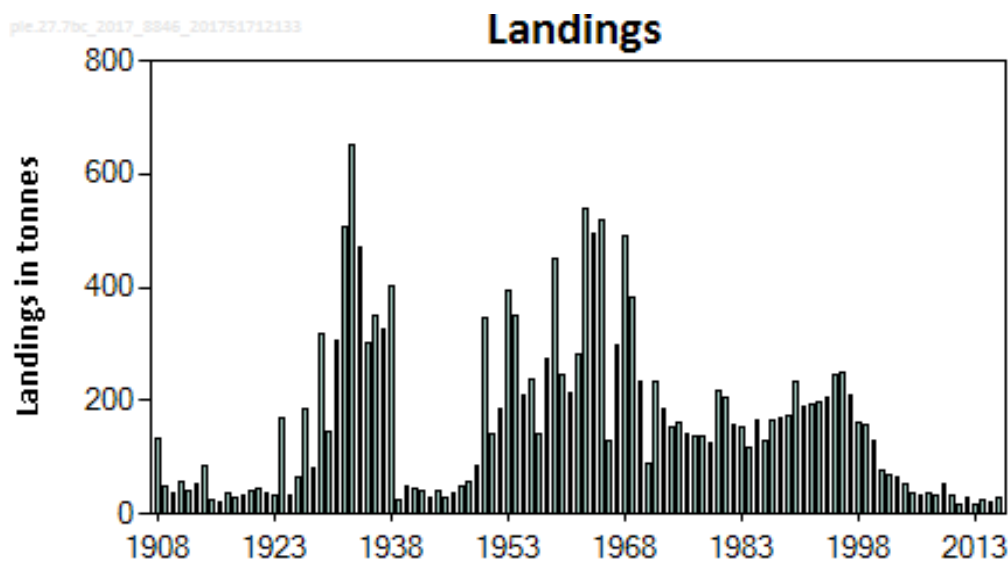


Figure 1 Plaice in divisions 7.b–c. Official landings.

Stock and exploitation status

Table 1 Plaice in divisions 7.b–c. State of the stock and fishery relative to reference points.

		Fishing pressure				Stock size				
		2014	2015	2016		2015		2016	2017	
Maximum sustainable yield	F _{MSY}	?	?	?	Unknown	MSY B _{trigger}	?	?	?	Unknown
Precautionary approach	F _{pa} F _{lim}	?	?	?	Unknown	B _{pa} B _{lim}	?	?	?	Unknown
Management plan	F _{MGT}	—	—	—	Not applicable	B _{MGT}	—	—	—	Not applicable
Qualitative evaluation	-	?	?	?	Unknown	-	?	?	?	Unknown

Catch options

The ICES framework for category 6 stocks was applied (ICES, 2012). 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. The precautionary buffer was last applied in 2012 (for the 2013 advice) and with no new information available to support the current level of catches the precautionary buffer is applied for the 2018 advice.

Table 2 Plaice in divisions 7.b–c. The basis for the catch options.

Recent advised landings	30 tonnes	
Discard rate	Unknown	
Precautionary buffer	Applied	0.8
Landings advice*	24 tonnes	

* recent advised landings × precautionary buffer.

Basis of the advice

Table 3 Plaice in divisions 7.b–c. The basis of the advice.

Advice basis	Precautionary approach
Management plan	ICES is not aware of any agreed precautionary management plan for plaice in this area.

Quality of the assessment

Catches in this area are too low to support the collection of the necessary information for an assessment of the stock status.

Issues relevant for the advice

Recent discards estimates are highly variable and uncertain. Therefore, ICES is not able to provide catch advice for this stock.

Reference points

No reference points are defined for this stock.

Basis of the assessment

Table 4 Plaice in divisions 7.b–c. Basis of assessment and advice.

ICES stock data category	6 (ICES, 2016)
Assessment type	No assessment
Input data	Official landings statistics
Discards and bycatch	Discards rates are uncertain
Indicators	None
Other information	None
Working group	Working Group for the Celtic Seas Ecoregion (WGCSE)

Information from stakeholders

There is no additional available information for this stock.

History of the advice, catch, and management

Table 5 Plaice in divisions 7.b–c. ICES advice and official landings. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	ICES Advice	Predicted catch corresp. to advice	Agreed TAC	Official landings
1993	-	-	-	196
1994	-	-	-	206
1995	-	-	-	246
1996	-	-	-	251
1997	-	-	-	209
1998	-	-	-	161
1999	-	-	-	159
2000	-	-	-	130
2001	-	-	240	78
2002	No advice	-	180	72
2003	Reduce TAC to recent landings	90	160	63
2004	Reduce TAC to recent av. landings (2000–2002)	77	160	53
2005	Reduce TAC to recent av. landings (2001–2003)	65	160	37
2006	Reduce TAC to recent av. landings (2002–2004)	55	144	33
2007	Reduce TAC to recent av. landings (2003–2005)	40	122	35
2008	Reduce TAC to recent av. landings (2004–2006)	40	110	32
2009	Same advice as last year	33	94	52
2010	Reduce TAC to recent av. landings (2006–2008)	33	80	33
2011	No advice	-	78	18
2012	No increase in catch	-	78	29
2013	20% reduction in catches (last 3 years' average)	<30	74	18
2014	Same catch advice as for 2013	<30	74	23
2015	Same catch advice as for 2013	<30*	74	22
2016	Precautionary approach (same advised landings value as given for 2015)	≤30**	74	29
2017	Precautionary approach (same advised landings value as provided for 2016)	≤30**	74	
2018	Precautionary approach	≤24*		
2019	Precautionary approach (same advised landings value as provided for 2018)	≤24*		
2020	Precautionary approach (same advised landings value as provided for 2018)	≤24*		

* Landings advice.

