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# Assessment of 3LN redfish using the ASPIC model in 2022 (Sebastes mentella and S. fasciatus) 

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#### Abstract

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There are two species of redfish in Divisions 3L and 3N, the deep-sea redfish (Sebastes mentella) and the Acadian redfish (Sebastes fasciatus) that have been commercially fished and reported collectively as redfish in fishery statistics. Both species, occurring on Div. 3LN and managed as a single stock, don't belong to isolated local populations but, on the contrary, are part of a large Northwest Atlantic complex ranging from the Gulf of Maine to south of Baffin Island. Lack of survey indices in recent years limits our understanding of stock status since 2019, but available data indicate that biomass is at or below the long-term mean. The stock appears to be above the interim limit reference point ( $\mathrm{B}_{\text {lim }}$ ). The previous assessment model (ASPIC) was rejected at the 2022 assessment. Continued mismatch between recent observed survey indices and the ASPIC model biomass estimates resulted in a lack of confidence in the model. Mean of the standardized survey biomass indices indicates that biomass has declined from timeseries highs in the mid-2010s to the long-term mean. Estimates from 2020 and 2021 should be treated with caution as only one of a potential four survey was completed in each year. In the absence of Canadian spring surveys in 2020 and 2021 proxy fishing mortality cannot be determined. However, it is unlikely that levels of fishing mortality have changed substantially. Recruitment of redfish between 15 and 20 cm has been below the long-term average since the mid-2010s across Canadian 3LN spring and autumn as well as EU-Spain 3L and 3N survey series.


## Introduction

There are two species of the genus Sebastes with distribution overlapping in several areas of Northwest Atlantic, namely on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, Laurentian Channel, off Newfoundland and south of Labrador Sea: the deep sea redfish (Sebastes mentella), with a maximum abundance at depths greater than 350 m , and Acadian redfish (Sebastes fasciatus), preferring shallower waters of less than 300 m (DFO, 2008). They have been commercially fished on the slopes of the Grand Bank, both on Div. 3LN (north-south east) and Div. 30 (south-west).

Due to their external resemblance S. mentella and S. fasciatus are commonly designated as beaked redfish. Beaked redfish are viviparous, long living and slow growing. Both species have pelagic and demersal concentrations, as well as a long larval periods prior to settlement. Their external characteristics are very similar, making them difficult to distinguish. Therefore, they are reported collectively as "redfish" in the commercial fishery statistics. S. mentella and S. fasciatus are also treated as a single species in the Div. 3LN surveys carried out by Canada, Russia and more recently by EU-Spain.
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Neither redfish species occurring in Div. 3LN belong to isolated local populations, but are part of a large Northwest Atlantic complex ranging from the Gulf of Maine to south of Baffin Island. The Gulf of St. Lawrence (GSL)- Laurentian Channel (Units 1 and 2) are sometimes used as a nursery area for S. mentella and S. fasciatus populations within NAFO Divisions 3LNO (Senay et al., 2021).

## Commercial Fishery

## Nominal catches and TAC's

Between 1959 and 1960, reported catches dropped from 44600 to 26600 t , oscillating over the next 25 years (1960-1985) around an average level about 21000 t . Catches increased to a 79000 t high in 1987, and declined steadily to a 450 t minimum reached in 1996. The NAFO Fisheries Commission (FC) implemented a moratorium on directed fishing for this stock in 1998. Catches were primarily bycatch and remained at relatively low levels (450-3 000 t) until 2009. In June 2009 the Scientific Council confirmed the upward trend of the stock as shown by spring and autumn surveys (NAFO, 2009). The Fisheries Commission endorsed the Scientific Council recommendations to reopen the fishery from 2011 onwards and catches steadily increased to 13050 t in 2019, the highest level recorded since 1993 (Table 1, Figure 1).

Landings from 2011-2016 were taken from the NAFO STATLANT 21 database. Landings in 2017 were estimated with the CDAG method, and the CESAG method has provided the catch estimates since 2018.

The perception of the recent stock status, with biomass above $\mathrm{B}_{m s y}$ and fishing mortality below $\mathrm{F}_{M S Y}$, justified the adoption of a Risk-Based Management Strategy (MS) in 2014 for redfish in Divisions 3LN (Ávila de Melo et al., 2014). This MS was designed to reach an annual landings value of 18100 t by 2019-2020 through a constant, stepwise biannual catch increase.

## Description of the fishery

In the early 1980's the former USSR, Cuba, and Canada were the primary fleets directing for redfish in Div. 3LN. The rapid expansion of the fishery was due to the entry of EU-Portugal in 1986 and South Korea in 1987, along with various re-flagged fleets. In the early 1990's Russia and the Baltic mid-water trawlers, together with South Korea and Portuguese bottom trawlers, were still responsible for the bulk of fishing effort.

Rapid declines in catch rates resulted in the withdrawal of South Korea from the redfish fishery and the reductions of efforts by other fleets.. Since 1994, most of the redfish catches in NAFO Divisions 3L and 3N have been taken as by-catch in the Greenland halibut fishery primarily undertaken by EU-Portugal and EUSpain bottom trawl fleets.

Since the lifting of the commercial fishing moratorium in 2010, Canada, Russia and EU-Portugal have been the primary fleets in this fishery.

## Commercial CPUE

During the 1997 assessment (Power, 1997) catch/effort data for Div. 3L and Div. 3N from 1959 to 1995 were analyzed with a multiplicative model (Gavaris, 1980), in order to derive a catch rate series for each division standardized for country-gear-tonnage class, NAFO division, month, and amount of by-catch associated with each observation. The CPUE series shows much within year variability over time, with no statistical difference between the catch rates for most of the years. The 1997 assessment considered that catch rate indices for Div. 3L and Div. 3N were not reflective of year-to-year changes in population abundance, but they may be indicative of trends over longer periods of time.

Previous ASPIC assessments recovered the predicted effort series in fishing hours for Div. 3L and Div. 3N from the 1997 multivariate analysis, in order to derive a single annual catch rate for Div. 3LN. For each year of the 1959-1994 interval, this standardized catch rate is given by the ratio between the sum of Div. 3L and Div. 3N STATLANT catch (thousand tons) and the sum of Div. 3L and Div. 3N predicted effort (fishing hours). The
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catch rate series for Div. 3LN is presented in Table 2 and Figure 2. Catch rate for Div. 3LN increased during the early part of the time series, 1959-1967, after which it oscillated around the average until beginning to decline after 1987. In the final years of this CPUE series, 1990-1994, catch rates were stable at a minimum level. It should be noted that the 3LN catch rate series are presented without associated errors, since error estimates are for Divisions 3L an 3N separately

## Commercial length frequencies

Most of the commercial length sampling data available for the 3LN beaked redfish since 1990 comes from the Portuguese fisheries, with some data available from Spanish and Estonian fisheries since 2002 and 2008, respectively (Figure 3). Commercial length frequency data has largely been absent from the Canadian fishery since 1991, with only sporadic sampling of often small sized fish. Previous assessments have calculated commercial catch at length utilizing primarily the data collected in the Portuguese fishery. This assessment does not calculate catch at length, but rather displays the distribution of available commercial length frequencies, since the exact catch at length values could not be replicated. As this assessment model does not incorporate commercial catch at length, lack of catch at length should not impact the assessment or perception of this stock.

## Research Surveys

From 1978 until 1990, several stratified-random bottom trawl surveys have been conducted by Canada in various years and seasons in Div. 3L. However, Canadian stratified-random surveys have covered the entire stock area only since 1991. No survey was carried out on Div. 3N in spring 2006 and autumn 2014. In the spring of 2017, there were problems with 3L survey coverage and none of the redfish 3L strata were sampled (Rideout and Ings, 2020; Rideout 2020). No spring survey was completed in 2020 and 2021, nor was an autumn survey completed in 2021. Canadian data collected using the Engel trawl (prior to 1996) has been converted to Campelen trawl equivalents.

