

ECOREGION Widely distributed and migratory stocks
STOCK Roundnose grenadier (*Coryphaenoides rupestris*) in all other areas (Subareas I, II, IV, VIII, and IX, Division XIVa, and Subdivisions Va₂ and XIVb₂)

Advice for 2013 and 2014

Based on the ICES approach for data-limited stocks, ICES advises that fisheries should not be allowed to expand from 120 t until there is evidence that this is sustainable.

This is the first year ICES is providing quantitative advice for data-limited stocks (see Quality considerations).

Stock status

F (Fishing Mortality)		
Qualitative evaluation	2009–2011	
	?	Unknown
SSB (Spawning-Stock Biomass)		
Qualitative evaluation	2009–2011	
	?	Unknown

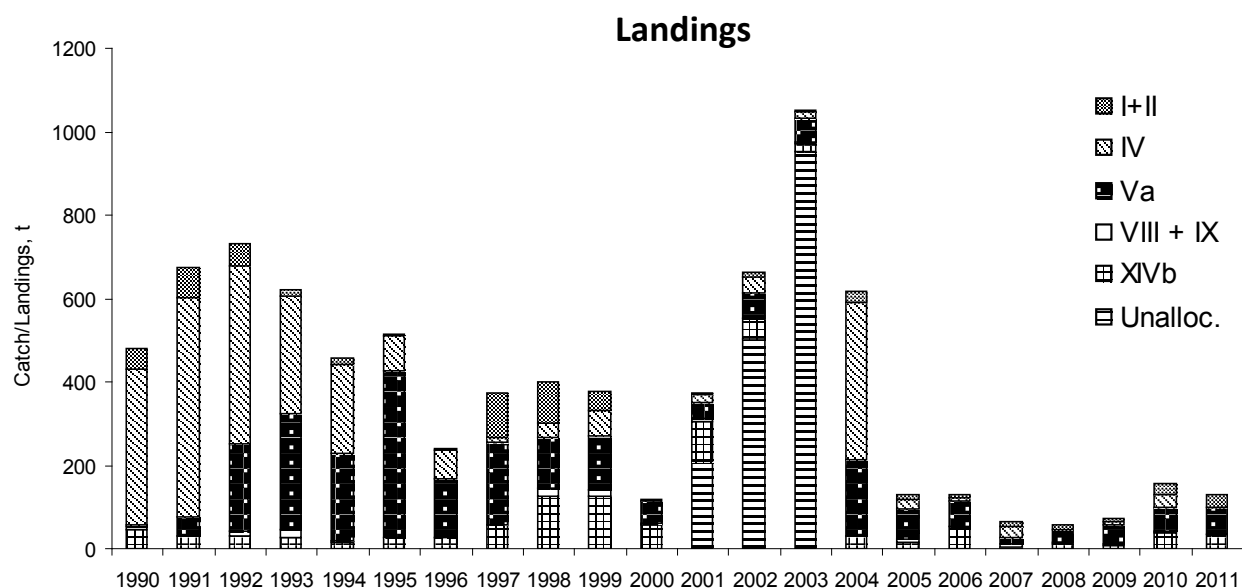


Figure 9.4.15.4.1 Roundnose grenadier in all other areas. Total landings by area, including unallocated catches (tonnes).

Catches across this assessment unit are minor and have declined to very low levels in recent years. This is a bycatch fishery so trends in landings may reflect changes in activity in other fisheries rather than stock abundance. Catches in early years may include an element of species misidentification.

Management plans

No specific management objectives are known to ICES.

Biology

Age analyses suggest that roundnose grenadier may have a longevity of around 70 years and a slow growth. This species shows low productivity, which can only sustain low rates of exploitation.

The fisheries

There have been no directed fisheries, and this species was taken as bottom trawl bycatch only in small amounts in a number of discrete areas. The total catch in 2011 in other areas amounted to 129 t only (Figure 9.4.15.4.1).

Catch distribution	Total catch (2011) was 0.129 kt, where 100% were landings taken with bottom trawl as bycatch. No data for discards and unaccounted removals.
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Effects of the fisheries on the ecosystem

Deep-water trawls impact the ocean floor, causing potential damage to deep-water coral communities. As this fishery is part of a mixed fisheries, effort on roundnose grenadier also impacts other commercial and non-commercial deep-water species.

Quality considerations

This assessment unit consists of a number of discrete areas in which only very small catches of roundnose grenadier occur. Improvement of the advice for the stock will require regular data collection by observers on board commercial vessels. The required information must contain data on gear type, length–age composition, maturation and feeding of the species, spatial distribution, as well as size and composition of catches, effort, and discards. This information should be presented to ICES annually.

The advice is based on a precautionary low level of catches because of missing or non-representative data. The methods applied to derive quantitative advice for data-limited stocks are expected to evolve as they are further developed and investigated.

Scientific basis

Assessment type	Catch trends-based assessment.
Input data	Landings data.
Discards and bycatch	No discard information.
Indicators	None.
Other information	None.
Working group report	WGDEEP

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Reference points

This is a bycatch fishery and advice on this stock should take advice for other stocks into account.

