

FISHERY By-Product SURVEILLANCE REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Greenland Halibut / Black Halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)
LOCATION:	ICES Subareas V, VI, XII, and XIV
DATE OF REPORT:	30/11/11
ASSESSOR:	Sam Peacock

Global Trust Certification Ltd, Rivercourt Business Centre, Riverlane, 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	Mike Platt	Initial
1. Scope of Assessment		
		By-Product surveillance
2. Fishery By-Product		
		Greenland Halibut / Black Halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
		ICES Subareas V, VI, XII, and XIV
4. Fishery Method		
		Mainly demersal trawls
5. Outcome of Assessment		
		Approve (medium compliance)

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT
Is the byproduct sourced exclusively from the fishery covered by the ICES advice? i.e. ICES Subareas V, VI, XII, and XIV.
3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
There is a robust fishery management framework in place, but significant evidence that it is not sufficient to effectively manage the Greenland halibut fishery. Scientific advice is not always followed and ICES considers the stock to be overfished. For these reasons the assessment team recommends approving the byproduct with medium compliance.

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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.	
<p><i>Determination: An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established, but there is evidence of it not being sufficient for effective management of the stock.</i></p> <p>Fishery management framework (Europe):</p> <p>France is a member of the European Union and therefore in Community waters implements 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>With regard to resource management, the CFP regulations comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A traditional management tool based on TACs and quotas; • Technical measures relating to gear or catch; • Effort-related management, based on vessel engine power and the number of days at sea. <p>The CFP also provides for the introduction of measures to rebuild, over a period of several years, stocks that are threatened in terms of sustainable harvesting, and for recourse to effort-related management rules to supplement TACs and quotas.</p> <p>Fishery management framework (France):</p> <p>The French Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries (Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation, de la Pêche, de la Ruralité et de l'Aménagement du territoire) is responsible for marine fisheries and aquaculture throughout the country. This ranges from quota negotiations to enforcement, which is carried out by the French navy, maritime affairs, customs, and other French government agencies.</p> <p>Management of Greenland halibut:</p> <p>Annual TACs are set for European Greenland halibut fisheries. Present fishing mortality is estimated at between three to four times the fishing mortality associated with maximum sustainable yield, and ICES recommends the immediate establishment of a region-wide management plan.</p>		M
(R1 – R4)		

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 to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.</p> <p>ICES advice:</p> <p>The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) provides annual advice on quotas and management of the Greenland halibut fishery in ICES Subareas V, VI, XII, and XIV. The assessment is based on catch per unit effort (CPUE) data for the Icelandic fleet, and two trawl survey indices. ICES considers that lack of knowledge on life history and stock structure of Greenland halibut in relation to the assessment area impedes the interpretation and weighting of the different biomass indices. However, the assessment team considers these improvements to be desirable rather than essential, and consequently scores the fishery highly compliant in this section.</p> <p>In 2010 ICES also published advice for Greenland halibut in subareas I and II. It is not clear why advice was not published for this area in 2011. This fishery is prosecuted almost entirely by Norway and Russia, and appears to have significantly less scientific data available. On-site assessors should determine whether any byproduct is sourced from this stock, and if so the compliance of this section should be downgraded to medium.</p> <p>(R3, R4)</p>		H
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.	
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: Greenland halibut has not been classified by the IUCN, but is considered to be overfished by ICES.</p> <p>The IUCN has not assessed <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>. ICES considers the stock to be overfished, estimates biomass to be well below B_{MSY}, and has recommended the fishery be closed in 2012.</p> <p>(R3, R4)</p>		M

5. REFERENCES

R1– OECD country note on fishery management – France: <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/11/36/34429244.pdf>

R2 – French Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, marine fisheries: <http://agriculture.gouv.fr/peche-maritime>

R3 – ICES advice 2011, Greenland halibut:
<http://www.ices.dk/committe/acom/comwork/report/2011/2011/ghl-grn.pdf>

R4 – ICES advice 2010, Greenland halibut:
<http://www.ices.dk/committe/acom/comwork/report/asp/advice.asp?Region=-1&Species=37&Period=305&submit1=Submit+Query&mode=2>

R5 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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