

Ocean Wise Rapid Assessment Results for 2023

The tables below summarize new Canadian seafood ratings generated using Ocean Wise's new Rapid Assessment Standard (RAPSTA)¹. To learn more about RAPSTA please refer to our [Rapid Assessment Standard Report](#). For the specifics of how Ocean Wise determines sustainability scores visit our [Standards](#) page.

To access the full list of ALL existing Ocean Wise recommendations, check out our Monthly Master Seafood List on our [Partner Portal](#) for a full suite of resources.

RAPSTA Results

Summary of New Ocean Wise Recommendations

Common Name	Scientific Name	Method	Stock Details	Rationale	RAPSTA OW Rating
Flounder, Witch	<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Seine Nets	3NO & 4RST (Atlantic, Northwest)	Rationale: This seafood meets Ocean Wise requirements for recommendation.	
Barnacle, Leaf	<i>Pollicipes polymerus</i>	Hand Implements	Clayoquot Sound (Pacific, Northeast)	Rationale: This seafood meets Ocean Wise requirements for recommendation.	
Clam, Intertidal	<i>Nuttallia obscurata</i>	Hand Implements	Central Coast (Heiltsuk Manila), South Coast (Vancouver Island) & Depuration (Pacific, Northeast).	Rationale: This seafood meets Ocean Wise requirements for recommendation.	
Clam, Intertidal	<i>Venerupis philippinarum</i>	Hand Implements	Central Coast (Heiltsuk Manila), South Coast (Vancouver Island) & Depuration (Pacific, Northeast).	Rationale: This seafood meets Ocean Wise requirements for recommendation.	

New recommended ratings cont'd

1. Note: There are a total of 135 new ratings generated by RAPSTA, 17 of which are Ocean Wise Recommended. This table is intended to group like ratings by species and gear types for easy reading. A full list of each individual rating and their accompanying scores can be found in our Master Seafood List and RAPSTA Report for 2023.

Clam, Pacific Geoduck	<i>Panopea generosa</i>	Diving	Pacific, Northeast	Rationale: This seafood meets Ocean Wise requirements for recommendation.	
Clam, Surf	<i>Spisula solidissima</i>	Hand Implements	Iles-de-la-Madeleine (Atlantic, Northwest)	Rationale: This seafood meets Ocean Wise requirements for recommendation.	
Cod, Arctic	<i>Boreogadus saida</i>	Gillnets (Set / Anchored) & Handlines and Pole-and-Lines	Arctic Ocean	Rationale: This seafood meets Ocean Wise requirements for recommendation.	
Halibut, Atlantic	<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>	Handlines and Pole-and-Lines (Hand-Operated)	4RST (Atlantic, Northwest)	Rationale: This seafood meets Ocean Wise requirements for recommendation.	
Oyster, Pacific	<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>	Hand Implements	Vancouver Island (WCVI & ECVI) (Pacific, Northeast)	Rationale: This seafood meets Ocean Wise requirements for recommendation.	
Redfish, Beaked	<i>Sebastes mentella</i>	Trawls (Midwater / Pelagic)	Unit 1 and Unit 2 Deepwater redfish (Atlantic, Northwest).	Rationale: This seafood meets Ocean Wise requirements for recommendation.	
Sardine, Pacific	<i>Sardinops sagax</i>	Purse Seines	Pacific Ocean	Rationale: This seafood meets Ocean Wise requirements for recommendation.	

