

Group TAC /0-Tac/Prohibited

Shark and ray management under the landing obligation

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Dutch Elasmobranch Society

Choke symposium - 02 November - 2016 Copenhagen

CPOA SHARKS 2009

The Action Plan pursues the following three specific objectives,:

- a) To broaden the knowledge both on shark fisheries and on shark species and their role in the ecosystem;
- b) To ensure that directed fisheries for shark are sustainable and that by-catches of shark resulting from other fisheries are properly regulated;
- c) To encourage a coherent approach between the internal and external Community policy for sharks.



SKATES & RAYS MANAGEMENT 2016

Group TAC for skates and rays

- ◆ 15 species covered
- ◆ 5 species prohibited in some EU areas (+ sawfishes, mantas and mobulids)



SHARK MANAGEMENT 2016

Sharks

- ◆ 1 TAC (0-TAC spurdog)
- ◆ 10 species prohibited
- ◆ Pelagic species managed through RFMOs (porbeagle, blue, mako)



ICES ADVICE

FOR SOME ELASMOBRANCH SPECIES

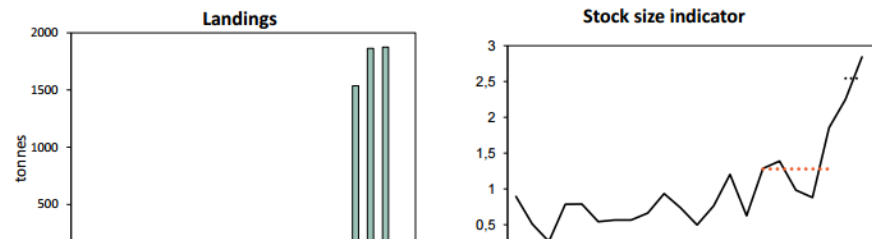
ICES Advice on fishing opportunities, catch, and effort
Greater North Sea Ecoregion

ICES
CIEM
Published 9 October 2015

6.3.52 Thornback ray (*Raja clavata*) in Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId (North Sea, Skagerrak, Kattegat, and eastern English Channel)

ICES stock advice

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, landings should be no more than 2110 tonnes in each of the years 2016 and 2017. Discarding is known to occur, but is variable and the quantities of dead discards have not been estimated.



Fishing pressure						Stock size					
		2012	2013	2014				2012	2013	2014	
Maximum sustainable yield	F_{MSY}	?	?	?	Undefined	MSY	?	?	?	Undefined	
Precautionary approach	F_{pa}	?	?	?	Undefined	B_{pa} , B_{lim}	?	?	?	Undefined	
Management plan	F_{MGT}	-	-	-	Not applicable	SSB_{MGT}	-	-	-	Not applicable	
Qualitative evaluation	-	?	?	?	Unknown	-	↗	↗	↗	Increasing	

Qualitative evaluation	-	?	?	?	Unknown	-	↗	↗	↗	Increasing
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ICES ADVICE

FOR SOME ELASMOBRANCH SPECIES



ICES Advice on fishing opportunities, catch, and effort
Greater North Sea Ecoregion



Published 9 October 2015

6.3.30 Other skates and rays in Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId (North Sea, Skagerrak, Kattegat and eastern English Channel)

ICES cannot provide advice on the status of these stocks due to a lack of reliable survey and catch data. ICES advises that improved collection of species-specific landings data for more skates taxa be introduced, including for larger-bodied skates of *Dipturus* spp., sandy ray *Leucoraja circularis*, and shagreen ray *Leucoraja fullonica*, to help to inform on the status of these stocks.

There are insufficient survey or abundance data available to assess these species individually. There is insufficient information to present trends in species-specific landings. All are considered minor species in commercial fisheries in this ecoregion.

Stock and exploitation status

Table 6.3.30.1 Other skates and rays in Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId. State of the stock and fishery relative to reference points.

