

FISHERY ASSESSMENT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



male

female

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R1

FISHERY:	Capelin (<i>Mallotus villosus</i>)
LOCATION:	Faroe Islands (ICES Subareas V and XIV and Division IIa west of 5°W)
DATE OF REPORT:	October 2016
ASSESSOR:	Sam Dignan

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864

Form No: 9	Report Ref:	Page 1 of 17	CCM Code:
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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME			
Name:			
Address:			
Country: Faroe Islands		Zip:	
Tel. No.		Fax. No.	
Email address:		Applicant Code	
Key Contact:		Title:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/Re-certification
Sam Dignan	Deirdre Hoare	1	Re-certification
Assessment Period	2015 – 2016		
Scope Details			
1. Scope of Assessment		IFFO Global Standard for Responsible Supply Issue 1 Revision 6 (June, 2014)	
2. Fishery		Capelin (<i>Mallotus villosus</i>)	
3. Fishery Location		Faroe Islands Subareas 5 and 14 and Division 2a west of 5°W (Iceland and Faroes grounds, East Greenland, Jan Mayen (IGJM) area)	
4. Fishery Method		Purse seine/Pelagic trawl	
Outcome of Assessment			
5. Overall Fishery Compliance Rating		High	
6. Sub Components of Low Compliance		None	
7. Information deficiency		None	
8. Peer Review Evaluation		Re -approve	
9. Recommendation		Re -approve	

1. QUALITY OF INFORMATION
Good; primarily Marine Research Institute of Iceland (MRI) and International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) reports.
2. COMPLIANCE LEVEL ACHIEVED
High
Recommendation
Approve
3. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT
Approve
Based on HIGH compliance findings
NA
Based on MEDIUM compliance findings
NA
Based on LOW compliance findings
NA
4. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
<p>There have been substantial changes since the initial assessment and the last surveillance in the way in which capelin TACs are calculated. These changes have led to the compliance ratings of both sections (B2 and D3) previously awarded medium compliance ratings being upgraded to high.</p> <p>The capelin stock is studied and managed primarily by Icelandic authorities, and Faroese removals represent only around 5% of total landings. Since the last surveillance assessment ICES proposed a new harvest rule for IGJM capelin that was implemented during the 2015/2016 fishing season. The new methodology for setting a preliminary, intermediate and final TACs was developed by an ICES benchmark workshop in 2015 to replace the old method. The new method also defines a new escapement goal (B_{lim}) of 150,000 t.</p> <p>The most important element underpinning the new harvest strategy is to leave enough mature fish to ensure adequate recruitment levels for subsequent years. The strategy takes into account not only the impact of the fishery but also predation on all age groups. This is achieved by the use of a complex model to estimate the requirements of the three main demersal predators on capelin; cod, haddock and saithe. The assessment model is described in detail in the stock annexe to the 2015 ICES assessment working group report.</p> <p>The issues identified in the initial assessment have to a large extent been addressed by a new HCR and/or are unlikely to have a significant impact on the long term conservation of the marine environment. Scientific advice is taken into account, when designing conservation and management measures, in a comprehensive manner. The stock appears to remain in good shape, with the escapement goals continuing to be met and SSB estimates considerably above B_{lim}. The assessment team recommends maintaining the approval of this fishery against the IFFO RS Standard.</p>
HIGH Compliance
A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, C1, D1, D2, D3, E1, E2
MEDIUM Compliance
NA
LOW Compliance
NA

SUMMARY OF LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE					
	The Management Framework and Procedures	Stock assessment procedures and management advice	Precautionary approach	Management measures	Implementation
Legal and administrative basis	A1				
Fisheries management should be concerned with the whole stock unit	A2				
Management actions should be scientifically based	A3				
Research in support of fisheries conservation and management should exist		B1			
Best scientific evidence available should be taken into account when designing conservation and management measures		B2			
The precautionary approach is applied in the formulation of management plans			C1		
The level of fishing permitted should be set according to management advice given by research organisations				D1	
Where excess fishing capacity exist, mechanisms should be in established to reduced capacity				D2	
Management measures should ensure that fishing gear and fishing practices do not have a significant impact on non-target species and the physical environment				D3	
A framework for sanctions of violation of laws and regulations should be efficiently exists					E1
A management system for fisheries control and enforcement should be established					E2