Russian stratified-random bottom trawl surveys in NAFO Divs. 3LMNO occurred from 1983 to 1994. In 1992, redfish indices from the 1984-1991 surveys were revised (Power and Vaskov, 1992). Since 2008, the Russian survey series has been incorporated into the input framework of the 3LN redfish ASPIC assessment (Ávila de Melo et al., 2008). Between 1992 and 1994 the coverage of NAFO Subarea 3 by the Russian bottom trawl series became irregular and was discontinued in 1995.

In 1995, EU-Spain started a new stratified-random bottom trawl spring (May-June) survey in the NAFO Regulatory Area of Divs. 3NO. All strata within the NRA were covered every year following the standard stratification (Doubleday, 1981). Early surveys were completed to a depth of 732 m , and were extended to 1464 m in 1998 (González et al, 2020). In 2003, this survey was extended northwards to include strata in Div. 3L, but it has only been since 2006 that an adequate coverage of 3 L has been accomplished for this survey (Román et al, 2020).

Further details on the two Canadian survey series, as well as on the Russian series and the two Spanish surveys can be found in previous assessments (Ávila de Melo et al., 2014) as well as Rideout et al. (2022) and Garrido et al. (2022).

## Survey biomass and female spawning biomass

Spring and autumn female spawning survey biomass (SSB) by division has historically been estimated using female maturity at length vectors for each NAFO Division applied to abundance at length estimates. This mature abundance was then converted to biomass estimates using previously estimated length-weight relationships (Power 2001; Ávila de Melo et al., 2005) using data collected on board of the Canadian 3LN autumn surveys, 1997-2004 (Power, pers. comm., 2005). Large scale changes in length at 50\% (L50) maturity have been observed in this stock since L50 was last investigated (Power 2004), and as such, previous estimates of SSB may be inaccurate. Bootstrapped estimates of L50 from the Canadian autumn survey are
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shown in Figure 4 along with previous estimates of L50. Further work is needed to refine and validate these changes in SSB, therefore data related to SSB has been removed from this assessment until additional work can be completed. SSB is not used to assess stock status of 3LN redfish, therefore this should have minimal impact on the assessment of this stock.

This assessment uses the Canadian spring 3LN, Canadian autumn 3LN, EU-Spain 3N, and EU-Spain 3L surveys as an index of stock status. Historic surveys (3L Russian survey, 3L winter survey, and 3L summer survey) were not used this assessment. All survey biomass indices from stratified-random bottom trawl surveys used in the 2022 assessment are presented in Table 3. In an effort to facilitate comparisons and enhance the detection of trends in stock dynamics, the survey biomass series used in the assessment framework were standardized to zero mean and unit standard deviation (Figure 5).

From the late 1970s to the beginning of the 1990s, Canadian survey indices in Div. 3L and Russian bottom trawl survey indices in Div. 3LN suggest that stock size suffered a substantial reduction (Ávila de Melo et al, 2020). Redfish bottom biomass from surveys in Div. 3LN remained well below average level over the 1990's and early 2000's (Figure 5). By the mid-2000s, most indices began to show increases with each index peaking in the mid-2010s. Since the mid-2010s, there have been some conflicting signals between survey indices, the cause of which are still uncertain but may be related to the movement of fish within the stock area.

## Survey abundance at length

Spring and autumn Canadian Div. 3LN survey as well as EU-Spain 3L and 3N survey abundance at length are presented in Tables 4, 5, 6, and 7 respective length frequencies in Figure 6.

During the first half of the 1990's, the stock was composed of primarily fish smaller than 25 cm , with very few larger fish present, although these data are converted from Engel units to Campelen units and there are some concerns about the accuracy of conversion factors at smaller sizes. Through the mid-2000s, the movement of cohorts through the stock was apparent, as modal lengths increased until 2008. In 2008, a pulse of $<20 \mathrm{~cm}$ redfish appeared in the autumn survey and could be tracked through the population via increases in modal size until 2017. Since 2017, few and small pulses of $<15 \mathrm{~cm}$ redfish have been observed and the modal size has stagnated at around 24 cm . This stock currently thought to be comprised primarily of larger, reproductive size fish with few recruits and pre-recruits being observed (Figure 3 and Figure 6).

## Recruitment

Recruitment in this stock, as with most redfish stocks, is sporadic. This assessment examined the abundance of redfish between 15 and 20 cm as a recruitment index as well as the abundance of redfish less than 15 cm as a pre-recruitment index. Recruitment of redfish between 15 and 20 cm has been below the long-term average since the mid-2010s (Figure 7). The recruitment index appears to show better consistency between available surveys than the previous index (Figure $7 \&$ Figure 8). Recruitment of redfish $<15 \mathrm{~cm}$ show less consistency between surveys, with multiple spikes in abundance occurring in different years and very little evidence of pre-recruits in the EU-Spain 3N survey since 2009 (Figure 8).

There is recent evidence of very small redfish ( $<10 \mathrm{~cm}$ ) in the Canadian Fall 3LN and Spain 3L indices during 2015, 2016, and 2019, although this has not translated into increased abundance of larger fish in recent years.

## ASPIC assessment suite

## Brief history and background for the pre-fixed MSY option

Previously a non-equilibrium surplus production model (ASPIC; Prager, 1994) had been used to assess the status of this stock. The ASPIC model is a non-equilibrium implementation of Schaefer's production model.
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Until 2012, the model was fitted to a series of Canadian, Russian, and Spanish surveys as outlined in Ávila de Melo and Alpoim (2010). However, the fit of the model to these survey indices has been increasingly poor in recent years. The framework completed in 2012 concluded the 3N Spanish survey and several interannual biomass variations within the both Canadian survey series should be excluded (Ávila de Melo et al., 2012).

The 2014 assessment (Ávila de Melo et al., 2014) re-examined the model and indices used in an effort to determine an inclusive approach that would incorporate most, if not all, the survey points available while also providing reliable results of key parameters that were consistent with the current and historical understanding of this stock. A total of five (5) frameworks were explored prior to the 2014 assessment, with two (2) of the those frameworks incorporating a fixed maximum sustainable yield (MSY) of 21000 t. This MSY proxy was selected as it is the average level of sustained catch for a period (1960-1985) when the stock was thought to have experienced relative stability, as suggested by the STATLANT CPUE series and historic surveys.

The 2014 exploratory analysis concluded that the best framework to undertake the 3LN redfish assessment incorporated a fixed MSY (21 000 t ) at the average of the 1960-1985 landings. This framework also retained the negatively correlated STATLANT CPUE series (Ávila de Melo et al., 2014). In 2016, further exploratory analysis allowed the inclusion of the 3L Spanish survey, which has allowed the inclusion of all survey series in Divisions 3LN as inputs in this assessment model. In 2022, the ASPIC model was rejected (discussed below).

## Assessment results

The previous assessment model (ASPIC) was rejected at the 2022 assessment. Continued mismatch between recent observed survey indices and the ASPIC model biomass estimates resulted in a lack of confidence in the model. The ASPIC model has continued to show patterning in residuals of input series (Figure 9) and the use of a fixed MSY approach has resulted in an value of $r$ that is considered too high for this species ( $>0.2$ ).
Simulations of a suite of MSY levels, including a freely estimated MSY, were undertaken but resulted in either a K or an r value that was considered unrealistically high (Figure 10 and Table 8).

Mean of the standardized survey biomass indices indicates that biomass has declined from timeseries highs in the mid-2010s to the long-term mean. Estimates from 2020 and 2021 should be treated with caution as only one of a potential four survey was completed in each year.

Rejection of the assessment model and lack of the Canadian spring survey estimates in recent years precludes the calculation of the usual proxy fishing mortality index, but it is reasonable to expect that levels of fishing mortality have not changed substantially. From 2010 to 2016 this proxy of fishing mortality was at a level close to zero, then increased in 2018 and 2019 (no survey spring data available for 3L 2006 or 2017 and 3LN 2020-2021).

