

ECOREGION **Widely distributed and migratory stocks**
STOCK **Tusk (*Brosme brosme*) in XII excluding XIIb (Mid-Atlantic Ridge)**

Advice Summary for 2011

Fisheries should not be allowed to expand and measures should be considered to limit occasional high levels of bycatch, in order to be consistent with MSY (see section [1.2.4 of ICES Advisory Report](#)).

Stock status

Fishing mortality	2007	2008	2009
F_{MSY}	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
F_{PA}/F_{lim}	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB)	2008	2009	2010
$MSY B_{trigger}$	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
B_{PA}/B_{lim}	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

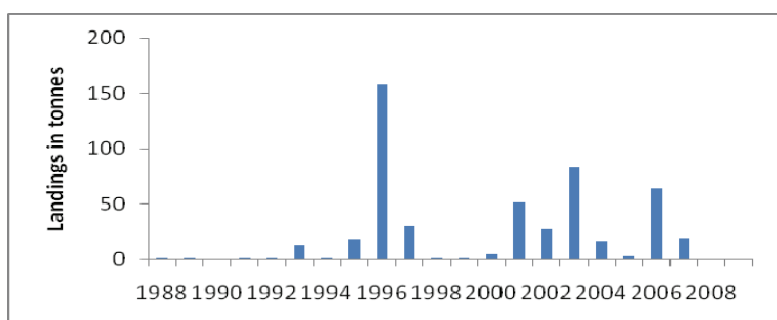


Figure 9.4.12.3.1 Tusk in the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Landings (tonnes). Note: catches in XIIb (Hatton Bank) may be included.

Management plans

No specific management objectives are known to ICES.

In the light of the EU policy paper on fisheries management (17 May 2010, [COM\(2010\) 241](#)) this assessment unit is classified under category 11.

The fisheries

Tusk is a bycatch species in the gillnet and longline fisheries in Sub-divisions XIIa₁ and XIVb₁. Russia reported catches of tusk in 2005, 2007 and 2009. During the period 1996-1997 Norway also had a fishery in this area.

NEAFC recommends that in 2009-2010 the effort in areas beyond national jurisdiction shall not exceed 65% of the highest level for deep-water fishing in previous years.

Quality considerations

Catches from this area have been small and no scientific analyses have been carried out.

Scientific basis

Assessment type	No assessment
Input data	Landing data
Discards and by-catch	Not available
Indicators	-
Other information	-
Working group report	WGDEEP

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Reference points

No reference points have been defined for this assessment unit.

Outlook for 2011

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

The 2008-2009 data (landings) for this stock give no reason to change the advice from that given in 2008: “*Fisheries should not be allowed to expand*” and measures should be considered to limit occasional high levels of bycatch, in order to be consistent with MSY (see section [1.2.4 of ICES Advisory Report](#)).

Additional considerations

Tusk is primarily fished in the depth range 500-800 m on Mid-Atlantic Ridge.

