

FISHERY ASSESSMENT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



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FISHERY:	Beaked redfish/Deep sea redfish (<i>Sebastes mentella</i>)
LOCATION:	Northeast Atlantic (France)
DATE OF REPORT:	November 2016
ASSESSOR:	Sam Dignan

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Form No: 9	Report Ref:	Page 1 of 6	CCM Code:
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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME			
Name:			
Address:			
Country: France		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-assessment
Sam Dignan	Deirdre Hoare	1	Surveillance 2
Scope Details			
1. Scope of Assessment		By-product re-assessment – IFFO Global Standard for Responsible Supply (Issue 1)	
2. Fishery		Beaked redfish/Deep sea redfish (<i>Sebastes mentella</i>)	
3. Fishery Location		Northeast Atlantic (France)	
4. Fishery Method		Varies by region; bottom and pelagic trawls	
5. Outcome of Assessment		Maintain approval of by-product	

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and France levels, but this is only applied to the redfish assemblage rather than the individual species in the assessment area. Management is supported by some species-specific data collection and stock assessment but there is significant room for improvement. The assessment team recommends approving this byproduct material against the IFFO RS standard.

4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME	
A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
A. The management of the fishery used to produce the by-product must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the management of the fishery.	
LOW	An administrative framework that ensures the efficient management of the fishery is not established.
MEDIUM	An administrative framework that ensures the efficient management of the fishery is somewhat established, but there is evidence of it not being efficient to ensure the conservation of the stock.
HIGH	A legal and administrative framework that ensures the efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.
<p>Determination: There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels; however these frameworks are applied to the byproduct species under assessment as part of a multispecies assemblage, and no specific management objectives are in place.</p> <p>Fishery management framework: France is a member of the European Union and therefore in Community waters implements the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). In force since 1983, the CFP aims to reconcile resource conservation with the preservation of income and jobs in coastal zones that offer few alternatives in terms of production or employment. It therefore covers not just resources but also markets and structures. The CFP has undergone a series of updates, including the most recent reform which was implemented from 1st January 2014. The principal aim of the new CFP is to achieve maximum sustainable yield (MSY) for all stocks by 2015 where possible, and at the latest by 2020. The 2014 reform also details the gradual roll-out of a landing obligation (prohibiting discards), which began in selected fisheries in 2015 and will eventually encompass all commercial fisheries from 2019. Finally, the 2014 reform increases the role and importance of management at the regional level, and encourages more intensive stakeholder engagement. The primary authority with responsibility for implementing the CFP in France is the Directorate of Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture (DPMA), within the government Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy.</p> <p>Species-specific management: In EU waters, 3 species of redfish are managed as an assemblage (<i>Sebastes mentella</i>, <i>S. marinus</i>, and <i>S. viviparus</i>). Management areas and their associated TACs for 2016 are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Norwegian waters of I and II: 1,500t (France 84 t) ▪ International waters of I and II: 8,000t (EU quotas to be established) ▪ Greenland waters of NAFO 1F and Greenland Waters of V and XIV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,900t pelagic (EU 1,050t; France 5t) • 1,700t demersal (EU 1,700t; France 9t) ▪ Icelandic waters of Va: 0t ▪ Faroese waters of Vb: 1,000t (EU 500t; France 31t) ▪ Union and International waters of V; International waters of XII and XIV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0t (shallow pelagic), • 1,313t (deep pelagic) (France 75 t) <p>These management areas are similar, but not identical, to the areas over which ICES provides scientific advice. There do not appear to be any specific management objectives in place for any of these management units. Since 2011, the Russian Federation has set unilateral quotas for pelagic redfish in Subareas 5, 12, and 14 and NAFO subareas 1 and 2. As a result overall catches of pelagic redfish in these areas have significantly exceeded recommended TACs in all years since 2011.</p>	
R2 – R11	

