**Japanese threadfin bream**

*Western Indian Ocean*

**Fishery Profile**

https://www.fishsource.org/fishery_page/2898

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**FIPs**

- Start a fishery improvement project (FIP) to evaluate and address sustainability issues in this fishery. For advice on starting a FIP, see SFP’s Seafood Industry Guide to FIPs and other resources at [https://www.sustainablefish.org/Programs/Professional-Guidance/FIP-Resources](https://www.sustainablefish.org/Programs/Professional-Guidance/FIP-Resources).

**MSC**

No related MSC fisheries.

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**ASSESSMENT**

**Strengths**

Stock assessment of threadfin breams in all the coastal states along the west coast of India has been undertaken by Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), providing comprehensive information on length-weight relationships, size at first maturity, spawning season, etc. Although comprehensive studies are lacking on current exploitation status of threadfin breams, information from Murthy et al. (2003) and Vivekananadan (2003), indicate that current fishing pressure does not pose a problem for the stock and that the stock is optimally exploited in most of the coastal states in the Arabian Sea. A seasonal fishing ban is enforced on both East and West coasts of India for a 45 days period from April 15 to May 31 each year for mechanized vessels, however, additional measures are needed since trawlers plunder the spawning aggregations and indiscriminately catch juveniles during the remainder of the year.

**Weaknesses**

Most of the stock assessments not conducted on a regular basis in all coastal states. Currently, there is no TAC or catch limits for threadfin breams in the Indian EEZ. High discard rates of juvenile threadfin breams due to decline in mesh size: only 30% of the catch was landed with the remaining 70% discarded at sea. Trawl fisheries has been reported to catch turtles and marine mammals off the Indian coast. The impact of this fishery on the habitat is very high as trawlers are reported to trawl in inshore waters during the monsoon and post-monsoon season damaging spawning areas in inshore beds. IUU fishing in the Indian waters has been a major issue, which includes a range of illicit activities, fishing without permission or out of season; using outlawed types of fishing gear; non-reporting or underreporting of catch, etc. (Pramod 2010).

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**SCORES**

**Management Quality**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management Strategy</th>
<th>Managers Compliance</th>
<th>Fishers Compliance</th>
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<tr>
<td>NOT YET SCORED</td>
<td>NOT YET SCORED</td>
<td>&lt; 6</td>
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Stock Health:

- Current Health: NOT YET SCORED
- Future Health: ≥ 6

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**RELATED LINKS**

- Indian Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)
- Indian Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)