KEY:	Low Compliance: L	Medium Compliance: M	High Compliance: H
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Form No: 9

Report Ref:

Page 4 of 17

CCM Code:

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6. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>A1. The management of the fishery must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the conservation of the fishery.</i>		
LOW	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery for its conservation is not established.	
MEDIUM	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery for its conservation is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the conservation of the stock.	
HIGH	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery for its conservation is established and works efficiently toward the conservation of the stock.	
<p><i>Determination: There is no evidence of any substantial changes to the Faroese fishery management frameworks since the initial assessment. A legal and administrative framework that ensures efficient management of the capelin fishery is established and works efficiently toward the conservation of the stock.</i></p> <p>The Faroe Islands are a self-governing nation under the sovereignty of the Kingdom of Denmark. They have exclusive competence to legislate and govern independently in a wide range of areas, including the conservation and management of living marine resources within the EEZ, protection of the marine environment, sub-surface resources, trade, fiscal and industrial relations, transport, communications, culture, education and research. Although Denmark is a member state of the European union, the Faroe Islands have chosen to remain outside the union, and as such negotiate their own trade and fisheries agreements with the EU and other countries.</p> <p>The primary governmental body with responsibility for the management of Faroese fisheries is the Ministry of Fisheries and Natural Resources. The framework for the regulation of commercial fisheries, in domestic, foreign and international waters, is the Commercial Fisheries Act of 1994 and its subsequent amendments. Based on this legislation, detailed regulations are implemented governing vessel and fishing licences, area closures, gear and data requirements and other technical regulations for commercial fisheries.</p> <p>The stated objective of Faroese fisheries management is “to conserve and utilise marine fish stocks in order to ensure biological and economic sustainability and secure optimal socio-economic benefits from fisheries”. Scientific management advice for the fishery is provided by both the North-Western Working Group (NWWG) of ICES, and the Icelandic national fisheries scientific body MRI.</p> <p>R2 – R5</p>		H

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>A2. Fisheries management should be concerned with the whole stock unit over its entire area of distribution and take into account fishery removals and the biology of the species.</i>	
LOW	Fisheries management is not concerned with the whole stock unit over its entire area of distribution and do not take into account any of the matters listed in 'A1'.
MEDIUM	Fisheries management is concerned with matters listed in 'A1' but not entirely. Fisheries, in relation to 'A1' statement, should improve to ensure the long term conservation of the marine resource.
HIGH	Fisheries management should be concerned with the whole stock unit over its entire area of distribution and take into account: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All fishery removals • The biology of the species
<p><i>Determination: There have been no changes in either the scientific understanding of the biological stock, or the geographical stock unit. Fisheries management is concerned with the whole stock unit over its entire area of distribution and takes into account all fishery removals and the biology of the species. A high compliance rating remains appropriate.</i></p> <p>Capelin in the Iceland/East Greenland/Jan Mayen area is considered by ICES to be a separate stock. ICES has a good understanding of the distribution and life history of the stock. The design of management measures takes extensive account of the biology of the species. For example, as a precautionary measure to protect juveniles, all fishing with pelagic trawl has been banned in the Icelandic waters where juveniles are generally found, either separately or mixed with the adults.</p> <p>Fishery-dependent data include detailed landings information and are used in the formulation of management actions and the production of scientific advice. Discards and bycatch are not included in stock assessments, but based on observer data both are considered by ICES to be negligible.</p> <p>For more detail, including a map of the location of the fishery, please refer to the initial assessment (R1).</p> <p>R2 – R5</p>	

