

## Roundnose Grenadier (*Coryphaenoides rupestris*) in Subareas 0 + 1

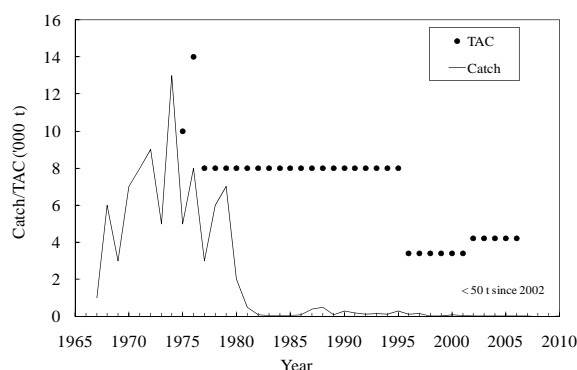
**Background:** The roundnose grenadier stock in Subarea 0 and 1 is believed to be part of a stock widely distributed in the Northwest Atlantic. The biomass was in 1987 estimated to be about 100 000 t but decreased dramatically in the late 1980s and early 1990s possibly because of migration out of the area. There has been no directed fishery for roundnose grenadier in Subareas 0+1 since 1978.

**Fishery and Catches:** Roundnose grenadier is taken as bycatch in the Greenland halibut fishery. A total catch of 11 t was reported from 2010. Catches of roundnose grenadier have been reported from inshore areas and Div. 1A where roundnose grenadier is known not to occur. These catches must be roughhead grenadier and are therefore excluded from totals for roundnose grenadier, but it is also likely that catches from the offshore areas south of Div. 0A-1A reported as roundnose grenadier may include roughhead grenadier.

Year	Catch ('000)		TAC ('000 tons)	
	21	STACFIS	Recommended	Agreed <sup>1</sup>
2008	0.00	0.00	ndf <sup>2</sup>	
2009	0.00	0.00	ndf <sup>2</sup>	
2010	0.01	0.01	ndf <sup>2</sup>	
2011			ndf <sup>2</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> No TAC set for 2007-2011

<sup>2</sup> ndf: No directed fishing, catches restricted to by-catch in other fisheries.

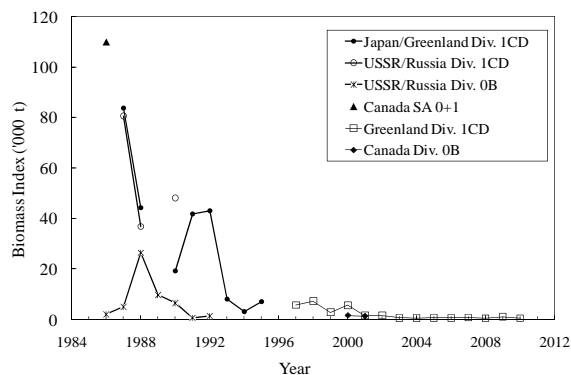


**Data:** There has been conducted a number of surveys in the area since 1986 but not any survey that covers the entire area or the entire period which makes direct comparison between survey series difficult. Generally the biomass has declined from the late 1980s and early 1990s to a very low level in recent years.

**Assessment:** No analytical assessment could be performed.

**Biomass:** In the Greenland survey in 2010 the biomass in Div. 1CD was estimated at 581 t, the second lowest level in the time series, and the biomass is hence still at the very low level seen since 1993 and the stock is composed of small fish.

**Recruitment:** Not known.



**Fishing Mortality:** Level not known

**State of the Stock:** The stock of roundnose grenadier is still at the very low level observed since 1993.

**Recommendation:** There should be no directed fishing for roundnose grenadier in Subareas 0 and 1 in 2012-2014. Catches should be restricted to bycatches in fisheries targeting other species.

**Reference points:** STACFIS is not in a position to determine biological reference points for roundnose grenadier in SA 0+1 at this time. Previously STACFIS has considered a survey estimate of 111 000 t from 1986 as  $B_{virgin}$ . However, given that roundnose grenadier is a long living species and that fishery stopped around 1979, it is uncertain whether the stock could be considered as virgin in 1986. Although the biomass estimates from the 1980s and early 1990s are not directly comparable with recent estimates these are far below what was seen previously. The survey time series from the 1980s and the early 1990s are, however, too short to be used for estimation of reference points.

**Special Comments:** The next full assessment of this stock will take place in 2014.

**Sources of Information:** SCR Doc. 11/09; SCS Doc. 11/06.