

## Striped red mullet (*Mullus surmuletus*) in subareas 6 and 8 and in divisions 7.a–c, 7.e–k, and 9.a (North Sea, Bay of Biscay, southern Celtic Seas, and Atlantic Iberian waters)

### ICES advice on fishing opportunities

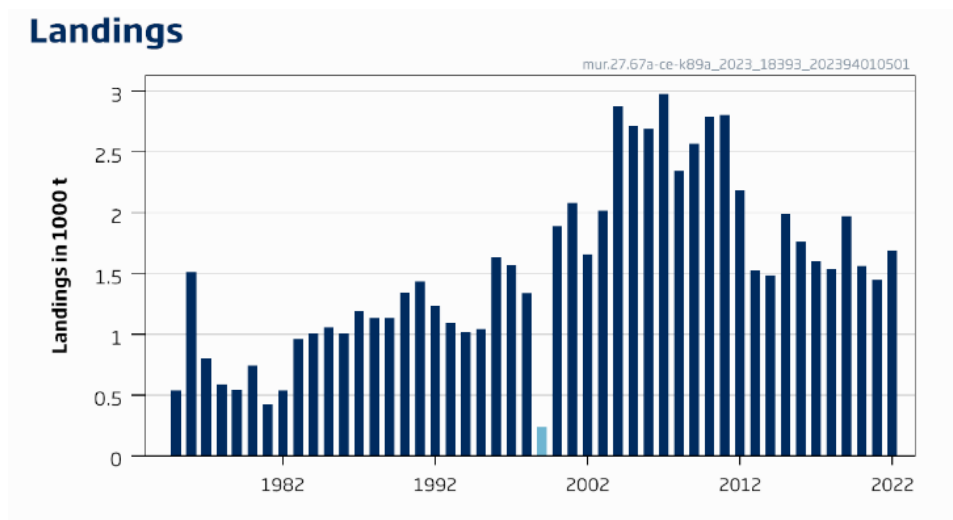
ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, landings should be no more than 1024 tonnes in each of the years 2024, 2025, and 2026. ICES cannot quantify the corresponding catches.

### ICES advice on conservation aspects

ICES has not identified any conservation aspects.

### Stock development over time

ICES cannot assess the stock and exploitation status relative to MSY and precautionary approach (PA) reference points because information to define reference points is not available.



**Figure 1** Striped red mullet in subareas 6 and 8 and in divisions 7.a–c, 7.e–k, and 9.a. Official landings. French data are not available for 1999 (bar shaded in lighter colour).

### Conservation status

ICES is not aware of any information on stock/species-specific conservation status.

### Catch scenarios

ICES framework for category 5 stocks was applied (ICES, 2012). For stocks without information on abundance or exploitation rate, ICES considers that a precautionary reduction of catches should be implemented where there is no ancillary information clearly indicating that the current level of exploitation is appropriate to the stock. The precautionary buffer was applied in 2020 and has therefore been applied in 2023. Discards are considered negligible.

**Table 1** Striped red mullet in subareas 6 and 8 and in divisions 7.a–c, 7.e–k, and 9.a. The basis for the catch scenarios.

Recent advised landings		1280
Discard rate		Unknown
Precautionary buffer	Applied	0.8
Landings advice**		1024
% advice change***		–20%

\* The figures in the table are rounded. Calculations were done with unrounded inputs, and computed values may not match exactly when calculated using the rounded figures in the table.

\*\* Advised landings for each of years 2024, 2025, and 2026.

\*\*\* Advice for each of the years 2024, 2025, and 2026 relative to the advice value for each of the years 2021, 2022, and 2023 (1280 tonnes).

The advised landings have decreased because of the application of the precautionary buffer.

### Basis of the advice

**Table 2** Striped red mullet in subareas 6 and 8 and in divisions 7.a–c, 7.e–k, and 9.a. The basis of the advice.

Advice basis	Precautionary approach.
Management plan	ICES is not aware of any agreed precautionary management plan for striped red mullet in these areas.

### Quality of the assessment

Historical landings and discards data are sparse, incomplete, and may not be accurate.

### Issues relevant for the advice

The uncertainty of the historical data precludes the assessment of the stock and exploitation status.

### Reference points

No reference points are defined for this stock.