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>A3. Management actions should be based on long-term conservation objectives</i>	
LOW	Management actions are not based on long term management objectives.
MEDIUM	Management actions are based on long term management objectives. However the actions are not scientifically formulated.
HIGH	Management actions are based on long term management objectives, and actions are science based.
<p><i>Determination: At the time of the last surveillance capelin was managed using an escapement strategy. A new harvest rule was proposed by ICES in 2015 whereby an initial quota is set on the basis of immature abundance in the autumn acoustic survey. This initial quota is then revised based on in-season acoustic survey information (intermediate quota) and the results of the autumn and/or winter surveys (final TAC). Long term management objectives remain the basis for management actions which continue to be science based. A high compliance rating remains appropriate.</i></p> <p>A new advice rule for capelin was proposed by ICES in 2015 based on the precautionary approach. An initial quota is set with a very low probability of being higher than a regression estimated final TAC. A final TAC is then set in autumn and winter that has a >95% probability of SSB being greater than or equal to B_{lim} at spawning time. The final TAC is based on a model which takes into account survey uncertainty and predation on capelin to ensure that the advised catch will result in a less than 5% chance of SSB going below B_{lim}.</p> <p>Since 1979 a Biomass escapement reference point of 400,000t has been used for the management of this stock. A biomass limit reference point had not been set. In 2015 the Benchmark Workshop on Icelandic stocks, WKICE (ICES, 2015a) defined a biomass limit reference point of 150,000 t. This new reference point is based on B_{loss}, based on observations that the recruitments generated around B_{loss} (cohorts: 1981, 1982 and 1990) were of average strength and that average recruitment did not appear to decline at low SSB over the observed range (ICES, 2015a). The suggestion of the Benchmark Workshop, of B_{lim} at 150,000t, is now established as the only biological reference point for this stock.</p> <p>R2 – R5</p>	

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B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>B1. Research in support of fisheries conservation and management should exist.</i>		
LOW	Research to support the conservation and management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment does not exist	
MEDIUM	Research to support the conservation and the management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.	
HIGH	Research to support the conservation and the management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment exist, and existent research is considered most adequate for the long term conservation of the target, non-target and physical environment	
<p><i>Determination: Fishery dependent and independent data continue to be used by both the MRI and ICES to inform management advice, and appear to be adequate. Research to support the conservation and the management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment exists, and is considered adequate for the long term conservation of the stock, non-target species and the physical environment. A high compliance rating remains appropriate.</i></p> <p>ICES conducts an annual stock assessment and the MRI provides advice throughout the year based on the results of ongoing survey efforts. Data from a number of surveys (fishery-independent) and landings data (fishery-dependent) are available to ICES and the MRI. Information about the Icelandic landings of the fishery fleet is collected by the Icelandic Directorate of Fisheries. They have access to both landings in the harbours (the official landing) and the registered catch in the digital logbook kept by all the vessels. Samples record length, weight, age (from scales), sex, maturation, and weight of sexual organs. The information from the samples is then used along with the total landings and logbook data to generate landings composition estimates. Similar data are collected by the other States which prosecute the fishery, although the Icelandic catch represents the large majority. The total annual catch of capelin in the Icelandic stock by weight, season and fleet is available back to 1964. Total catches in numbers by age during the summer/autumn are available back to 1985 and for the winter seasons to 1986.</p> <p>Several acoustic surveys aimed at different age groups of capelin have been conducted through the history of the fishery. The purpose of the surveys on young capelin is to locate and estimate the abundance of young capelin. They take place late October-December. The results from these surveys are used to predict a starting quota for the fishing season starting in the year after the surveys are conducted. The surveys aimed at the fishable part of the stock are conducted in the fishing season, most often in winter, but can take place in autumn.</p> <p>R2 – R5</p>		H

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>B2. Best scientific evidence available should be taken into account when designing conservation and management measures.</i>	
LOW	Scientific advice is not taken into account when designing conservation and management measures.
MEDIUM	Scientific advice is taken into account, when designing conservation and management measures. However, some areas of discrepancy are identified that could have a significant impact in the long term conservation of the marine environment.
HIGH	Scientific advice is taken into account, when designing conservation and management measures, in a comprehensive manner.