		Fishing pressure				Stock size			
		2012	2013	2014		2013	2014	2015	
Maximum sustainable yield	F_{MSY}	?	?	?	Undefined	MSY	?	?	?
Precautionary approach	F_{pa} , F_{lim}	?	?	?	Undefined	Trigger	?	?	?
Management plan	F_{MGT}	-	-	-	Not applicable	B_{pa} , B_{lim}	?	?	?
Qualitative evaluation	-	?	?	?	Unknown	SSB_{MGT}	-	-	-
							?	?	?

Catch options

ICES cannot provide catch advice for these stocks due to a lack of reliable survey and catch data.

Basis of the advice

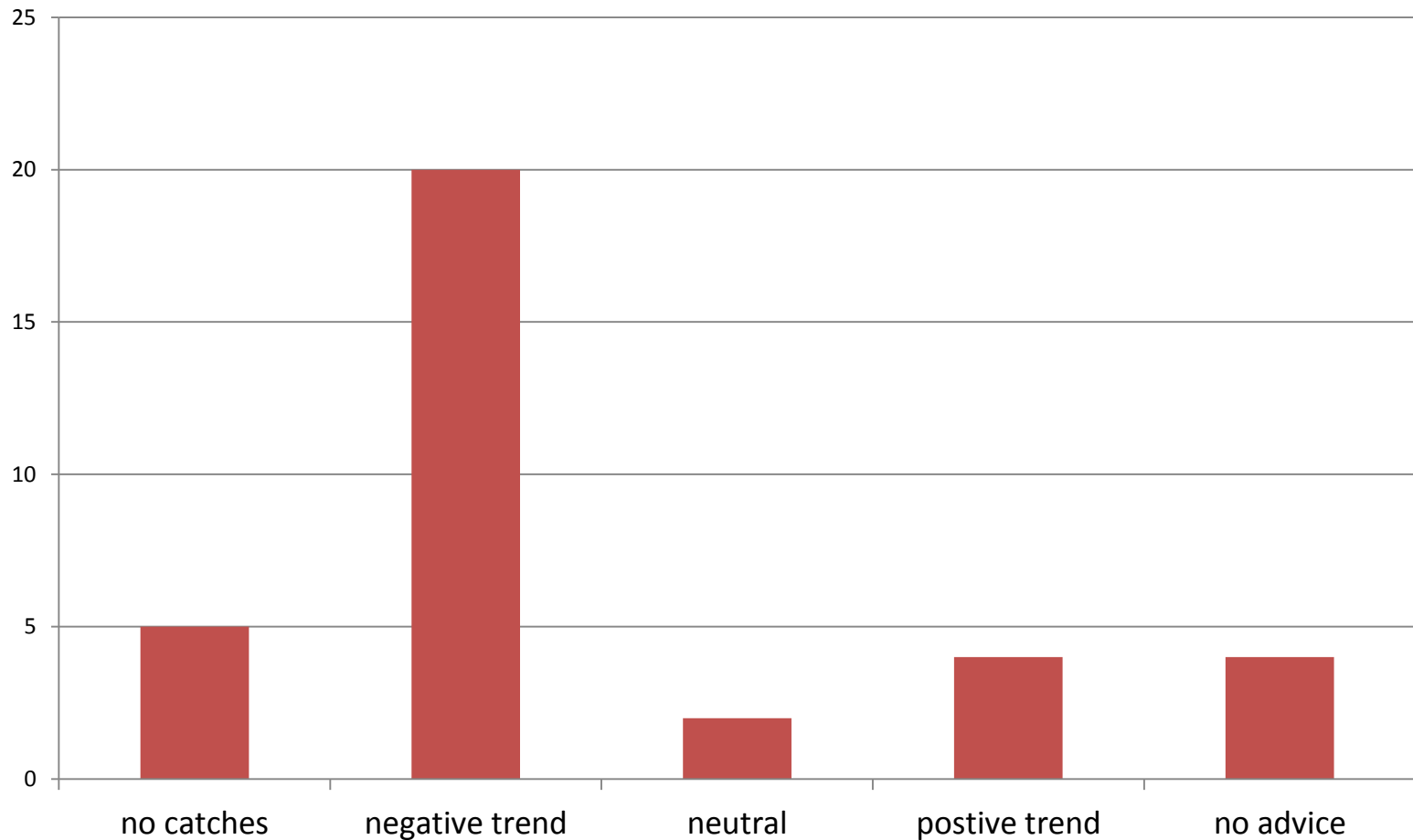
Table 6.3.30.2 Other skates and rays in Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId. The basis of the advice.

