

# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

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



<b>FISHERY By-Product:</b>	<b>Spiny Dogfish (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>)</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>North-East Atlantic</b>
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>January 2017</b>
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	<b>Deirdre Hoare</b>

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: UFI		
Address: Killybegs, Ireland		
Country: UK & Ireland	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact: Frank Trearty	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Sam Dignan	2 <sup>nd</sup> Surveillance
Assessment Details		
1. Scope of Assessment	By-Product surveillance year 2016	
2. Fishery By-Product	Spiny Dogfish ( <i>Squalus acanthias</i> )	
3. Fishery By-Product Location	North-East Atlantic	
4. Fishery Method	Trawl, gillnet, longline	
5. Outcome of Assessment	Approve	

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT
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3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
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There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and UK & Ireland levels, which is applied specifically to the spiny dogfish stock in the assessment area. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment, although ICES considers there to be substantial improvements which could be made. Spiny dogfish is categorised as endangered by the IUCN, this is reflected by management in the closure of the targeted fishery since 2011. 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 spiny dogfish in the North-East Atlantic.</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. 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>                      A TAC of 0t is in place for spiny dogfish in ICES areas IIIa, IIa and IV, and I, V, VI, VII, VIII, XII and XIV, which reflects the poor status of the stock. Since these zero TACs were introduced in 2011, there have been no target fisheries in EC or Norwegian waters. Landings do occur, but are considered to be very small (around 265t in 2015, of which 217t were in Norway, which has a no discard policy).</p> <p>R1 – R6</p>		<b>H</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>Determination: Research is conducted on the specific byproduct species under assessment in support of its management. ICES has expressed concerns over the quality of the available data.</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>ICES provides advice for the management of spiny dogfish on a biennial basis. The stock assessment utilises survey length-frequency data from four fishery-independent surveys, total landings, and a standardised Scottish survey index. ICES states that because of the number of assumptions made within the assessment model, uncertainty is likely to be underestimated. Estimates of total dead catch of Northeast Atlantic spurdog have been used, together with UK length–frequency distributions. However, there are still concerns over the quality of the data as a consequence of (a) uncertainty in the historical level of catches because of misreporting and generic landings categories; (b) lack of commercial length–frequency information for countries other than the UK; (c) lack of data on dead discards; and (d) the survey data examined do not cover the entire stock area. Reliable catch data since 2010 are not available. Future assessments require updated and validated growth parameters and better estimates of natural mortality.</p> <p>R6 – R8</p>		M

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>		
<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: Spiny dogfish has been categorised by the IUCN as endangered in its European regional assessment, there have been no targeted fisheries in EU waters since 2011.</b></p> <p>The IUCN has categorised the spiny dogfish (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>) as endangered in its European regional assessment.</p> <p>The TAC was reduced by 90% in 2010, and set to zero from 2011 onwards. There have been no targeted fisheries in EU or Norwegian waters since 2011. Spurdog remains a bycatch in the mixed demersal and gillnet fisheries, and an unquantified amount of discarding now takes place in these fisheries</p> <p>R7, 9</p>		M

## 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.** ICES advice, spiny dogfish, October 2016, Advice for 2017 and 2018: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/dgs-nea.pdf>
- R8.** EU fishing quotas 2016: [http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/agrifish/2015/12/st15276\\_en15\\_pdf](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/agrifish/2015/12/st15276_en15_pdf)
- R9.** IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>