Outlook for 2013 and 2014

No reliable assessment can be presented for this assessment unit and fishing possibilities cannot be projected.

ICES approach to data-limited stocks

For data-limited stocks without information on abundance or exploitation ICES considers that a precautionary reduction of catches should be implemented. The resulting limit should stay in place for at least two years unless stock information shows a change that merits updating the advice.

For this stock, since catches are marginal and consist of bycatches, and there is no indication of high discard rates, ICES advises that catches should not exceed 120 t, the average catch from the last three years, unless there is evidence that this is sustainable.

Additional considerations

There is a TAC management of the roundnose grenadier fisheries in Subareas I, II, IV, VIII, and IX, Division Va, and Subdivision XIVb₁ for European Community vessels. In international waters there is a NEAFC regulation of efforts in the fisheries for deep-water species.

Comparison with previous assessment and advice

The basis for the assessment has not changed. The basis for the advice this year is the ICES approach to data-limited stocks.

Source

ICES. 2012. Report of the Working Group on the Biology and Assessment of Deep-Sea Fisheries Resources (WGDEEP), 29 March–05 April 2012, ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen. ICES CM 2012/ACOM:17.

Table 9.4.15.4.1 Roundnose grenadier in all other areas. ICES advice, management, and landings.

Year	ICES Advice	Predicted catch corresp. to advice	TAC EU Subareas VIII, IX, X, XII, and XIV	ICES landings Other areas ¹
2003	Fishery not allowed to expand, unless proven to be sustainable	-	-	1.568
2004	Biennial	-	-	0.617
2005	Fishery not allowed to expand, unless proven to be sustainable	-	7.19	0.131
2006	Biennial	-	7.19	0.162
2007	Fishery not allowed to expand, unless proven to be sustainable	-	6.114	0.065
2008	Biennial	-	6.114	0.060
2009	Fishery not allowed to expand, unless proven to be sustainable	-	5.197	0.057
2010	Biennial	-	5.197	0.157
2011	Fishery should not be allowed to expand, and a reduction in catches should be considered	-	4.573	0.129
2012	No new advice, same as 2011	-	3.979	
2013	Fishery not allowed to expand from 120 t, unless proven to be sustainable	< 0.12		
2014	No new advice, same as 2013	< 0.12		

Weights in thousand tonnes.

¹ In Subareas I, II, IV, VIII, and IX, Division XIVa, and Subdivisions Va₂ and XIVb₂.

Table 9.4.15.4.2 Roundnose grenadier in all other areas. Official and ICES catches (tonnes) by country and subarea.

Year	I and II									IV						Va				VIII and IX			XIVb ₂									Unallocated	TOTAL		
	Faroes	Denmark	France	Germany	Norway	Russia/USSR	Germany	UK (E+W)	Total	France	Germany	Norway	UK (Scot)	Denmark	Total	Faroes	Iceland**	Norway	Total	France	Spain	Total	Faroes	Germany	Greenland	Iceland	Norway	UK (E+ W)	UK (Scot)	Russia	Total				
1990	1	1	32	2		12	3		49	370	2				372	1	7		7	5		5	6	45	1			1			47	208 504 952	480		
1991			41	3	28				72	521	4				525		48	48	1	1	23	4			2								29	675	
1992			22		29				52	421			4	1	426		210	210	12	12	19	1		4	6		1						31	731	
1993			13		2				15	279	4				283		276	276	18	18	4	18		4									26	618	
1994			3	12					15	185	2			25	212		210	210	5	5		10		5									15	457	
1995			7						7	68	1		15		84		398	398		0		13		14									27	516	
1996			2						2	59			5	7	71		139	140	1	1		6		19									25	239	
1997			5			100			106	1			10		11		198	198		0		34		12		7							59	374	
1998						87	13		100	35					35		120	120	1	19	20	1		116	3	6							126	401	
1999						44	2		46	56			5		61		129	129	9	7	16			105	0		19						124	376	
2000									0	2					2		54	54	5		5			41	11		5						57	118	
2001									2	2	2				17		40	40	7		7			11	5		7	2	72				97	373	
2002							11	1	12	11			1	26			38	60	60	3		3			25	5		15	1	1			47	664	
2003							4		4	5			1	11			17	572	572	2		2				15		5	1				21	1568	
2004							27		27	5				1	371		377	181	181	2		2			27	3							30	617	
2005				1			12		13	18			2				20	76	76	7		7					7			6	1			14	130
2006							6	2	8	7			4				11	62	62	27	1	28			35	0		17					52	161	
2007							11	1	12	25			1				26	13	2		16	10				1				1			2	66	
2008							10		10	1							1	29	29	5		5			5								12	57	
2009							9		9	6							6	46	46	11		11								1	1			2	73
2010			5		17	6	27	27			2	0		30	59	59	1		1		33			7				40	157						
2011*			15		15		30	0			0	0		1	62	62	0		0		32			4				36	129						

* Preliminary data.

** Includes other grenadier species from 1990 to 1996.