Summary of New Not Recommended Ratings

Common Name	Scientific Name	Method	Stock Details	Rationale	RAPSTA OW Rating
Capelin	<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Purse Seines, Seine Nets, Traps (Barriers, Fences, or Weirs).	Capelin SA2+3KLPs & 4RST - East Coast, Gulf of St. Lawrence (Atlantic, Northwest).	Rationale: Concerns over abundance of the target species and bycatch of secondary species in the fishery.	
Clam, Intertidal	<i>Nuttallia obscurata</i> & <i>Venerupis philippinarum</i>	Hand Implements	Intertidal Clam (North Coast Haida Gwaii Razor; Pacific, Northeast).	Rationale: Critical scores for management and limited abundance prohibit recommendation of these species.	
Cod, Arctic	<i>Boreogadus saida</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	Arctic Ocean	Rationale: Concerns over secondary species caught in this fishery as bycatch.	
Crab, Arctic	<i>Hyas coarctatus</i>	Pots & Traps	Toad and Rock Crab - Newfoundland and Labrador region	Rationale: Concerns over secondary species caught in this fishery as bycatch.	
Crab, Spider	<i>Hyas araneus</i>	Pots & Traps	Toad and Rock Crab - Newfoundland and Labrador region (Atlantic, Northwest)	Rationale: Concerns over secondary species caught in this fishery as bycatch.	
Cusk	<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Gillnets (Set / Anchored), Longlines, Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	Cusk - NAFO Divisions 4VWX5Z	Rationale: Concerns over secondary species caught in this fishery as bycatch.	
Flounder, Blackback	<i>Pseudopleuronectes americanus</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	Witch Flounder - 23KL & 3NO	Rationale: Concerns over secondary species caught in this fishery as bycatch. Stock 4T is also Not Recommended due to poor management and low abundance.	



New Not Recommended cont'd

Flounder, Witch	<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal), Seine Nets	Witch Flounder - 23KL	Rationale: Several factors decrease the overall score for these seafoods, including abundance, bycatch and management.	 NOT RECOMMENDED
Flounder, Witch	<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	Witch Flounder - 3NO	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery.	
Flounder, Witch	<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal), Seine Nets	St. Pierre Banks (NAFO 3Ps)	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery.	
Flounder, Witch	<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	Witch Flounder 4RST	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery.	
Flounder, Yellowtail	<i>Limanda ferruginea</i>	Longlines, Trawls (Bottom / Demersal), Seine Nets	Yellowtail Flounder - 3LNO, 5Z, & Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence (NAFO 4T)	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is a major concern for this fishery, including critical management scores across some regions where abundance is low.	
Grenadier, Roundnose	<i>Coryphaenoides rupestris</i> & <i>Macrourus berglax</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal) Otter)	Roughhead Grenadier Atlantic and Arctic (23KL)	Rationale: Absence of proper fisheries management characteristics results in critical scoring for this criteria as well as concerns over ETP bycatch.	
Hake, Silver	<i>Merluccius bilinearis</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	Silver Hake 4VWX	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery.	

New Not Recommended cont'd

Lumpfish	<i>Cyclopterus lumpus</i>	Gillnets Longlines Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	Lumpfish - Gulf of St. Lawrence- NAFO Divisions 4RS and Subdivision 3Pn, 2GHJ & 3KLP	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is a major concern for this fishery, including <i>critical management scores</i> across some regions where abundance is low.	 NOT RECOMMENDED
Monkfish	<i>Lophius americanus</i>	Gillnets, Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	3LNOPs (Atlantic, Northwest)	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery.	
Plaice, American	<i>Hippoglossoides platessoides</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal), Trawls (Midwater / Pelagic)	Labrador NE Newfoundland (NAFO 23K), Grand Banks (NAFO 3LNO), St. Pierre Bank (NAFO 3Ps), Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence - 4T, Scotian Shelf (NAFO 4VWX) (Atlantic, Northwest).	Rationale: Management shortcomings result in critical scores for these fisheries as well as concerns over <i>bycatch</i> and total abundance.	
Redfish, Beaked	<i>Sebastes mentella</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	Unit 1 and Unit 2 Deepwater redfish (S. <i>mentella</i>)	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery	
Redfish, Acadian	<i>Sebastes fasciatus</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal), Trawls (Midwater / Pelagic)	Unit 1, 2, & 3, 2+3K.	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery.	
Hake, White	<i>Urophycis tenuis</i>	Gillnets (Set / Anchored), Longlines, Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	3NOPs, Northern Gulf of St. Lawrence (NAFO 4RS), Southern gulf of St. Lawrence, Eastern Scotian Shelf (NAFO Divs. 4VW), Western Scotian Shelf, Bay of Fundy and northern Georges Bank (NAFO Divs. 4X5Zc) (Atlantic	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is a major concern for this fishery, including <i>critical management scores</i> across some regions where abundance is low.	