## Stock/fishing mortality trajectory within a Precautionary Approach framework

Prior reference points were dependent on the ASPIC model fit and outputs. Upon rejection of the assessment model, and until the MSE process is completed, an interim limit reference point (LRP) was adopted using the average of the mean standardized biomass of the Canadian spring and autumn 3LN and EU-Spain 3N surveys $\left(\mathrm{B}_{\text {lim }}=\mathrm{B}_{\text {rec }}\right)$ from the period 1991-2005. This period was chosen as it represented a time when stock biomass recovered from a prolonged low level. The EU-Spain 3L survey was not included in the calculation of this interim LRP as it does not begin until 2006. Previous assessment updates (between full assessments) have used landings/Canadian 3LN spring survey biomass as a proxy for fishing mortality. In the absence of Canadian spring surveys in 2020 and 2021, the current proxy fishing mortality could not be determined. However, it is unlikely that levels of fishing mortality have changed substantially from estimates in 2020 (Figure 11).
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## Conclusion

Rejection of the assessment model and lack of the Canadian spring survey estimates in recent years precludes the calculation of the usual proxy fishing mortality index, but it is not expected that levels of fishing mortality have changed substantially from estimates in 2020. Recruitment of redfish between 15 and 20 cm has been below the long-term average since the mid-2010s across Canadian 3LN spring and autumn as well as EUSpain 3N survey series. Lack of survey indices in recent years limits our understanding of stock status since 2019, but available data indicate that biomass is at or below the long-term mean. The stock appears to be above the interim limit reference point $\left(\mathrm{B}_{\text {lim }}\right)$.

## Acknowledgements

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## Tables

Table 1. Summary of catch and total allowable catch (TAC)'s of redfish in Div. 3LN. Landings from 2017 are estimated from CDAG (COM-SC CESAG-WP 18-01). Landings from 2018 onwards are estimated using CESAG. Otherwise landings are from STATLANT 21A.

| Year | 3L | 3N | Total | TAC |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1959 | 34107 | 10478 | 44585 | -- |
| 1960 | 10015 | 16547 | 26562 | -- |
| 1961 | 8349 | 14826 | 23175 | -- |
| 1962 | 3425 | 18009 | 21439a | -- |
| 1963 | 8191 | 12906 | 27362a | -- |
| 1964 | 3898 | 4206 | 10261a | -- |
| 1965 | 18772 | 4694 | 23466 | -- |
| 1966 | 6927 | 10047 | 16974 | -- |
| 1967 | 7684 | 19504 | 27188 | -- |
| 1968 | 2378 | 15265 | 17660a | -- |
| 1969 | 2344 | 22356 | 24750 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | -- |
| 1970 | 1029 | 13359 | 14419a | -- |
| 1971 | 10043 | 24310 | 34370a | -- |
| 1972 | 3095 | 25838 | 28933 | -- |
| 1973 | 4709 | 28588 | 33297 | -- |
| 1974 | 11419 | 10867 | 22286 | 28000 |
| 1975 | 3838 | 14033 | 17871 | 20000 |
| 1976 | 15971 | 4541 | 20513 | 20000 |
| 1977 | 13452 | 3064 | 16516 | 16000 |
| 1978 | 6318 | 5725 | 12043 | 16000 |
| 1979 | 5584 | 8483 | 14067 | 18000 |
| 1980 | 4367 | 11663 | 16030 | 25000 |
| 1981 | 9407 | 14873 | 24280 | 25000 |
| 1982 | 7870 | 13677 | 21547 | 25000 |
| 1983 | 8657 | 11090 | 19747 | 25000 |
| 1984 | 2696 | 12065 | 14761 | 25000 |
| 1985 | 3677 | 16880 | 20557 | 25000 |
| 1986 | 27833 | 14972 | 42805 | 25000 |
| 1987 | 30342 | 40949 | 79031 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 25000 |
| 1988 | 22317 | 23049 | 53266b | 25000 |
| 1989 | 18947 | 12902 | 33649b | 25000 |
| 1990 | 15538 | 9217 | 29105 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 25000 |
| 1991 | 8892 | 12723 | 25815 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 14000 |
| 1992 | 4630 | 10153 | 27283 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 14000 |
| 1993 | 5897 | 9077 | $21308{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 14000 |
| 1994 | 379 | 2274 | 5741 bc | 14000 |
| 1995 | 292 | 1697 | 1989bc | 14000 |


| Year | 3L | 3N | Total | TAC |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| 1996 | 112 | 339 | 451 | 11000 |
| 1997 | 151 | 479 | 630 | 11000 |
| 1998 | 494 | 405 | 899 | 0 |
| 1999 | 518 | 1318 | $2318^{\mathrm{b}}$ | 0 |
| 2000 | 657 | 819 | $3141^{\mathrm{bc}}$ | 0 |
| 2001 | 653 | 245 | $1442^{\mathrm{b}}$ | 0 |
| 2002 | 651 | 327 | $1216^{\mathrm{b}}$ | 0 |
| 2003 | 584 | 751 | 1334 | 0 |
| 2004 | 401 | 236 | 637 | 0 |
| 2005 | 581 | 78 | 659 | 0 |
| 2006 | 53 | 444 | 496 | 0 |
| 2007 | 118 | 1546 | 1664 | 0 |
| 2008 | 220 | 377 | 597 | 0 |
| 2009 | 57 | 994 | 1051 | 0 |
| 2010 | 260 | 3688 | 4120 | 3500 |
| 2011 | 2418 | 1254 | 3672 | 6000 |
| 2012 | 2781 | 1535 | 4316 | 6000 |
| 2013 | 4446 | 1786 | 6232 | 6500 |
| 2014 | 4245 | 1450 | 5695 | 6500 |
| 2015 | 8620 | 1320 | 9940 | 10400 |
| 2016 | 6652 | 1805 | 8457 | 10400 |
| 2017 | 7790 | 4026 | 11815 | 14200 |
| 2018 | 7300 | 3979 | 11279 | 14200 |
| 2019 | 6357 | 6693 | 13050 | 18100 |
| 2020 | 4806 | 6285 | 11091 | 18100 |
| 2021 | 4228 | 5944 | 10172 | 18100 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ Includes catch that could not be identified by division
${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ Includes estimates of unreported catches
${ }^{c}$ Catch could not be precisely estimate due to discrepancies in figures from available sources: average of the range of the different catch estimates

Table 2. Redfish STATLANT catch and predicted effort for Div. 3L and Div. 3N, 1959-1994 (Power,1997). Standardized catch rate for Div. 3LN, 1959-1994. Highlighted values were corrected in the 2022 ASPIC formulation.

