Rapid stock status summary

Exploratory personal project. Not an official assessment.

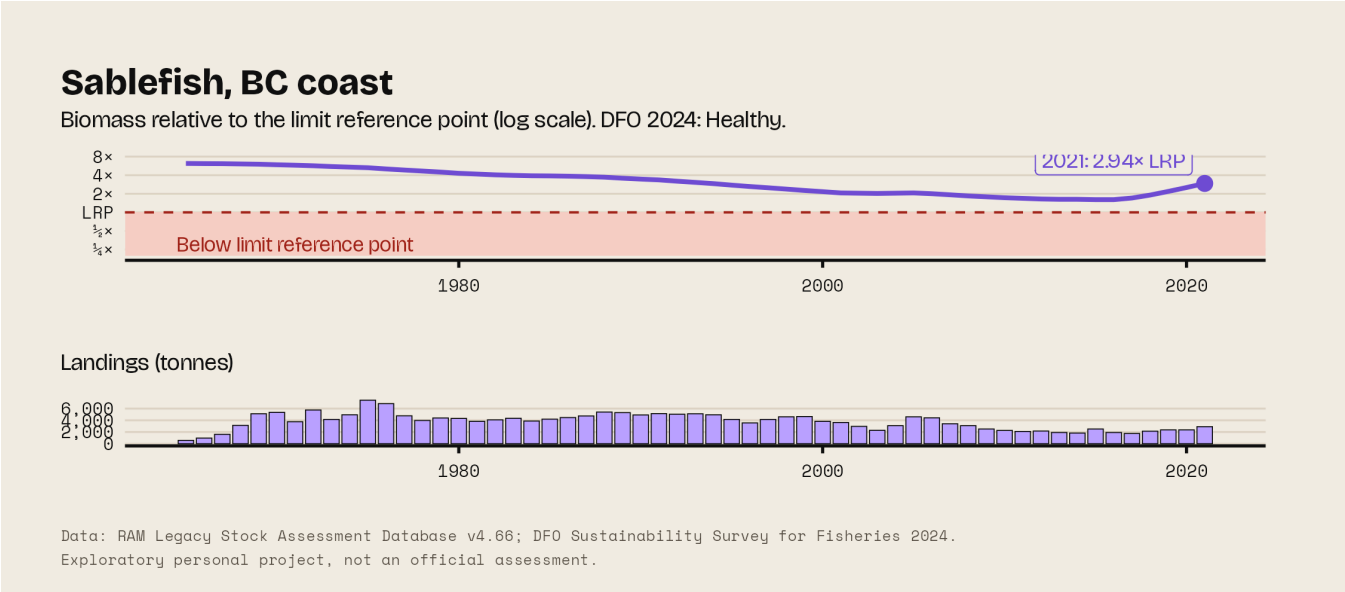
Emma Branch. Generated 24 November 2026 from open data.

> **Note**
>
> This summary was generated automatically by an exploratory personal project. It does not reproduce DFO's methods or any seafood recommendation program, and it makes no recommendations.

Sablefish, BC coast

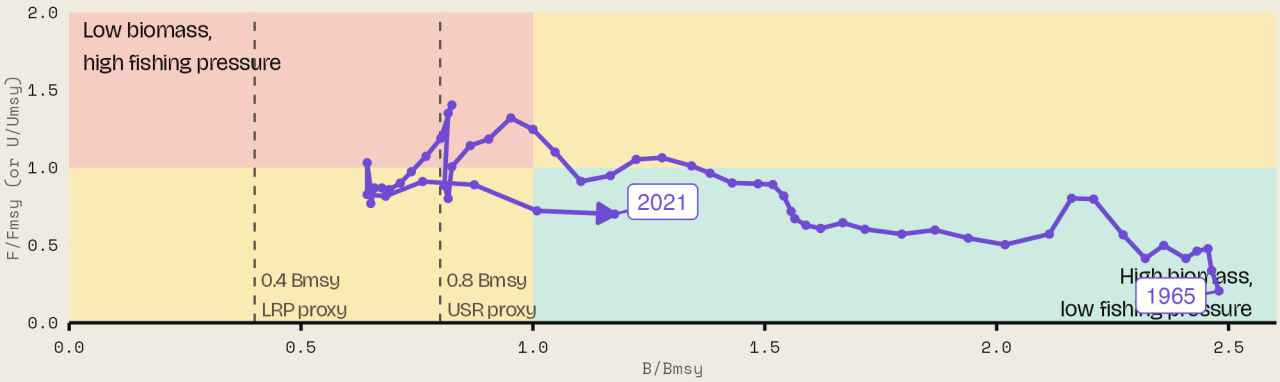
DFO's 2024 Sustainability Survey for Fisheries places this stock in the **Healthy** zone (method recorded: scientific peer review process). In 2021, the last year of the assessment series in RAM Legacy, estimated biomass was 2.94 times the limit reference point used in this project, which is above the limit. Between 1965 and 2021, biomass was below the limit in 0 of 57 years. The lowest value was 1.61 times the limit, in 2015.

Item	Detail
Species	Sablefish
DFO 2024 status zone	Healthy
Data tier	A: Biomass and fishing pressure relative to MSY
Latest biomass / limit	2.94× (2021)
Assessment years	1962-2021
Managed by	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
Management plan	Pacific Integrated Fisheries Management Plan - GROUNDFISH - Effective Feb 21, 2024 - Feb 20, 2025 (Current Pacific Integrated Fisheries Management plan - GROUNDFISH - Effective Feb 21, 2025 - Feb 20, 2026)



Kobe plot

Biomass and fishing pressure relative to MSY levels. The arrow points to the latest year.



Data: RAM Legacy Stock Assessment Database v4.66; DFO Sustainability Survey for Fisheries 2024.
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Management context

- **Limit reference point, as described by DFO:** 0.4 of BMSY, where BMSY is 22,720 metric tonnes Estimated reference points in 2022 available from: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/SAR-AS/2023/2023_010-eng.html
- **Upper stock reference, as described by DFO:** 0.8 of BMSY, where BMSY is 22,720 metric tonnes. Estimated reference points in 2022 available from: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/SAR-AS/2023/2023_010-eng.html
- **Limit used for this project's indicator:** 0.4 x Bmsy (DFO default proxy; the 2024 survey reports this LRP for sablefish)
- **Management plan:** Pacific Integrated Fisheries Management Plan - GROUNDFISH - Effective Feb 21, 2024 - Feb 20, 2025 (Current Pacific Integrated Fisheries Management plan - GROUNDFISH - Effective Feb 21, 2025 - Feb 20, 2026)
- **Managed by:** Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)

Science documents cited by DFO in the 2024 survey: http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/ScR-RS/2020/2020_025-eng.html; https://waves-vagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/library-bibliotheque/41102587.pdf; http://waves-vagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/Library/344257.pdf; https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/ScR-RS/2024/2024_013-eng.html

Data gaps and uncertainty

- Time series ends in 2021; the DFO zone is from the 2024 survey.

Status is based on model estimates of biomass and fishing pressure relative to MSY. These estimates carry statistical uncertainty that is not shown here; the published assessment reports it.

Sources

Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Sustainability Survey for Fisheries, 2024 results (Open Government Licence, Canada). RAM Legacy Stock Assessment Database v4.66, assessment-only (Zenodo, 2024); Ricard, D., Minto, C., Jensen, O.P. and Baum, J.K. (2012), Fish and Fisheries 13(4): 380 to 398. Code and data dictionary: github.com/emmabranch/bc-fish-stock-status.