

# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

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



*Illustration: Jón Baldur Hlíðberg R1*

<b>FISHERY By-Product:</b>	<b>Coley/Saithe (Pollachius virens)</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>UK &amp; Ireland-Ices Areas IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2</b>
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>February 2017</b>
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	<b>Deirdre Hoare</b>

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name:		
Address:		
Country: UK & Ireland	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	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Sam Dignan	Re-certification
Assessment Summary		
1. Scope of Assessment	IFFO RS By-Product re-certification	
2. Fishery By-Product	Coley/Saithe ( <i>Pollachius virens</i> )	
3. Fishery By-Product Location	UK & Ireland-Ices Areas IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2	
4. Fishery Method	Bottom 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 the coley stock in the assessment area. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment. 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>		
<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.	
<p><b><i>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.</i></b></p> <p><b>Fishery management framework:</b>                  The UK &amp; 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), which began in selected fisheries in 2015 and will eventually encompass all commercial fisheries from 2019. In 2016, coley became one of the demersal quota species operating within the new regulation, which requires all catches of this species to be accounted for, retained and landed. Finally, the 2014 reform increased 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; 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.</p> <p><b>Species-specific management:</b>                  Coley in the area under assessment is defined by ICES as “Saithe in Subarea IV (North Sea), Division IIIa (Skagerrak), and Subarea VI (West of Scotland and Rockall)”. It is managed according to a joint EU-Norway management plan, which has been evaluated by ICES as consistent with the precautionary approach in the short term. Because the long term performance was not clear, ICES advised that the strategy should be re-evaluated within four years (i.e. no later than 2016) and revised if necessary.</p> <p>The catch option for 2017, based on the EU–Norway management strategy, has a lower F than the corresponding FMSY option and is considered precautionary. A TAC is set for the area “IIIa and IV; Union waters of IIa, IIIb, IIIc and Subdivisions 22-32”, which for 2016 was set at 65,696 t. The advice based on the MSY approach gives a large increase in TAC (140,653 t) compared to the TAC in 2016. This is caused by a combination of improved stock status and changes made to the assessment during the 2016 benchmark process. Therefore, ICES advised that a TAC constraint should be considered by managers. For 2017 the TAC area consists of IIIa and IV; Union waters of IIa with a TAC of 100,287 t.</p>		H

**Table 1. TACs in tonnes 2016, 2017**

Area	2016	Area	2017
IIIa and IV; Union waters of IIa, IIIb, IIIc and Subdivisions 22-32	65,969	IIIa and IV; Union waters of IIa	100,287
VI; Union and international waters of Vb, XII and XIV	6,448	VI; Union and international waters of Vb, XII and XIV	9,994
Norwegian waters south of 62 degrees N	880	Norwegian waters south of 62 degrees N	880
VII, VIII, IX and X; Union waters of CECAF 34.1.1	3176	VII, VIII, IX and X; Union waters of CECAF 34.1.1	3176

R1 – R9

**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.

***Determination: Management of saithe in the assessment area is supported by fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data collection, and by annual ICES stock assessment and advice provision. There is however uncertainty in the scientific advice that could be decreased if research programmes were improved.***

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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.

Coley in the byproduct area is assessed annually by ICES using commercial catches, two survey indices and three commercial indices. A range of reference points have been defined, including ones based on the MSY approach, the precautionary approach, and the international management plan. The saithe assessment went through an ICES benchmark process in 2016. The scientific survey used in the assessment does not cover the whole stock distribution; however, it is considered generally representative. The number of observations (trawl stations) with saithe is low and the resulting survey index is uncertain.

The advice based on the MSY approach gives a large increase in TAC compared to the TAC in 2016. This is caused by a combination of improved stock status and changes made to the assessment during the 2016 benchmark process. The assessment methodology has been changed as well as the time-series used for tuning. It should be taken into account that the assessment and associated short-term forecast is uncertain for this stock (see under “Quality of assessment”) when setting the TAC. In addition, recruitment values are highly uncertain and a substantial portion (33%) of the advised wanted catch in 2017 is based on the recruitment assumptions. Therefore, a TAC constraint should be considered by managers.

R9, R10

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.		
<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: Saithe has not been categorised by the IUCN; however the additional evidence described below leads the assessment team to believe the species is not at serious risk and so a high compliance rating is appropriate.</b></p> <p>The IUCN has not categorised <i>Pollachius virens</i>, and it does not appear in the CITES appendices. There are around 12 saithe fisheries in the Northeast Atlantic which have been certified against the MSC standard.</p> <p>R11, R12</p>		H

**5. REFERENCES**

- R1. About the Common Fisheries Policy: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index\\_en.htm](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](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](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/discards/index_en.htm)
- R4. UK landing obligation guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/demersal-landing-obligation-guidance/demersal-landing-obligation-guidance>
- R5. UK North sea landing obligation guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/north-sea-landing-obligation-guidance/north-sea-landing-obligation-guidance>
- R6. Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Fisheries Department: <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/fisheries/>
- R7. Marine Management Organisation (About): <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/marine-management-organisation>
- R8. Marine Scotland (About): <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/About>
- R9. ICES advice, Mixed Species (inc. Saithe) in Subarea IV (North Sea), Division IIIa (Skagerrak), and Subarea VI (West of Scotland and Rockall): [http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/sai-3a46\\_reopen.pdf](http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/sai-3a46_reopen.pdf)
- R10. EU fishing quotas:
  - 2016: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1457430103171&uri=CELEX:32016R0072>
  - 2017: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32017R0127&from=EN>
- R11. IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>
- R12. CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>