

Norway pout (*Trisopterus esmarkii*) in Division 6.a

ICES advice on fishing opportunities

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, landings should be no more than one tonne in each of the years 2022, 2023, 2024. ICES cannot quantify the corresponding total catches.

Stock development over time

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

Landings

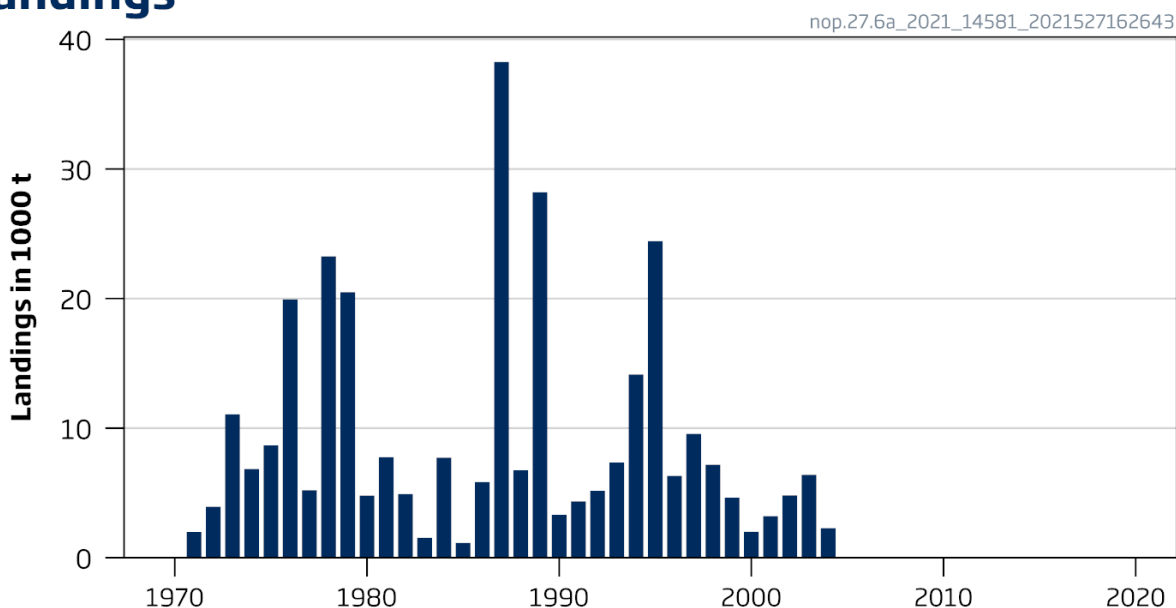


Figure 1 Norway pout in Division 6.a. Official landings (in thousand tonnes).

Catch scenarios

ICES framework for category 6 stocks was applied (ICES, 2012). For stocks without information on abundance or exploitation, ICES considers that a precautionary reduction of catches should be implemented. The precautionary buffer was never applied and has therefore been considered this year. The stock status relative to candidate reference points is unknown; therefore, the precautionary buffer was applied in the advice.

Table 2 Norway pout in Division 6.a. ICES framework for category 6 applied.

Average of landings (2018–2020)		1 (tonne)
Discard		Unknown
Precautionary buffer	Applied	0.8
Landings advice*		1 (tonne)
% Advice change**		–

* Advice for 2022, 2023 and 2024 [Average of landings (2018–2020) × precautionary buffer].

** Previous advice for stock status only.

Basis of the advice

Table 1 Norway pout in Division 6.a. The basis of the advice.

Advice basis	Precautionary approach
Management plan	ICES is not aware of any agreed precautionary management plan for Norway pout in this area.

Quality of the assessment

The available information on Norway pout in Division 6.a is inadequate to evaluate stock status.

Issues relevant for the advice

Norway pout is a short-lived species. Recruitment is likely highly variable and strongly influences the spawning-stock and total biomass. The default ICES approach to MSY-based management for short-lived species is an escapement strategy, i.e. to maintain SSB above $MSY B_{escapement}$ after the fishery has taken place. At present data have not been evaluated to define the details of an approach suitable for this area, although it is clear that information on incoming year-class strength is an important requirement.

Reference points

No reference points are defined for this stock.

Basis of the assessment

Table 2 Norway pout in Division 6.a. The basis of the assessment.

ICES stock data category	6 (ICES, 2021)
Assessment type	No assessment
Input data	Official landings statistics
Discards and bycatch	Unknown
Indicators	None
Other information	None
Working group	-

History of advice, catch, and management

Table 3 Norway pout in Division 6.a. History of ICES advice, the agreed TAC, and official landings. Weights are in tonnes.