Determination: The issues identified in the initial assessment have to a large extent been addressed by the new HCR and/or are unlikely to have a significant impact on the long term conservation of the marine environment. Scientific advice is taken into account, when designing conservation and management measures, in a comprehensive manner. The original medium compliance rating is no longer appropriate and the compliance rating has been updated to high.

H

Fishery management decisions are informed by the annual stock assessments conducted by ICES and the MRI, and by in-year advice which is provided by the MRI and updated to reflect survey results. In addition to following MRI quota recommendations, a number of technical measures have been implemented in the fishery in line with scientific advice, including minimum mesh sizes and closed areas.

The objective of the HCR for the stock is to leave at least 150,000 t (B_{lim}) for spawning.

- The initial TAC for the upcoming fishing season (season Y) is advised in July based on the abundance estimate of immature 1 and 2 year old capelin in the previous autumn survey (season Y-1).
- The intermediate TAC is advised in autumn based on the biomass estimate of maturing capelin in the autumn survey (season Y).
- The final TAC is advised in January/February based on the biomass estimate of maturing capelin in the winter survey.

The initial (preliminary) quota follows a simple forecast that is based on the relation between historic observations of age 1 and 2 juvenile abundance from the acoustic autumn surveys and the corresponding final TACs nearly 1½ year later. This was done in ICES NWWG 2016 to set the initial quota for the fishing season 2016/2017. The intermediate and final TACs are set so that there is at least 95 % probability that there will be 150,000 t of mature capelin left at the spawning time. Previously the stock had been managed according using an escapement strategy.

In the initial assessment of the fishery a medium compliance rating was assigned here for the reasons outlined below; please refer to the initial assessment (R1) for further details.

Firstly, members of the ICES North-Western Working Group (NWWG) had previously expressed concern over the lack of transparency in the scientific process by which in-season data are analysed and advice produced (by MRI). The MRI is of the view that the short time period from the end of the surveys that inform the final TAC to spawning time and the closure of the fishery make it impractical to seek advice outside regarding the final TAC from ICES; All data, methodology and results are available for analysis by ICES on a post-hoc basis. In addition MRI produces summaries of capelin surveys and results, throughout the fishing season, which are made publically available on the MRI website. Web links to examples of update reports from the 2015/2016 capelin fishing season are presented below (in Icelandic):

- Measurement of the size of the capelin stock in November 2015 (December 7th 2015): <http://www.hafro.is/undir.php?ID=19&REF=3&fID=21991&nanar=1>
- Measurement of the size of the capelin stock in January 2016 and quotas according to HCR (22nd January 2016): <http://www.hafro.is/undir.php?ID=19&REF=3&fID=22230&nanar=1>
- Measurement of the size of the capelin stock in February 2016 (18th February 2016):

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Form No: 9	Report Ref:	Page 9 of 17	CCM Code:

<http://www.hafro.is/undir.php?ID=19&REF=3&fID=22430&nanar=1>

Secondly, the ICES NWWG has advised that the fishing season should not begin until October, due to the period of rapid growth observed in the capelin stock during the plankton-rich period of June – late September. Landings before October have been extremely limited in recent years.

Neither of the issues outlined above are likely to have a significant impact on the long term conservation of the marine environment.

