

# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

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



<b>FISHERY By-Product:</b>	<b>Conger eel (<i>Conger conger</i>)</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>North-East Atlantic</b>
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>January 2015</b>
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	<b>Sam Peacock</b>

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name: UFI		
Address:		
Country: UK & Ireland	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact: :	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:		
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Sam Peacock	Deirdre Hoare	Initial
1. Scope of Assessment		
By-Product initial		
2. Fishery By-Product		
Conger eel ( <i>Conger conger</i> )		
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
North-East Atlantic		
4. Fishery Method		
Primarily bycatch by bottom trawls and demersal longline		
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, although this is not applied specifically to conger eel. 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		
<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, but there is no evidence of these being applied specifically to the byproduct species under assessment.</i></b></p> <p><b>Fishery management framework:</b></p> <p>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. 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, 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></p> <p>The Marine Conservation Society (MCS) state that there are no species-specific management objectives or management measures in place for conger eel in Europe.</p> <p>R1 – R7</p>		<b>M</b>
B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.</i>		
<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><i>Determination: Research is conducted to support fisheries management in the EU in general, but there is no evidence of any stock assessment or significant data collection activities with regards to conger eel specifically.</i></b></p>		<b>M</b>

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.

The MCS states that there is no ICES assessment conducted specifically for conger eel, and no information was available to the assessment team regarding the amount of annual landings nor any other detail on fishery data collection.

R7

**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.

***Determination: Conger eel 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.***

M

The IUCN has not categorised *Conger conger*, and it does not appear in the CITES appendices.

R8

**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 – Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Fisheries Department:  
<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/fisheries/>

R5 – Marine Management Organisation (About): <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/marine-management-organisation>

R6 - Marine Scotland (About): <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/About>

R7 – MCS fishfinder, conger eel: <http://www.fishonline.org/fish/149/Eel,%20Conger>

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

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