

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Spiny Dogfish (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>)
LOCATION:	North-East Atlantic
DATE OF REPORT:	January 2016
ASSESSOR:	Deirdre Hoare

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
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Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Sam Dignan	Surveillance
Assessment Details		
1. Scope of Assessment	By-Product surveillance	
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	Maintain byproduct approval	

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 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. Although spiny dogfish is categorised as vulnerable by the IUCN, this is mitigated by 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>	
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.
<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>	
Fishery management framework:	
<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), 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>	
Species-specific management:	
<p>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 332t in 2013, of which 251t were in Norway, which has a no discard policy).</p> <p>R1 – R6</p>	
H	
B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.</i>	
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.

<p>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.</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 has stated that there are concerns over the quality of catch data, including length compositions, discard rates, and survival rates of discards.</p> <p>R6 – R8</p>		M
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.	
<p>Determination: Spiny dogfish has been categorised by the IUCN as vulnerable; however targeted fisheries have been closed since 2011, representing a clear and conservative restriction of total fishing effort.</p> <p>The IUCN has categorised the spiny dogfish as vulnerable. However, the current closure of targeted spiny dogfish fisheries has led, in the most recent stock assessment, to a slight increase in estimates biomass. ICES considers the current fishing pressure to be appropriate to the status of the stock.</p> <p>R9</p>		M

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): <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/marine-management-organisation>
- R6 - Marine Scotland (About): <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/About>

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R7 – ICES advice, spiny dogfish, October 2014, Advice for 2015 and 2016:

<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2014/2014/dgs-nea.pdf>

R8 – EU fishing quotas 2016:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/agrifish/2015/12/st15276_en15_pdf

R9 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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