R2 – R5

C. THE PRECAUTIONARY APPROACH	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>C1. The precautionary approach is applied in the formulation of management plans.</i>	
LOW	The precautionary approach is not applied in the formulation of management plans.
MEDIUM	The precautionary approach is applied, however not all uncertainties are taken into account.
HIGH	The precautionary approach is applied, taking into account uncertainties relating to the dynamic of fish population (recruitment, mortality, growth and fecundity), and the impact of the fishing activities, such as discards and by-catch of non-target species as well as on the physical environment (Habitats).
<p><i>Determination: There have been substantial changes in the way in which allowable catches in the capelin fishery are calculated. The precautionary approach is applied, taking into account uncertainties relating to the dynamics of fish population (recruitment, mortality, growth and fecundity), and the impact of the fishing activities, such as discards and by-catch of non-target species as well as on the physical environment (Habitats). These changes to the HCR are additionally in line with the precautionary approach; a high compliance rating remains appropriate.</i></p> <p>Since the last surveillance assessment ICES proposed a new harvest rule for IGJM capelin that was implemented during the 2015/2016 fishing season. The new methodology for setting a preliminary TAC was developed by a benchmark workshop, WKICE (ICES, 2015a) in 2015 to replace the old method. The new stochastic (random processes with probability) harvest control rule also covers the intermediate and final TACs.</p> <p>The most important element underpinning the harvest strategy is to leave enough mature fish to ensure adequate recruitment levels for subsequent years. The strategy takes into account not only the impact of the fishery but also predation on all age groups. This is achieved by the use of a complex model to estimate the requirements of the three main demersal predators on capelin; cod, haddock and saithe. The assessment model is described in detail in the stock annex to the 2015 ICES assessment working group report (ICES, 2015b).</p> <p>The objective of the harvest control rule for the stock is to set a final TAC which ensures, with a 95% probability, that a minimum of 150,000t (B_{lim}) remains for spawning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The initial TAC for the upcoming fishing season (season Y) is advised in July based on the abundance estimate of immature 1 and 2 year old capelin in the previous autumn survey (season Y-1). ▪ The intermediate TAC is advised in autumn based on the biomass estimate of maturing capelin in the autumn survey (season Y). ▪ The final TAC is advised in January/February based on the biomass estimate of maturing capelin in the winter survey. <p>The method for setting the preliminary TAC involves a regression of immature capelin abundance as measured on the autumn acoustic surveys, against a precautionary fishable biomass value. The fishable biomass value is based on the January acoustic survey taking into account catches taken before that survey, subtracting the biomass limit (the minimum mature biomass to be left to spawn) and also subtracting 150Kt for predation. The harvest rule includes a trigger level of 50 billion immature capelin which provides a limit level of 0t for the initial TAC and a maximum initial TAC of 400Kt if the immature abundance is 127 billion or more. The final TAC is set at a level that will generate a SSB which has a 95% probability of being above B_{lim}.</p> <p>This whole strategy, backed by the harvest control rules to set the TAC, is considered by ICES to be precautionary.</p> <p>R2 – R5</p>	

D. MANAGEMENT MEASURES		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>D1. The level of fishing permitted should be set according to management advice given by research organisations.</i>		
LOW	The level of fishing permitted is not set according to management advice given by research organisations.	
MEDIUM	The level of fishing permitted is higher than management advice given by research organisations. However, the difference is not considered to have a significant impact of the sustainability of the stock	
HIGH	The level of fishing permitted is set according to management advice given by research organisations.	
<p><i>Determination: The level of fishing permitted continues to be set according to management advice given by research organisations (MRI and ICES); a high compliance rating remains appropriate.</i></p> <p>Since the last surveillance assessment ICES proposed a new harvest rule for IGJM capelin that was implemented during the 2015/2016 fishing season. The new methodology for setting a preliminary TAC was developed by a benchmark workshop, WKICE (ICES, 2015a) in 2015 to replace the old method. The new stochastic (random processes with probability) harvest control rule also covers the intermediate and final TACs.</p> <p>The most important element underpinning the harvest strategy is to leave enough mature fish to ensure adequate recruitment levels for subsequent years. The strategy takes into account not only the impact of the fishery but also predation on all age groups. This is achieved by the use of a complex model to estimate the requirements of the three main demersal predators on capelin; cod, haddock and saithe. The assessment model is described in detail in the stock annexe to the 2015 ICES assessment working group report (ICES, 2015b).</p> <p>The objective of the harvest control rule for the stock is to set a final TAC which ensures, with a 95% probability, that a minimum of 150,000t (B_{lim}) remains for spawning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The initial TAC for the upcoming fishing season (season Y) is advised in July based on the abundance estimate of immature 1 and 2 year old capelin in the previous autumn survey (season Y-1). ▪ The intermediate TAC is advised in autumn based on the biomass estimate of maturing capelin in the autumn survey (season Y). ▪ The final TAC is advised in January/February based on the biomass estimate of maturing capelin in the winter survey. <p>TACs are set in line with the ICES/MRI advice. In the 2015/2015 season, based on the updated HCR, the initial quota was set at 53,600 t, total TAC at 173,000 t and total landings were amounted to 174,000 t.</p> <p>R2 – R5</p>		H

