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Fishery Profile
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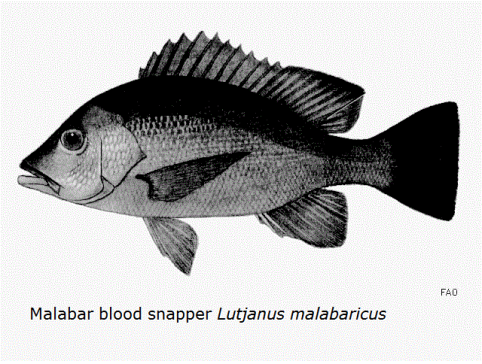
Snappers nei Aru Sea, Arafura Sea and Eastern of Timor Sea

Fishery: Aru Sea, Arafura Sea and Eastern of Timor Sea | Aru Sea, Arafura Sea and Eastern of Timor Sea (WPP-718) | Indonesia | Mechanized lines

IDENTIFICATION



Malabar blood snapper *Lutjanus malabaricus*

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Lutjanus spp.

SPECIES NAME(S)

Snappers nei, Red snappers

COMMON NAMES

bambangan, Kakap merah

STOCK IDENTIFICATION

The main commercial snappers commercially caught are Malabar blood snapper *Lutjanus malabaricus* and Crimson snapper *L. erythropterus* (Badrudin et al, 2005). They are not separated in catch records so are considered here in a multi-species profile for family Lutjanidae (snappers). There is as yet no consensus as to the stock structure of these species, with studies showing between one and seven stocks of *L. malabaricus* in the region (Blaber et al, 2005; Prisantoso and Badrudin et al, 2010; Badrudin and Aisyah, 2009). This profile may undergo restructuring in the future as new information comes to light. This profile refers to Arafura and Timor Sea (WPP-718) assessment unit.

The red snapper fisheries within the regions are fished by thousand of fishers, including many subsistence fishers, meaning collection of data and information has proven to be challenging. The fisheries are targeted by multiple gears, including fish trawls which fish on the same fishing grounds as bottom longline and handlines. The fish trawls are large industrial-scale multi species vessels which transfer their catches directly to carrier vessels, and ship their catch directly overseas, particularly to Thailand and China.

RELATED LINKS:

- Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia (KKP-RI)
- Indonesia Commission for Fish Stock Assessment , Indonesian Research Center for Fisheries (Pusriskan)

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

The relatively comprehensive information on stock structure, population dynamics, joint catch records of L. malabaricus and L. erythropterus collected through the efforts of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) and long-term support from the Australian Government through a joint research between Australia and Indonesia from early 2000 up to now, have provided a basis to develop management plan for the fishing areas of these two species of red snappers. Recommendations on management are available. The MMAF has shown strong intentions of improving the fisheries management by re-licensing and reduce the numbers of fishing vessels and enhancing monitoring of harvesting.
Indonesia has developed a road map to develop and implement an ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM). Since 2010, Indonesia has taken steps to develop indicators for the implementation of an EAFM. By 2014, all fisheries management areas will be managed using an EAFM approach, including red snapper fisheries.

Weaknesses

Indonesia's Commission for Stock Assessment 2010 report classifies many of the Arafura and Timor Seas fisheries as fully exploited or over exploited. This report proven that the current fishing levels on the snapper stocks in these regions are shown to be unsustainable. Furthermore recent reports showed that illegal unreported and unregulated fishing is still rampant in the Aru, Arafura and Timor Seas. Developing a management solely for red snappers fisheries is likely to be ineffective in the context ofmulti-species and multi-gear demersal fish resources.

SCORES

Management Quality:

Management Strategy	Managers Compliance	Fishers Compliance
< 6	NOT YET SCORED	< 6

Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
NOT YET SCORED	< 6

FIPS

No related FIPs

MSC

No related MSC fisheries

RECOMMENDATIONS

CATCHERS & REGULATORS

1. Promote traceability to ensure that the origin and status of snapper products are well-known and all products are sourced from legal fisheries.
2. Support research to define stock status of Indonesian snapper and improve the availability of accurate data on catches and bycatch.
3. Request that the government improve management and policies encouraging sustainable snapper fisheries and move quickly towards the ecosystem approach to fisheries management for this fishery.

RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN

1. Implement a traceability protocol to ensure the origin is well-known and the product was legally harvested by vessels participating in the PT. Ilufa/Intan Seafood Indonesia snapper fishery improvement project. Once the traceability protocol is in place, periodically check the legality and origin of products by checking permits and verifying regions fished during trips, etc. Share the results with the retail/foodservice buyer.
2. You and your supply chain should reach out to fishing companies in Indonesia to join the effort to improve the data reporting through a logbook system that can be used by government to better assess the fish stock.
3. You and your supply chain should reach out to fishery managers in Indonesia and ask that they enforce policies in place to manage the fisheries, and that they develop a clear process to continually evaluate the level of rigor associated with their policy.
4. Be active in assuring that the improvement efforts ongoing in Indonesia are getting the encouragement they need to move forward. Always ask your supply chain about the status of the improvement project efforts.