

Roundnose grenadier (*Coryphaenoides rupestris*) in subareas 6 and 7 and divisions 5.b and 12.b (Celtic Seas and the English Channel, Faroes grounds, and western Hatton Bank)

ICES advice on fishing opportunities

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, catches should be no more than 2 542 tonnes in each of the years 2027 and 2028. If discard rates do not change from the average of last three years (2023–2025), this implies landings of no more than 2 338 tonnes.

ICES non-fisheries conservation considerations

ICES has not identified any conservation aspects other than those related to the commercial fisheries.

Stock development over time

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

Landings

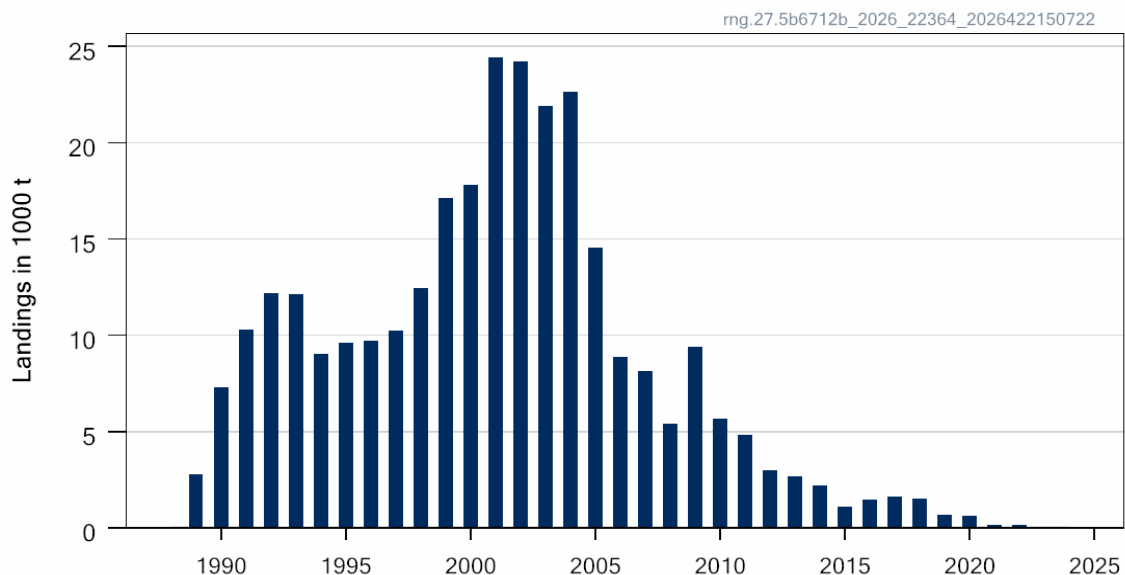


Figure 1 Roundnose grenadier in subareas 6 and 7 and divisions 5.b and 12.b. Landings over the years in thousand tonnes for all areas.

Catch scenarios

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 where there is no ancillary information clearly indicating that the current level of exploitation is appropriate for the stock. The precautionary buffer was applied in 2024 and therefore is not applied in 2026. The discarding rate is 8% of total catch.

Table 1 Roundnose grenadier in subareas 6 and 7 and divisions 5.b and 12.b. The basis for the catch scenarios*.

Advised catches for 2025–2026	2 542 tonnes	
Discard rate (average 2023–2025)	8%	
Precautionary buffer	Not applied	-
Catch advice**	2 542 tonnes	
Landings corresponding to the catch advice***	2 338 tonnes	
% advice change^	0%	

* The figures in the table are rounded. Calculations were carried out with unrounded inputs, and computed values may not match precisely when calculated using the rounded figures in the table.

** [Advised catches for 2025–2026].

*** [Advised catches for 2027–2028] × [1 – discard rate]. Discard rate is calculated based on data available for the period 2023–2025.

^ Advice value for 2027 and 2028 relative to the advice value for 2026.