| Year | 3L |  | 3N |  | 3LN |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | STATLANT Catch | Predicted Effort | STATLANT Catch | Predicted Effort | STATLANT Catch | Predicted Effort | CPUE <br> Annual |
| 1959 | 34107 | 22604 | 10478 | 8659 | 44585 | 31263 | 1.426 |
| 1960 | 10015 | 5690 | 16547 | 10892 | 26562 | 16582 | 1.602 |
| 1961 | 8349 | 3610 | 14826 | 10049 | 23175 | 13659 | 1.697 |
| 1962 | 3425 | 2049 | 18009 | 11090 | 21434 | 13139 | 1.631 |
| 1963 | 8191 | 3973 | 12906 | 8958 | 21097 | 12931 | 1.632 |
| 1964 | 3898 | 1491 | 4206 | 2981 | 8104 | 4472 | 1.812 |
| 1965 | 18772 | 8190 | 4694 | 2551 | 23466 | 10741 | 2.185 |
| 1966 | 6927 | 4615 | 10047 | 4915 | 16974 | 9530 | 1.781 |
| 1967 | 7684 | 3793 | 19504 | 10569 | 27188 | 14362 | 1.893 |
| 1968 | 2378 | 1446 | 15265 | 17684 | 17643 | 19130 | 0.922 |
| 1969 | 2344 | 1354 | 22356 | 17109 | 24700 | 18463 | 1.338 |
| 1970 | 1029 | 499 | 13359 | 10026 | 14388 | 10525 | 1.367 |
| 1971 | 10043 | 5207 | 24310 | 20320 | 34353 | 25527 | 1.346 |
| 1972 | 3095 | 1877 | 25838 | 18982 | 28933 | 20859 | 1.387 |
| 1973 | 4709 | 2078 | 28588 | 18186 | 33297 | 20264 | 1.643 |
| 1974 | 11419 | 11907 | 10867 | 5374 | 22286 | 17281 | 1.290 |
| 1975 | 3838 | 2443 | 14033 | 8265 | 17871 | 10708 | 1.669 |
| 1976 | 15971 | 11335 | 4541 | 4537 | 20512 | 15872 | 1.292 |
| 1977 | 13452 | 10461 | 3064 | 2738 | 16516 | 13199 | 1.251 |
| 1978 | 6318 | 5961 | 5725 | 4925 | 12043 | 10886 | 1.106 |
| 1979 | 5584 | 3517 | 8483 | 6176 | 14067 | 9693 | 1.451 |
| 1980 | 4367 | 2873 | 11663 | 6229 | 16030 | 9102 | 1.761 |
| 1981 | 9407 | 6020 | 14873 | 9216 | 24280 | 15236 | 1.594 |
| 1982 | 7870 | 4812 | 13677 | 8160 | 21547 | 12972 | 1.661 |
| 1983 | 8657 | 4960 | 11090 | 7734 | 19747 | 12694 | 1.556 |
| 1984 | 2696 | 1804 | 12065 | 12263 | 14761 | 14067 | 1.049 |
| 1985 | 3677 | 2104 | 16880 | 16858 | 20557 | 18962 | 1.084 |
| 1986 | 27833 | 15247 | 14972 | 15057 | 42805 | 30304 | 1.413 |
| 1987 | 34212 | 22369 | 44819 | 29517 | 79031 | 51886 | 1.374 |
| 1988 | 26267 | 19629 | 26999 | 24453 | 53266 | 44082 | 1.029 |
| 1989 | 19847 | 10567 | 13802 | 14884 | 33649 | 25451 | 1.251 |
| 1990 | 17713 | 16774 | 11392 | 18513 | 29105 | 35287 | 0.702 |
| 1991 | 8892 | 12329 | 12723 | 20052 | 25820 | 32381 | 0.668 |
| 1992 | 4630 | 2452 | 10153 | 13755 | 27280 | 16207 | 1.018 |
| 1993 | 5897 | 1576 | 9077 | 17116 | 21310 | 18692 | 0.801 |
| 1994 | 379 | 410 | 2274 | 2900 | 5741 | 3310 | 0.810 |

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Table 3. Survey biomass (' 000 t ) from stratified bottom trawl surveys on Div. 3L and Div.3N included in the 2022 assessment.

| Year | $\begin{array}{r} \text { 3LN } \\ \text { Spring } \end{array}$ | 3LN <br> Autumn | $\begin{array}{r} \text { 3L } \\ \text { Spanish } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { 3N } \\ \text { Spanish } \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1991 | 10.6 | 37.9 |  |  |
| 1992 | 10.1 | 136.4 |  |  |
| 1993 | 22.6 | 19.2 |  |  |
| 1994 | 4.2 | 31.8 |  |  |
| 1995 | 5.9 | 90.7 |  | 46.1 |
| 1996 | 22.8 | 16.0 |  | 6.6 |
| 1997 | 14.9 | 70.7 |  | 4.8 |
| 1998 | 59.4 | 112.2 |  | 22.5 |
| 1999 | 61.5 | 72.0 |  | 46.5 |
| 2000 | 87.8 | 100.5 |  | 68.9 |
| 2001 | 41.6 | 132.6 |  | 53.9 |
| 2002 | 31.0 | 50.1 |  | 7.6 |
| 2003 | 27.7 | 71.9 |  | 11.0 |
| 2004 | 79.6 | 49.9 |  | 27.0 |
| 2005 | 66.5 | 58.6 |  | 146.9 |
| 2006 |  | 91.9 | 70.1 | 87.8 |
| 2007 | 218.8 | 124.8 | 31.4 | 87.6 |
| 2008 | 144.0 | 198.5 | 75.6 | 68.1 |
| 2009 | 183.4 | 246.7 | 103.7 | 735.7 |
| 2010 | 165.3 | 461.5 | 266.8 | 359.5 |
| 2011 | 173.7 | 562.3 | 170.6 | 418.3 |
| 2012 | 322.0 | 596.0 | 481.5 | 265.2 |
| 2013 | 271.5 | 288.8 | 235.2 | 429.5 |
| 2014 | 271.8 |  | 216.4 | 178.1 |
| 2015 | 480.6 | 425.9 | 130.4 | 523.5 |
| 2016 | 654.2 | 215.2 | 98.8 | 117.3 |
| 2017 |  | 192.0 | 56.6 | 265.9 |
| 2018 | 106.0 | 191.4 | 40.4 | 292.8 |
| 2019 | 136.5 | 285.9 | 54.0 | 174.6 |
| 2020 |  | 199.3 |  |  |
| 2021 |  |  |  | 73.2 |

Table 4. Abundance at length for Canadian 3LN spring survey 2008-2022 (thousands). Lengths have been trimmed to 45 cm and less as very few fish are caught at lengths greater than 45 cm . Note surveys were not conducted in 2020 or 2021.

| Length | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 0 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -- | -- |
| 5 | 423 | 44 | 257 | 0 | 0 | 145 | 183 | 0 | 331 | 0 | 0 | 34 | -- | -- |
| 6 | 1958 | 472 | 134 | 562 | 40 | 699 | 1349 | 946 | 1247 | 121 | 1756 | 106 | -- | -- |
| 7 | 2945 | 979 | 563 | 782 | 1052 | 1771 | 968 | 8495 | 2957 | 728 | 3736 | 583 | -- | -- |
| 8 | 3128 | 958 | 928 | 851 | 1038 | 1100 | 826 | 5173 | 13159 | 2416 | 6084 | 1493 | -- | -- |
| 9 | 3389 | 375 | 1365 | 1079 | 1590 | 1790 | 1038 | 673 | 19021 | 1924 | 4463 | 2779 | -- | -- |
| 10 | 4266 | 991 | 2462 | 1348 | 1917 | 1902 | 1265 | 249 | 6234 | 749 | 932 | 2273 | -- | -- |
| 11 | 5323 | 1690 | 2903 | 2472 | 2176 | 2218 | 1376 | 812 | 2529 | 164 | 889 | 4603 | -- | -- |
| 12 | 2430 | 3647 | 2873 | 1703 | 2858 | 1754 | 1609 | 1127 | 1195 | 38 | 1887 | 5982 | -- | -- |
| 13 | 1288 | 16091 | 2262 | 2462 | 2582 | 2292 | 1707 | 614 | 469 | 44 | 3590 | 4640 | -- | -- |
| 14 | 5395 | 12648 | 4900 | 3563 | 3653 | 1805 | 1526 | 333 | 563 | 8 | 6104 | 4713 | -- | -- |
| 15 | 3837 | 11255 | 8525 | 4481 | 6003 | 4328 | 1148 | 285 | 1693 | 256 | 8358 | 3480 | -- | -- |
| 16 | 15873 | 75227 | 14350 | 8917 | 9628 | 2460 | 1437 | 928 | 1116 | 1217 | 3902 | 3851 | -- | -- |
| 17 | 45717 | $\begin{gathered} 19768 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | 26141 | 17787 | 52508 | 3940 | 4386 | 125 | 2833 | 96 | 3349 | 4710 | -- | -- |
| 18 | 77466 | $\begin{gathered} 32543 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 10892 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | 56815 | 96675 | 12318 | 9408 | 13442 | 2199 | 1453 | 1713 | 4481 | -- | -- |
| 19 | 50559 | $\begin{gathered} 31028 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 21928 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 11571 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 19472 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | 20107 | 63950 | 81530 | 2881 | 17647 | 2203 | 3106 | -- | -- |
| 20 | 48020 | $\begin{gathered} 16436 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 23458 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 14482 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 28968 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 10382 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 18796 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 38873 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | 9036 | 37321 | 7698 | 6152 | -- | -- |
| 21 | 49080 | 92562 | $\begin{gathered} 17864 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 22198 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 39807 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 21062 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 32375 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 67222 \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ | 24063 | $\begin{gathered} 11282 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | 23474 | 28368 | -- | -- |
| 22 | 78864 | 60971 | 74444 | $\begin{gathered} 12809 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 31598 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 23794 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 34020 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 73482 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | 57931 | $\begin{gathered} 12947 \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ | 51105 | 60633 | -- | -- |
| 23 | 88837 | 65885 | 72509 | 85376 | $\begin{gathered} 19075 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 18222 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 24630 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 47978 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | 90420 | 94527 | 86567 | $\begin{gathered} 11770 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | -- | -- |


