

American plaice in Divisions 3LNO

Advice June 2024 for 2025 and beyond

Recommendation for 2025 and beyond

Advice for American plaice in Divisions 3LNO is provided based on an Interim Monitoring Report which indicates no major changes in this stock. Scientific Council recommends that, in accordance with the rebuilding plan, there should be no directed fishing on American plaice in Divisions 3LNO until an assessment indicates a very low probability of being below B_{lim} . Bycatches of American plaice should be kept to the lowest possible level and restricted to unavoidable bycatch in fisheries directing for other species.

There will be no full assessment until interim monitoring shows that conditions have changed.

During the 2023 Annual meeting, the Commission requested that in June 2024, advice should be provided for 2025-2027 for 3LNO American plaice. Following a discussion during the January 2024 meeting about lack of data and workload issues, SC concluded that the Commission request for advice for the 3LNO American plaice would be responded via an Interim Monitoring Report, unless changes in the state of the stock arise. The most recent Canadian surveys cannot be directly compared to previous series due to a lack of conversion factors to new survey vessels for this stock. However, given the overall scale of recent Canadian indices, and with the continued low levels of American plaice reported in the EU-Spain surveys, there is nothing to indicate a change in the status of the stock.

There will be no full assessment until interim monitoring shows that conditions have changed.