

5.3.18 Shagreen ray (*Leucoraja fullonica*) in subareas 6–7 (West of Scotland, southern Celtic Seas, English Channel)

ICES stock advice

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, landings should be no more than 210 tonnes in each of the years 2017 and 2018. ICES cannot quantify the corresponding catches.

Stock development over time

Landings (2009-2013) have ranged from 196 to 301 tonnes. There are currently no stock size indicators.

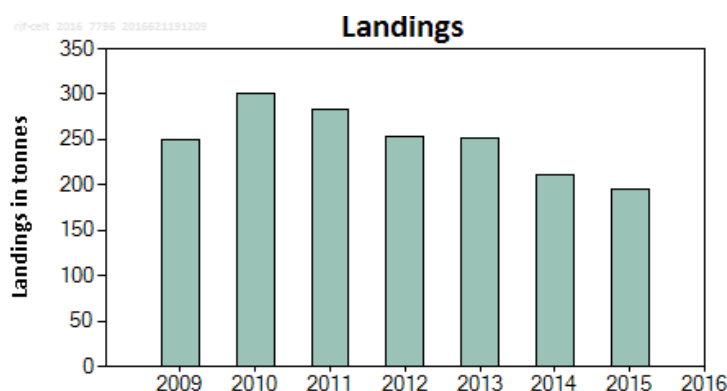


Figure 5.3.18.1 Shagreen ray in subareas 6–7. ICES estimated species-specific landings (in tonnes).

Stock and exploitation status

Table 5.3.18.1 Shagreen ray in subareas 6–7. State of the stock and fishery relative to reference points.

		Fishing pressure				Stock size			
		2013	2014	2015		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}	-	-	-	Not applicable	SSB_{MGT}	-	-	-
Qualitative evaluation	-	?	?	?	Unknown	-	?	?	?
									Unknown

Catch options

The ICES framework for category 5 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 applied previously (ICES, 2014) and has not applied again in 2016.

The recent advised landings for 2015 and 2016 were originally derived using landings statistics from 2011-2013. In 2016, a review of the landing statistics of elasmobranchs (ICES, 2016a) was conducted. As a result, the basis which was used to provide advice in 2014 for 2015 and 2016 has been adjusted to account for the update in the landing statistics in the period 2011-2013.

Discarding is known to take place, but ICES cannot quantify the corresponding catch. In addition, discard survival, which might occur, has not been estimated.

Table 5.3.18.2 Shagreen ray in subareas 6–7. For stocks in ICES data categories 3–6, one catch option is provided.

Recent advised landings for 2016	186 t	
Recent advised landings adjusted (2016)* [186 t x 1.13]	210 t	
Discard rate	Unknown	
Precautionary buffer	Not applied	-
Landings advice**	210 t	

*Recent advised landings adjusted for the revision of the landings statistics in 2011-2013

** (Recent advised landings adjusted).

Basis of the advice

Table 5.3.18.3 Shagreen ray in subareas 6–7. The basis of the advice.

Advice basis	Precautionary approach.
Management plan	There is no management plan for this stock.

Quality of the assessment

There is no assessment for this stock.

Issues relevant for the advice

The quality of landings data has improved in recent years, especially following the WKSHARKS workshop in which ICES revised elasmobranch landings data for the period 2009-2015 (ICES, 2016a,b). Misidentification at the species level is possible for this species.

Fishery independent data are limited for this species, due in part to a poor overlap between survey coverage and the stock distribution.

This is an outer shelf species that is usually a small bycatch of trawl and gillnet fisheries, including mixed demersal fisheries targeting hake, anglerfish and megrim. Although not subject to target fisheries, it can be a relatively important bycatch of fisheries in the south-western Celtic Sea. It is also a small bycatch in some deep-water fisheries on the continental slopes and offshore banks.

Preliminary analysis of the data from the French onboard observation programme indicates that the proportion of hauls encountering *Leucoraja fullonica* in the Celtic Sea is rather stable over the period 2007-2015, and was at its highest level in 2015 for the bottom trawl fleet.

Reference points

No reference points are defined for this stock.

Basis of the assessment

Table 5.3.18.4 Shagreen ray in subareas 6–7. The basis of the assessment.

ICES stock data category	5 (ICES, 2016c)
Assessment type	No assessment (ICES, 2016b)
Input data	Landings data 2009–2013
Discards and bycatch	Discarding is known to take place but cannot be quantified.
Indicators	None
Other information	French onboard observation programme; French EVHOE survey
Working group	Working Group on Elasmobranch Fishes (WGEF)

Information from stakeholders

No information has been provided.

History of advice, catch, and management

Table 5.3.18.5 Shagreen ray in subareas 6–7. History of ICES advice and ICES estimates of landings**. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	ICES advice	Predicted landings corresp. to advice	ICES species-specific landings: minimum estimate based on reported landings*
2011	No specific advice		283
2012	No specific advice		253
2013	No TAC, species-specific measures needed, catch to decrease by at least 20%	-	251
2014	No new advice, same as 2013	-	211
2015	Landings not to exceed the present level.	186	196
2016	No new advice, same as 2015	186	
2017	Precautionary approach	≤210	
2018	Precautionary approach (same value as advised catches for 2017)	≤210	

* Data revised in 2016 (ICES, 2016a).

** There is no a specific TAC for this stock. Fishing opportunities are managed through an overall TAC by management unit, which includes all species of skates and rays.

History of catch and landings

This stock is distributed along the continental slope, shelf edge, and offshore banks. Catches from the NEAFC area cannot be quantified.

Table 5.3.18.6 Shagreen ray in subareas 6–7. Catch distribution by fleet in 2015 as estimated by ICES.

Catch (2015)	Landings				Discards
Unknown	% beam trawl	% bottom trawl	% nets	% other gear	Discarding is known to take place but cannot be quantified.
	4%	83%	13%	<1%	
	196 tonnes				

Table 5.3.18.7 Shagreen ray in subareas 6–7. History of landings: ICES estimates of landings by country (in tonnes). Data revised in 2016 (ICES, 2016a).

Year	Spain	UK	Ireland	France	Total Landings
2009	62	44		144	250
2010	42	108	1	150	301
2011	29	97	6	152	283
2012	20	79	7	147	253
2013	33	85	6	127	251
2014	20	55	4	131	211
2015	13	26	6	151	196

Summary of the assessment

There is no assessment for this stock 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. 2014. Shagreen ray (*Leucoraja fullonica*) in Subareas VI and VII (Celtic Sea and West of Scotland). *In* Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2014. ICES Advice 2014, Book 5, Section 5.3.29.14.

ICES. 2016a. Report of the Workshop to compile and refine catch and landings of elasmobranchs (WKSHARKS), 19–22 January 2016, Lisbon, Portugal. ICES CM 2016/ACOM:40. 69 pp.

ICES. 2016b. Report of the Working Group on Elasmobranch Fishes (WGEF), 15–24 June 2016, Lisbon, Portugal. ICES CM 2016/ACOM:20.

ICES. 2016c. General context of ICES advice. *In* Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2016. ICES Advice 2016, Book 1, Section 1.2.