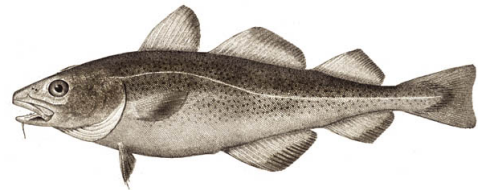


Atlantic codS Grand Banks

 Fishery:  NAFO  Canada  Gillnets and entangling nets

IDENTIFICATION



SCIENTIFIC NAME

Gadus morhua

SPECIES NAME(S)

Atlantic cod

STOCK IDENTIFICATION



RELATED LINKS:

- [Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization \(NAFO\)](#)
- [Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization \(NAFO\)](#)

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

Scientific advice uses tried and true methodologies. Stock is showing some improvement as shown via the sentinel fishery; the spawning stock increased in 2013 probably to 2005 and 2006 strong year classes. Managers have set the directed fishery landings to zero as advised by scientists. In order to rebuild the stock, NAFO has developed a Conservation Plan and Rebuilding Strategy (CPRS) in 2007 to keep the cod stock in the “safe zone” and increasing the spawning stock to above the limit reference point. The same plan also includes a series of harvest control rules given the stock condition, as well as ecosystem considerations and bycatch specifications. Bycatch in other fisheries is being kept at low levels as advised by the scientific council. Impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem are considered as null considering that the directed fishery is closed and evaluation regards small portions of bycatch in other fisheries.

Weaknesses

Stock remains in a depleted state and is projected to remain below the limit reference point for biomass by 2016; most likely due to increased natural mortality or poor environmental factors for recruitment. Stock assessment shows some retrospective pattern.

SCORES

Management Quality:

Management Strategy	Managers Compliance	Fishers Compliance
≥ 6	≥ 8	≥ 8

Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
2.5	< 6

FIPS

No related FIPs

MSC

No related MSC fisheries

RECOMMENDATIONS

CATCHERS & REGULATORS

1. Continue to investigate why biomass is not rebuilding as quickly as anticipated.
2. Support implementation of the North Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) developed Conservation Plan and Rebuilding Strategy (CPRS).

RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN

1. Companies sourcing from the stock should express support for implementation of the North Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) Conservation Plan and Rebuilding Strategy (CPRS).
2. Companies not currently sourcing should avoid doing so until sufficient recovery is seen in the stock and should express support for implementation of the NAFO Conservation Plan and Rebuilding Strategy (CPRS).
3. Supply chain should encourage NAFO and other relevant agencies to investigate why biomass is not rebuilding as quickly as anticipated.
4. Participate in SFP Northwest Atlantic Cod Supplier Roundtable (<http://www.sustainablefish.org/fisheries-improvement/whitefish/nw-atlantic-cod-roundtable>) and request suppliers to launch and operate FIPs.