

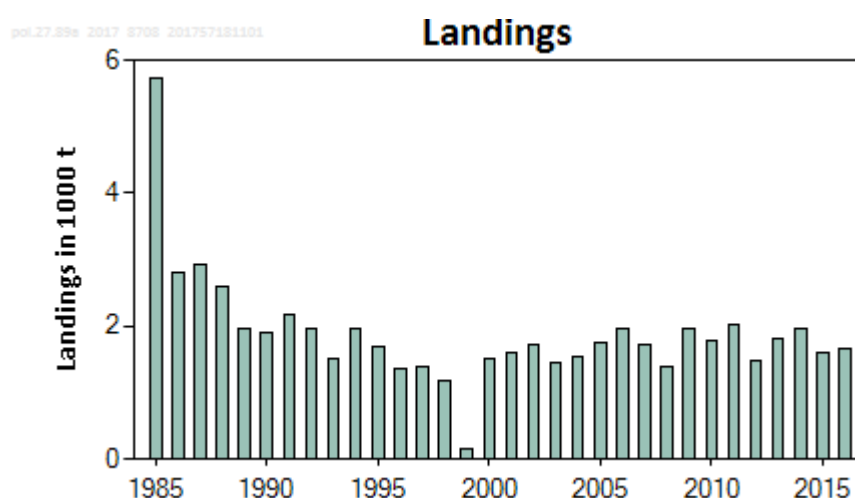
## Pollack (*Pollachius pollachius*) in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a (Bay of Biscay and Atlantic Iberian waters)

### ICES stock advice

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, commercial catches in each of the years 2018 and 2019 should be no more than 1131 tonnes. All commercial catches are assumed to be landed. ICES cannot quantify the corresponding total catches because the recreational catches cannot be quantified.

### Stock development over time

The commercial landings have been stable for the last 17 years. The information available is insufficient to evaluate stock trends and exploitation status.



**Figure 1** Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. ICES estimated commercial landings (in thousand tonnes); the value for 2016 is preliminary. Discards are negligible and recreational catches are unknown. Data for Subarea 8 in 1999 are incomplete.

### Stock and exploitation status

**Table 1** Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. State of the stock and fishery relative to reference points.

Table 1: Check in Subarea 0 and Division 0, state of the stock and fishery relative to reference points.										
		Fishing pressure				Stock size				
		2014	2015	2016		2014	2015	2016		
Maximum sustainable yield	$F_{MSY}$	?	?	?	Undefined	$MSY B_{trigger}$	?	?	?	Undefined
Precautionary approach	$F_{pa}, F_{lim}$	?	?	?	Undefined	$B_{pa}, B_{lim}$	?	?	?	Undefined
Management plan	$F_{MGT}$	—	—	—	Not applicable	$SSB_{MGT}$	—	—	—	Not applicable
Qualitative evaluation	-	?	?	?	Unknown	Qualitative evaluation	?	?	?	Unknown

### Catch options

The ICES framework for category 5 stocks was applied (ICES, 2012a). 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 applied in 2014 (for the 2015 advice). The stock status relative to reference points remains unknown; therefore, the precautionary buffer is applied this year. Discarding is assumed to be negligible and recreational catches are unquantified, but not negligible.

**Table 2** Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. The basis for the catch options.

Recent advised commercial landings (for 2017)	1414 tonnes	
Discard rate	Negligible	
Precautionary buffer	Applied	0.8
Commercial catch advice*	1131 tonnes	

\* [advice for 2017] × [precautionary buffer].

### Basis of the advice

**Table 3** Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. The basis of the advice.

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

### Quality of the assessment

Pollack has a preference for wrecks and rocky bottoms, making it difficult to catch with trawls and therefore poorly suited for monitoring by bottom trawl research surveys. Data on length frequency and life-history parameters are missing.

Recreational catches of pollack are unquantified, but not negligible.

### Issues relevant for the advice

There is no information.

### Reference points

No reference points are defined for this stock.

### Basis of the assessment

**Table 4** Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. Basis of the assessment and advice.

ICES stock data category	5 ( <a href="#">ICES, 2016</a> ).
Assessment type	No assessment (ICES, 2017).
Input data	Commercial landings.
Discards and bycatch	Negligible.
Indicators	None.
Other information	None.
Working group	Working Group for the Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Waters Ecoregion ( <a href="#">WGBIE</a> )

### Information from stakeholders

No information is currently available.

