

**Greenland halibut in Division 1A inshore - Disko Bay**

Advice June 2016 for 2017-2018

**Recommendation for 2017 - 2018**

The Scientific Council advises that the TAC should not exceed 6400 tons.

**Management objectives**

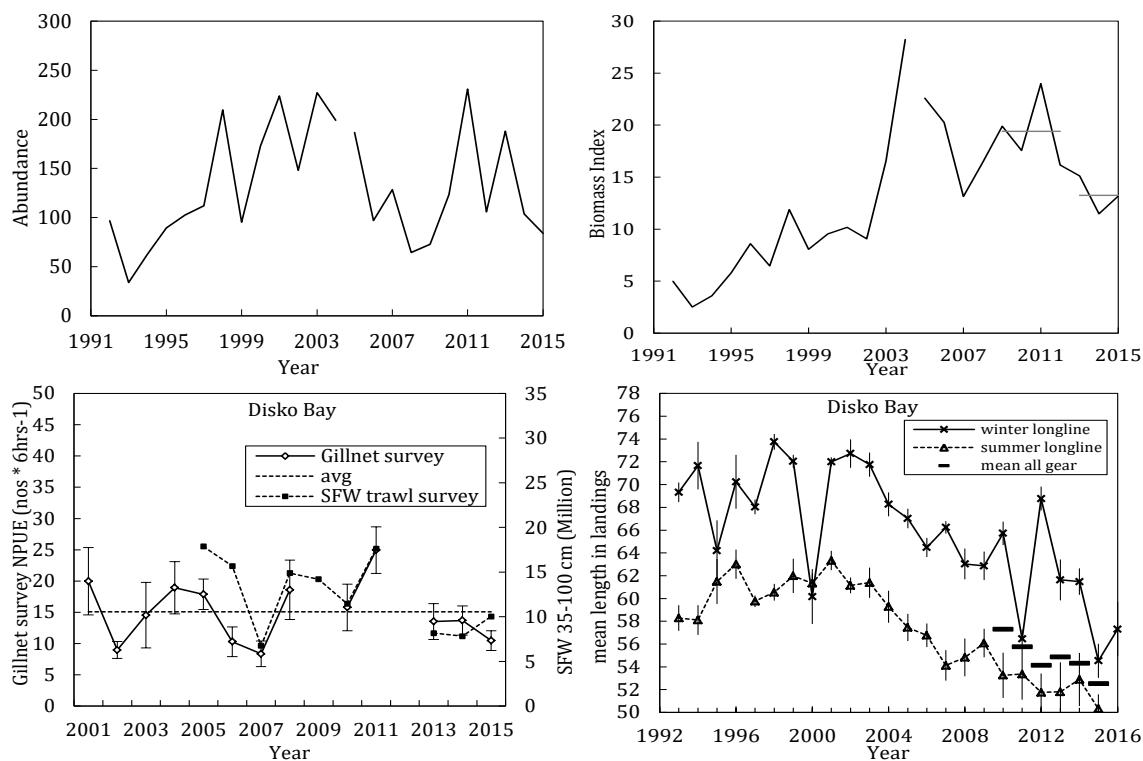
No explicit management plan or management objectives have been defined by the Government of Greenland.

**Management unit**

The stocks are believed to recruit from the Subarea 0 + 1 offshore spawning stock (in the Davis Strait) and there is little migration between the separate areas and offshore stocks in SA 0 and 1. Separate advice is given for each area in Subarea 1A inshore.

**Stock status**

Since the survey gear change in 2005, the trawl survey index has shown an overall decreasing trend. The gillnet survey has been below the long term mean in the most recent 3 years. Length distributions in both the longline and gillnet fisheries have shown a long-term shift towards smaller fish.



### Reference points

Could not be established.

### Assessment

No analytical assessment was performed. Mean length in the landings and survey indices was considered the best information to monitor the stock.

#### *Human impact*

Mainly fishery related mortality. Other mortality sources (e.g. pollution, shipping, oil-industry) are undocumented.

#### *Environmental impact*

Unknown

### Fishery

Catches peaked in 2004 at around 12000 tons. After 2006, catches halved in just three years to 6300 tons in 2009, before increasing to 9177 tons in 2014. Catch in 2015 was 8674 t.

