

# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

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



<b>FISHERY By-Product:</b>	Herring ( <i>Clupea harengus</i> )
<b>LOCATION:</b>	UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	28/02/2014
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	Sam Peacock

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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	Dave Garforth	Re-certification
1. Scope of Assessment		
		Byproduct re-certification
2. Fishery By-Product		
		Herring ( <i>Clupea harengus</i> )
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
		UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2 (R6)
4. Fishery Method		
		Pair trawlers in shallow, coastal waters, and single trawls, purse seiners and freezer trawlers offshore
5. Outcome of Assessment		
		Approve byproduct

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT
3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
<p>There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and UK &amp; Ireland levels, which is applied specifically to herring in the assessment area. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment, and the species has been categorised by the IUCN as a species of least concern. The assessment team recommends the approval of this byproduct material against the IFFO RS standard.</p>

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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>	
<b>LOW</b>	There is no satisfactory legal and management framework for fisheries in the region.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	An administrative and legal framework that underpins management of fisheries in the region is established, but it is not directly applied to the byproduct stock under assessment.
<b>HIGH</b>	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management for fisheries in the region is established and applied specifically to the byproduct stock under assessment.

**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. Although the level of application of management measures to the species varies from stock to stock, the assessment team considers a high compliance rating appropriate.***

H

**Fishery management framework:**

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.

The CFP has undergone a series of updates, including the most recent reform which was implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> 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), starting in 2015 and eventually encompassing 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 authorities with responsibility for implementing the CFP are the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland, and the Marine Management Organisation (in cooperation with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) in the UK.

**Species-specific management:**

Herring in the North-East Atlantic is managed as a large number of stocks, of which seven are relevant to the area covered by this assessment. The level and nature of management measures varies between stocks, but all are subject to an annual TAC set, in general, according to the ICES advice.

- Subareas I, II and V, and in Divisions Iva and XIVa (Norwegian spring-spawning herring): Managed according to a long-term international management plan adopted in 1999 and evaluated by ICES as adherent to the precautionary approach. In 2013 the sum of the independently-set international TACs was 692,000t.
- Divisions VIa (South) and VIIb,c: No explicit management plan, although a rebuilding plan has been evaluated by the STECF. The most recent TAC listed in the ICES advice is for 2012, when it was set at 4,200t.
- Division VIIa North of 52°30'N (Irish Sea): No specific management plan currently in place, although one is under development. The TAC in 2013, set to follow the MSY-approach, was 4,993t.

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- Division VIa (North): Managed according to an EU management plan adopted in 2008, which has been evaluated as precautionary by ICES. The 2013 TAC, set in line with this plan, was 27,480t.
- Divisions VIIa (South of 52°30'N) and VIIg,h,j,k (Celtic Sea and South of Ireland): Managed according to a long-term management plan since 2011, which has been found by ICES to be in accordance with the precautionary approach. The most recent TAC in the ICES advice is for 2012, when it was set at 21,200t.
- Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId (North Sea autumn spawners): Managed according to a management plan agreed between the EU and Norway in 2008, which has been found to be precautionary by ICES. The 2013 TAC was set at 478,000t.
- Divisions VIIa (Irish Sea): No specific management objectives. The 2013 TAC was set at 1,215t.

R1 – R7

**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 regional fisheries does not exist.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Research to support the management of regional fisheries exists; however research programmes are not specifically directed at the byproduct stock under assessment.
<b>HIGH</b>	Research specifically targeting the byproduct stock under assessment is carried out in support of sustainable fisheries management.

**Determination: *Although the specific level of research, and therefore the reliability of the stock assessment, varies from stock to stock, in general the research supporting the management of the stocks is sufficient to justify a high compliance rating.***

Each of the seven herring stocks relevant to this assessment is subject to an annual stock assessment conducted by ICES utilising available catch and survey data. The level of scientific understanding varies from stock to stock.

- Subareas I, II and V, and in Divisions IVa and XIVa (Norwegian spring-spawning herring): Assessment is based on commercial catches and eight survey indices. Discards are not included but are thought to be negligible.
- Divisions VIa (South) and VIIb,c: The exploratory assessment conducted in 2013 was based on commercial catch data and Malin Shelf Acoustic Survey data.
- Division VIIa North of 52°30'N (Irish Sea): The assessment is based on two survey indices, commercial catch-at-age data and annual maturity ogives, and annual stock weights. ICES states that input data and sampling coverage is good for this stock.
- Division VIa (North): Assessment based on commercial catches and one acoustic survey index. ICES states that the assessment is 'noisy, but unbiased'. There are minor issues with meeting minimum sampling requirements and general sampling coverage.
- Divisions VIIa (South of 52°30'N) and VIIg,h,j,k (Celtic Sea and South of Ireland): Assessment is based on commercial catches and an acoustic survey index. ICES states that greater understanding is required on the extent to which Celtic Sea herring is present in the Irish Sea.
- Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId (North Sea autumn spawners): Assessment is based on commercial catches, one trawl survey, two larval surveys and an acoustic survey. ICES states that both spawning stock biomass and fishing mortality are reliably estimated by the stock assessment.
- Divisions VIIa (Irish Sea): Assessment is conducted using one survey index and other data from the survey. The assessment is based on trends only and could be significantly improved (although ICES states that this improvement is already happening).

R6	
<b>C. STOCK STATUS</b>	
<b>LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE</b>	
<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 by the IUCN.
<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. Alternatively if a species is listed as ‘not assessed’ or ‘data deficient’ by the IUCN and no additional information is available.
<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. Alternatively if a species is listed as ‘not assessed’ or ‘data deficient’ by the IUCN but other sources of evidence (e.g. MSC certification) demonstrate that the species is not critically at risk.
<b>Determination: Herring has been deemed by the IUCN red list as not at risk of over exploitation.</b>	
The IUCN has categorised <i>Clupea harengus</i> as a species of least concern.	
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): <http://marinemanagement.org.uk/about/index.htm>
- R6 – ICES herring advice, 2013:
  - Subareas I, II and V, and in Divisions Iva and XIVA (Norwegian spring-spawning herring): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2013/2013/her-noss.pdf>
  - Divisions VIa (South) and VIIb,c: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2013/2013/her-irlw.pdf>
  - Division VIIa North of 52°30’N (Irish Sea): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2013/2013/her-nirs.pdf>
  - Division VIa (North): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2013/2013/her-vian.pdf>
  - Divisions VIIa (South of 52°30’N) and VIIg,h,j,k (Celtic Sea and South of Ireland): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2013/2013/her-irls.pdf>
  - Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId (North Sea autumn spawners): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2013/2013/her-47d3.pdf>
  - Divisions VIIa (Irish Sea): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2013/2013/had-iris.pdf>

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R7 – EU fishing quotas 2013: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/publications/poster\\_tac2013\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/publications/poster_tac2013_en.pdf)

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

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