

**ECOREGION**      **Iceland and East Greenland**  
**STOCK**            **Beaked redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in Subareas V, XII, and XIV and**  
**NAFO Subareas 1+2 (Shallow pelagic stock < 500 m)**

**Advice for 2015**

ICES advises on the basis of the precautionary approach that no directed fishery should be conducted in 2015 and bycatch of this stock in non-directed fisheries should be kept as low as possible.

**Quality considerations**

Several data improvements are needed – better catch and landings data, better survey information particularly within the deep-scattering layer, and a recruitment index. However, the acoustic index shows a sharp decline of the stock during the 1990s and the stock remains low.

ICES again had difficulties in obtaining catch estimates and landing data from some ICES Member Countries, and especially data disaggregated by depth. The Russian Federation has decided on a unilateral quota for the years 2011–2014 that considers both redfish management units as a single stock. This unilateral quota is more than the total quota recommended by NEAFC. The Russian Federation so far has not facilitated depth-disaggregated catch data to the NWWG, and this may affect the assessment. In February 2011 ICES launched a data call requiring better data from the countries participating in the redfish fishery, but the response was very limited. There is a need for special action through NEAFC and NAFO to provide ICES with timely and complete information that may lead to more reliable catch statistics. Furthermore, ICES recommends that all nations should report depth information on a haul basis in accordance with the NEAFC logbook format.

**Scientific basis**

<b>Stock data category</b>	3 ( <a href="#">ICES, 2014a</a> ).
<b>Assessment type</b>	No analytical assessment, qualitative assessment.
<b>Input data</b>	Commercial catches (international landings, ages and length frequencies from catch sampling); commercial indices (standardized cpue from several nations); one survey index (International Trawl and Acoustic Survey); annual maturity data from commercial catch during surveys.
<b>Discards and bycatch</b>	Discards are not included and are assumed negligible.
<b>Indicators</b>	None.
<b>Other information</b>	The stock was benchmarked in 2012.
<b>Working group</b>	North-Western Working Group ( <a href="#">NWWG</a> ).

**Sources**

- ICES. 2013a. Report of the North-Western Working Group (NWWG), 25 April–2 May 2013, ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2013/ACOM:07. 1538 pp.
- ICES. 2013b. Report of the Working Group on Redfish Surveys (WGRS), 6–8 August 2013, Hamburg, Germany. ICES CM 2013/SSGESST:14. 56 pp.
- ICES. 2014a. Advice basis. *In* Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2014. ICES Advice 2014, Book 1, Section 1.2.
- ICES. 2014. Report of the North-Western Working Group (NWWG), 24 April–1 May 2014, ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2014/ACOM:07. 902 pp.

**Table 2.3.10.1** Beaked redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in Subareas V, XII, and XIV and NAFO Subareas 1+2 (Shallow pelagic stock < 500 m). ICES advice, management, and catches.

Year	ICES Advice*	Predicted catch corresponds to advice*	TAC*	ICES Catch* Total	ICES Catch Shallow pelagic stock
1987	No assessment	-		91	91
1988	No assessment	-		91	91
1989	TAC	90–100		39	39
1990	TAC	90–100		32	32
1991	TAC	66		28	27
1992	Preference for no major expansion of the fishery	-		66	63
1993	TAC	50		116	100
1994	TAC	100		148	97
1995	TAC	100		176	97
1996	No specific advice	-	153	180	41
1997	No specific advice	-	153–158	123	28
1998	TAC not over recent (1993–1996) levels of 150 000 t		153	117	24
1999	TAC to be reduced from recent (1993–1996) levels of 150 000 t		153	110	26
2000	TAC set lower than recent (1997–1998) catches of 120 000 t	85	120	126	33
2001	TAC less than 75% of catch 1997–1999	< 85	95	129	41
2002	TAC less than 75% of catch 1997–1999 – Revised to be below current catch levels	< 85	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (95)	146	43
2003	TAC not exceed current catch levels	119	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (119)	161	57
2004	TAC not exceed current catch levels	120	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (120)	126	34
2005	Limit catch to 41 kt	41	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (75) / (116 <sup>1</sup> )	74	28
2006	Catch less than 41 kt	41	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (62) / (99 <sup>1</sup> )	83	16
2007	No fishery until clear indications of recovery of the stock	0	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (46) / (73 <sup>1</sup> )	64	6
2008	Starting point for adaptive management strategy	20	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (46) / (64 <sup>1</sup> )	32	2
2009	Starting point for adaptive management strategy	20	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (0) / (72 <sup>1</sup> )	54	2.7
2010 <sup>1)</sup>	No directed fishery and bycatch as low as possible	-	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (0) / (72 <sup>1</sup> )	59	2.4
2011	Same advice as last year	-	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (0)/(60 <sup>1</sup> )/(30) <sup>2</sup> )	48	0.5
2012	Same advice as last year	-	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (0)/(54 <sup>1</sup> )/(30) <sup>2</sup> )	36	3.2
2013	Same advice as last year	-	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (0)/(48 <sup>1</sup> )/(27) <sup>2</sup> )	47	1.5
2014	Same advice as last year	-	Not agreed NEAFC proposal (0)/(48 <sup>1</sup> )/(27) <sup>2</sup> )		
2015	Same advice as last year	-			

Weights in thousand tonnes.

\* Up to 2009 advice and TAC were given for both shallow and deep stocks.

<sup>1</sup> Sum of all quotas in force for both shallow and deep pelagic.

<sup>2</sup> Unilateral Russian Federation TAC for both shallow and deep pelagic stocks.