Basis of the advice

Table 2 Roundnose grenadier in subareas 6 and 7 and divisions 5.b and 12.b. The basis of the advice.

Advice basis	Precautionary approach
Management plan	An EU multiannual management plan (MAP) has been agreed by the EU for this stock (EU, 2019). There is no agreement with all contracting parties regarding this plan, and it is not used as the basis of the advice for this shared stock.

Quality of the assessment

Since 2016, bottom-trawling fisheries in EU and UK waters, as well as EU and UK vessels in international waters, are prohibited at depths greater than 800 m (EU, 2016). This, together with other management measures, has led to a decrease in activity and has reduced the amount of fishery-dependent data.

Issues relevant for the advice

This stock is classified as Category 1 in the NEAFC categorization of deep-sea species/stocks (NEAFC, 2016). This implies that NEAFC requires stock-specific management measures, since the entire or a significant proportion of the catch is taken in the NEAFC regulatory areas.

Reference points

No reference points are defined for this stock.

Basis of the assessment

Table 3 Roundnose grenadier in subareas 6 and 7 and divisions 5.b and 12.b. The basis of the assessment.

ICES stock data category	5 (ICES, 2025)
Assessment type	No assessment (ICES, 2026)
Input data	Landings and discards
Discards and bycatch	Discard rate for 2023–2025 is estimated to be around 8%
Indicators	None
Other information	Last benchmarked in 2010 (ICES, 2010)
Working group	Working Group on the Biology and Assessment of Deep-Sea Fisheries Resources (WGDEEP)

History of the advice, catch, and management

Table 4 Roundnose grenadier in subareas 6 and 7 and divisions 5.b and 12.b. History of ICES advice, the agreed total allowable catches (TACs), and ICES landings. Weights are in tonnes.

Year	ICES advice	Catch corresponding to advice	TAC EU in Division 5.b and subareas 6 and 7	TAC UK in Division 5.b and subareas 6 and 7	TAC EU in subareas 7, 9, 10, 12, and 14	ICES landings in subareas 6 and 7, and divisions 5.b and 12.b
2003	Significant reduction in effort	-	5106			21904
2004	Biennial	-	5106			22668
2005	50% reduction in effort in relation to 2000–2002 levels	-	5253		7190	14559
2006	Biennial	-	5253		7190	8896
2007	Constrain catches to 50% level before the expansion period, 1990–1996	< 6000	4600		6114	8138
2008	Biennial	< 6000	4600		6114	5412
2009	Constrain catches to 50% level before the expansion period, 1990–1996	< 6000	3910		5197	8273
2010	Biennial	< 6000	3324		5197	5642
2011	Less than 6000 tonnes and a further reduction in catches from recent levels should be considered	< 6000	2924		4573	4821
2012	No new advice, same as 2011	< 6000	2546		3979	2986
2013	Based on MSY approach catches should be < 6000 tonnes	< 6000	4297		3581	2692
2014	No new advice, same as 2013	< 6000	4297		3223	2180
2015	MSY approach	< 5433	4010		3644	1071
2016	No new advice, same as 2015	< 5511	4078		3279	1452
2017	MSY approach for subareas 6 and 7 and Division 5.b. Precautionary approach for Division 12.b.	≤ 3897	3052		2623	1634
2018	MSY approach for subareas 6 and 7 and Division 5.b. Precautionary approach for Division 12.b.	≤ 3971	3120		2099	1519
2019	Precautionary approach	≤ 3971	2558		2281	689
2020	Precautionary approach	≤ 3971	2558		2281	624
2021	Precautionary approach	≤ 3177	2205	112	572	140
2022	Precautionary approach	≤ 3177	2205	112	572	127
2023	Precautionary approach	≤ 3177	2205	112	1541	32
2024	Precautionary approach	≤ 3177	1579	80	1959	64
2025	Precautionary approach	≤ 2542	1 262	64	1 663	60
2026	Precautionary approach	≤ 2542	1 262	64	1 663	
2027	Precautionary approach	≤ 2542				
2028	Precautionary approach	≤ 2542				

History of catch and landings

Table 5 Roundnose grenadier in subareas 6 and 7 and divisions 5.b and 12.b. Catch distribution by fleet in 2025 as estimated by ICES.

