

# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

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



|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>FISHERY By-Product:</b> | <b>Greenland Halibut / Black Halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)</b> |
| <b>LOCATION:</b>           | <b>ICES Subareas V, VI, XII and XIV (France)</b>                               |
| <b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>     | <b>November 2016</b>   |
| <b>ASSESSOR:</b>           | <b>Deirdre Hoare</b>   |

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| 1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME |                      |   |
|--|----------------------|---|
| Name:  |                      |   |
| Address:   |                      |   |
| Country: France  | 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/<br>Re-certification                                 |
| Deirdre Hoare  | Virginia Polonio     | Surveillance Yr2  |
| 1. Scope of Assessment                                       |                      |   |
|  |                      | By-Product surveillance year 2016   |
| 2. Fishery By-Product  |                      |   |
|  |                      | Greenland Halibut / Black Halibut ( <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i> ) |
| 3. Fishery By-Product Location                               |                      |   |
|  |                      | ICES Subareas V, VI, XII and XIV (France)                                 |
| 4. Fishery Method  |                      |   |
|  |                      | Demersal trawl & gillnet  |
| 5. Outcome of Assessment                                     |                      |   |
|  |                      | Maintain approval   |

**2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT**

**3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION**

There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and France levels which is applied specifically to the Greenland halibut stock in the assessment area. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment. The assessment team recommends approving 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.  |

**Determination: There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels, and these frameworks are applied specifically to the byproduct species under assessment.**

**Fishery management framework:**

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.

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.

The primary authority with responsibility for implementing the CFP in France is the Directorate of Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture (*Direction des Pêches Maritimes et de l’Aquaculture, DPMA*), within the government Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy (*Ministère de l’Écologie, du Développement Durable et de l’Énergie*).

**Species-specific management:**

Greenland halibut is subject to a number of different quotas throughout the area assessed by ICES as a single stock (Subareas V, VI, XII and XIV). The EU quota regions, along with their 2016 TACs, are as follows:

- EU waters of IIa and IV, Vb and VI: 2,500t (including Norway),(France 259t)
- Greenland waters of V and XIV: 4,515t (plus 575t to Norway, 110t to Faroes)

In Faroese waters total effort is limited by number of fishing licences. A formal management plan was agreed by Greenland and Iceland in 2014, aimed at being consistent with MSY. This plan has not yet been evaluated by ICES.

**Table 1. Greenland halibut in subareas 5, 6, 12, and 14. History of ICES advice, the agreed TAC, and ICES estimates of landings. Weights are in thousand tonnes. (ICES advice 2016 R6).**

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| Year | ICES advice                                     | Predicted catch corresp. to advice | TAC for Iceland EEZ** | TAC for Greenland EEZ | ICES landings subareas 5, 6, 12, and 14 |
|------|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
|      | management plan to be developed and implemented |                                    |                       |                       |   |
| 2013 | F reduced to $F_{MSY}$                          | < 20                               | 15                    | 10                    | 27                                      |
| 2014 | F reduced to $F_{MSY}$                          | < 20                               | 12.5                  | 9.8                   | 21                                      |
| 2015 | F reduced to $F_{MSY}$                          | < 25                               | 14.1                  | 8.3                   | 26                                      |
| 2016 | Fishing at $F_{MSY}$                            | < 22                               | 12.4                  | 9.5                   |   |
| 2017 | Fishing at $F_{MSY}$                            | ≤ 24                               |                       |                       |   |

\* Catch at *status quo* F.

\*\* For the fishing year ending 31 August.

**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 the fishery is supported by stock-specific research, both fishery-dependent and fishery-independent. The level of data collection is generally considered sufficient by ICES.***

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.

ICES produces an annual stock assessment and management advice for Greenland halibut in Subareas V, VI, XII and XIV. The assessment is based on commercial catches (including landings and length frequencies from catch sampling), two fishery-independent survey indices, and three commercial indices. ICES states that there is considerable uncertainty in the use of commercial CPUE data prior to 1995. Precautionary and MSY-based reference points have been calculated for the stock.

R5, R6

**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: Greenland halibut 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.***

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

R7, R8

**5. REFERENCES**

R1- Image of Reinhardtius hippoglossoides by Andrey Dolgov  
<http://www.fishbase.se/photos/PicturesSummary.php?StartRow=0&ID=516&what=species&TotRec=3>

R2 – About the Common Fisheries Policy: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index_en.htm)

R3 – 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)

R4 – 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)

R5 – French Directorate of Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture: <http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/-Les-peches-maritimes-et-l-.html>

R6 – ICES advice, Greenland halibut in Subareas V, VI, XII and XIV, June 2016:  
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/ghl-grn.pdf>

R7 – EU fishing quotas 2016: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32016R0072&from=EN>

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

R9 – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

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