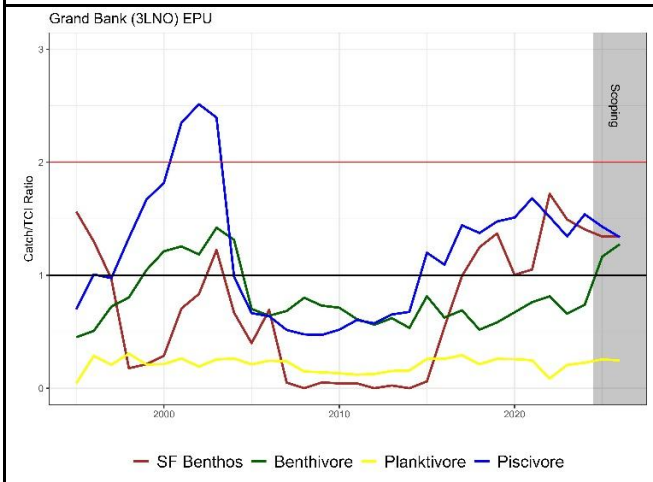
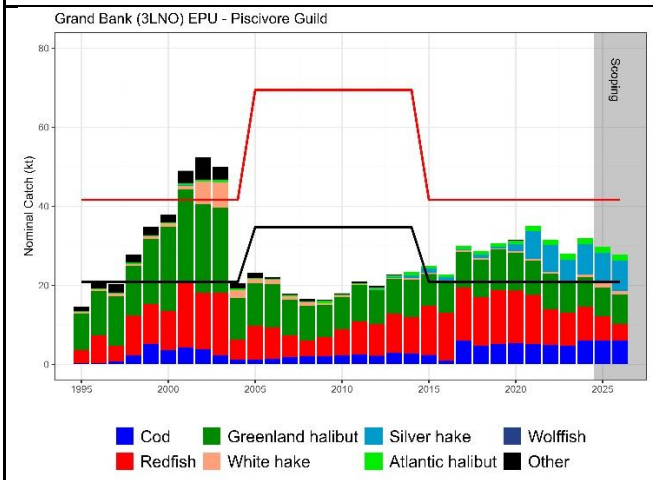
Grand Bank (3LNO) Ecosystem Production Unit (EPU)



Overview

2024 catches for all functional guilds were below 2TCI, indicating that fishing levels have been consistent with preventing a high risk of ecosystem overfishing.

Piscivore, Suspension Feeding Benthos and Benthivore guild catches for 2025-2026 are scoped to be between 1 and 2 TCI indicating an intermediate risk of ecosystem overfishing.



Piscivores Guild: intermediate risk of EO

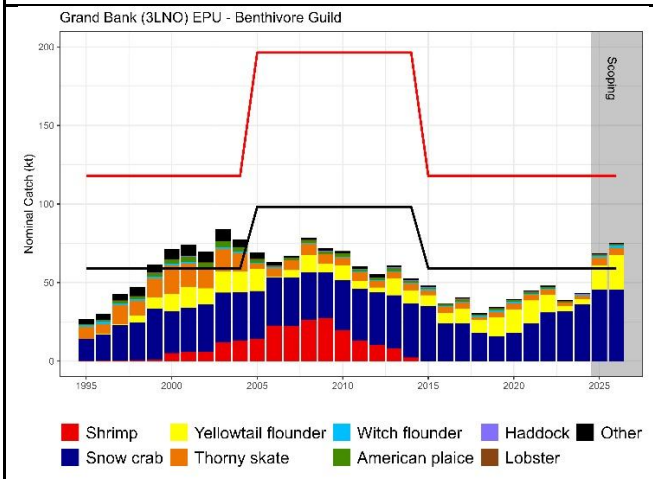
Current 2TCI=42kt

Catches are dominated by redfish, Greenland halibut, Atlantic cod and Silver hake.

Redfish (3LN and 3O), Greenland halibut (2+3KLMNO) and Atlantic cod (3NO -moratorium-) stocks are managed by NAFO, while the Atlantic cod (2J3KL) stock is managed by Canada.

Catches of silver hake have been increasing since 2018 (silver hake catch of 7 686t in 2024), likely linked to ecosystem changes related to warming trends.

Catches for 2025-2026 are scoped to be between 1 and 2 TCI.



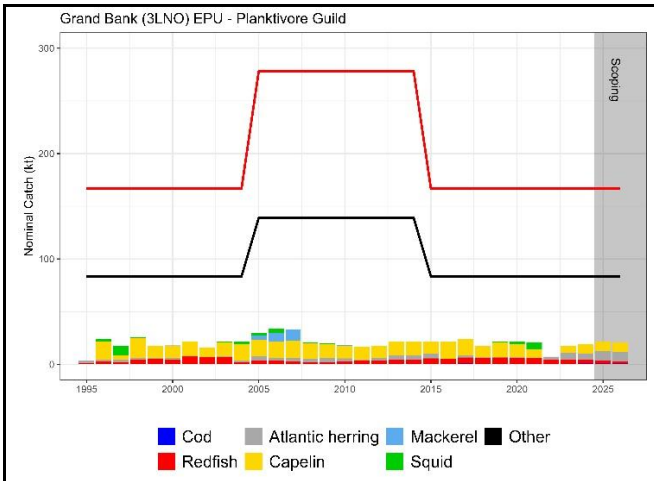
Benthivores Guild: low risk of EO

Current 2TCI=118kt

Catches are dominated by yellowtail flounder and snow crab.

Yellowtail flounder (3LNO) and shrimp (3LNO) stocks are managed by NAFO, while witch flounder (2J3KL -moratorium-) and snow crab (3LNO) stocks are managed by Canada.

Catches for 2025-2026 are scoped to be between 1 and 2 TCI.



Planktivore Guild: low risk of EO

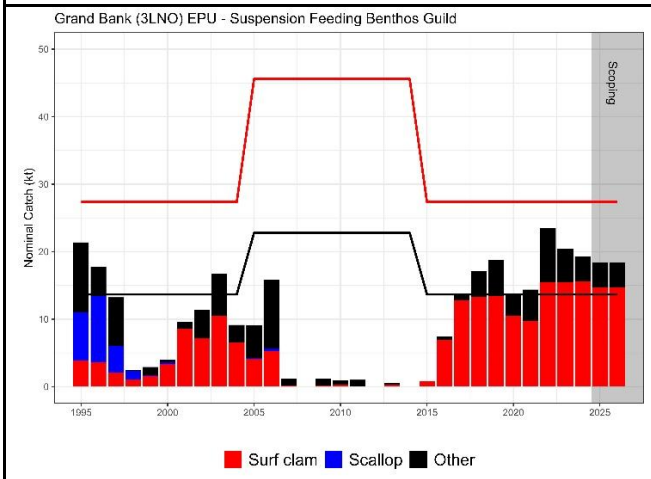
Current 2TCI=167kt

Catches are dominated by capelin (2J3KL).

Capelin (3NO -moratorium-) stock is managed by NAFO, and capelin (2J3KL) stock is managed by Canada.

A fraction of Atlantic cod and redfish catches is assigned to this functional guild to account for the planktivore production of these stocks during early part of their life histories.

Catches for 2025-2026 are scoped to be below 1 TCI.



Suspension Feeding Benthos Guild: intermediate risk of EO

Current 2TCI=27kt

Catches are dominated by surf clam.

The surf clam fishery is managed by Canada.

Catches for 2025-2026 are scoped to be between 1 and 2 TCI.