### Basis of the assessment

**Table 3** Striped red mullet in subareas 6 and 8 and in divisions 7.a–c, 7.e–k, and 9.a. Basis of the assessment and advice.

ICES stock data category	5 ( <a href="#">ICES, 2023a</a> ).
Assessment type	No assessment (ICES, 2023b).
Input data	Commercial landings.
Discards and bycatch	Discarding is known to take place, but discards cannot be fully quantified.
Indicators	-
Other information	None.
Working group	Working Group on Widely Distributed Stocks ( <a href="#">WGWIDE</a> ).

### History of the advice, catch, and management

**Table 4** Striped red mullet in subareas 6 and 8, and in divisions 7.a–c, 7.e–k, and 9.a. ICES advice and official landings. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	ICES advice	Landings corresponding to advice	Agreed TAC	Official landings
2009		-	None	2567
2010		-	None	2793
2011		-	None	2806
2012	No increase in catch	-	None	2183
2013	20% reduction in catches (average of the last three years)	< 2000	None	1522
2014	No new advice, same as for 2013	< 2000	None	1487
2015	No new advice, same as for 2013	< 2000	None	1989
2016	No new advice, same as for 2013	≤ 2000	None	1761
2017	No new advice, same as for 2013	≤ 2000	None	1601
2018	Precautionary approach	≤ 1600	None	1538
2019	Precautionary approach (same advised catch value as given for 2018)	≤ 1600	None	1973

Year	ICES advice	Landings corresponding to advice	Agreed TAC	Official landings
2020	Precautionary approach (same advised catch value as given for 2018)	≤ 1600	None	1562
2021	Precautionary approach	≤ 1280	None	1445
2022	Precautionary approach (same advised landings value as given for 2021)	≤ 1280	None	1691*
2023	Precautionary approach (same advised landings value as given for 2021)	≤ 1280	None	
2024	Precautionary approach	≤ 1024		
2025	Precautionary approach (same advised landings value as given for 2024)	≤ 1024		
2026	Precautionary approach (same advised landings value as given for 2024)	≤ 1024		

\* Preliminary.

### History of the catch and landings

**Table 5** Striped red mullet in subareas 6 and 8 and in divisions 7.a–c, 7.e–k, and 9.a. Landings distribution by fleet in 2022 as estimated by ICES.

Catch (2022)	Landings	Discards
Unknown	Information by gear is not available	Unknown
	1691 tonnes	

**Table 6** Striped red mullet in subareas 6 and 8 and in divisions 7.a–c, 7.e–k, and 9.a. History of commercial landings; official values are presented by area. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	ICES division																	Total
	6.a	6.b	7.a	7.b	7.c	7.e	7.f	7.g	7.h	7.j	7.k	8.a	8.b	8.c	8.d	8.e	9.a	
2006	0	0	1	1	0	869	50	24	103	11	0	1022	468	71	28	0	39	2688
2007	1	0	1	1	1	1047	54	22	104	24	0	861	473	90	32	0	267	2978
2008	0	0	1	1	0	880	46	16	72	26	0	639	246	86	35	0	296	2345
2009	2	0	1	2	2	592	25	9	74	35	0	879	460	156	88	0	243	2567
2010	2	0	1	3	2	642	26	10	59	32	1	1033	467	146	38	0	331	2793
2011	1	1	1	0	0	665	20	10	55	11	0	970	513	214	35	0	310	2806
2012	0	0	0	0	0	493	23	7	34	9	0	696	387	200	53	0	280	2183
2013	0	0	0	1	0	232	23	7	36	4	0	473	328	166	12	0	241	1522
2014	1	0	0	0	0	192	15	3	40	3	0	523	240	151	23	0	297	1487
2015	0	0	0	1	0	595	10	2	36	2	0	506	327	126	15	0	369	1989
2016	0	0	0	2	0	417	21	7	35	5	0	548	311	117	21	0	277	1761
2017	0	0	0	1	0	277	27	21	37	3	0	514	324	160	5	0	231	1601
2018	0	0	0	0	0	361	26	7	39	1	0	453	276	144	2	0	226	1538
2019	0	0	1	1	0	377	23	20	35	1	0	770	388	123	4	0	229	1973
2020	0	0	2	1	0	386	43	18	40	4	0	502	265	128	3	0	170	1562
2021	0	0	1	0	0	302	52	30	54	3	0	416	281	114	2	0	188	1445
2022	0	0	1	0	0	232	39	42	58	2	0	698	284	110	1	0	224	1691

