

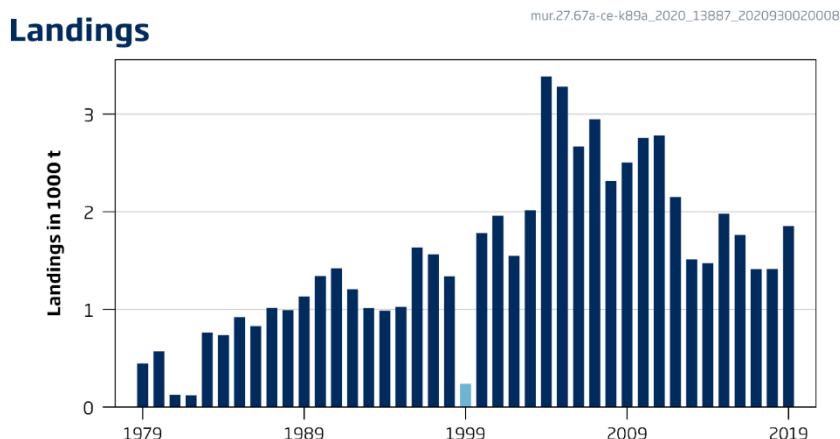
## Striped red mullet (*Mullus surmuletus*) in subareas 6 and 8, and in divisions 7.a–c, 7.e–k, and 9.a (North Sea, Bay of Biscay, southern Celtic Seas, and Atlantic Iberian waters)

### ICES stock advice

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, landings should be no more than 1280 tonnes in each of the years 2021, 2022, and 2023. ICES cannot quantify the corresponding catches.

Note: This advice sheet is abbreviated due to the COVID-19 disruption. The previous advice issued for 2018–2020 is attached as Annex 1.

### Stock development over time



**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.

### Stock and exploitation status

**Table 1** Striped red mullet in subareas 6 and 8, and in divisions 7.a–c, 7.e–k, and 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

The ICES framework for category 5 stocks was applied (ICES, 2012). For stocks without information on abundance or exploitation, ICES considers that a precautionary reduction of catches should be implemented unless supporting information clearly indicates that the current level of exploitation is appropriate for the stock. The precautionary buffer was last applied in 2017. Currently there is no information on stock biomass or exploitation levels; therefore, the precautionary buffer is applied again this year.

Discarding is known to take place, but could not be fully quantified.

**Table 2** 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 (for 2018, 2019, and 2020)			1600 tonnes
Discard rate			Unknown
Precautionary buffer	Applied		0.8
Landings advice *			1280 tonnes

\* [Advice for 2018–2020] × [precautionary buffer].

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

**Table 3** 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	Predicted landings corresp. to advice	Agreed TAC	Official landings
2009		-	None	2504
2010		-	None	2756
2011		-	None	2782
2012	No increase in catch	-	None	2152
2013	20% reduction in catches (average of the last 3 years)	< 2000	None	1514
2014	No new advice, same as for 2013	< 2000	None	1474
2015	No new advice, same as for 2013	< 2000	None	1980
2016	No new advice, same as for 2013	≤ 2000	None	1763
2017	No new advice, same as for 2013	≤ 2000	None	1415
2018	Precautionary approach	≤ 1600	None	1415 *
2019	Precautionary approach (same advised catch value as given for 2018)	≤ 1600	None	1855 *
2020	Precautionary approach (same advised catch value as given for 2018)	≤ 1600	None	
2021	Precautionary approach	≤ 1280		
2022	Precautionary approach (same advised landings value as given for 2021)	≤ 1280		
2023	Precautionary approach (same advised landings value as given for 2021)	≤ 1280		

\* Preliminary.

### 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. 2020. Working Group on Widely Distributed Stocks (WGWIDE). ICES Scientific Reports. 2:82. 1019 pp. <http://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.7475>

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