New Not Recommended cont'd

Redfish, Beaked	<i>Sebastes mentella</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal), Trawls (Midwater / Pelagic).	Deepwater Redfish and Golden Redfish 2+3K & 30.	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is a major concern for this fishery, including <i>critical management</i> scores across some regions where abundance is low.	
Redfish, Golden	<i>Sebastes norvegicus</i>	Trawls (Bottom / Demersal), Trawls (Midwater / Pelagic)	Deepwater Redfish and Golden Redfish	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery.	
Scallop, Iceland	<i>Chlamys islandica</i>	Dredges (Vessel Towed)	Gaspe Peninsula (areas 17A1, 17A2, 18B1, 18B2, 18C, 19A), Magdalen Islands (areas 20A, 20B, 20C, 20E and 20F), North Shore (areas 15, 16A1, 16A2, 16B, 16C, 16D, 16E, 16F, 16G, 16H, 16I, 18A, 18D), SFA 17 (Atlantic, Northwest).	Rationale: Impacts of gear on the local ecosystem prevents recommendation of this fishery.	 NOT RECOMMENDED
Scallop, Sea	<i>Placopecten magellanicus</i>	Dredges (Vessel Towed)	Gaspe Peninsula (areas 17A1, 17A2, 18B1, 18B2, 18C, 19A), Magdalen Islands (areas 20A, 20B, 20C, 20E and 20F), North Shore (areas 15, 16A1, 16A2, 16B, 16C, 16D, 16E, 16F, 16G, 16H, 16I, 18A, 18D), & SFA 17 (Atlantic, Northwest).	Rationale: Impacts of gear on the local ecosystem prevents recommendation of this fishery.	
Sculpin, Longhorn	<i>Myoxocephalus octodecemspinosus</i>	Gillnets, Longlines, Traps, Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	St. May's Bay (Atlantic, Northwest)	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species as well as concerns over gear <i>impact</i> on sensitive habitat in some fishing areas prevent recommendation of these seafoods.	
Skate, Smooth	<i>Malacoraja senta</i>	Longlines, Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	Northeastern Newfoundland and Labrador (NAFO 2J3K) , Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence (NAFO 4T) (Atlantic, Northwest).	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery.	

New Not Recommended cont'd

Skate, Thorny	<i>Amblyraja radiata</i>	Longlines, Trawls (Bottom / Demersal), Gillnets	3LNO, Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence (NAFO 4T) (Atlantic, Northwest).	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery in addition to <i>management shortcomings and gear impact</i> on the ecosystem.	 NOT RECOMMENDED
Skate, Winter	<i>Leucoraja ocellata</i>	Gillnets, Longlines, Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	3LNOP, Gulf of St. Lawrence (NAFO 4T) & 4VW (Atlantic, Northwest)	Rationale: Management shortcomings creates critical scores for this fishery.	
Turbot, Greenland	<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Longlines	2-3KLMNO (Turbot) Labrador Shelf - Grand Bank	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery.	
Whelk	<i>Buccinum undatum</i>	Traps	Whelk - 2J3K3L4R, 3Ps, 4Vs and 4W, Zones 1 - 15, except 10 (Atlantic, Northwest).	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fishery.	
Halibut, Atlantic	<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>	Gillnets, Longlines, Trawls (Bottom / Demersal)	4RST (Atlantic, Northwest).	Rationale: Bycatch of secondary ETP species is the major concern for this fisher as well as gear impacts on sensitive habitat in some areas.	