| Length | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 24 | 87289 | 76920 | 66497 | 62257 | $\begin{gathered} 14034 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 14793 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 17623 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 29125 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | 85381 | 58411 | 80265 | $\begin{gathered} 10014 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | -- | -- |
| 25 | 61333 | 55772 | 60999 | 46547 | 94274 | $\begin{gathered} 11479 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | 78040 | $\begin{gathered} 10756 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | 75114 | 34479 | 65984 | 79850 | -- | -- |
| 26 | 54232 | 30399 | 38289 | 44960 | 63503 | 62527 | 62658 | 41932 | 91633 | 20914 | 51852 | 48836 | -- | -- |
| 27 | 34940 | 17043 | 18644 | 37757 | 45175 | 45086 | 33587 | 24505 | 94094 | 14252 | 33932 | 35069 | -- | -- |
| 28 | 28219 | 14165 | 18909 | 32307 | 32817 | 40858 | 24589 | 23672 | $\begin{gathered} 13625 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | 10129 | 20531 | 27791 | -- | -- |
| 29 | 19453 | 13070 | 11301 | 24988 | 33678 | 28453 | 15447 | 15086 | $\begin{gathered} 15504 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | 6475 | 12477 | 20242 | -- | -- |
| 30 | 12305 | 8666 | 10694 | 16754 | 26255 | 25852 | 11804 | 23282 | $\begin{gathered} 14300 \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ | 5864 | 9464 | 13082 | -- | -- |
| 31 | 10568 | 6011 | 4700 | 10144 | 18316 | 15526 | 9536 | 17647 | $\begin{gathered} 15664 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | 2859 | 7073 | 10796 | -- | -- |
| 32 | 7018 | 4105 | 4099 | 8776 | 14819 | 14995 | 7282 | 16680 | $\begin{gathered} 10768 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | 1202 | 5151 | 7797 | -- | -- |
| 33 | 7751 | 3441 | 2913 | 4916 | 5041 | 9918 | 4665 | 13283 | $\begin{gathered} 10891 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | 835 | 3635 | 9366 | -- | -- |
| 34 | 4320 | 2327 | 2574 | 2995 | 4692 | 9072 | 4323 | 11633 | 71847 | 838 | 2508 | 10128 | -- | -- |
| 35 | 1850 | 1600 | 1811 | 1661 | 1756 | 10037 | 3832 | 6785 | 75696 | 431 | 1146 | 3780 | -- | -- |
| 36 | 1354 | 836 | 1031 | 1361 | 1267 | 5807 | 3448 | 4791 | 52143 | 244 | 1044 | 3749 | -- | -- |
| 37 | 776 | 314 | 389 | 792 | 966 | 3553 | 1380 | 1913 | 50187 | 136 | 767 | 2130 | -- | -- |
| 38 | 388 | 231 | 204 | 854 | 544 | 1832 | 769 | 1486 | 21874 | 231 | 390 | 1965 | -- | -- |
| 39 | 323 | 87 | 28 | 229 | 898 | 1418 | 205 | 657 | 3972 | 42 | 158 | 674 | -- | -- |
| 40 | 193 | 53 | 60 | 72 | 166 | 1282 | 174 | 199 | 8477 | 11 | 168 | 637 | -- | -- |
| 41 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 120 | 79 | 865 | 11 | 81 | 5888 | 13 | 74 | 168 | -- | -- |
| 42 | 53 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 1632 | 1256 | 29 | 2803 | 7 | 23 | 93 | -- | -- |
| 43 | 0 | 0 | 70 | 0 | 47 | 460 | 0 | 552 | 149 | 0 | 12 | 0 | -- | -- |
| 44 | 61 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 95 | 11 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -- | -- |
| 45 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 86 | 0 | 427 | 0 | 0 | 3050 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -- | -- |

Table 5. Abundance at length for Canadian 3LN autumn survey 2008-2022 (thousands). Lengths have been trimmed to 45 cm and less as very few fish are caught at lengths greater than 45 cm . Note survey was not conducted in 2021 and is considered incomplete in 2014.

| Length | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -- | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 | -- |
| 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -- | 0 | 127 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -- |
| 5 | 34 | 97 | 1380 | 50 | 268 | 418 | -- | 712 | 421 | 1577 | 154 | 0 | 409 | -- |
| 6 | 671 | 614 | 1107 | 320 | 1407 | 4542 | -- | 2832 | 736 | 15752 | 499 | 236 | 525 | -- |
| 7 | 2467 | 320 | 1407 | 732 | 924 | 2910 | -- | 35134 | 500 | 18605 | 3653 | 743 | 1054 | -- |
| 8 | 2948 | 864 | 3380 | 876 | 2330 | 4872 | -- | 86936 | 6969 | 2498 | 6104 | 903 | 4214 | -- |
| 9 | 2722 | 3450 | 3790 | 2884 | 6978 | 5703 | -- | 33862 | 22011 | 1709 | 6283 | 1910 | 22154 | -- |
| 10 | 4224 | 9938 | 4674 | 2270 | 9923 | 5434 | -- | 5654 | 50151 | 4011 | 4356 | 3121 | 81839 | -- |
| 11 | 5839 | 5207 | 6604 | 1847 | 8541 | 8458 | -- | 2409 | 12039 | 12382 | 2125 | 2681 | 47604 | -- |
| 12 | 5073 | 4026 | 7941 | 1927 | 6511 | 12924 | -- | 1685 | 7327 | 19336 | 4473 | 2577 | 13993 | -- |
| 13 | 27461 | 9471 | 10308 | 3247 | 5476 | 12046 | -- | 1763 | 2496 | 20204 | 6067 | 3516 | 2699 | -- |
| 14 | 29034 | 20335 | 11146 | 4192 | 6380 | 14943 | -- | 2357 | 858 | 19109 | 8423 | 4242 | 2821 | -- |
| 15 | 24076 | 17753 | 8573 | 8266 | 5242 | 18131 | -- | 2474 | 1070 | 9797 | 7350 | 9176 | 1896 | -- |
| 16 | $\begin{array}{r} 11702 \\ 3 \end{array}$ | 35716 | 12966 | 14612 | 3164 | 10243 | -- | 2477 | 1358 | 7002 | 9499 | 14909 | 3920 | -- |
| 17 | $\begin{array}{r} 22995 \\ 6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 13876 \\ 1 \end{array}$ | 18482 | 46430 | 9774 | 19629 | -- | 3824 | 1070 | 6679 | 8101 | 45437 | 5018 | -- |
| 18 | $\begin{array}{r} 22268 \\ 7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 39698 \\ 3 \end{array}$ | 77804 | $\begin{array}{r} 10365 \\ 7 \end{array}$ | 24091 | 38675 | -- | 5006 | 1507 | 3379 | 6155 | 57444 | 8169 | -- |
| 19 | $\begin{array}{r} 14282 \\ 4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 42153 \\ 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 26915 \\ 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 43256 \\ 0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 11673 \\ 8 \end{array}$ | 86347 | -- | 27584 | 3038 | 7596 | 2410 | 61536 | 9856 | -- |
| 20 | 80869 | $\begin{array}{r} 27979 \\ 5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 45946 \\ 2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 99692 \\ 5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 31539 \\ 0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 10275 \\ 1 \end{array}$ | -- | 92418 | 16748 | 16291 | 6431 | 38644 | 11986 | -- |
| 21 | 66510 | $\begin{array}{r} 13885 \\ 4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 49999 \\ 5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 11982 \\ 27 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 66490 \\ 6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 27680 \\ 3 \end{array}$ | -- | $\begin{array}{r} 28732 \\ 1 \end{array}$ | 72436 | 42545 | 23753 | 64850 | 33489 | -- |
| 22 | 56622 | 67339 | $\begin{array}{r} 30348 \\ 0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 58704 \\ 7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 65314 \\ 6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 44896 \\ 2 \end{array}$ | -- | $\begin{array}{r} 51904 \\ 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 15812 \\ 5 \end{array}$ | 77531 | $\begin{array}{r} 10385 \\ 2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 13705 \\ 9 \end{array}$ | 69967 | -- |
| 23 | 89498 | 53181 | $\begin{array}{r} 26146 \\ 9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 30078 \\ 6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 50147 \\ 8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 31443 \\ 1 \end{array}$ | -- | $\begin{array}{r} 45369 \\ 9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 20656 \\ 0 \end{array}$ | 94752 | $\begin{array}{r} 17505 \\ 9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 23624 \\ 4 \end{array}$ | 94541 | -- |
| 24 | 80569 | 65255 | $\begin{array}{r} 26074 \\ 8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 12670 \\ 9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 31484 \\ 9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 19235 \\ 0 \end{array}$ | -- | $\begin{array}{r} 35147 \\ 4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 15328 \\ 9 \end{array}$ | 80650 | $\begin{array}{r} 18887 \\ 8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 22877 \\ 3 \end{array}$ | 93346 | -- |


