





Norway lobster North Minch

 Fishery:  North Minch  European Union, Division 6a  United Kingdom  Twin bottom otter trawls

IDENTIFICATION



SCIENTIFIC NAME

Nephrops norvegicus

SPECIES NAME(S)

Norway lobster, nephrops

COMMON NAMES

Nephrops

STOCK IDENTIFICATION

Stock structure with ICES are VI is uncertain. *Nephrops* (or Norway Lobster) stocks area assessed as Functional Units (FU) based on growth parameters and other factors. Within FU 11 there is one distinct population in North Minch ([ICES 2016](#))([ICES 2016](#)).



RELATED LINKS:

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

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

- Stock appears to be in good shape and is above MSY $B_{trigger}$
- Exploitation is below F_{MSY} and has been for the last three years
- Catch has been below advised levels
- Measure have been implemented to reduce cod and other bycatch
- Model provides the ability for short term projections and captures a reasonable sense of uncertainty
- Harvesters comply with the overall ICES area quotas

Weaknesses

- Managers set quotas on the larger stock area rather than on the FU as advised
- Managers have set no objectives for this stock; B_{limit}/B_{PA} is not defined
- Trawling can impact the seabed
- Bycatch, even with mitigation can be high

SCORES

Management Quality:

Management Strategy	Managers Compliance	Fishers Compliance
< 6	< 6	≥ 6

Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
10	9.2

FIPS

No related FIPs

MSC

- Stornoway nephrops trawl:

Withdrawn

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>.
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 supply chain roundtable to review improvement needs in this and other similar fisheries, catalyze fishery improvement projects, and monitor progress in improvement efforts.