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>D2. Where excess fishing capacity exist, mechanisms should be in established to reduced capacity to allow for the recovery of the stock to sustainable levels.</i>	
LOW	Mechanisms to allow for recovery of the stock to sustainable levels are not established.
MEDIUM	Mechanisms to allow for recovery of the stock to sustainable levels are somehow established. However there is no evidence of the efficiency of the methods used.
HIGH	Mechanisms are established to reduce capacity to allow for the recovery of the stock to sustainable levels and there are evidences of recovery.
<p><i>Determination: The primary mechanism restricting fishing effort is the TAC. Faroese landings represent a small component of total international landings, and as at the time of the initial assessment there is no indication that that there is excess Faroese fishing capacity applied to the stock; a high compliance rating remains appropriate.</i></p> <p>Since 1997, Faroese fisheries policy has limited the size of the fishing fleet (in terms of number of vessels) to the 1996 level, although increasing capacity of individual vessels has meant that the effective fleet size has increased. However, fishing effort across the entire capelin stock is primarily limited by annual quotas, which are set as described in sections A3, B1 and D1. The adherence by Faroese vessels to this quota, along with their comparatively small quantities of fishery removals, indicates strongly that there is not an excess quantity of Faroese fishing capacity applied to the capelin stock.</p> <p>R2 – R5</p>	

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>D3. Management measures should ensure that fishing gear and fishing practices do not have a significant impact on non-target species and the physical environment.</i>	
LOW	There are no management measures to prevent the impact of the fishing methods and fishing practices on non-target species and the physical environment.
MEDIUM	There are management measures to prevent the impact of the fishing methods and fishing practices on non-target species and the physical environment. However it is not science based.
HIGH	There are management measures to prevent the impact of the fishing methods and fishing practices on non-target species and the physical environment. Measures are based on scientific information.
<p><i>Determination: The only major issue raised during the initial assessment was that the management plan did not include consideration of predation by cod. As predation on capelin is now specifically accounted for a medium compliance rating is no longer appropriate and the compliance rating has been updated to high.</i> H</p> <p>Since the last surveillance assessment ICES proposed a new harvest rule for IGJM capelin that was implemented during the 2015/2016 fishing season. The most important element underpinning the harvest strategy is to leave enough mature fish to ensure adequate recruitment levels for subsequent years. The strategy takes into account not only the impact of the fishery but also predation on all age groups. This is achieved by the use of a complex model to estimate the requirements of the three main demersal predators on capelin; cod, haddock and saithe. The assessment model is described in detail in the stock annexe to the 2015 ICES assessment working group report (ICES, 2015b).</p> <p>R2 – R5</p>	