| Length | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 25 | 66378 | 46817 | $\begin{array}{r} 16544 \\ 7 \end{array}$ | 97725 | $\begin{array}{r} 20372 \\ 0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 12290 \\ 7 \end{array}$ | -- | $\begin{array}{r} 21966 \\ 9 \end{array}$ | 87763 | 60725 | $\begin{array}{r} 12056 \\ 5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \hline 20097 \\ 8 \end{array}$ | 99125 | -- |
| 26 | 49936 | 39921 | $\begin{array}{r} 12085 \\ 6 \end{array}$ | 82801 | $\begin{array}{r} 15217 \\ 7 \end{array}$ | 72775 | -- | $\begin{array}{r} 11331 \\ 4 \end{array}$ | 65125 | 54045 | 99623 | $\begin{array}{r} 12517 \\ 9 \end{array}$ | 69923 | -- |
| 27 | 48816 | 34945 | 95152 | 49337 | $\begin{array}{r} 13513 \\ 3 \end{array}$ | 36871 | -- | 93978 | 26168 | 43722 | 64324 | 89264 | 65288 | -- |
| 28 | 37458 | 24853 | 72531 | 35080 | 76041 | 28034 | -- | 66287 | 14923 | 31508 | 32833 | 54122 | 49338 | -- |
| 29 | 21735 | 24361 | 37998 | 30900 | 67573 | 17921 | -- | 45312 | 13548 | 22839 | 18904 | 22567 | 37118 | -- |
| 30 | 18380 | 14244 | 26795 | 35536 | 46126 | 14967 | -- | 33830 | 11434 | 18163 | 11769 | 17528 | 27109 | -- |
| 31 | 11861 | 10905 | 15931 | 17230 | 29845 | 10468 | -- | 35103 | 12143 | 18193 | 10713 | 12977 | 17761 | -- |
| 32 | 6799 | 7950 | 14872 | 11681 | 28060 | 8997 | -- | 8146 | 12385 | 13255 | 8035 | 8734 | 12783 | -- |
| 33 | 6388 | 6666 | 9282 | 4847 | 18837 | 7509 | -- | 8690 | 12602 | 18244 | 4640 | 5940 | 10324 | -- |
| 34 | 5259 | 3633 | 5884 | 2154 | 7513 | 3350 | -- | 3807 | 17742 | 14247 | 4148 | 3698 | 9165 | -- |
| 35 | 2384 | 2543 | 1891 | 1868 | 4536 | 2520 | -- | 2404 | 14477 | 9729 | 2622 | 2629 | 7604 | -- |
| 36 | 969 | 2198 | 2311 | 1327 | 2703 | 2153 | -- | 2168 | 16953 | 7528 | 1356 | 3668 | 7982 | -- |
| 37 | 777 | 1764 | 1316 | 812 | 5542 | 722 | -- | 676 | 7122 | 6774 | 1236 | 2475 | 4677 | -- |
| 38 | 649 | 703 | 1359 | 145 | 5697 | 440 | -- | 446 | 6651 | 5298 | 535 | 2507 | 6222 | -- |
| 39 | 0 | 289 | 369 | 132 | 1947 | 169 | -- | 352 | 4179 | 2845 | 368 | 1901 | 2373 | -- |
| 40 | 387 | 248 | 386 | 0 | 958 | 530 | -- | 355 | 1810 | 1327 | 558 | 943 | 1658 | -- |
| 41 | 0 | 130 | 218 | 0 | 1506 | 0 | -- | 63 | 557 | 914 | 88 | 509 | 1143 | -- |
| 42 | 261 | 510 | 194 | 0 | 622 | 0 | -- | 44 | 53 | 223 | 86 | 204 | 623 | -- |
| 43 | 0 | 92 | 0 | 49 | 578 | 0 | -- | 0 | 663 | 243 | 161 | 130 | 386 | -- |
| 44 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 523 | 0 | -- | 274 | 212 | 155 | 0 | 110 | 0 | - |
| 45 | 134 | 46 | 83 | 0 | 361 | 0 | -- | 0 | 71 | 23 | 35 | 11 | 310 | -- |

Table 6. Abundance at length for EU-Spain 3L spring survey 2008-2022 (thousands). Lengths have been trimmed to 45 cm and less as very few fish are caught at lengths greater than 45 cm . Note surveys were not conducted in 2020 or 2021.

