b) Northern shrimp in Denmark Strait and off East Greenland Advice September 2025 for 2026

Recommendation for 2026

Scientific Council projected catches between 500 t – 3 000 t. Catches at 500 t kept the probability of B being below B_{lim} at less than 10% and catches of 1 000 t kept the probability of F being above F_{lim} at 30%.

Management objectives

No explicit management plan or management objectives have been defined by the Government of Greenland. General principles from the *Convention on Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries* are applied.

Objective	*Status*	*Comment/consideration*
Restore to or maintain at B_{msy}		$B_{lim} < B < B_{trigger}$
Eliminate overfishing		$F > F_{lim}$

 OK

 Intermediate

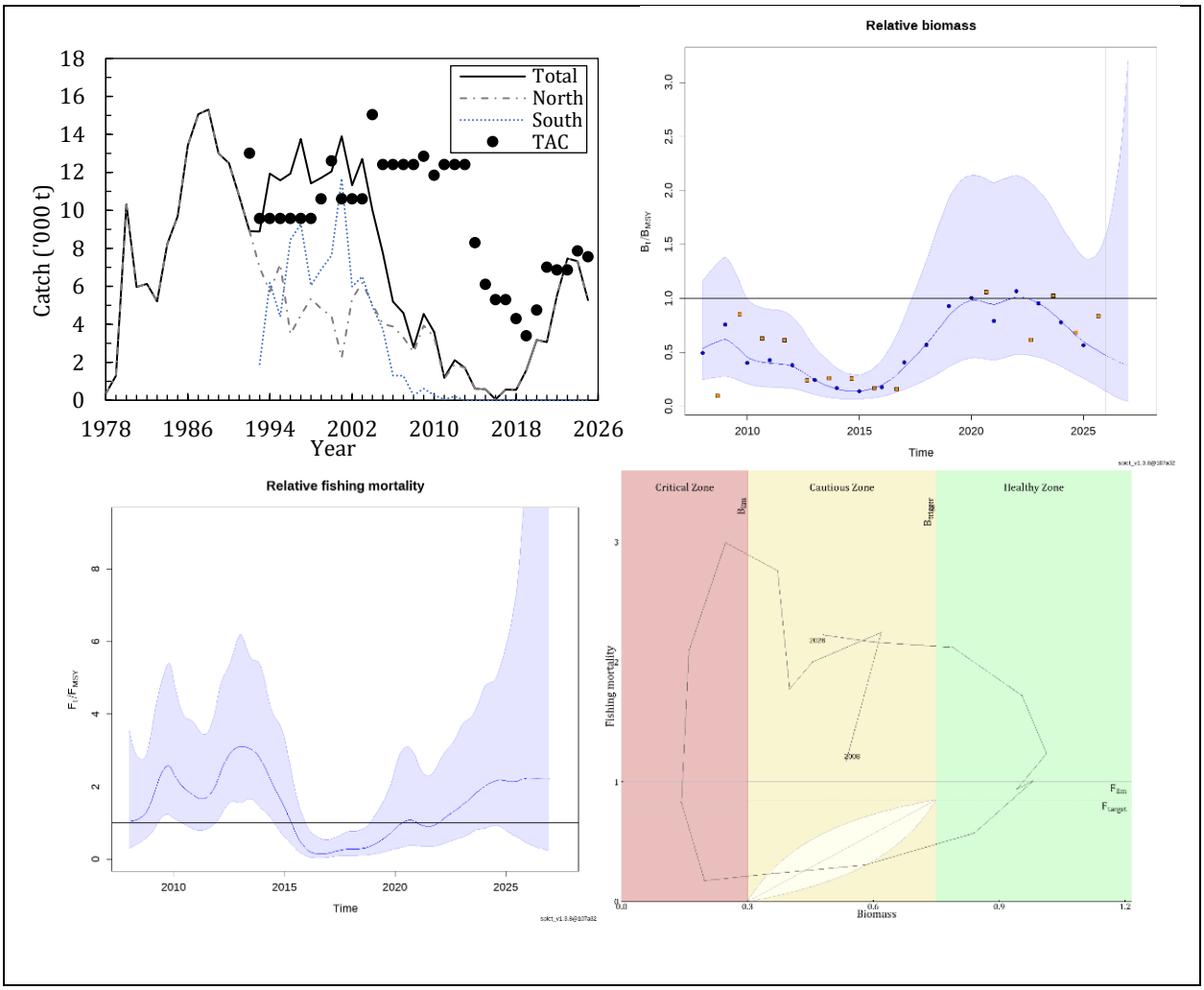
 Not accomplished

Management unit

The shrimp stock is distributed off East Greenland in ICES Div. 14b and 5a and is assessed as a single stock.

Stock status

At the end of 2025, the stock is in the Cautious Zone of the NAFO PA Framework. The median biomass is below B_{msy} and $B_{trigger}$ (B/B_{msy} = 0.48) and the probability of being below B_{lim} is 23%. Fishing mortality is above F_{target} and F_{lim} (F/F_{msy} = 2.22). No estimates of recruitment are available.



Reference points

B_{lim} is defined as 30% of B_{msy}. $B_{trigger}$ is defined as 75% of B_{msy}. F_{lim} is defined as F_{msy}. F_{target} is defined as 85% of F_{msy}. The relative reference points B_{msy} and F_{msy} are estimated within the SPiCT model.

Projections

Predicted probabilities of transgressing reference points are estimated for six catch options for 2026 and the three scenarios as required for the stocks in the Cautious Zone of the NAFO PA Framework.

		Catch 2025 = 7550 t									
			Cautious Zone			Catch Options (t)					
		F=0	F lower edge leaf	F midrib leaf	F upper edge leaf						
Yield	2026	0	291	628	1023	500	1000	1500	2000	2500	3000
$P(F > F_{lim})$	2026	0%	5%	17%	30%	12%	30%	45%	56%	66%	74%
$P(B < B_{lim})$	2026	4%	6%	9%	12%	8%	12%	18%	25%	32%	40%