**Table 7** Striped red mullet in subareas 6 and 8, and in divisions 7.a–c, 7.e–k, and 9.a. History of commercial landings; official values are presented by country participating in the fishery. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	France	Portugal	Spain	UK	NL	Belgium	Guernsey	Ireland	Isle of Man	Jersey	Total
1975	252	0	269	17	0	0	1	0	0	0	539
1976	747	0	722	37	0	0	2	0	0	0	1508
1977	454	0	294	45	0	0	4	1	0	0	798
1978	523	0	0	63	0	0	1	0	0	0	587
1979	411	0	97	33	0	0	2	0	0	0	543
1980	547	0	160	22	0	0	3	11	0	0	743
1981	402	0	0	19	0	0	3	0	0	0	424
1982	370	0	149	15	0	0	3	0	0	0	537
1983	733	0	168	52	0	0	5	0	0	0	958
1984	696	0	240	67	0	0	3	0	0	1	1007
1985	862	0	135	56	0	0	5	0	0	0	1058
1986	779	0	171	53	0	0	3	0	0	0	1006
1987	977	0	175	33	0	0	2	0	0	0	1187
1988	932	0	141	57	0	0	1	0	0	0	1131
1989	820	0	252	52	0	0	6	0	0	0	1130
1990	980	0	262	100	0	0	2	0	0	0	1344
1991	1022	0	298	114	0	0	1	0	0	0	1435
1992	1136	1	0	96	0	0	2	0	0	0	1235
1993	892	1	0	200	0	0	2	0	0	0	1095
1994	857	0	0	158	0	0	0	0	0	0	1015
1995	870	0	0	165	0	0	4	0	0	1	1040
1996	1151	0	292	148	0	0	0	40	0	0	1631
1997	1130	0	300	124	0	0	9	0	0	2	1565
1998	1068	0	132	83	0	0	12	38	0	6	1339
1999	NA*	0	136	77	0	0	16	0	0	7	236*
2000	1462	0	278	127	0	0	17	0	0	6	1890
2001	1536	0	334	168	17	0	13	0	4	6	2078
2002	1298	0	198	136	11	0	11	0	0	4	1658
2003	1514	0	317	145	25	3	11	4	0	0	2019
2004	2123	39	408	216	59	21	0	5	0	2	2873
2005	2117	2	284	167	103	31	0	12	0	0	2716
2006	1947	10	387	170	115	33	8	16	0	1	2688
2007	1941	222	398	194	148	43	9	23	0	1	2978
2008	1394	169	394	165	165	26	9	22	0	0	2345
2009	1562	199	520	134	110	20	5	16	0	0	2567
2010	1743	276	479	133	128	20	5	8	0	0	2793
2011	1740	245	508	155	130	21	0	8	0	0	2806
2012	1342	217	332	122	125	37	0	7	0	1	2183
2013	932	187	246	71	50	28	5	4	0	0	1522
2014	926	221	265	53	2	12	5	2	0	0	1487
2015	1215	282	248	102	111	23	5	3	0	0	1989
2016	1179	204	194	83	69	28	0	4	0	0	1761
2017	997	154	327	64	13	36	0	10	0	0	1601
2018	896	122	321	67	95	37	0	0	0	0	1538
2019	1358	159	267	55	91	30	0	12	0	0	1973
2020	965	109	261	89	82	50	0	6	0	0	1562
2021	836	117	274	93	54	53	0	18	0	0	1445
2022	1057	136	336	81	18	43	0	20	0	1	1691

\* No French data are available for 1999.

### Summary of the assessment

There is no assessment for striped red mullet in this area.

## Sources and references

- ICES. 2012. ICES Implementation of Advice for Data-limited Stocks in 2012 in its 2012 Advice. ICES CM 2012/ACOM:68. 42 pp. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.5322>
- ICES. 2023a. Advice on fishing opportunities. *In* Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2023. ICES Advice 2023, section 1.1.1. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.22240624>
- ICES. 2023b. Working Group on Widely Distributed Stocks (WGWIDE). ICES Scientific Reports. 5:82. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.24025482>

[Download the stock assessment data and figures.](#)

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