Total Catch (2025)	Landings	Discards
61 tonnes	Bottom trawl 100%	1.25 tonnes
	60 tonnes	

Table 6a Roundnose grenadier in Division 5.b and Subarea 6. History of commercial landings as estimated by ICES. Values are presented by area for each country participating in the fishery. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	Division 5.b								Subarea 6												
	Faroes	France	Norway	Germany	Russia/USSR	UK (E+W)	UK (Scot)	TOTAL	Estonia	Faroes	France	Germany	Ireland	Lithuania	Norway	Poland	Russia	Spain	UK (E+W)	UK (Scot)	Total
1988				1				1		27		4							1		32
1989	20	181		5	52			258		2	2211	3								2	2218
1990	75	1470		4				1549		29	5484	2									5515
1991	22	2281	7	1				2311			7297	7									7304
1992	551	3259	1	6				3817		99	6422	142			5				2	112	6782
1993	339	1328		14				1681		263	7940	1								1	8205
1994	286	381		1				668			5898	15	14							11	5938
1995	405	818						1223			6329	2	59							82	6472
1996	93	983		2				1078			5888									156	6044
1997	53	1059						1112		15	5795		4							218	6032
1998	50	1617						1667		13	5170				21			3			5207
1999	104	1861	2			29		1996			5637	3	1					1			5642
2000	48	1699		1		43		1791			7478		41		1			1002	1	433	8956
2001	84	1932						2016	680	11	5897	6	31	137	32	58	3	6942	21	955	14773
2002	176	774				81		1031	821		7209		12	1817		932			6	741	11538
2003	490	1032				10		1532	52	32	4924		11	939		452	3			185	6598
2004	508	985	0	0	6	0	76	1575	26	12	4574	0	8	961	0	13	72	1991	0	72	7729
2005	903	884	1	0	1	0	48	1837	80	24	2897	0	17	92	1	0	71	468	0	44	3694
2006	900	875	0	0	0	0	0	1775	34	25	1931	0	5	112	0	0	0	252	0	15	2374
2007	838	862	0	0	0	0	0	1700	0	10	1552	0	2	31	0	0	0	354	0	4	1953
2008	665	447	0	0	0	0	0	1112	0	6	1433	0	0	23	0	0	16	336	0	27	1841
2009	322	122	0	0	0	0	2	446	0	6	1090	0	0	0	0	0	0	279	0	15	1391
2010	229	381	0	0	0	0	1	611	0	13	1271	0	0	0	2	0	0	769	1	23	2079
2011	63	11	0	0	0	0	0	74	0	4	1112	0	0	0	0	0	0	682	0	8	1806
2012	16	28	0	0	0	0	0	44	0	0	1088	0	0	0	0	0	0	454	2	0	1544
2013	24	36	0	0	0	0	0	60	0	0	934	0	0	0	0	0	0	661	6	0	1601

Year	Division 5.b								Subarea 6												
	Faroes	France	Norway	Germany	Russia/USSR	UK (E+W)	UK (Scot)	TOTAL	Estonia	Faroes	France	Germany	Ireland	Lithuania	Norway	Poland	Russia	Spain	UK (E+W)	UK (Scot)	Total
2014	33	44	0	0	0	0	0	77	0	0	630	0	0	0	0	0	0	471	0	0	1101
2015	24	28	0	0	0	0	0	52	0	0	364	0	0	0	0	0	0	282	0	0	646
2016	30	7	0	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	422	0	0	0	0	0	0	330	0	5	757
2017	9	21	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	99	0	0	0	0	0	0	496	0	8	603
2018	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	184	0	0	0	0	0	0	323	0	6	513
2019	19	11	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	127	0	0	0	0	0	0	68	0	6	201
2020	20	13	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	205	0	0	0	0	0	0	108	0	6	319
2021	12	10	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	1	106	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	116
2022	1	6	< 1	0	0	0	< 1	8	0	0	104	0	0	0	< 1	0	0	0	0	15	119
2023	< 1	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	29
2024	0	7	< 1	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	54
2025*	1	13	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	45

* Preliminary.