| Length | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 4 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 5 | 96 | 6 | 25 | 110 | 12 | 49 | 211 | 98 | 6 | 103 | 80 | 74 | -- | -- |
| 6 | 1730 | 159 | 478 | 146 | 733 | 1010 | 1320 | 5415 | 218 | 226 | 1065 | 212 | -- | -- |
| 7 | 3127 | 615 | 1098 | 2742 | 5732 | 1869 | 1331 | 31537 | 1845 | 241 | 3501 | 716 | -- | -- |
| 8 | 3698 | 1405 | 1512 | 2731 | 6340 | 2655 | 1542 | 15384 | 13526 | 331 | 8869 | 3058 | -- | -- |
| 9 | 6589 | 2750 | 1180 | 906 | 3055 | 2657 | 2239 | 1943 | 27009 | 1240 | 4544 | 3931 | -- | -- |
| 10 | 14741 | 2009 | 988 | 1229 | 5551 | 3245 | 3102 | 1654 | 17152 | 7079 | 1148 | 5491 | -- | -- |
| 11 | 20112 | 1639 | 1292 | 1711 | 5560 | 3069 | 2648 | 2458 | 5379 | 18194 | 1135 | 6348 | -- | -- |
| 12 | 11066 | 2331 | 1169 | 1381 | 6700 | 2924 | 2124 | 3436 | 1560 | 22158 | 3334 | 7273 | -- | -- |
| 13 | 2943 | 2976 | 1014 | 1509 | 3119 | 2797 | 2566 | 3197 | 804 | 13677 | 7038 | 4555 | -- | -- |
| 14 | 3438 | 2201 | 1079 | 1595 | 3301 | 3511 | 1973 | 3585 | 515 | 6734 | 12465 | 3689 | -- | -- |
| 15 | 3704 | 3606 | 6058 | 1567 | 1459 | 4349 | 1206 | 5163 | 970 | 2264 | 18111 | 6987 | -- | -- |
| 16 | 8071 | 8299 | 14920 | 4505 | 3143 | 5317 | 2715 | 3826 | 718 | 1081 | 13748 | 18447 | -- | -- |
| 17 | 14647 | 29255 | 22892 | 6350 | 6710 | 5368 | 4135 | 2866 | 1210 | 962 | 7282 | 27667 | -- | -- |
| 18 | 24467 | 76206 | 77248 | 14090 | 29721 | 5315 | 5842 | 4010 | 1338 | 1018 | 2999 | 29963 | -- | -- |
| 19 | 42823 | 69501 | $\begin{gathered} 22686 \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ | 33310 | 89901 | 12241 | 12908 | 6694 | 1871 | 1630 | 2564 | 14834 | -- | -- |
| 20 | 53606 | 60316 | $\begin{gathered} 35825 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | 61708 | $\begin{gathered} 22088 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | 51832 | 24487 | 16234 | 3417 | 2496 | 3333 | 7849 | -- | -- |
| 21 | 41845 | 51175 | $\begin{gathered} 28789 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | 81324 | $\begin{gathered} 34965 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 10299 \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ | 39141 | 22809 | 7950 | 3620 | 3551 | 5736 | -- | -- |
| 22 | 47593 | 57031 | $\begin{gathered} 21540 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | 68997 | $\begin{gathered} 47584 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 14108 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | 69887 | 45739 | 15037 | 4464 | 3876 | 5609 | -- | -- |
| 23 | 38662 | 70905 | $\begin{gathered} 11748 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | 59786 | $\begin{gathered} 45645 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 17057 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 12040 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | 64558 | 23806 | 9834 | 3565 | 5355 | -- | -- |
| 24 | 35586 | 50491 | 61201 | 70164 | $\begin{gathered} 32860 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15804 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 11332 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | 72336 | 30642 | 15749 | 5641 | 7004 | -- | -- |
| 25 | 23398 | 42968 | 49159 | 62479 | $\begin{gathered} 19545 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 11616 \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 10426 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | 60022 | 33103 | 14828 | 6787 | 8091 | -- | -- |


| Length | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 26 | 19507 | 31628 | 50446 | 50204 | $11333$ | 78312 | $\begin{gathered} 10112 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | 47952 | 33469 | 18912 | 9472 | 9961 | -- | -- |
| 27 | 15325 | 21353 | 26662 | 44902 | 77545 | 48893 | 66267 | 35228 | 28604 | 19733 | 11949 | 12326 | -- | -- |
| 28 | 14500 | 9139 | 23902 | 40773 | 39846 | 33171 | 47176 | 27149 | 25155 | 14103 | 12234 | 11255 | -- | -- |
| 29 | 11104 | 5231 | 21194 | 33877 | 35294 | 27117 | 43315 | 22779 | 19094 | 12027 | 9119 | 11309 | -- | -- |
| 30 | 6584 | 4801 | 6012 | 22911 | 25058 | 21801 | 26470 | 16325 | 14245 | 8617 | 5788 | 8516 | -- | -- |
| 31 | 5293 | 2510 | 5754 | 22694 | 19745 | 17979 | 20574 | 9920 | 8581 | 8776 | 4715 | 7545 | -- | -- |
| 32 | 3164 | 2235 | 4628 | 11197 | 10443 | 8915 | 13920 | 8605 | 7106 | 7531 | 3235 | 5758 | -- | -- |
| 33 | 1870 | 1518 | 3273 | 5423 | 7970 | 5758 | 8732 | 7821 | 10708 | 6800 | 3546 | 4750 | -- | -- |
| 34 | 1082 | 1413 | 2266 | 6321 | 3143 | 5790 | 5951 | 6544 | 6714 | 5989 | 3773 | 3665 | -- | -- |
| 35 | 1271 | 909 | 1611 | 3643 | 2385 | 2245 | 3894 | 3847 | 7873 | 4019 | 4243 | 3309 | -- | -- |
| 36 | 421 | 784 | 1126 | 2381 | 1650 | 1654 | 2225 | 3229 | 6264 | 4013 | 2091 | 2897 | -- | -- |
| 37 | 277 | 348 | 747 | 1024 | 519 | 1612 | 2328 | 1766 | 6308 | 2243 | 1699 | 2001 | -- | -- |
| 38 | 136 | 61 | 663 | 422 | 468 | 804 | 1726 | 1333 | 3463 | 1464 | 972 | 2320 | -- | -- |
| 39 | 69 | 40 | 527 | 52 | 1095 | 405 | 474 | 318 | 1206 | 669 | 693 | 606 | -- | -- |
| 40 | 79 | 195 | 248 | 13 | 239 | 74 | 206 | 40 | 653 | 379 | 603 | 316 | -- | -- |
| 41 | 0 | 178 | 270 | 20 | 50 | 56 | 74 | 27 | 731 | 317 | 105 | 192 | -- | -- |
| 42 | 45 | 15 | 702 | 0 | 7 | 260 | 64 | 5 | 204 | 32 | 171 | 153 | -- | -- |
| 43 | 28 | 5 | 248 | 9 | 0 | 265 | 0 | 0 | 280 | 0 | 74 | 34 | -- | -- |
| 44 | 0 | 162 | 48 | 0 | 0 | 333 | 0 | 0 | 180 | 47 | 0 | 0 | -- | -- |
| 45 | 0 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 751 | 45 | 27 | 180 | 0 | 0 | 278 | -- | -- |

Table 7. Abundance at length for EU-Spain 3 N spring survey 2008-2022 (thousands). Lengths have been trimmed to 45 cm and less as very few fish are caught at lengths greater than 45 cm . Note survey was not conducted in 2020.