Advice basis	Precautionary approach.
Management plan	There are no management plans for these stocks.

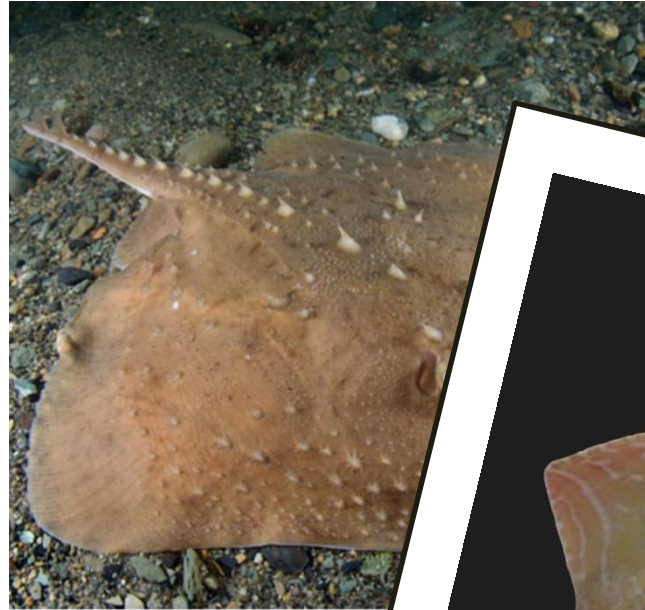
Quality of the assessment

There is no assessment for these species in the North Sea.

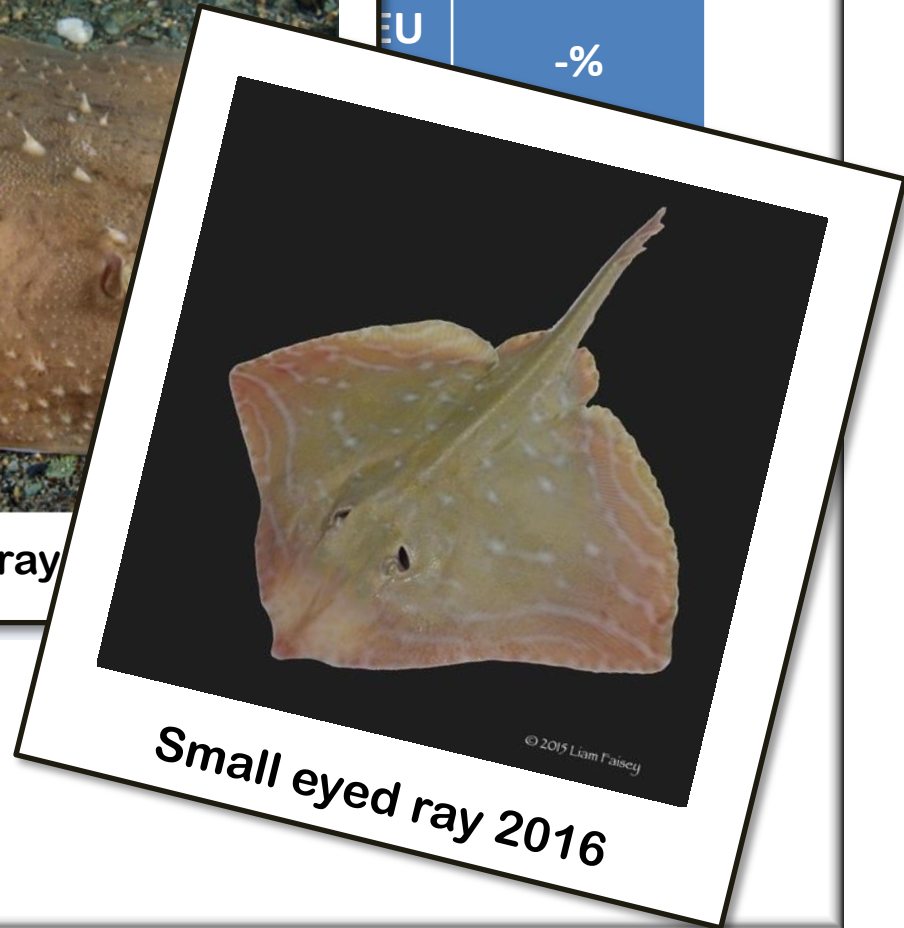
2015 TRENDS IN ICES ADVICE FOR SKATES & RAYS



