

### 7.3.28 Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) in Division 9.a, functional units 26–27 (Atlantic Iberian waters East, western Galicia, and northern Portugal)

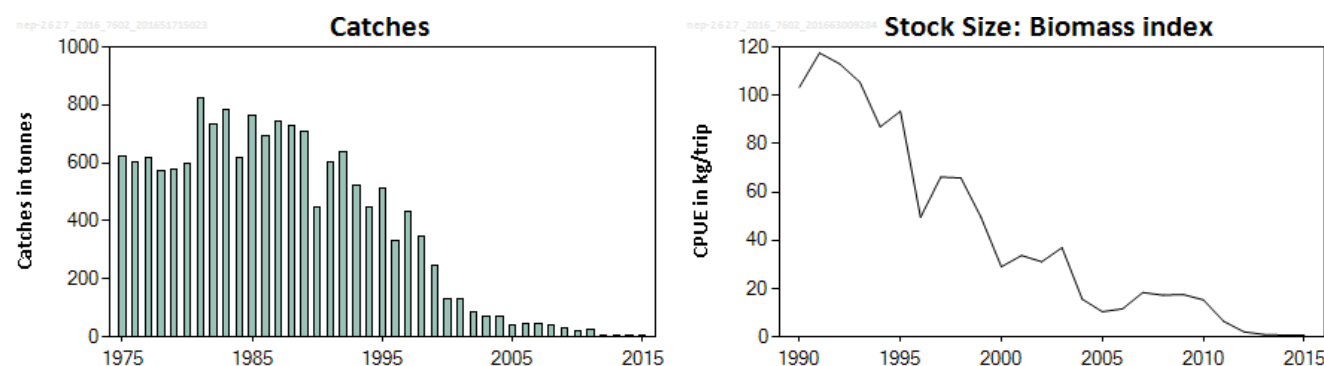
#### ICES stock advice

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, there should be zero catch in each of the years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

To protect the stock in these functional units, ICES advises that management should be implemented at the functional unit level.

#### Stock development over time

Catches and CPUE have fluctuated along a marked downward trend and are currently very low. The available information indicates that the stock is at a very low abundance.



**Figure 7.3.28.1** Norway lobster in Division 9.a, functional units (FUs) 26–27. Left: Official catches. Right: Stock size indicator, CPUE SP-MARTR.

#### Stock and exploitation status

**Table 7.3.28.1** Norway lobster in Division 9.a, FUs 26–27. State of the stock and fishery relative to reference points. The fishing pressure evaluation is based on reference point proxies (ICES, 2016a, 2016b) for 2013 and 2014, and no update analysis is available for 2015. The stock size evaluation is based on CPUE information.

		Fishing pressure				Stock size		
		2013	2014	2015		2013	2014	2015
Maximum sustainable yield	$F_{MSY}$ proxy	✓	✓	⊛ Unknown	MSY $B_{trigger}$ proxy	✗	✗	✗ Below
Precautionary approach	$F_{pa}$ , $F_{lim}$	✓	✓	⊛ Unknown	$B_{pa}$ , $B_{lim}$	✗	✗	✗ Below
Management plan	$F_{MGT}$	-	-	- Not applicable	$SSB_{MGT}$	-	-	- Not applicable

### Catch options

The stock biomass indicator is at a historical low value, below possible reference points, and therefore the advice is for zero catch for each of the years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

**Table 7.3.28.2** Norway lobster in Division 9.a, FUs 26–27. The catch options. For stocks in ICES data categories 3–6, one catch option is possible.

Recent advised catch	0	
Discard rate	Negligible	
Precautionary buffer	Not applied	NA*
Catch advice*	0 tonnes	

\* The precautionary buffer was not applied because the catch advice is zero.

### Basis of the advice

**Table 7.3.28.3** Norway lobster in Division 9.a, FUs 26–27. The basis of the advice.

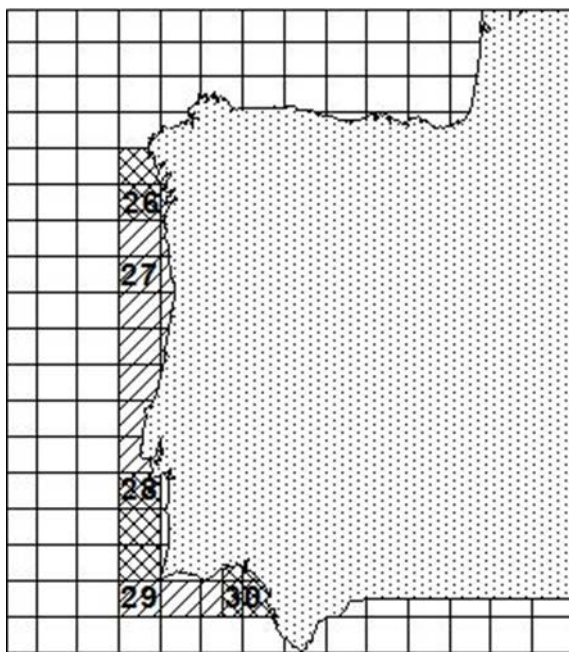
Advice basis	Precautionary approach
Management plan	A recovery plan was agreed by the EU in 2005 (EU, 2005, Appendix 7.3.7) for southern hake and Norway lobster. This plan is based on precautionary reference points for southern hake that are no longer appropriate.

### Quality of the assessment

No fishery-independent information is available for this stock.

### Issues relevant for the advice

ICES advises that the management area should be consistent with the assessment area (Figure 7.3.28.2).