| Length | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 4 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 5 | 48 | 31 | 106 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 146 | 44 | 444 | 21 | 77 | -- | 0 |
| 6 | 308 | 73 | 77 | 43 | -- | 141 | 6 | 4131 | 6 | 277 | 160 | 50 | -- | 129 |
| 7 | 238 | 42 | 12 | 111 | 0 | 146 | 6 | 3534 | 53 | 925 | 516 | 60 | -- | 714 |
| 8 | 108 | 6 | 0 | 65 | 5 | 49 | 0 | 619 | 20 | 31 | 556 | 77 | -- | 412 |
| 9 | 103 | 560 | 12 | 50 | 10 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 311 | 232 | 57 | -- | 210 |
| 10 | 76 | 2996 | 0 | 59 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 963 | 39 | 54 | 55 | -- | 425 |
| 11 | 362 | 9944 | 12 | 74 | 5 | 16 | 13 | 85 | 0 | 2640 | 47 | 26 | -- | 775 |
| 12 | 213 | 5990 | 12 | 72 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 30 | 0 | 881 | 94 | 194 | -- | 1840 |
| 13 | 1314 | 20874 | 6 | 1493 | 38 | 0 | 4 | 33 | 1961 | 14 | 76 | 2518 | -- | 703 |
| 14 | 3683 | 21182 | 44 | 3604 | 180 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 14 | 5228 | 90 | 3712 | -- | 461 |
| 15 | 14506 | 57442 | 106 | 8191 | 1288 | 16 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 1749 | 1005 | 6013 | -- | 538 |
| 16 | 67404 | $\begin{gathered} 16330 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | 16415 | 22671 | 3167 | 344 | 446 | 12 | 21 | 1762 | 168 | 5951 | -- | 296 |
| 17 | 83227 | $\begin{gathered} 60800 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | 77475 | 67666 | 8176 | 1386 | 3370 | 114 | 27 | 1785 | 131 | 3612 | -- | 433 |
| 18 | 56242 | $\begin{gathered} 12074 \\ 25 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 33636 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 21437 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | 31635 | 22268 | 13286 | 26698 | 2002 | 1952 | 1351 | 2381 | -- | 1484 |
| 19 | 30080 | $\begin{gathered} 11371 \\ 83 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 56174 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 70354 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 17683 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 13300 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | 41972 | 72959 | 6807 | 13296 | 4624 | 2789 | -- | 2531 |
| 20 | 17970 | $\begin{gathered} 49461 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 53777 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 95995 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 46688 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 50546 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 12970 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 30844 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | 34566 | 55182 | 20517 | 2989 | -- | 5079 |
| 21 | 18334 | $\begin{gathered} 20040 \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 28014 \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 74030 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 43276 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 99300 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 21718 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 68648 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 13735 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 17406 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | 90391 | 15475 | -- | 9175 |
| 22 | 23940 | $\begin{gathered} 18341 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 16576 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 24904 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 26580 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 64257 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 19812 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 71967 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 16361 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 32270 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 28317 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | 53316 | -- | 29562 |
| 23 | 33212 | $\begin{gathered} 19742 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 12729 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | 98668 | $\begin{gathered} 11928 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 34581 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | $15515$ | $\begin{gathered} 41482 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 12181 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 30439 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 36893 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | 99718 | -- | 47948 |
| 24 | 39471 | $\begin{gathered} 17699 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 12304 \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ | 68170 | 72983 | $\begin{gathered} 12673 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | 92005 | $\begin{gathered} 31935 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | 80610 | $\begin{gathered} 22572 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 29023 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 10224 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | -- | 49678 |


| Length | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 25 | 31110 | $\begin{gathered} 15861 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | 99445 | 36061 | 40757 | 49414 | 49404 | $\begin{gathered} 15572 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | 47953 | $\begin{gathered} 17325 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 19324 \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 11165 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | -- | 35918 |
| 26 | 28244 | $\begin{gathered} 12154 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | 69478 | 29917 | 28252 | 37105 | 25975 | $\begin{gathered} 11497 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | 27574 | 84336 | $\begin{gathered} 14832 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 11227 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | -- | 30903 |
| 27 | 13210 | 48882 | 42887 | 16279 | 28422 | 20272 | 17943 | 68643 | 17303 | 29486 | 71351 | 95609 | -- | 31689 |
| 28 | 8718 | 41712 | 28098 | 18482 | 25716 | 13449 | 14454 | 33588 | 8809 | 19160 | 36080 | 62802 | -- | 25879 |
| 29 | 6383 | 28296 | 17602 | 9628 | 20166 | 8535 | 9565 | 33164 | 7637 | 7718 | 18760 | 33719 | -- | 13288 |
| 30 | 3222 | 17748 | 12544 | 8066 | 12944 | 10574 | 8102 | 25776 | 4282 | 5169 | 12459 | 15826 | -- | 7917 |
| 31 | 2310 | 8549 | 10487 | 4284 | 9502 | 8825 | 6344 | 15067 | 3270 | 2416 | 7868 | 14347 | -- | 4987 |
| 32 | 2237 | 3533 | 6824 | 2956 | 4252 | 3381 | 4348 | 12159 | 2418 | 1426 | 5164 | 7303 | -- | 2895 |
| 33 | 2120 | 2899 | 4100 | 970 | 2393 | 2321 | 2213 | 6194 | 943 | 886 | 4317 | 3356 | -- | 1141 |
| 34 | 1782 | 2541 | 3558 | 1234 | 3370 | 1759 | 1135 | 3847 | 825 | 687 | 1721 | 223 | -- | 925 |
| 35 | 1174 | 1698 | 2571 | 519 | 456 | 1264 | 639 | 1414 | 267 | 271 | 817 | 216 | -- | 448 |
| 36 | 512 | 1501 | 1537 | 494 | 1389 | 4203 | 666 | 1244 | 362 | 269 | 400 | 179 | -- | 346 |
| 37 | 477 | 3386 | 742 | 492 | 1020 | 352 | 335 | 900 | 71 | 155 | 506 | 249 | -- | 86 |
| 38 | 254 | 249 | 683 | 239 | 501 | 320 | 173 | 762 | 121 | 228 | 245 | 188 | -- | 112 |
| 39 | 131 | 123 | 478 | 121 | 285 | 189 | 86 | 516 | 65 | 90 | 162 | 121 | -- | 68 |
| 40 | 119 | 66 | 265 | 112 | 105 | 72 | 76 | 272 | 96 | 69 | 22 | 112 | -- | 72 |
| 41 | 41 | 33 | 521 | 7 | 53 | 100 | 30 | 226 | 45 | 55 | 27 | 107 | -- | 60 |
| 42 | 42 | 48 | 173 | 28 | 6 | 78 | 21 | 112 | 10 | 45 | 3 | 52 | -- | 33 |
| 43 | 21 | 72 | 20 | 3 | 7 | 37 | 4 | 3 | 14 | 10 | 0 | 40 | -- | 17 |
| 44 | 16 | 37 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 45 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 7 | -- | 9 |
| 45 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 4 | -- | 0 |

Table 8. Parameter estimates from various ASPIC explorations with fixed and freely estimated MSY values.

| MSY | Bmsy | K | r | MSY Option |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 21000 | 183820 | 367641 | 0.228 | 21000 t |
| 13000 | 243829 | 487657 | 0.107 | 13000 t |
| 17000 | 215470 | 430939 | 0.158 | 17000 t |
| 10800 | 256072 | 512143 | 0.084 | 10800 t |
| 9000 | 264947 | 529893 | 0.068 | 9000 t |
| 5000 | 289443 | 578886 | 0.035 | 5000 t |
| 31681 | 266443 | 532885 | 0.238 | Freely <br> estimated |

Figures


Figure 1. Landings of 3LN redfish since 1959.


Figure 2. CPUE index of 3LN redfish from 1959-1994 standardized to zero mean and unit standard deviation in the figure.


Figure 3. Commercial length frequencies of 3LN redfish.
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Figure 4. Current estimates of length at 50\% maturity (L50) for female 3LN redfish. Point estimates and CI are estimated using a binomial GLM and bootstrapping.


Figure 5. Standardized biomass of 3LN redfish from bottom trawl surveys. Solid black trendline represents the mean of the observed series in each year. Horizontal dashed line represents the average of the mean standardized survey biomass index from 1991-2005 (Brec).


Figure 6. Survey length frequencies of 3LN redfish. Dashed lines represent average length of redfish in each survey across the tie series.


Figure 7. Recruitment index anomalies of 3 LN redfish ( $15-20 \mathrm{~cm}$ ) from Canadian (DFO-NL) spring and autumn and EU-Spain 3L and 3N multispecies surveys.


Figure 8. Pre-recruitment index anomalies of 3LN redfish ( $<15 \mathrm{~cm}$ ) from Canadian (DFO-NL) spring and autumn and EU-Spain 3L and 3N multispecies surveys.


Figure 9. Residual patterns in input survey series of the ASPIC model. Points represent the difference between observed (input) and expected (modelled) values and the line represents a simple linear model showing the potential trend in residuals.


Figure 10. Biomass over $\mathrm{B}_{\text {msy }}$ trends for model runs of ASPIC with various MSY options. Dashed black line represents $\mathrm{B}=\mathrm{B}_{\text {msy }}$ and dashed red line represents $30 \%$ of $\mathrm{B}_{\text {msy }}$ (former $\mathrm{Blim}^{\text {}}$ ).


Figure 11. Redfish in Div. 3LN: C/B ratio using commercial catch and Canadian spring survey biomass (1991-2019). No Canadian spring survey data are available in 2020 or 2021.

