

ECOREGION **Widely distributed and migratory stocks**
STOCK **Black scabbardfish (*Aphanopus carbo*) in other areas (Subareas I, II, IV, X, XIV, and Divisions IIIa and Va)**

Advice for 2013 and 2014

Fisheries should not be allowed to expand until there is sufficient information showing that the fishery is sustainable.

Stock status

F (Fishing Mortality)		
	2009–2011	
MSY (F_{MSY})	?	Unknown
Precautionary approach (F_{pa}, F_{lim})	?	Unknown
Qualitative evaluation	?	Unknown
SSB (Spawning-Stock Biomass)		
	2009–2011	
MSY ($B_{trigger}$)	?	Unknown
Precautionary approach (B_{pa}, B_{lim})	?	Unknown
Qualitative evaluation	?	Unknown

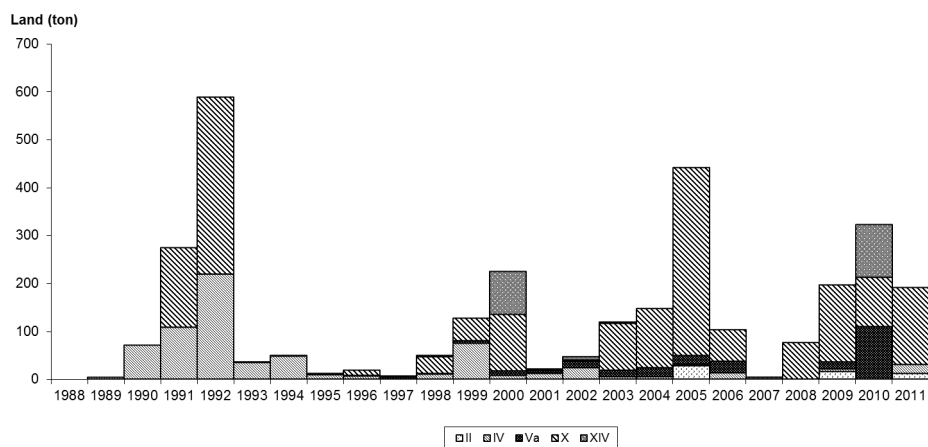


Figure 9.4.16.3.1 Black scabbardfish in other areas. Total landings (tonnes) from 1988 to 2011 (2011 landings are preliminary).

The state of black scabbardfish in other areas is unknown. The only available data on which to assess the stocks are landings data, which in some areas may be unreliable.

Management plans

No specific management objectives are known to ICES.

Biology

Recent studies have shown that two species *Aphanopus carbo* and *Aphanopus intermedius* may occur in Subarea X, particularly south of Pico Island (Azorean Archipelago). Black scabbardfish is considered to be a relatively fast-growing species with maximum age estimated at 15 years.

The fisheries

Despite the variability in the overall landings data through the years in other areas, the landings data available for the various ICES subareas identify Subarea X as the most important area in this assessment unit. Landings in ICES Subarea XIV may be area-misreporting.

Catch distribution Total catches (2011) are 0.2 kt, where 100% are landings (73% deep-water longline).

Quality considerations

Landings data, especially those derived from ICES Subarea X, may include a mixture of two species. The proportion of each species in the landings needs to be estimated. This task should be accommodated into the DCF national sampling programmes carried out in ICES Subarea X.

Exploratory fisheries have recently taken place in Subarea X in the NEAFC regulatory area. NEAFC regulations require impact assessments and observer programmes that cover all fisheries in new fishing areas. ICES has not been provided with these observer data since 2008, information that could have value for assessing the stocks.

Scientific basis

Assessment type	Catch trends-based assessment.
Input data	The only available information is landings from the assessment unit distribution area.
Discards and bycatch	Discard data is not available.
Indicators	None.
Other information	None.
Working group report	WGDEEP

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Reference points

No reference points are proposed.

Outlook for 2013 and 2014

No reliable forecast can be presented for this stock.

Source

ICES. 2012. Report of the Working Group on the Biology and Assessment of Deep-Sea Fisheries Resources, 29 March–5 April 2012, ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen. ICES CM 2012/ACOM:17.

Table 9.4.16.3.1 Black scabbardfish in other areas. ICES advice, management, and landings.

Year	ICES Advice	Predicted catch corresp. to advice	TAC EC Subareas I, II, III, IV	ICES landings in other areas ¹
2003	<i>Status quo</i> exploitation level	-	0.03	0.10
2004	Biennial	-	0.03	0.02
2005	Fishery should not be allowed to expand, unless proven to be sustainable	-	0.03	0.34
2006	Biennial	-	0.03	0.07
2007	Fishery should not be allowed to expand, unless proven to be sustainable	-	0.015	0
2008	Biennial	-	0.015	0
2009	Fishery should not be allowed to expand, unless proven to be sustainable	-	0.012	0.03
2010	Biennial	-	0.012	0.16
2011	Fishery should not be allowed to expand, and a reduction in catches should be considered	-	0.012	0.17
2012	No new advice, same as 2011		0.009	
2013	Fisheries should not be allowed to expand until they can be shown to be sustainable			
2014	No new advice, same as 2013			

Weights in thousand tonnes.

¹ Subareas II, IV, X, XIV, and Division Va.

Table 9.4.16.3.2 Black scabbardfish other areas. Working group estimates of landings by country (tonnes).

Year	France	Faroës	Scotland	Germany	E&W&NI	Iceland	Portugal	Spain	Total
1988	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1989	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
1990	71	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	71
1991	107	0	0	0	0	0	166	0	273
1992	219	370	0	0	0	0	0	0	589
1993	34	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	36
1994	45	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	49
1995	7	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	12
1996	6	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	18
1997	0	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	6
1998	2	33	9	0	0	0	5	0	49
1999	71	0	3	0	0	6	46	0	126
2000	4	0	3	0	0	10	112	90	219
2001	1	0	10	0	1	5	0	0	17
2002	0	2	24	0	0	13	0	8	47
2003	0	0	4	0	0	14	91	2	111
2004	5	111	0	0	0	19	2	0	137
2005	2	83	0	0	0	19	323	0	427
2006	13	10	0	0	0	23	55	0	101
2007	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
2008	0	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	75
2009	20	157	0	0	0	15	5	0	197
2010	0	53	0	0	0	109	49	111	322
2011*	30	21	0	0	0		139	0	190

* Preliminary.