** wanted catch.

History of the catch and landings

Table 6 Plaice in divisions 7.b–c. Catch distribution in 2016 as estimated by ICES.

Catch (2016)	Landings	Discards
Unknown	29 t	unknown

Table 7 Plaice in divisions 7.b–c. History of commercial catch and landings; both the official and ICES estimated values are presented for each country. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	France	UK	Ireland	Others	Total	Unallocated	ICES estimates
1908	0	0	135	0	135		
1909	0	0	49	0	49		
1910	0	0	36	0	36		
1911	0	2	54	0	56		
1912	0	1	40	0	41		
1913	0	0	54	0	54		
1914	0	0	85	0	85		
1915	0	1	23	0	24		
1916	0	0	22	0	22		
1917	0	0	36	0	36		
1918	0	0	29	0	29		
1919	0	1	32	0	33		
1920	0	25	15	0	40		
1921	0	9	34	0	43		
1922	0	1	37	0	38		
1923	0	1	30	0	31		
1924	0	4	166	0	170		
1925	0	5	28	0	33		
1926	13	10	42	0	65		
1927	126	14	45	0	185		
1928	40	7	35	0	82		
1929	262	25	31	0	318		
1930	96	6	44	0	146		
1931	238	8	58	0	304		
1932	411	19	76	0	506		
1933	595	29	29	0	653		
1934	406	31	33	0	470		
1935	249	18	33	0	300		
1936	265	47	37	0	349		
1937	242	59	25	0	326		
1938	359	25	20	0	404		
1939	0	0	24	0	24		
1940	0	0	47	0	47		
1941	0	0	43	0	43		
1942	0	0	41	0	41		
1943	0	0	29	0	29		
1944	0	0	42	0	42		
1945	0	0	30	0	30		
1946	0	5	32	0	37		
1947	0	9	36	5	50		
1948	0	8	47	0	55		
1949	0	20	63	0	83		
1950	289	16	42	0	347		
1951	100	12	31	0	143		
1952	120	18	46	0	184		
1953	340	8	48	0	396		
1954	273	5	72	0	350		
1955	111	3	96	0	210		
1956	174	1	64	0	239		
1957	80	1	60	0	141		
1958	204	0	71	0	275		
1959	392	5	54	0	451		
1960	197	3	46	0	246		
1961	182	0	30	0	212		
1962	239	0	42	0	281		
1963	471	2	67	0	540		

Year	France	UK	Ireland	Others	Total	Unallocated	ICES estimates
1964	427	2	66	0	495		
1965	417	2	99	0	518		
1966	0	1	127	0	128		
1967	182	2	112	0	296		
1968	403	0	89	0	492		
1969	281	2	99	0	382		
1970	124	0	110	0	234		
1971	0	1	89	0	90		
1972	110	0	124	0	234		
1973	60	1	124	0	185		
1974	45	1	106	0	152		
1975	10	0	153	0	163		
1976	9	0	133	0	142		
1977	4	0	135	0	139		
1978	16	0	122	0	138		
1979	6	0	117	2	125		
1980	12	0	142	65	219		
1981	9	4	135	58	206		
1982	8	4	122	22	156		
1983	37	0	108	7	152		
1984	2	6	110	0	118		
1985	10	7	150	0	167		
1986	11	5	114	0	130		
1987	13	1	153	0	167		
1988	9	2	157	0	168		
1989	1	14	159	0	174		
1990	11	92	130	0	233		
1991	9	3	179	0	191		
1992	3	9	180	0	192		
1993	2	3	191	0	196		
1994	1	5	200	0	206		
1995	5	2	239	0	246		
1996	1	2	248	0	251	-11	240
1997	3	0	206	0	209	4	213
1998	0	1	160	0	161	22	183
1999	0	2	157	0	159	13	172
2000	31	0	99	0	130	-22	108
2001	8	0	70	0	78	9	87
2002	17	2	51	0	70	1	71
2003	7	0	56	2	65	7	72
2004	14	0	39	1	54	1	55
2005	12	0	25	0	37	1	38
2006	11	0	20	1	32	-2	30
2007	12	0	23	0	35	-1	34
2008	9	0	21	1	31	4	35
2009	7	0	45	0	52	1	53
2010	6	0	27	0	33	0	33
2011	2	0	16	0	18	-2	16
2012	9	0	20	0	29	-3	26
2013	3	0	15	0	18	0	18
2014	6	0	17	0	23	0	23
2015**	7	0	15	0	222	0	22
2016**	12	0	17	0	29	0	29

**Preliminary

Summary of the assessment

There is no assessment for plaice in this area.

Sources and references

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

ICES. 2016. Advice basis. *In* Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2016. ICES Advice 2016, Book 1, Section 1.2.

ICES. 2017. Report of the Working Group for the Celtic Seas Ecoregion (WGCSE), 9–18 May 2017, ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2017/ACOM:13.