### IDENTIFICATION

**SCIENTIFIC NAME**
Epinephelus diacanthus

**SPECIES NAME(S)**
Spinycheek grouper

**STOCK IDENTIFICATION**
Spinycheek grouper (Epinephelus diacanthus) is widely distributed in northern Indian Ocean from Sri Lanka and Chennai in South-west coast of India to Gulf of Aden in the north. The stock structure is not known and the map below regards the distribution in Indian waters.

### ASSESSMENT

**SCORES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management Quality:</th>
<th>Management</th>
<th>Managers</th>
<th>Fishers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Health</td>
<td>$&lt; 6$</td>
<td>$&lt; 6$</td>
<td>$&lt; 6$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future Health</td>
<td>$&lt; 6$</td>
<td>$&lt; 6$</td>
<td>$&lt; 6$</td>
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</tbody>
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**FIPS**
No related FIPs

**MSC**
No related MSC fisheries

### RECOMMENDATIONS

#### CATCHERS & REGULATORS
1. Start a fishery improvement project to address sustainability issues in this fishery. For advice on starting a FIP, see SFP’s Seafood Industry Guide to FIPs at [http://www.sustainablefish.org/publications/2014/04/30/the-seafood-industry-guide-to-fips](http://www.sustainablefish.org/publications/2014/04/30/the-seafood-industry-guide-to-fips).
2. Improve management measures to prevent further population declines of this species, such as protecting spawning grounds during spawning season.
3. Increase geographic coverage and frequency of stock assessments.

#### RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN
1. Encourage your supply chain to start a fishery improvement project addressing overfishing, unsustainable fishing gears as well as unregulated and unreported catches. For advice on starting a FIP, see SFP’s Seafood Industry Guide to FIPs at [http://www.sustainablefish.org/publications/2014/04/30/the-seafood-industry-guide-to-fips](http://www.sustainablefish.org/publications/2014/04/30/the-seafood-industry-guide-to-fips).
2. Work with other suppliers and buyers on a pre-competitive basis to start a supplier roundtable to review improvement needs in this and other similar fisheries, catalyze fishery improvement projects, and monitor progress in improvement efforts.

### Stock Health:

| Current Health | $< 6$ |
| Future Health | $< 6$ |

### RELATED LINKS:
- [Indian Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DAHFD)](https://www.fishsource.org/fishery_page/3372)
- [Fishery Profile](https://www.fishsource.org/fishery_page/3372)
- [This profile last updated on 11 July 2016](https://www.fishsource.org/fishery_page/3372)