**Figure 7.3.28.2** Norway lobster in Division 9.a, FUs 26–27. Map of functional units.

## Reference points

**Table 7.3.28.4** Norway lobster in Division 9.a, FUs 26–27. Reference points, values, and their technical basis.

Framework	Reference point	Value	Technical basis	Source
MSY approach	MSY B <sub>trigger</sub>	Not defined		
	F <sub>MSY proxy</sub>	0.137	F <sub>0.1</sub> from length-based analysis estimated using the mean-length Z method, assuming knife-edge length selection.	ICES (2016b)
Precautionary approach	B <sub>lim</sub>	Not defined		
	B <sub>pa</sub>	Not defined		
	F <sub>lim</sub>	Not defined		
	F <sub>pa</sub>	Not defined		
Management plan	SSB <sub>MGT</sub>	Not defined		
	F <sub>MGT</sub>	Not defined		

## Basis of the assessment

**Table 7.3.28.5** Norway lobster in Division 9.a, FUs 26–27. The basis of the assessment.

ICES stock data category	3 ( <a href="#">ICES, 2016c</a> )
Assessment type	Trends from commercial CPUE
Input data	Commercial landings (Spanish 1975–2015 and Portuguese 1984–2015); one commercial index (SP-MATR) for the period 1990–2015.
Discards and bycatch	Not included and considered negligible.
Indicators	Mean size in commercial catches.
Other information	None
Working group	Working Group for the Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Waters Ecoregion ( <a href="#">WGBIE</a> )

## Information from stakeholders

There is no available information.

## History of the advice, catch, and management

**Table 7.3.28.6** Norway lobster in Division 9.a, FUs 26–27. History of ICES advice, the agreed TAC, and ICES estimates of landings. All weights are in thousand tonnes.

Year	ICES advice	Predicted catches correspond. to advice	Agreed TAC *	ICES landings
2003	Zero catches	0	0.600	0.073
2004	Zero catches	0	0.600	0.071
2005	Zero catches	0	0.540	0.043
2006	Zero catches	0	0.486	0.044
2007	Zero catches	0	0.437	0.047
2008	Zero catches	0	0.415	0.042
2009	Zero catches	0	0.374	0.031
2010	No new advice, same as for 2009	0	0.337	0.021
2011	Zero catches	0	0.303	0.027
2012	No new advice, same as for 2011	0	0.273	0.008
2013	Zero catches	0	0.246	0.003
2014	No new advice, same as for 2013	0	0.221	0.004
2015	Zero catch and reduce by-catch	0	0.254	0.002
2016	No new advice, same as for 2015	0	0.320	
2017	Precautionary approach (zero catch)	0		
2018	Precautionary approach (zero catch)	0		
2019	Precautionary approach (zero catch)	0		

\* Subareas 9 and 10; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1.

## History of catch and landings

**Table 7.3.28.7** Norway lobster in Division 9.a, FUs 26–27. Catch distribution by fleet in 2015 as estimated by ICES.

Catch (2015)	Landings	Discards
2 t	100% mixed <i>Nephrops</i> /demersal fishery	Negligible
	2 t	

**Table 7.3.28.8** Norway lobster in Division 9.a, FUs 26–27. History of commercial catch and landings; both the official and ICES estimated values are presented by area for each country participating in the fishery. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	Official landings			Total ICES landings**
	Spain		Portugal	
	FU 26*	FU 27	FU 27	FUs 26–27
1975	622			622
1976	603			603
1977	620			620
1978	575			575
1979	580			580
1980	599			599
1981	823			823
1982	736			736
1983	786			786
1984	604		14	618
1985	750		15	765
1986	657		37	694
1987	671		71	742
1988	631		96	727
1989	620		88	708
1990	401		48	449
1991	549		54	603
1992	584		52	636
1993	472		50	522
1994	426		22	448
1995	501		10	511
1996	264	50	17	331
1997	359	68	6	433
1998	295	42	8	345
1999	194	48	6	248
2000	102	21	9	132
2001	105	21	6	132
2002	59	24	4	87
2003	39	26	8	73
2004	38	24	9	71
2005	16	16	11	43
2006	15	17	12	44
2007	20	17	10	47
2008	17	12	13	42
2009	16	5	10	31
2010	3	14	4	21
2011	8	8	4	27
2012	3	4	1	8
2013	1	0	1	3
2014	1.16	0.95	1.43	4
2015	0.57	0.13	0.83	2

\* Prior to 1996, Spanish landings recorded in FU 26 include catches in FU 27. \*\* Includes unallocated landings.

## Summary of the assessment

**Table 7.3.28.9** Norway lobster in Division 9.a, FUs 26–27. Assessment summary. Weights are in tonnes.

Year	Stock size: SP-MARTR CPUE (kg trip <sup>-1</sup> )	Catches (tonnes)
1975		622
1976		603
1977		620
1978		575
1979		580
1980		599
1981		823
1982		736
1983		786
1984		618
1985		765
1986		694
1987		742
1988		727
1989		708
1990	103.3	449
1991	117.5	603
1992	113.0	636
1993	105.4	522
1994	86.9	448
1995	93.4	511
1996	49.5	331
1997	66.2	433
1998	65.8	345
1999	49.4	248
2000	29.0	132
2001	33.7	132
2002	31.1	87
2003	36.9	73
2004	15.7	71
2005	10.4	43
2006	11.6	44
2007	18.4	47
2008	17.3	42
2009	17.6	31
2010	15.3	21
2011	6.5	27
2012	2.1	8
2013	1.0	3
2014	0.8	4
2015	0.7	2

## Sources and references

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