Recent catch estimates ('000 ton) are as follows:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
TAC		12.5	8.8	8.8	8.0	8.0	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.5
STACFIS	10.000	7.7	6.3	8.4	8.0	7.8	9.1	9.2	8.7	

### Effects of the fishery on the ecosystem

Greenland halibut in the area is targeted with longlines and gillnets. Both gears select adult fish with large body size and do not retain recruits or small sized fish.

### Special comments

The ICES Harvest Control Rule 3.2 for data limited stocks was used as a basis for giving TAC advice (mean survey index  $y_{1-3}/\text{mean } y_{4-7}=0.68$ ) applying a 20% 'uncertainty cap' and excluding the 'precautionary buffer'. The precautionary buffer was not used since the stock receives recruits from other areas and is not regarded as reproductively impaired. Multi-year advice is recommended when applying this index-ratio based rule. Also, Greenland has requested advice for as many years as is considered appropriate. A two year advice cycle is suggested at this time.

### Sources of Information

SCR Doc. 16/014 027 and 037 and; SCS Doc. 16/007.

**Greenland halibut in Division 1A inshore - Upernavik**

Advice June 2016 for 2017-2018

**Recommendation for 2017 - 2018**

Scientific Council recommends that there should be no increase in catches beyond the 2009-11 average (6300 t).

**Management objectives**

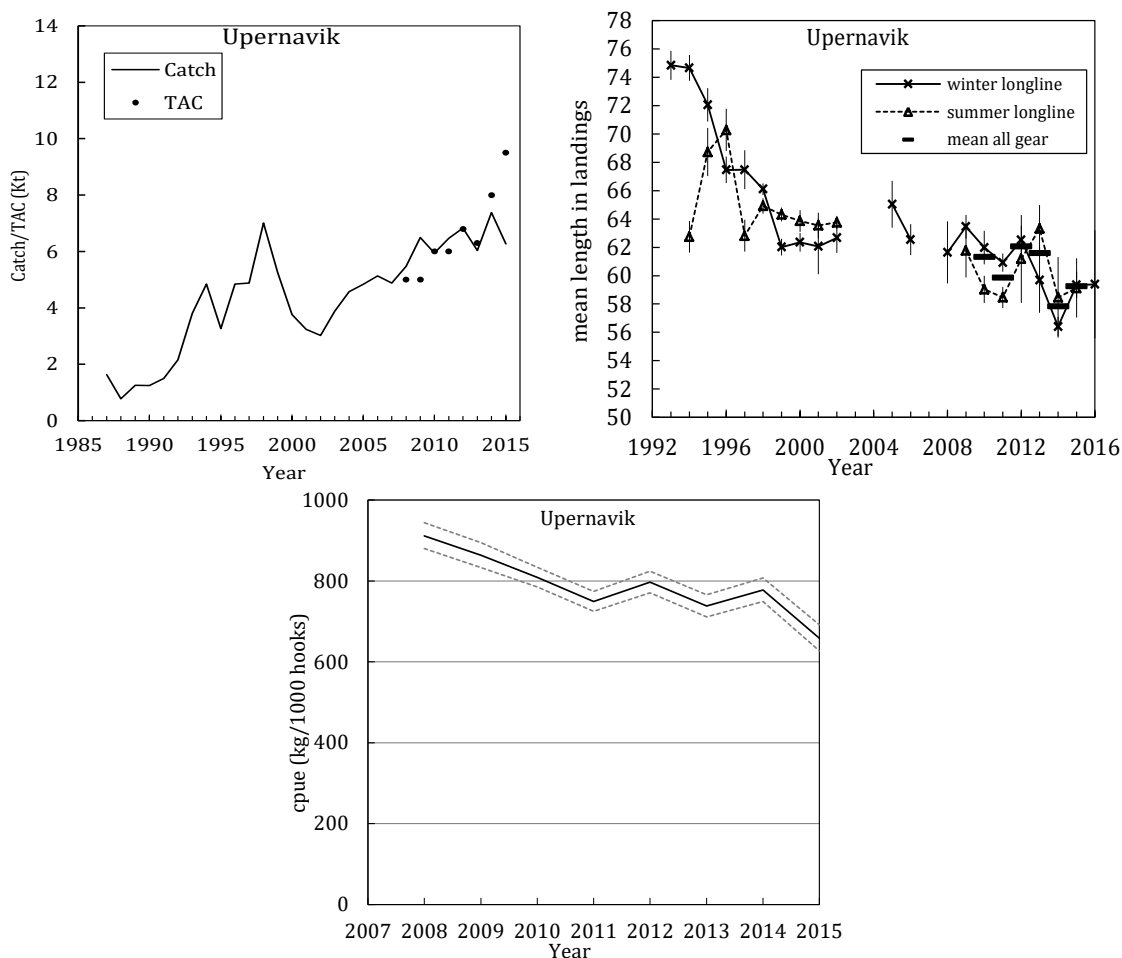
No explicit management plan or management objectives has been defined by the Government of Greenland.