Assessment and management area

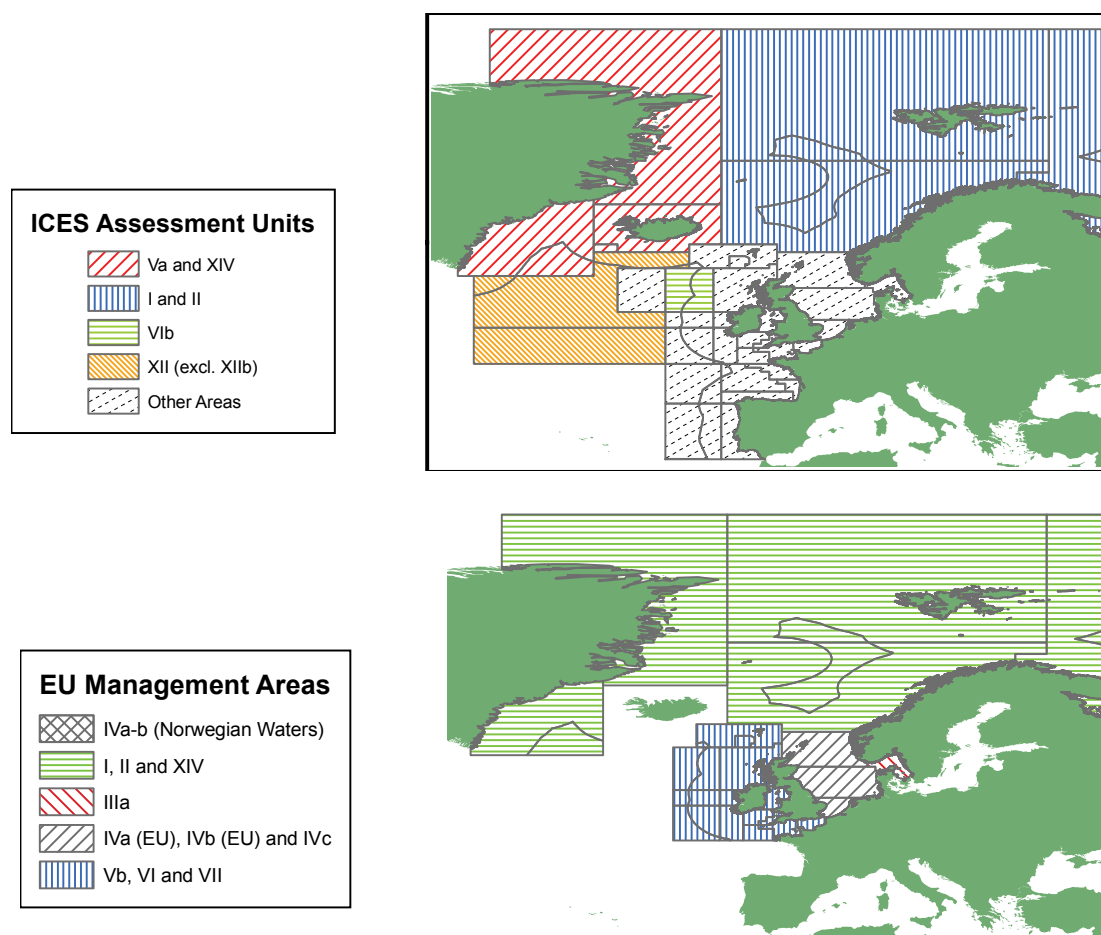


Figure 9.4.12.3.2 Tusk in the Mid-Atlantic Ridge (Division XII excluding XIIb). ICES assessment areas (top) and EU TAC Regulation area (bottom) of tusk in the Northeast Atlantic.

Sources

ICES. 2010. Report of the Working Group on the Biology and Assessment of Deep-Sea Fisheries Resources, 7–13 April 2010, ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen. ICES CM 2010/ACOM:17.

Table 9.4.12.3.1 Tusk in Mid-Atlantic Ridge. ICES Advice, management, and landings.

Year	ICES Advice ¹	Predicted catch corresp. to advice	ICES Landings
2003			0.083
2004			0.016
2005			0.003
2006			0.064
2007		-	0.019
2008		-	0
2009	Fisheries should not be allowed to expand	-	0.011
2010	Biennial	-	
2011	Fisheries should not be allowed to expand and measures should be considered to limit occasional high levels of bycatch	-	

Weights in '000 t.

¹ Advice for this stock prior to 2008 was combined with other areas.**Table 9.4.12.3.2** Tusk in Subdivisions XIIa₁, (Mid-Atlantic Ridge). WG estimate of landings (tonnes). Note: catches in XIIb (Hatton Bank) may be included in these data.

Year	Faroes	France	Iceland	Norway	Scotland	Russia	Total
1988		1					1
1989		1					1
1990		0					0
1991		1					1
1992		1					1
1993		12	+				12
1994		1	+				1
1995	8	-	10				18
1996	7	-	9	142			158
1997	11	-	+	19			30
1998		1		-			1
1999		1		+	1		1
2000				5	+		5
2001		1		51	+		52
2002				27			27
2003				83			83
2004	2	2		7		5	16
2005	2	1					3
2006		0				64	64
2007		0				19	19
2008		0				0	0
2009*						11	11

*Preliminary