

Holothuria atra - SANTO-ISLANDS_2014-03

The selected data includes **28 habitat zone(s)** of the study area (**7.54 km²**). The field census occurred from 17/03/2014 to 21/03/2014. **94 transects** are considered in the results below.

Zones : Z005 ; Z006 ; Z009 ; Z010 ; Z012 ; Z013 ; Z018 ; Z019 ; Z022 ; Z025 ; Z029 ; Z032 ; Z037 ; Z038 ; Z043 ; Z052 ; Z054 ; Z057 ; Z058 ; Z059 ; Z065 ; Z066 ; Z068 ; Z071 ; Z075 ; Z078 ; Z080 ; Z081 ;

Reference indicators for all individuals

Reference indicators include biomass, abundance and density estimates.

The conservative stock biomass of all individuals is **7558 kg** (wet) and the conservative total abundance is **21140 individual(s)**. This wet biomass is equivalent to **3779 kg** of gutted and salted products, and **378 kg** of dried products (bêche-de-mer).

The conservative mean density estimate of all individuals is **28 individual/ha** and **10 kg/ha** over the selected habitat zones .

The above estimates incorporate measure uncertainty that is attributable to survey method and heterogeneous resource distribution over the survey site.

Biological interpretation

Legal-sized individuals (200 mm) represent **62 % of the total stock biomass**. This high proportion means that small individuals were rarely observed during survey compared to large individuals, and may be indicative of recruitment failure. **Consequently, the recommended TAC must range between 32.26 % and 48.39 % of the estimated TAC (see table) as a precautionary approach.**

Total stock estimates for Holothuria atra

(all sizes) 12.079 t ± 4.52 t

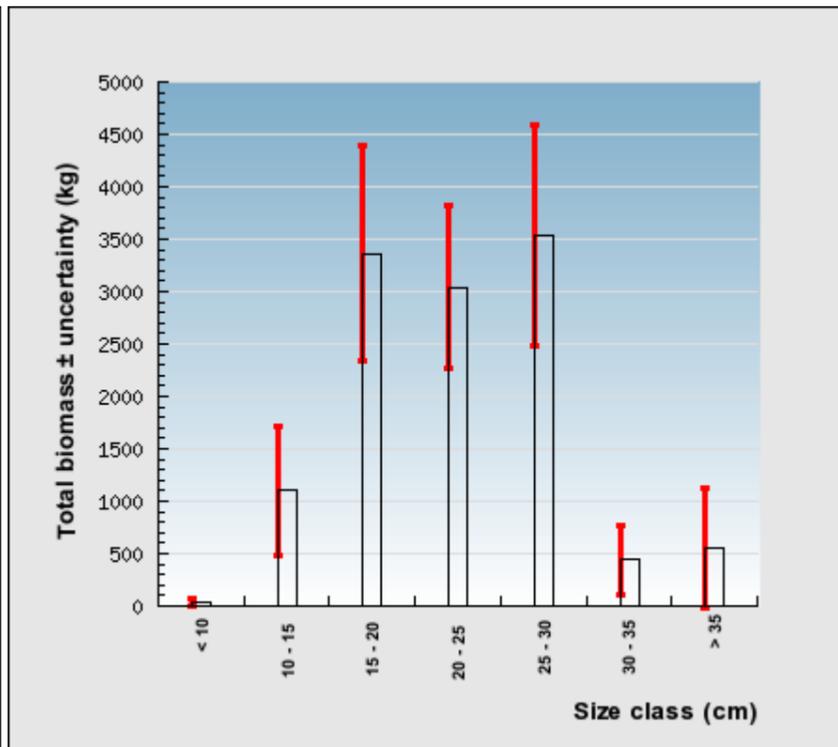
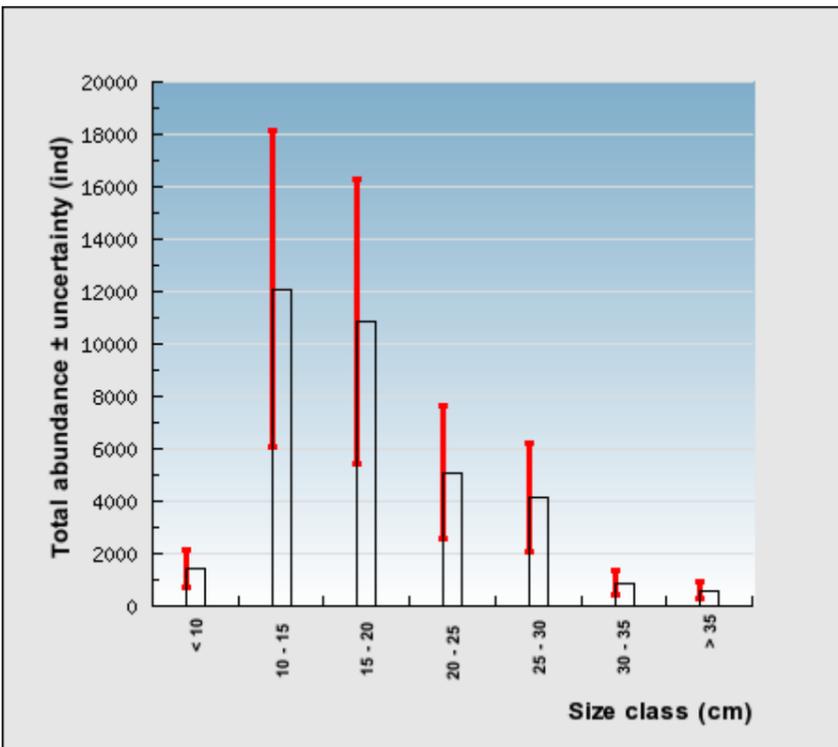
Recommended TAC (Total Allowable Catch, or quota) of legal-sized individuals (200 mm) :

Fresh/wet products 4.686 t

Salted and gutted products 2.343 t

Dried products (bêche-de-mer) 0.234 t

Size structure of the whole stock of Holothuria atra



Size distribution of observed sea cucumbers (n=137)

