

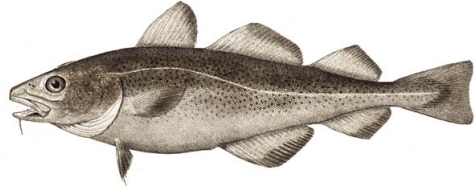
Fishery Profile
https://www.fishsource.org/fishery_page/4169

This profile last updated on 30 September 2016

Atlantic cod W of Scotland

 Fishery:  W of Scotland  EU  Ireland  Single boat bottom otter trawls

IDENTIFICATION


SCIENTIFIC NAME
Gadus morhua
SPECIES NAME(S)

Atlantic cod

STOCK IDENTIFICATION

Cod west of Scotland is assessed as a single stock but at least two subpopulations may be present: a southern subcomponent with some exchange with the Irish Sea and a northern component which intermixes with the [North Sea stock](#) (ICES, 2013b).


RELATED LINKS:

- [European Commission \(EC\)](#)
- [International Council for the Exploration of the Sea \(ICES\)](#)

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

- The directed fishery is closed. Areas closed to most gears have been put in place to protect cod but a review may be beneficial in assisting the stock's recovery.
- Cod in the region is assessed annually by an analytical age-based model.
- A representative network of benthic habitats is in the process of being mapped and established.

Weaknesses

- The spawning stock is depleted and recruitment is impaired.
- Discards from bycatch fisheries are contributing to very high fishing mortality which is impairing recovery. Uncertainty in catch and discards series is high.
- The management plan requires a revision of its target fishing mortality.

SCORES

Management Quality:

Management Strategy	Managers Compliance	Fishers Compliance
0.4	10	< 6

Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
0.9	2.4

FIPS

No related FIPs

MSC

No related MSC fisheries

RECOMMENDATIONS

CATCHERS & REGULATORS

- 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](#).
- 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

- Encourage your supply chain to start a fishery improvement project. For advice on starting a FIP see [SFP's Seafood Industry Guide to FIPs](#).
- 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.