Atlantic cod
Newfoundland

Fishery: Newfoundland  Canada/NAFO 2J3KL, Canada  Bottom trawls

IDENTIFICATION

SCIENTIFIC NAME
Gadus morhua

SPECIES NAME(S)
Atlantic cod

COMMON NAMES
2J3KL cod, northern cod

STOCK IDENTIFICATION
Cod in this region is considered to be a metapopulation with small inshore and larger offshore components (DFO, 2005) which mix in the summer, excluding the possibility of assessing them independently. The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife considers a Newfoundland and Labrador “Designatable Unit” which includes this (NAFO 2J3KL) management unit, along with Northern Labrador cod (NAFO 2GH), and Southern Grand Bank cod (NAFO 3NO) (COSEWIC, 2010).

RELATED LINKS:
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
- Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

- Stock appears to be increasing due to low natural mortality, good recruitment, and low exploitation
- Offshore fishery is under a moratorium
- Exploitation appears to be low
- A new model providing projections and uncertainty is currently in place and updated regularly
- The impact of the fishery on the seabed ecosystem and on protected species is not considered to be an issue due to current fishing effort.

Weaknesses

- Stock is well below its LRP.
- Catch have more than doubled in the last year
- Recreational catches are not incorporated into the assessment and are not estimated
- The Stewardship fishery, while controlled by individual quotas, have no overall TAC
- Managers have not defined rebuilding time frames or upper biomass reference points
- Fishing mortality reference points are not in use

SCORES

Management Quality:
- Management Strategy < 6
- Managers Compliance < 6
- Fishers Compliance < 6

Stock Health:
- Current Health
- Future Health
- 2.7 < 6

FIPS
- Canada Atlantic cod (2J3KL) - longline/trawl/gillnet/hook & line - Stage 5, Progress Rating A, Type: Yip, Evaluation Start Date: 18 Apr 2015

MSC
No related MSC fisheries

RECOMMENDATIONS

RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN
- Work with managers to develop and implement a time-bound recovery plan for this stock. This should include, biological reference points based on robust data and stock analysis and controls to constrain total catch to enable stock rebuilding.
- Ask managers to improve collection of recreational catch data to enable robust estimation of recreational catches and associated uncertainty.