

# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

## IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



R1

<b>FISHERY By-Product:</b>	<b>Brill (<i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i>)</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>Subarea IV, Divisions IIIa and VII d,e</b>
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>January 2017</b>
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	<b>Deirdre Hoare</b>

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Form No: 9a	Report Ref:	Page 1 of 4	CCM Code:
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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
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Name of Certification Body:	SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Sam Dignan	Surveillance Yr 2
1. Scope of Assessment		
		By-Product surveillance year 2016
2. Fishery By-Product		
		Brill ( <i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i> )
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
		Subarea IV, Divisions IIIa and VIId,e
4. Fishery Method		
		Primarily beam trawl; also otter trawl and fixed-net.
5. Outcome of Assessment		
		Maintain approval

## 2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

## 3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

**There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and UK & Ireland levels, which is applied specifically to the brill stock in the assessment area (although there is evidence that significant improvements could be made). Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment. The assessment team recommends the maintenance of this by-product material against the IFFO RS standard.**

**4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME**

**A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE**

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

*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.*

<b>LOW</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the management of the stock.
<b>HIGH</b>	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.

**Determination: There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels, and these frameworks are applied specifically to the byproduct stock under assessment. However, there is evidence that the nature of the species-specific management measures in place are not sufficient to ensure the sustainable management of the stock.**

**Fishery management framework:**

The UK & Ireland are members of the European Union and therefore in Community waters implement 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. During 2016 demersal fish species including plaice will be wishing the regulation and this may have a consequential limiting impact on brill catches, particularly in trawl fisheries. Finally, the 2014 reform increases the role and importance of management at the regional level, and encourages more intensive stakeholder engagement.

The primary authorities with responsibility for implementing the CFP are the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland, the Marine Management Organisation (in cooperation with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) in England and Wales, and Marine Scotland, a Directorate of the Scottish Government, in Scotland.

**Species-specific management:**

A combined-species quota is set for brill and turbot in Subarea IV and Divisions IIa (4,488t in 2016), where brill is primarily a bycatch species in fisheries for plaice and sole. ICES has stated that this combined approach prevents effective control of the single species exploitation rates and could potentially lead to the over-exploitation of either species. Additionally, the TAC area does not match the stock advice area. There is no minimum landing size.

ICES also provides advice for brill in Subdivisions 22-32 (Baltic Sea). There is no TAC set for the area and annual landings in recent years have been around 30t.

R2 – R6

**B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE**

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

*B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.*

<b>LOW</b>	Research to support the management of the stock does not exist
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.

<b>HIGH</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.
<p><b>Determination: Some species-specific research is conducted, but significant improvements could be made to reduce uncertainty.</b></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>No reference points have been defined for the stock. The annual ICES assessment is based on commercial catch data and one commercial index (LPUE Dutch beam trawl fleet). Brill is considered a data-limited stock, with significant gaps in the level of understanding, and considerable uncertainty in the available data.</p> <p>R6, R7</p>	
<b>C. STOCK STATUS</b>	
<b>LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE</b>	
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.	
<b>LOW</b>	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	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.
<b>HIGH</b>	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.
<p><b>Determination: Brill has not been categorised by the IUCN; however there is no additional evidence to lead the assessment team to believe the species is at serious risk and so a medium compliance rating is appropriate.</b></p> <p>The IUCN has not categorised <i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i>, and it is not listed in the CITES appendices.</p> <p>R8, R9</p>	

**5. REFERENCES**

- R1. Image of *Scophthalmus rhombus* by Giragosov, Vitaly:  
<http://www.fishbase.se/photos/PicturesSummary.php?StartRow=1&ID=529&what=species&TotRec=5>
- R2. About the Common Fisheries Policy: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index\\_en.htm](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](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](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/discards/index_en.htm)
- R5. Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Fisheries Department:  
<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/fisheries/>
- R6. COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2016/72 of 22 January 2016:  
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32016R0072&from=EN>
- R7. ICES advice 2015 Brill (*Scophthalmus rhombus*) in Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId,e (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, English Channel):  
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/bll-nsea.pdf>
- R8. IUCN Redlist <http://www.iucnredlist.org/search>
- R9. CITES: <https://cites.org/>