Year	ICES advice	Catch corresponding to advice	TAC	Official landings
2010	No advice		No TAC	0
2011	No advice		No TAC	0
2012	No increase of catches	-	No TAC	0
2013	No increase of catches	-	No TAC	0
2014	Same advice as 2013	-	No TAC	8
2015	Same advice as 2013	-	No TAC	1
2016	Same advice as 2013	-	No TAC	0.084*
2017	No catch advice	-	No TAC	13*
2018	No catch advice	-	No TAC	2
2019	No catch advice	-	No TAC	0
2020	No catch advice	-	No TAC	2
2021	No catch advice	-	No TAC	
2022	Precautionary approach	≤ 1		
2023	Precautionary approach	≤ 1		
2024	Precautionary approach	≤ 1		

* Preliminary.

History of catch and landings

Table 4 Norway pout in Division 6.a. Catch distribution in 2020 as estimated by ICES. Weights are in tonnes.

Catch	Landings	Discards
Unknown	2 tonnes	Unknown

Table 5 Norway pout in Division 6.a. Landings by country as officially reported to ICES. Weights are in tonnes.

Year	Denmark	Faroe Islands	Germany	Germany, Fed. Rep. of	Netherlands	Norway	Poland	UK – Eng + Wales + N.Irl.	UK – Scotland	Un. Sov. Soc. Rep.	Total
1970	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
1971	363	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1621	-	1984
1972	186	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3757	-	3943
1973	42	1743	-	-	-	-	-	-	9276	-	11061
1974	-	1581	-	179	-	144	75	-	4826	40	6845
1975	193	1524	-	-	322	-	-	-	6620	2	8661
1976	-	6203	-	8	147	82	-	-	6346	7147	19933
1977	-	2177	-	-	230	-	-	-	2799	-	5206
1978	4443	18484	-	-	21	-	-	-	302	-	23250
1979	15609	4772	-	-	98	-	-	-	23	-	20502
1980	-	3530	-	-	68	-	-	-	1202	-	4800
1981	2877	3540	-	-	182	-	-	-	1158	-	7757
1982	0751	3026	-	-	548	-	-	-	586	-	4911
1983	-	-	-	-	1534	-	-	-	-	-	1534
1984	4301	3400	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	-	7724
1985	-	998	-	-	139	-	-	-	13	-	1150
1986	5832	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5832
1987	37714	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	553	-	38267
1988	5849	376	-	-	-	-	-	-	517	-	6742
1989	28180	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	28196
1990	3316	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	< 0.5	-	3316
1991	4348	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4348
1992	5147	-	-	-	10	-	-	1	-	-	5158
1993	7338	-	-	-	-	-	-	< 0.5	-	-	7338
1994	14147	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	< 0.5	-	14148
1995	24431	-	1	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	24439
1996	6175	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	140	-	6322
1997	9549	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	9562
1998	7186	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7186
1999	4624	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4625
2000	2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2005
2001	3214	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3214
2002	4815	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4819
2003	6395	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6397
2004	2281	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	2285
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
2006	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
2007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
2009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
2010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
2011	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
2012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
2013	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
2014	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	8

Year	Denmark	Faroe Islands	Germany	Germany, Fed. Rep. of	Netherlands	Norway	Poland	UK – Eng + Wales + N.Irl.	UK – Scotland	Un. Sov. Soc. Rep.	Total
2015	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
2016	-	-	-	-	< 1	-	-	-	-	-	< 1
2017	8	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	12
2018	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
2019*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020*	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

*Preliminary.

Summary of the assessment

There is no assessment for this stock.

Sources and references

EU. 2019. Regulation (EU) 2019/472 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 March 2019 establishing a multiannual plan for stocks fished in the Western Waters and adjacent waters, and for fisheries exploiting those stocks, amending Regulations (EU) 2016/1139 and (EU) 2018/973, and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 811/2004, (EC) No 2166/2005, (EC) No 388/2006, (EC) No 509/2007 and (EC) No 1300/2008. Official Journal of the European Union, L 83: 1–17. <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/472/oj>

ICES. 2021. Advice on fishing opportunities. *In* Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2021. ICES Advice 2021, section 1.1.1. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7720>.

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

Recommended citation: ICES. 2021. Norway pout (*Trisopterus esmarkii*) in Division 6.a. *In* Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2021. ICES Advice 2021, nop.27.6a, <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7813>.