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B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.</i>	
LOW	Research to support the conservation and management of the stock does not exist
MEDIUM	Research to support the conservation and the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.
HIGH	Research to support the management of the stock exists and research for the provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.
<p>Determination: Species-specific stock assessments are conducted, but are largely qualitative. There are substantial gaps in the level of data available on the stocks.</p> <p>Fisheries management in EU waters is supported by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES). ICES utilises the best available scientific information collected by 20 member countries and others, and develops advice for the majority of commercially fished stocks in European waters.</p> <p>Subareas I and II A statistical catch-at-age assessment is conducted using commercial catches, three survey indices, and annual maturity data from two surveys and commercial catch sampling. No quantitative reference points are defined. ICES reports that the extent to which <i>S. mentella</i> and <i>S. norvegicus</i> are not distinguished is not known. ICES also suggests that the same size of aged fish should be increased.</p> <p>Division 5a and Subarea 14 (Icelandic slope stock) No assessment is carried out and the stock is considered data-limited. Advice is provided on the basis of the precautionary approach. No reference points are defined.</p> <p>Subareas 5, 7, and 14 and NAFO Subareas 1 and 2 (Deep pelagic stock >500 m) Advice is based on stock development from biennial international redfish survey, conducted in the Irminger Sea and adjacent waters since 1999. Indices from the survey suggest a rapid decline in the stock from 2001 – 2015. In 2016 ICES for the first time conducted an age – length-based assessment model which gives relative estimates of abundance and exploitation rates for this stock. Reference points are defined.</p> <p>Subareas 5, 7, and 14 and NAFO Subareas 1 and 2 (Shallow pelagic stock <500 m) A qualitative assessment is conducted using commercial catch data, several commercial indices, and one survey index. No reference points are defined. ICES reports that several data improvements are needed, including better catch and landings data, better survey information, and a recruitment index.</p> <p>Division 14.b, demersal (Southeast Greenland) A qualitative survey trend-based assessment is conducted. No reference points are defined. ICES reports that several data improvements are needed. Present catch statistics do not separate <i>Sebastes mentella</i> from <i>Sebastes norvegicus</i>. With Greenland surveys and samples from the commercial fishery being used to estimate a split of the catches. The survey indices have large uncertainties, primarily due to the aggregating behaviour of the stock. Connection to other stocks of <i>S. mentella</i> remains unresolved and their effect on survey estimates and catches is unknown.</p> <p>R7 – R11</p>	

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C. STOCK STATUS		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
C. The fish used to produce the fish By- Product is not considered to be critically at risk of over exploitation in accordance with the IUCN guidance.		
LOW	The fish by-product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.	
MEDIUM	The fish by-product is from a species that is classified as vulnerable, but has a management regime in place that will control the level of fishing permitted. Or if a species is deemed to be endangered but the sub-group from where the fish by-product is harvested is deemed scientifically to be at no risk of over exploitation.	
HIGH	The fish by-product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.	
<p>Determination: The IUCN has categorised <i>Sebastes mentella</i> as a species of least concern; however, the latest assessments show that elements of <i>Sebastes mentella</i> stock-complex could be at risk of over-exploitation. A medium compliance rating is appropriate.</p> <p>The IUCN has categorised <i>Sebastes mentella</i> as a species of least concern; however, the latest assessments show that elements of <i>Sebastes mentella</i> stock-complex could be at risk of over-exploitation. A medium compliance rating is appropriate.</p> <p>R7 – R13</p>		M

5. REFERENCES

- R1 – Image of beaked redfish (*Sebastes mentella*): <http://www.fisheries.is/main-species/redfishes/deepsea-and-oceanic-redfish/>
- R2 – About the Common Fisheries Policy: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index_en.htm
- R3 – CFP – Managing fish stocks: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/index_en.htm
- R4 – CFP – Discarding and the Landing Obligation: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/discards/index_en.htm
- R5 – French Directorate of Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture: <http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/-Lespeches-maritimes-et-l-.html>
- R6 – EU fishing quotas 2015: <http://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur151589.pdf>
- R7 – ICES advice, Beaked redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in Subarea 14 and Division 5a (Icelandic slope stock) (East of Greenland, Iceland grounds): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/smn-con.pdf>
- R8 – ICES advice, Beaked redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in Subareas 5, 12, and 14 (Iceland and Faroes grounds, north of Azores, east of Greenland) and NAFO subareas 1 and 2 (shallow pelagic stock > 500 m): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/smn-sp.pdf>
- R9 – ICES advice, Beaked redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in Subareas 5, 12, and 14 (Iceland and Faroes grounds, north of Azores, east of Greenland) and NAFO subareas 1 and 2 (deep pelagic stock < 500 m): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/smn-dp.pdf>
- R10 – ICES advice, Beaked redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in Subareas I and II (Barents Sea and Norwegian Sea) Advice for 2015, 2016, and 2017: <http://www.iffonet.net/files/iffoweb/approved-raw-materials/product/beaked-redfish-france-byproduct-re-assessment-2014.pdf>
- R11 – ICES advice, Beaked redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in Division 14b (Southeast Greenland): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/smn-grl.pdf>
- R12 – IUCN redlist – beaked redfish (*Sebastes mentella*): <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/154816/0>
- R13 – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

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Form No: 9	Report Ref:	Page 6 of 6	CCM Code:

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