$P(F > F_{target})$	2026	0%	6%	20%	36%	15%	35%	50%	62%	71%	78%
$P(B < B_{trigger})$	2026	48%	51%	55%	59%	53%	58%	63%	67%	70%	73%
$P(B_{end2026} > B_{end2025})$	2026	100%	100%	100%	97%	100%	97%	82%	62%	48%	38%
$(B_{end2026}-B_{end2025})/B_{end2025}$		60%	54%	46%	35%	48%	35%	23%	10%	-4%	-17%

Catches above 2 500 t would result in a 30% or greater probability of *B* falling below B_{lim} and would likely result in continued decline of the stock.

Assessment

The Surplus Production in Continuous Time (SPiCT) model was used for the assessment of this stock.

The next assessment is scheduled for 2026.

Human impact
Mainly fishery related mortality has been documented. Other sources (*e.g.*, pollution, shipping, oil-industry) are considered un-documented.

Biological and Environmental Interactions
There is no integrated summary information available on the structure, status and trends of the marine ecosystem for the area inhabited by this stock. Atlantic cod is an important predator on shrimp, while the predation impact is unknown.

Ecosystem sustainability of catches
Shrimp is included in the benthivore guild. There are currently neither Ecosystem Production Units (EPUs) defined nor Total Catch Index (TCI) estimated for the distribution area of this stock.

Fishery

Shrimp is caught in a directed trawl fishery. The fishery is regulated by TAC and bycatch reduction measures include move-on rules and sorting grids.

Recent catches and TAC ('000 t) were as follows:

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Enacted TAC	5.3	4.3	3.4	4.8	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.9	7.6
SC advised TAC	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.5	1.0
STACFIS Catch	0.6	0.5	1.6	3.2	3.1	5.5	7.5	7.3	5.3[1]

[1] To June 30

Effects of the fishery on the ecosystem

Measures to reduce effects of the fishery on the ecosystem include move-on rules to protect sponges and corals.

Source of Information

SCR Docs. 25/041, 25/042, 25/043, NAFO/COM-SC Doc. 24-03