**Management unit**

The stocks are believed to recruit from the Subarea 0 + 1 offshore spawning stock (in the Davis Strait) and there is little migration between the separate areas and offshore stocks in SA 0 and 1. Separate advice is given for each area in Subarea 1A inshore.

**Stock status**

The gillnet survey CPUE showed more fish and larger fish in 2015 than the long-term average in Disko Bay, with considerable numbers in the interval 50-70 cm. Mean length in the landings decreased in 1990s then was stable until 2013, since when it has declined further. The commercial CPUE index has shown an overall downward trend.



### Reference points

Could not be established.

### Assessment

No analytical assessment was performed. Mean length in the landings and survey indices was considered the best information to monitor the stock.

#### *Human impact*

Mainly fishery related mortality. Other mortality sources (e.g. pollution, shipping, oil-industry) are undocumented.

#### *Environmental impact*

Unknown

### Fishery

Catches increased since 1985, with a peak of 7012 t in 1998 and a maximum of 7381 t in 2014. In 2015, catches were 6274 t.

Recent catch estimates ('000 ton) are as follows:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
TAC		5.0	5.0	6.0	6.5	6.5	8.0	9.5	9.5	9.9
STACFIS	4.9	5.5	6.5	5.9	6.5	6.8	6.0	7.4	6.3	

### Effects of the fishery on the ecosystem

Greenland halibut in the area is targeted with longlines and gillnets. Both gears select adult fish with large body size and do not retain recruits or small sized fish.

### Special comments

The ICES Harvest Control Rule 3.2 for data limited stocks could not be used since survey time series was too short to be applied.

### Sources of Information

SCR Doc. 16/014 027 and 037 and; SCS Doc. 16/007.

**Greenland halibut in Division 1A inshore - Uummannaq**

Advice June 2016 for 2017-2018

**Recommendation for 2017 - 2018**

Catches have increased substantially since 2002. Scientific Council therefore recommends that there should be no increase in catches beyond the 2007-15 average of 6500 t.

