IDENTIFICATION

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Sebastes mentella

SPECIES NAMES:

Beaked redfish

COMMON NAMES:

Barents Sea beaked redfish, Bering Sea beaked redfish

STOCK IDENTIFICATION:

Three populations are discerned, isolated from each other by a system of marine currents: North Atlantic, Flemish Cape, and Norway-Barents Sea. The population structure of the species in the southern part of its area corresponds to a local stock. Interaction of the North Atlantic and the Norway-Barents Sea populations correspond to fluctuating stocks (Melnikov, 2016). S. mentella in the northern North Sea and Barents Sea is not sub-structured (Klapper et al., 2016).

RELATED LINKS:

- Joint Norwegian-Russian Fishery Commission (JNRFC)
- North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

The directed trawling fishery has been closed since 2003 in the Norwegian E22 and other protection measures of juvenile redfish are also enforced.

Weaknesses

Stock biomass is likely to continue declining in the near future, as the weak year classes from 1996–2003 enter the mature stock. No biological reference points have been defined. There is no specific management plan in place. The lack of coordination on the different management schemes in force may not constrain catches to the advised levels. Insufficient catch information (e.g., length distributions) and lack of an adequate survey index for the whole adult population affect the quality of the stock assessment.

Options

A complete survey of S. mentella distribution, both pelagic and demersal, is necessary to accurately detect trends in stock size, taking migrations into consideration. As the stock rebuilds, analytical assessments upon which management plans and harvesting strategies can be based may become necessary. Future management strategies should be coordinated in order to prevent catches from exceeding the advised levels.

SCORES

- Management Quality:
  - Management Strategy: < 6
  - Managers Compliance: 10
  - Fishers Compliance: 2.5

- Stock Health:
  - Current Health: ≥ 6
  - Future Health: ≥ 6

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 Seaford Industry Guide for FIPs at http://www.sustainablefish.org/publications/2014/04/30/the-seafood-industry-guide-to-fips.
  2. Communicate to fishery managers that there are sustainability issues in this fishery that may be affecting the sale of products, and request that they comprehensively evaluate and address such issues.

- RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN
  1. Encourage your supply chain to start a fishery improvement project. 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.
  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.

Beaked redfish Northeast Arctic

Fishery: NEAFC areas I and II, Spain, Midwater trawls

Stock Health:

- Current: ≥ 6
- Future: ≥ 6

REFACTORS

http://www.fishsource.org/fishery_page/3905

This profile last updated on 2 November 2016