

FISHERY SURVEILLANCE REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)
LOCATION:	UK & Ireland-ICES Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2
DATE OF REPORT:	28/02/2014
ASSESSOR:	Sam Peacock

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

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name:		
Address:		
Country:	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact:	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	Global Trust Certification Ltd.	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Sam Peacock	Dave Garforth	Re-certification
Assessment Summary		
1. Scope of Assessment	Byproduct re-certification	
2. Fishery By-Product	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)	
3. Fishery By-Product Location	UK & Ireland-ICES Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2 (R6)	
4. Fishery Method	Demersal trawls, seines, beam and otter trawls	
5. Outcome of Assessment	Approve byproduct	

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 cod in the assessment area. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment. Although cod is categorised by the IUCN as vulnerable, there is a robust management regime in place and several fisheries have been certified against the MSC standard. 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		
<i>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.</i>		
LOW	There is no satisfactory legal and management framework for fisheries in the region.	
MEDIUM	An administrative and legal framework that underpins management of fisheries in the region is established, but it is not directly applied to the byproduct stock under assessment.	
HIGH	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management for fisheries in the region is established and applied specifically to the byproduct stock under assessment.	
<p>Determination: <i>There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels, and these frameworks are applied specifically to the byproduct species under assessment.</i></p> <p>Fishery management framework:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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), starting in 2015 and eventually encompassing 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.</p> <p>The primary authorities with responsibility for implementing the CFP are the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland, and the Marine Management Organisation (in cooperation with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) in the UK.</p> <p>Species-specific management:</p> <p>Cod is managed as a number of distinct stocks in EU waters, each of which is subject to an annual TAC and a variety of other management measures. The specific nature of management mechanisms in place and the nature (and effectiveness) of management plans varies between management units. The stocks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divisions VIIe-k (Celtic Sea cod). No specific management objectives, but a plan is under development. 2013 TAC was 10,200t. • Division IIIa East (Kattegat). Currently no directed fishery. 2013 TAC was 100t. • Division VIIa (Irish Sea). Currently no directed fishery. 2013 TAC was 285t. • Division VIb (Rockall). Very limited fishery. 2013 TAC was 74t. • Division Via (West of Scotland). Subject to the EU cod long-term management plan. 2013 TAC was 0t. ICES states that management measures have failed to constrain catches and the stock is overfished. • Subdivisions 25-32 (Eastern Baltic Sea). Subject to a multi-annual management plan agreed in 2007, and evaluated by ICES as adherent to the precautionary approach in 2009. 2013 TAC was 68,700t. 		H

- Subdivisions 22-24 (Western Baltic Sea). Subject to a management plan agreed in 2007. The 2013 TAC was 20,000t.
- Subareas I and II (Northeast Arctic cod). Subject to a Joint Russian-Norwegian Fisheries Commission plan since 2004. The 2013 TAC was 1,000,000t.
- Subareas I and II (Norwegian coastal waters cod). Subject to a Norwegian rebuilding plan, evaluated by ICES in 2010 and found to be provisionally consistent with the precautionary approach. The 2013 TAC was 21,000t.
- Division Va (Icelandic cod). Subject to an Icelandic Government management plan since 2009. The 2013 TAC was 196,000t.
- Inshore cod in NAFO Subarea 1 (Greenland cod). No management plan. 2013 TAC was 10,000t.
- Subarea IV (North Sea) and Divisions VIId (Eastern Channel) and IIIa West (Skagerrak). Subject to an EU-Norway management plan. 2013 TAC was set at 26,500t.
- Subdivision Vb₂ (Faroe Bank). Closed to fishing since 2009.
- Subdivision Vb₁ (Faroe Plateau). A management plan has been developed but not yet applied; TAC advice is based on the MSY approach. Landings are limited by time and area closures rather than TAC.

R1 – R7

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 regional fisheries does not exist.
MEDIUM	Research to support the management of regional fisheries exists; however research programmes are not specifically directed at the byproduct stock under assessment.
HIGH	Research specifically targeting the byproduct stock under assessment is carried out in support of sustainable fisheries management.

Determination: Research is carried out specifically to support the management of the species under assessment.

As with management measures, the level of research and stock assessment varies considerably between stocks. However, ICES assesses most stocks on an annual basis and at a minimum, landings data are collected for all stocks. Most stocks are also the subject of fishery-independent surveys and other research.

- Divisions VIIe-k (Celtic Sea cod). Assessed annually, based on commercial catches, one combines survey index and one commercial index.
- Division IIIa East (Kattegat). Assessed annually based on commercial catches and four survey indices.
- Division VIIa (Irish Sea). Assessed biennially, based on commercial landings and nine survey indices.
- Division VIb (Rockall). Assessed biennially based on official landings statistics.
- Division Via (West of Scotland). Assessed annually based on commercial catch and one survey index.
- Subdivisions 25-32 (Eastern Baltic Sea). Assessed annually based on commercial catches, two survey indices and one commercial index.
- Subdivisions 22-24 (Western Baltic Sea). Assessed annually, based on commercial catches, two survey indices and one commercial index.
- Subareas I and II (Northeast Arctic cod). Assessed annually, based on commercial catches and three survey indices.
- Subareas I and II (Norwegian coastal waters cod). Assessed annually, based on commercial catch, acoustic survey and one survey index.

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R6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Va (Icelandic cod). Assessed annually, based on landings-at-age and spring and autumn survey indices. • Inshore cod in NAFO Subarea 1 (Greenland cod). Assessed annually, based on commercial landings data and one survey index. • Subarea IV (North Sea) and Divisions VIId (Eastern Channel) and IIIa West (Skagerrak). Assessed annually, based on commercial catch and one survey index. • Subdivision Vb₂ (Faroe Bank). Assessed whenever new survey results become available (closed since 2009). • Subdivision Vb₁ (Faroe Plateau). Assessed annually, based on commercial catch and two survey indices. 	
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C. STOCK STATUS		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>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.</i>		
LOW	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered by the IUCN.	
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. Alternatively if a species is listed as ‘not assessed’ or ‘data deficient’ by the IUCN and no additional information is available.	
HIGH	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities. Alternatively if a species is listed as ‘not assessed’ or ‘data deficient’ by the IUCN but other sources of evidence (e.g. MSC certification) demonstrate that the species is not critically at risk.	
<p>Determination: Cod has been assessed by the IUCN red list and categorised as ‘vulnerable’. However, several cod fisheries have been certified against the MSC standard. There have been no substantial changes since the initial assessment.</p> <p>The IUCN has assessed <i>Gadus morhua</i> and categorised it as ‘vulnerable’. However, it is listed on the MSC website as a ‘fish to eat’ and there are several MSC-certified fisheries worldwide.</p>		M
R8		

5. REFERENCES

- R1 – About the Common Fisheries Policy: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index_en.htm
- R2 – CFP – Managing fish stocks: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/index_en.htm
- R3 – CFP – Discarding and the Landing
Obligation: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/discards/index_en.htm
- R4 – Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Fisheries
Department: <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/fisheries/>
- R5 – Marine Management Organisation (About): <http://marinemanagement.org.uk/about/index.htm>
- R6 – ICES cod advice, 2014 (all areas): <http://bit.ly/1d1N8Ru> (From the ICES library, <http://www.ices.dk/publications/library/Pages/default.aspx>).

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R7 – EU fishing quotas 2013: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/publications/poster_tac2013_en.pdf

R8 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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