

Other skates and rays in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a (Bay of Biscay and Atlantic Iberian waters)

ICES advice on fishing opportunities

ICES cannot provide catch advice for these stocks due to a lack of reliable survey and catch data. Discarding is known to take place; however, ICES cannot quantify the corresponding catches.

Note: This advice sheet is abbreviated due to the COVID-19 disruption. The previous advice issued for 2019 and 2020 is attached as Annex 1.

Stock development over time

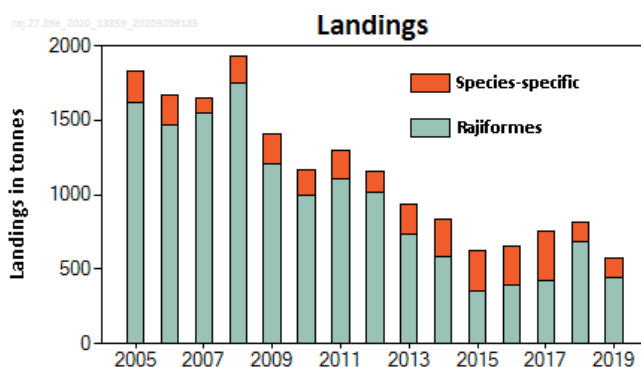


Figure 1 Other skates and rays in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. ICES estimated landings for species covered by this advice includes species not reported elsewhere (*Dipturus oxyrinchus*, *Leucoraja circularis*, *Leucoraja fullonica*, *Raja microocellata*, *Raja miraletus*, and *Rajella fyllae*), species outside the currently recognized stock boundaries in this ecoregion (*Leucoraja naevus* and *Raja brachyura*), and generic reported landings (indeterminate Rajiformes). All landings are in tonnes.

Stock and exploitation status

Table 1 Other skates and rays in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. State of the stock and the fishery relative to reference points.

		Fishing pressure			Stock size					
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019			
Maximum sustainable yield	F_{MSY}	?	?	?	Unknown	$MSY B_{trigger}$?	?	?	Unknown
Precautionary approach	F_{pa}, F_{lim}	?	?	?	Unknown	B_{pa}, B_{lim}	?	?	?	Unknown
Management plan	F_{MGT}	—	—	—	Not applicable	B_{MGT}	—	—	—	Not applicable
Qualitative evaluation	-	?	?	?	Unknown	-	?	?	?	Unknown

Catch scenarios

ICES cannot provide catch advice for these stocks, owing to a lack of reliable survey and catch data. Recent landings are not considered reliable to provide advice because of progressive changes in the level of species-specific reporting.

Discarding is known to take place; however, ICES cannot quantify the corresponding dead catch.

Table 2 Other skates and rays in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. The basis for the catch scenarios.

Advised landings for 2019 and 2020, issued in 2018		No advice
Discard rate		Unknown
Precautionary buffer	Not applied	-
Landings advice		-
% advice change *		-

* Advice value 2021–2022 relative to the advice value 2019–2020.

History of the advice, catch, and management

Table 3 Other skates and rays in Subarea 8 and Division 9.a. History of ICES advice and ICES estimates of landings*. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	ICES advice	Landings corresponding to advice	ICES landings
2011	No specific advice		1293
2012	No specific advice		1153
2013	No TAC, species-specific measures needed, catch to decrease by at least 20%	-	940
2014	No new advice, same as 2013	-	831
2015	Decrease landings by at least 20% **	≤ 614	620
2016	No new advice, same as 2015 **	≤ 614	653
2017	No advice	-	755
2018	No advice	-	819
2019	No advice	-	570
2020	No advice	-	
2021	No advice	-	
2022	No advice	-	

* There is no specific TAC for these stocks. Fishing opportunities are managed through an overall TAC by management unit, which includes all species of skates and rays.

** ICES provided advice for these skates in 2014 as a large proportion of the total skate landings were not assigned to assessed stock units.

Summary of the assessment

There are no assessments for the stocks addressed here.

Sources and references

ICES. 2020. Working Group on Elasmobranch Fishes (WGEF). ICES Scientific Reports, 2:77. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.7470>.

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