Table 6b Roundnose grenadier in Division 12.b and Subarea 7. History of commercial landings as estimated by ICES. Values are presented by area for each country participating in the fishery. All weights are in tonnes.

Year	Subarea 7						Division 12.b													
	Faroes	France	Ireland	Spain	UK (Scot)	TOTAL	Estonia	Faroes	France**	Germany	Iceland	Ireland	Lithuania	Spain	USSR/Russia	UK (E+W)	UK (Scot)	Norway	TOTAL	
1988						0														0
1989		222				222			0						52					52
1990		215				215			0											0
1991		489				489			14						158					172
1992		1556				1556			13											13
1993		1916				1916		263	26	39										328
1994		1922				1922		457	20	9										486
1995		1295				1295		359	285											644
1996		1051				1051		136	179		77			1136						1528
1997		1033			5	1038		138	111					1800						2049
1998		1146			11	1157		19	116					4262						4397

Year	Subarea 7						Division 12.b												
	Faroes	France	Ireland	Spain	UK (Scot)	TOTAL	Estonia	Faroes	France**	Germany	Iceland	Ireland	Lithuania	Spain	USSR/Russia	UK (E+W)	UK (Scot)	Norway	TOTAL
1999		892		4		896		29	287					8251	6				8573
2000		859				859		6	374	9				5791		9	6		6195
2001		938	416			1354		2	159			3		5922			7	1	6094
2002	1	449	605			1058			14				18	10045		1	2		10080
2003		373	213			587			539			1	31	11663			1		12235
2004	0	248	320	0	0	568		8	1693				120	10880	91		4		12796
2005	0	191	55	0	0	246	20	5	508				13	7804	81		350		8782
2006		248	138	0	0	386	27	1	85				6	4242					4361
2007		207	20	0	0	227	140	2	0				8	4108					4258
2008		27				27		0	0				3	2416	13				2432
2009		59				59								6377					6377
2010		41				41			1					2910					2911
2011		34				34		3						2905					2908
2012		48		0.18		48		9						1343					1352
2013		40				40								991					991
2014		11				11		4						988					992
2015		10				10								363					363
2016		4				4								632					632
2017		1				1								1001					1001
2018	0	2	0	0	0	2								999					999
2019	0	1	0	0	0	1		3						454					457
2020	0	5	0	0	0	5								268					268
2021	0	3	0	0	0	3		0						0					0
2022	0	0.5	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	0	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	0	3.2	0	0	0	3.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2025*	0	0.3	0	0	0	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

* Preliminary.

** French landings that were formerly reported in ICES Subarea 12 are now allocated to Division 12.b.

Table 7 Roundnose grenadier in subareas 6 and 7 and divisions 5.b and 12.b. Landings inside and outside the NEAFC regulatory areas (RAs), as estimated by ICES, as well as total landings. Weights are in tonnes.

Year	Inside the NEAFC RAs	Outside the NEAFC RAs	Total landings	Proportion inside the NEAFC RAs (%)
2023	2	30	32	6
2024	10	54	64	15
2025	0	60	60	0

Summary of the assessment

There is no assessment for roundnose grenadier in this area.

Sources and references

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Recommended citation: ICES. 2026. Roundnose grenadier (*Coryphaenoides rupestris*) in subareas 6 and 7 and divisions 5.b and 12.b (Celtic Seas and the English Channel, Faroes grounds, and western Hatton Bank). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2026. ICES Advice 2026, rng.27.5b6712b, <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.30932372>