E. IMPLEMENTATION		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>E1. There should be a framework for sanctions of violation of Laws and regulations.</i>		
LOW	A framework for sanctions of violation of Laws and regulations do not efficiently exist.	
MEDIUM	A framework for sanctions of violation of Laws and regulations do exist but do not work efficiently.	
HIGH	A framework for sanctions of violation of Laws and regulations exists and is proven to be efficient.	
<p><i>Determination: The framework of sanctions identified in the initial assessment remains in place and is proven to be efficient.</i></p> <p>The Commercial Fisheries Act of 1994 includes provisions for penalties to be applied in the event of transgression. These include fines, confiscation and the withdrawal of fishing licences. Fines can be applied to violation of any of the major regulations including fishing days/quotas, capacity, closed areas, minimum fish size, the ban on discards and others. Confiscation only follows violations of gear regulations, catch quotas, or bycatch regulations. Historically, confiscation of all catch and gear in cases of discarding or fishing in closed areas was mandatory, although this may have been revised since the initial version of the Act. Although the Faroese Fisheries Inspection does utilise warnings and can implement on-the-spot fines or confiscations with the vessel owner’s consent, in practice reports are generally filed with the police and prosecutions occur through the court system. The Fisheries Inspection is permitted to withdraw fishing licenses temporarily while such proceedings are underway.</p> <p>R2 – R5</p>		H

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>E2. A management system for fisheries control and enforcement should be established.</i>	
LOW	A management system for fisheries control and enforcement is not established.
MEDIUM	A management system for fisheries control and enforcement is established but do not work efficiently.
HIGH	A management system for fisheries control and enforcement is established and work efficiently.
<p><i>Determination: A management system for fisheries control and enforcement is established and works efficiently. Fisheries control and enforcement mechanisms continue to be applied effectively to the capelin fishery.</i> H</p> <p>The harvesting licence is an operating licence issued to an individual vessel. The fishing licence specifies the details of fishing activities (catch & area limitations and gear requirements) in which the vessel is permitted to participate, as well as outlining requirements for reporting of catch data and information on landings or transshipments. Additionally, all vessels larger than 15 GT must maintain a daily log of their activities in an authorised catch logbook which is issued for this purpose, recording data for each set or haul, and they must also have satellite vessel monitoring systems (VMS) in both national and international waters.</p> <p>The Faroese Fisheries Inspection is responsible for monitoring and inspecting catches and landings of individual vessels and the weighing-in of catches. This includes both onboard inspection, monitoring of transshipments and inspection of landings in port. Faroese inspection and rescue vessels, in cooperation with Danish naval patrol vessels, provide for a constant patrol presence in Faroese waters. They also contribute to fisheries inspection in international waters of the North Atlantic at regular intervals in collaboration with the inspection services of other nations in the region.</p> <p>Internationally, the NEAFC has comprehensive port state measures to tackle IUU fishing under the NEAFC Control Scheme, monitoring IUU activity in the zones of Contracting Parties, as well as in international waters. Vessels listed on the NEAFC IUU list (“blacklist”) are not permitted to call at ports, receive services and supplies or change crew members in any port of the member countries of NEAFC.</p> <p>NEAFC and NAFO (Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization) have agreed to recognize and implement each other’s blacklists, creating a trans-North Atlantic system for monitoring and outlawing IUU-listed vessels, with the aim of achieving a global network of cooperation with other regional fisheries management organisations around the world.</p> <p>R2 – R5</p>	

7. KEY STAKEHOLDERS

8. REFERENCES

- R1** – Cover image source: <http://www.fisheries.is/main-species/pelagic-fishes/capelin/>
- R2** – IFFO RS initial assessment, Faroe Islands Capelin, September 2014:
<http://www.iffo.net/files/iffoweb/approved-raw-materials/whole-fish/faroe-islands-capelin-initial-assessment-september.pdf>
- R3** – ICES advice, Capelin in Subareas V and XIV and Division IIa west of 5o W, May 2015:
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/cap-icel.pdf>
- R4** – MRI advice, Capelin, 2016: http://www.hafro.is/Astand/2016/lodna_2016.pdf
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Form No: 9	Report Ref:	Page 17 of 17	CCM Code:

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