### History of the advice, catch, and management

**Table 5** Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. ICES advice and official landings. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	ICES advice	Predicted catch corresp. to advice	TAC in 8.a, b, d, and e	TAC in 8.c	TAC in 9 & 10	Summed TAC	ICES estimated commercial landings
2000		-	2600	800	450	3850	1500
2001		-	2600	800	450	3850	1610
2002		-	2100	640	450	3190	1717
2003		-	1680	512	360	2552	1458
2004		-	1680	410	360	2450	1528

Year	ICES advice	Predicted catch corresp. to advice	TAC in 8.a, b, d, and e	TAC in 8.c	TAC in 9 & 10	Summed TAC	ICES estimated commercial landings
2005		-	1680	328	288	2296	1751
2006		-	1680	262	288	2230	1948
2007		-	1680	262	288	2230	1710
2008		-	1680	262	288	2230	1395
2009		-	1680	262	288	2230	1949
2010		-	1512	236	288	2036	1781
2011		-	1482	231	282	1995	2010
2012	No increase in catch	-	1482	231	282	1995	1483
2013	20% reduction in catches	-	1482	231	282	1995	1810
2014	Same catch value advised for 2013	-	1482	231	282	1995	1957
2015	Reduce catch by 20%	≤ 1316	1482	231	282	1995	1610
2016	Precautionary approach (same catch value as advised in 2015)	≤ 1414	1482	231	282	1995	1661*
2017	Precautionary approach (same catch value as advised in 2015)	≤ 1414	1482	231	282	1995	
2018	Precautionary approach	≤ 1131					
2019	Precautionary approach	≤ 1131					

\*Preliminary.

## History of the catch and landings

**Table 6** Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. Catch distribution by fleet in 2016 as estimated by ICES.

Total catch (2016)	Commercial landings			Commercial discards	Recreational catches
Unknown	51% nets	36% lines	13% others	Negligible	Unquantified but not negligible
	1661 tonnes				

**Table 7** Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. History of commercial landings; both the official and ICES estimated values are presented by area for each country participating in the fishery. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	Bay of Biscay (Subarea 8)				Iberian waters (Division 9.a)		Total official landings	Unallocated	Total ICES estimates
	Belgium	Spain	France	UK	Spain	Portugal			
1985	0	2304	2769	23	636	0	5732	0	5732
1986	0	437	2127	5	237	0	2806	0	2806
1987	0	584	2022	1	308	3	2918	0	2918
1988	3	476	1761	6	329	7	2582	0	2582
1989	13	214	1682	4	57	3	1973	0	1973
1990	14	194	1662	2	27	1	1900	0	1900
1991	1	221	1867	1	76	2	2168	0	2168
1992	2	154	1735	0	65	2	1958	0	1958
1993	3	135	1327	0	47	1	1513	0	1513
1994	3	157	1764	0	28	3	1955	0	1955
1995	6	153	1457	2	59	2	1679	0	1679
1996	8	137	1164	0	43	2	1354	0	1354
1997	2	152	1167	1	54	2	1378	0	1378
1998	1	152	956	0	55	1	1165	0	1165
1999*	0	120	na*	0	36	1	157*	0	157
2000	0	121	1315	0	49	15	1500	0	1500
2001	0	346	1142	0	81	41	1610	0	1610
2002	0	170	1467	0	35	45	1717	0	1717

Year	Bay of Biscay (Subarea 8)				Iberian waters (Division 9.a)		Total official landings	Unallocated	Total ICES estimates
	Belgium	Spain	France	UK	Spain	Portugal			
2003	0	142	1245	1	39	31	1458	0	1458
2004	0	211	1145	0	90	12	1458	70	1528
2005	0	306	1311	0	132	0	1755	-4	1751
2006	0	251	1418	171	102	0	1942	6	1948
2007	0	198	1238	62	103	5	1606	104	1710
2008	0	265	814	64	128	31	1302	93	1395
2009	0	218	1508	41	68	3	1838	111	1949
2010	0	265	1269	44	91	2	1671	110	1781
2011	0	322	1453	27	104	2	1908	102	2010
2012	0	159	1094	2	139	2	1396	87	1483
2013	0	251	1345	8	110	3	1717	93	1810
2014	0	185	1610	19	93	1	1908	49	1957
2015	0	195	1244	37	78	18	1573	37	1610
2016**	0	186	1292	25	111	28	1642	19	1661

\*Data for Subarea 8 are not fully available for 1999.

\*\* Preliminary.

### Summary of the assessment

There is no assessment for pollack 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 Bay of Biscay and the Iberian waters Ecoregion (WGBIE), 4–11 May 2017, Cadiz, Spain. ICES CM/ACOM:12.