



FACT SHEET

BANDED GALJOEN

Dichistius multifasciatus

Family: Dichistidae

Other common names: Band-galjoen

Description

A small, robust, deep-bodied fish with a grey-brown colour and has about 14 alternating wide and narrow dark brown bars on the sides of the body.

Distribution

South-east African endemic from Stilbaai in the Western Cape to southern Mozambique and off the south-east coast of Madagascar. Common along the KwaZulu-Natal and Transkei coast.

Habitat

Adults are found in the turbulent surf-zone along rocky shores. Juveniles are found over shallow inshore reefs, in tidal rock pools and sub-tidal gullies.

Feeding

They feed on a variety of invertebrates including bryozoans, ascidians, polychaetes, small crustaceans and molluscs.

Movement

Although tag-recapture data suggest that banded galjoen may be quite nomadic with a mean distance travelled of 94 km, it is believed that their movement behaviour is probably similar to galjoen (*Dichistius capensis*) with a high percentage of resident individuals.

Reproduction

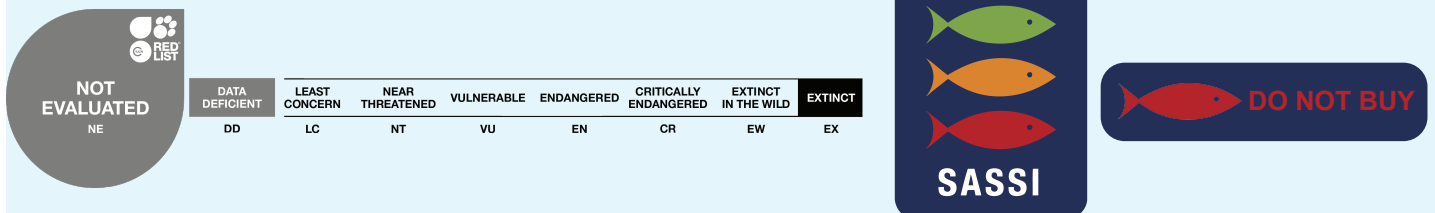
They mature at a length of about 20 cm fork length. They have an extended spawning season from March to October, peaking during winter and spring in KwaZulu-Natal. Spawning has been recorded off the KwaZulu-Natal coast with eggs and larvae found mainly in inshore waters.

Age and growth

They can reach a maximum size of 32 cm fork length and a weight of 1.7 kg. They have not been aged.

Current status

Banded galjoen have not been assessed and little is known about their current status. They have not been evaluated on the IUCN Red List.
South African Sustainable Seafood Initiative (SASSI) List: Red.



Capture

Of moderate importance to recreational and subsistence shore fishers along the KwaZulu-Natal and Transkei coasts. With their small mouths they can generally only be hooked using light tackle and small hooks. Baits such as red-bait, crayfish and prawn usually produce the best results.

Current recreational fishing regulations

Daily bag limit: 5 per person per day
Minimum size limit: None
Closed Season: None
Other regulations: No sale recreational species
Marine protected areas (MPAs): No-take MPAs along the KwaZulu-Natal and Transkei coasts with suitable rocky surf-zone habitat are likely to provide protection for this species.

Reference

Information from the ORI Fish App. www.saambr.org.za



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