

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

ICES stock advice

Please note: The present advice replaces the advice given for this stock in June 2015.

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, commercial landings should be no more than 1414 tonnes in each of the years 2016 and 2017. ICES cannot quantify the corresponding catches because the recreational catches and commercial discards cannot be quantified.

Stock development over time

The stock status of pollack in this area is unknown.

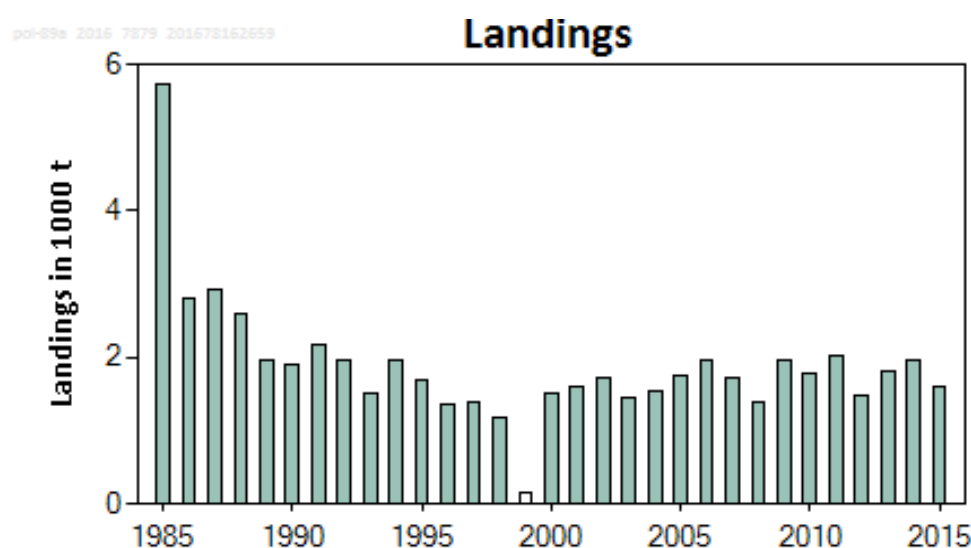


Figure 7.3.32.1 Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. ICES estimated commercial landings (in thousand tonnes). Discards and recreational catches are unknown. The 2015 data are preliminary and data for Subarea 8 in 1999 are incomplete.

Stock and exploitation status

Table 7.3.32.1 Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. 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	$MSY B_{trigger}$?	?	?
Precautionary approach	F_{pa}, F_{lim}	?	?	?	Undefined	B_{pa}, B_{lim}	?	?	?
Management plan	F_{MGT}	-	-	-	Not applicable	SSB_{MGT}	-	-	-
Qualitative evaluation	-	?	?	?	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 in 2014 (for the 2015 advice); therefore, it is not applied this year again.

In 2014 ICES advised that catches should decrease by 20% in relation to the previous three years' average landings (2011–2013). Based on the official landings data available at the time, this corresponded to commercial landings of no more than 1316 tonnes. Using the newly available ICES estimates of commercial landings (including the correction for the misreporting of pollack as whiting), a 20% reduction in relation to the average landings of 2011–2013 is 1414 tonnes.

Table 7.3.32.2 Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. For stocks in ICES data categories 3-6, one catch option is possible.

Recent landings advice (20% reduction from average landings 2011–2013)*	1414 tonnes	
Discard rate	Unknown	
Precautionary buffer	Not applied	-
Landings advice**	1414 tonnes	

* Based on ICES estimates of commercial landings obtained in 2016.

** [recent advised landings]

Basis of the advice

Table 7.3.32.3 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. Area-specific data on length frequency and life-history parameters are missing.

Data on growth, maturity, and discards from the fisheries are needed.

Recreational catches of pollack may be substantial but are not quantified.

Issues relevant for the advice

There is no information to present for this stock.

Reference points

There are no reference points defined for this stock.

Basis of the assessment

Table 7.3.32.4 Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. The basis of the assessment.

ICES stock data category	5.2.0 (ICES, 2016a)
Assessment type	No assessment (ICES, 2016b)
Input data	Commercial landings
Discards and bycatch	No information on discards is available.
Indicators	None
Other information	None
Working group	Working Group for the Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Waters Ecoregion (WGBIE)

Information from stakeholders

There is no available information.

History of advice, catch and management

Table 7.3.32.5 Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. History of ICES advice, the agreed TAC, and ICES estimated commercial 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
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	1609*
2016	Precautionary approach (same catch value as advised in 2015)	≤ 1414**	1482	231	282	1995	
2017	Precautionary approach (same catch value as advised in 2015)	≤ 1414**					

* Preliminary.

** This value corresponds to commercial landings. Originally, this value was calculated as 1316 t based on official landings data available at the time; in July 2016 this value was updated to 1414 t based on newly available ICES estimates of commercial landings (including a correction for pollack misreported as whiting).

History of catch and landings

Table 7.3.32.6 Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. Catch distribution by fleet in 2015 as estimated by ICES.

Total catch (2015)	Commercial landings			Commercial discards	Recreational landings	Recreational discards
Unknown	57% nets	26% lines	17% others	Not quantified	Unknown	Unknown
	1.609 kt					

Table 7.3.32.7 Pollack in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. The history of official commercial landings is presented by area for each country participating in the fishery. The ICES estimated total commercial landings is based on a correction of mixed species (whiting and pollack) landings records in the Portuguese landings from 9a. 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
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	211	1226	38	81	18	1574	35	1609

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

ICES. 2016b. Report of the Working Group for the Bay of Biscay and the Iberian waters Ecoregion (WGBIE), 13–19 May 2016, ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM/ACOM:12.