GROUP TAC FOR STATES



Starry ray



Small eyed ray 2016

SPURDOG 0-TAC



Does not prevent this!

LANDING OBLIGATION

As of 2019 all catches of managed species will have to be landed

- ◆ Quota management?
- ◆ High survival exemption?
- ◆ Prohibited list?
- ◆ Bycatch quota?



OPTIONS????

?

?

?



QUOTA MANAGEMENT: STATUS QUO



PRO

- ◆ Will not interfere with relative stability

CON

- ◆ Will not interfere with relative stability
- ◆ Many of the species data limited and some species showing a negative trend, ICES advice is precautionary → restrictive TAC.
- ◆ Prevents targeted management for stocks showing a negative trends and fishery of stocks showing a positive trend
- ◆ Localised depletion of a single stock or species is not prevented
- ◆ Choke species after 2019.

QUOTA MANAGEMENT :

INDIVIDUAL QUOTA



PRO

- ◆ Allows for targeted management of all stocks within the CFP framework
- ◆ Prevents depletion of species to the point where the only option is to add them to the prohibited list.

CON

- ◆ There is not enough data available for many species, TACs would be precautionary
- ◆ Relative stability would have to be re-negotiated for 16 species
- ◆ Creates **16** potential choke species under the landing obligation

QUOTA MANAGEMENT :

QUOTA FOR COMMERCIAL STOCKS ONLY



PRO

- ◆ TACs could be based on more accurate stock information
- ◆ Less chance of species becoming a choke under the LO
- ◆ Allows fishermen to focus on the more profitable stocks
- ◆ Allows for target management of main commercial stocks under the CFP

CON

- ◆ Management of species not under TAC will differ per member state (if taken up at all)
- ◆ Depleted species left with no management
- ◆ Relative stability will have to be re-negotiated for some species

HIGH SURVIVAL EXEMPTION

PRO

- ◆ Species will not become a choke under the LO
- ◆ If based on accurate data fishing mortality does not increase

CON

- ◆ Needs quality science to underpin exemptions in all métiers for all species
- ◆ Does not reduce mortality (compared to pre LO situation) for depleted stocks
- ◆ Difficult to control

HIGH SURVIVAL EXEMPTION WITH BEST TECHNICAL CONSTRAINTS



PRO

- ◆ Species will not become a choke under the LO
- ◆ Fishing mortality decreases

CON

- ◆ Needs quality science to underpin exemption in all métiers for all species
- ◆ Difficult to control: both use technical constraints & catches

PROHIBITED LIST

PRO

- ◆ Species will not become a choke under the LO
- ◆ Easy to control

CON

- ◆ Placing a species on the prohibited list does not lead to better management of the stock it only ensures all catches are discarded.
- ◆ Management of species on list will differ per member state (if taken up at all)
- ◆ Improper use of prohibited list

REPLACE 0-TAC WITH BYCATCH QUOTUM



PRO

- ◆ Less chance of species becoming a choke under the LO
- ◆ Allows some landing
- ◆ Can be used in targeted fisheries management
- ◆ Allows for data collection to continue

CON

- ◆ Needs quality science to calculate quorum
- ◆ Still chance of choke situations
- ◆ Difficult to control

WHAT ELSE????