**Management objectives**

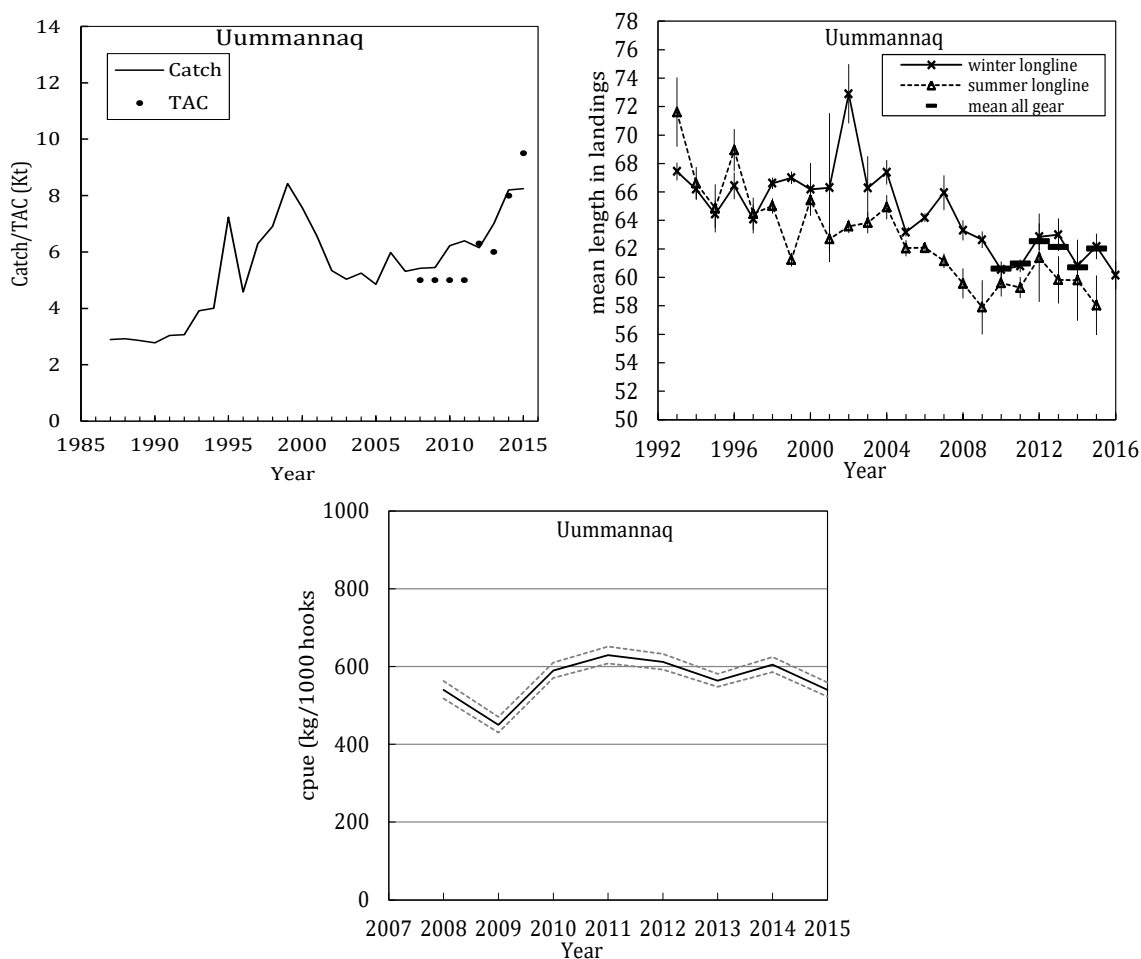
No explicit management plan or management objectives have been defined by the Government of Greenland.

**Management unit**

The stocks are believed to recruit from the Subarea 0 + 1 offshore spawning stock (in the Davis Strait) and there is little migration between the separate areas and offshore stocks in SA 0 and 1. Separate advice is given for each area in Subarea 1A inshore.

**Stock status**

The gillnet survey CPUE showed more fish and larger fish in 2015 than the long-term average in Disko Bay, with considerable numbers in the interval 50-70 cm. Mean length in the landings has gradually decreased, but stabilized in the most recent years. The commercial CPUE index has been relatively stable over the last 6 years.



### Reference points

Could not be established.

### Assessment

No analytical assessment was performed. Mean length in the landings and survey indices was considered the best information to monitor the stock.

#### *Human impact*

Mainly fishery related mortality. Other mortality sources (e.g. pollution, shipping, oil-industry) are undocumented.

#### *Environmental impact*

Unknown

### Fishery

Catches increased since 1985, with a maximum of 8425 t in 1999. In 2015, catches were 8244 t.

Recent catch estimates ('000 ton) are as follows:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
TAC		5.0	5.0	5.0	6.0	6.0	7.4	8.4	9.5	10.0
STACFIS	5.3	5.4	5.4	6.2	6.4	6.1	7.0	8.2	8.2	

### Effects of the fishery on the ecosystem

Greenland halibut in the area is targeted with longlines and gillnets. Both gears select adult fish with large body size and do not retain recruits or small sized fish.

### Special comments

The ICES Harvest Control Rule 3.2 for data limited stocks could not be used since survey time series was too short to be applied.

### Sources of Information

SCR Doc. 16/014 027 and 037 and; SCS Doc. 16/007.