FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL

 R1

FISHERY By-Product:	**Chub Mackerel *(Scomber Japonicus)***
LOCATION:	**Thailand (FAO area 61, Pacific Northwest)**
DATE OF REPORT:	**July 2016**
ASSESSOR:	**Deirdre Hoare**

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	Initial	

1. Scope of Assessment	By-Product surveillance year 2015
2. Fishery By-Product	**Chub Mackerel *(Scomber Japonicus)***
3. Fishery By-Product Location	**Thailand (FAO area 61, Pacific Northwest)**
4. Fishery Method	Purse seine and pelagic gears
5. Outcome of Assessment	Approve byproduct

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

There is a fishery management framework at the national level, although this is not applied specifically to Chub Mackerel. Fisheries management in general is supported by data collection and stock assessment, but species-specific research is extremely limited. The assessment team recommends the approval of this byproduct 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.	
LOW	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.
MEDIUM	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.
HIGH	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.

Determination: There are effective legal and administrative frameworks in place at the national and international levels, however there is evidence of it not being efficient enough to ensure the management of the stock.

National

The Thailand Department of Fisheries (DOF) is the primary fishery management organisation in Thailand. The DOF is responsible for the implementation of Thai fishery legislation, the undertaking of fishery and aquaculture research, fishery control and enforcement, the management of international fishery affairs, and the engagement of fishery and aquaculture stakeholders. The current Thai fisheries management objectives are set out in The Master Plan – Marine Fisheries Management in Thailand. The Master Plan applies for the ten years beginning in 2009. The Plan includes five major strategies, the third of which is "Development and Promotion of Responsible and Sustainable Fisheries"

Royal Ordinance on Fisheries B.E. 2558 (2015) is the major legal instrument under which this authority and fishery operates. This decree prohibits IUU, destructive fishing practices and fishing that causes irreversible impacts to the fishery stock and/or aquatic ecosystem.

Species specific management measures

There is no evidence of any species specific management measures for Chub mackerel in FAO 61 waters.

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B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.	
LOW	Research to support the management of the stock does not exist
MEDIUM	Research to support 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 programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.

Determination: Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.

National

Research supporting the management of Thai fisheries is the responsibility of two main organisations. The Marine Fisheries Research and Development Bureau (MFRDB) within the DOF is responsible for marine fisheries research. The Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR) is mandated to study and enhance mangrove forests, sea grass, coral reefs, and marine animals. The DMCR is responsible for the rehabilitation of natural resources and the environment and has elaborated main strategies with an emphasis on the role of public participation in

preservation, protection, conservation, utilization and rehabilitation of natural resources through proactive and integrated natural resources management.

International

Based on stock assessments of populations of this species in the Japan and the Tsushima Current between 1995 and 2005 (Watanabe 2009), SSB peaked in 1979 at 1,400,000 mt, and then declined to less than 38,000 mt in 2002, where it remained low but stable until 2004 when it increased to 300,000 mt in 2006 and then has slightly declined. In the Tsushima Current, SSB since 1973 averaged 350,000 mt, with a peak of 550,000 mt in 1989 and a low of 100,000 mt in 2004, and then has increased again to about 200,000 mt in 2006. Both stocks have increased in the past 10–12 years, likely due to better recruitment associated environmental changes and reduction in number of vessels and seasonal closures.

Stock assessments are also carried out in the East China Sea.

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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.

Determination: The byproduct comes from as species which is categorised as of least concern by the IUCN.

This species is found in the northwestern Pacific, and in the southeastern and northeastern Pacific. Current assessment in the northwest Pacific indicate one stock is slightly increasing from record lows, and the other stock is also showing recent increases in spawning stock biomass. In the eastern Pacific, landings are also shown to be increasing, although historically there have been large fluctuations in the landing of this species. It is listed as Least Concern.

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5. REFERENCES

R1-Image of Scomber japonicas by Henk Heessen
http://www.marinespecies.org/photogallery.php?album=4487&pic=2609

R2 – FAO country fisheries overview, Thailand: ftp://ftp.fao.org/Fi/DOCUMENT/fcp/en/FI_CP_TH.pdf

R3 – Thailand Department of Fisheries master plan:
http://www.fisheries.go.th/planning/files/Marine%20Master%20Plan.pdf

R4 - Royal Ordinance on Fisheries B.E. 2558 (2015
http://www.fisheries.go.th/law/images/datanew/royalfisheries.pdf

R5 - Li, G., Chen, X., Lei, L., Guan, W. 2014. Distribution of hotspots of chub mackerel based on remote-sensing data in coastal waters of China, International Journal of Remote Sensing 35(11-12): 4399-4421
http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01431161.2014.916057?journalCode=tres20#.VSPuvvnF8Xc

R6 - Wanga, Y., Zheng, J., Yua, C. 2014. Stock assessment of chub mackerel (Scomber japonicus) in the central East China Sea based on length data, Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom 94(01): 211-217 http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=9146516

R7 - IUCN Redlist http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/170306/0