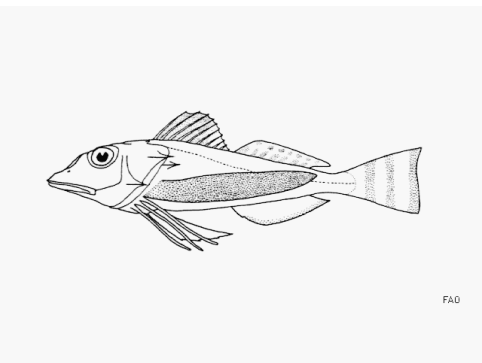
FISHSOURCE

Searobins nei Ecuador

IDENTIFICATION



SCIENTIFIC NAME

Prionotus spp

SPECIES NAME(S)

Searobins nei, Gallineta

COMMON NAMES

Gallineta

STOCK IDENTIFICATION

Two species of Prionotus (locally named "gallinetas") are included in this profile, *P. stephanophrys* and *P. alborostris* as they are both part of the catch of the fishery for small pelagics in Ecuador *(Legalsa Asociados 2016)*. Catch statistics or biomass estimates however are not provided at the species level *(Herrera et al. 1998)*. No stock assessment has ever been conducted on *Prionotus spp.* in Ecuador, so an unascertained top node is assigned with a management unit for Ecuador. Both species are distributed in the eastern and southeastern Pacific *(van der Heiden et al. 2010) (Iwamoto et al. 2010)*. Since 2018 searobins can be used in Ecuador for reduction purposes.

RELATED LINKS:

- Vice Ministry of Aquaculture and Fisheries of Ecuador (MAGAP)
- Instituto Nacional de Pesca, Ecuador (INP)

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

- A two-months fishing ban is established every year to protect the reproduction of the species.
- There is a regulation on mesh size and some spatial protection measures have been adopted to protect reproductive phases, as advised.
- The first mile from coast is closed to fishing to protect the reproduction of aquatic species
- Marine habitats and bottom types have been identified an mapped.
- There is a national plan for the conservation of sea turtles and a national plan for the conservation of sharks and rays.

Weaknesses

- The stock structure is unknown hindering a proper assessment at a relevant spatial scale.
- No stock assessment has been conducted; the stock status in therefore unknown and no reference points have been set.
- The fishery is not managed through fish quotas.
- Fishery statistics, particularly catch data, seems to be underestimated based on the amount of fish meal production and exports of canned fish.
- The impact on bottom habitats and the whole ecosystem, as well as on ETP species, is unknown.
- There is no current information on the degree of compliance and enforcement of existing regulation measures.
- Ecosystem impact of this fishery and the role of searobins in the ecosystem of the area where this fishery operates have not been evaluated

Options

- Investigate stock structure of searobins off Ecuador and conduct stock assessment in order to know the stock status.
- Set minimum landing size as recommended by INP.
- Improve bycatch monitoring and reporting.
- Increase transparency both in assessment and management issues and the accessibility to historical and recent official reports and fisheries data.
- Support the approval and implementation of the new fisheries law for increased monitoring and enforcement of existing regulation measures.
- Improve official catch records and specifically provide catch data for Prionotus species separately and not as part of a group of species.

SCORES

Management Quality:

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

Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
DATA DEFICIENT	DATA DEFICIENT

FIPS

No related FIPs

MSC

No related MSC fisheries

FISHSOURCE

Fisheries

Within FishSource, the term "fishery" is used to indicate each unique combination of a flag country with a fishing gear, operating within a particular management unit, upon a resource. That resource may have a known biological stock structure and/or may be assessed at another level for practical or jurisdictional reasons. A fishery is the finest scale of resolution captured in FishSource profiles, as it is generally the scale at which sustainability can most fairly and practically be evaluated.

MANAGEMENT UNIT	FLAG COUNTRY	FISHING GEAR
Ecuador - Artisanal	Ecuador	Purse seines

Management Unit

MANAGEMENT UNIT	ORGANIZATION	FISHING AREA
Ecuador	Vice Ministry of Aquaculture and Fisheries of Ecuador (MAGAP)	FAO 87.1.22, FAO 87.1.12