

FISHERY By-Product SURVEILLANCE REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



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| FISHERY By-Product: | Beaked Redfish (<i>Sebastes mentella</i>) |
| LOCATION: | Iceland ICES (Division Va) |
| DATE OF REPORT: | 26/02/2012 |
| ASSESSOR: | Sam Peacock |

Global Trust Certification Ltd, Quay side Business Centre, 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 | | |
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| Name: Fishmeal Association of Iceland | | |
| 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 | Surveillance |
| 1. Scope of Assessment | | |
| 1. Scope of Assessment | | By-Product surveillance |
| 2. Fishery By-Product | | |
| 2. Fishery By-Product | | Beaked Redfish (<i>Sebastes mentella</i>) |
| 3. Fishery By-Product Location | | |
| 3. Fishery By-Product Location | | Iceland ICES (Division Va) |
| 4. Fishery Method | | |
| 4. Fishery Method | | Bottom trawl |
| 5. Outcome of Assessment | | |
| 5. Outcome of Assessment | | Maintain approval |

| 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 national level, and management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment. However, both management and research could be improved at the species and individual stock levels. The assessment team recommends the approval of this byproduct be maintained.

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 | There is no satisfactory legal and management framework for fisheries in the region. |
| MEDIUM | 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. |
| HIGH | 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, although the extent of species-specific management measures is limited, and there are no management plans in place for any Icelandic beaked redfish stock.*

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Fishery management framework:

Modern Icelandic fisheries management is based on the Fisheries Management Act of 1990, and is the responsibility of the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture. The objectives of the Fisheries Management Act are to promote the conservation and efficient utilisation of the marine resources and thus to ensure stable employment and economic viability of fishing communities. In other words, the aim is to ensure the sustainability of the fisheries while emphasising the economic benefits of the fisheries sector. The fisheries management system in Iceland is primarily based on extensive research on the fish stocks and the marine ecosystem, decisions made on the conduct of fisheries and allowable catches on the basis of scientific advice, and effective monitoring and enforcement of the fisheries and the total catch. Research is carried out within Iceland by the Marine Research Institute and internationally by ICES. These are the main pillars of the Icelandic fisheries management intended to ensure responsible fisheries and the sustainability of the ocean’s natural resources. Management of those stocks subject to international prosecution is facilitated by Iceland’s membership of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC).

Species-specific management:

Beaked redfish in Icelandic waters is managed as four distinct stocks (see section B). None of these is subject to explicit management objectives, and while all are subject to some form of annual quota, in recent years there has been no international agreement on TAC for some stocks.

R1 – R6

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| 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 regional fisheries does not exist. | |
| MEDIUM | Research to support the management of regional fisheries exists; however research programmes are not specifically directed at the byproduct stock under assessment. | |
| HIGH | Research specifically targeting the byproduct stock under assessment is carried out in support of sustainable fisheries management. | |
| <p>Determination: <i>Research is carried out specifically to support the management of the species under assessment, but significant improvements could be made in the level of information available for stock assessment. There have been no major changes since the initial assessment.</i></p> <p>ICES provides annual stock assessments and management recommendations for four separate beaked redfish stocks in Icelandic waters: Beaked redfish (<i>Sebastes mentella</i>) in Division XIVb (Demersal), in Division Va and Subarea XIV (Icelandic slope stock), in Subareas V, XII, and XIV and NAFO Subareas 1+2 (Shallow pelagic stock < 500 m), and in Subareas V, XII, and XIV and NAFO Subareas 1+2 (Deep pelagic stock > 500 m). The precise level of scientific data available to assessors varies between stocks, but assessments are generally trend-based, utilising catch and/or survey data. ICES states that there is a lack of long time-series indices of abundance, and also a lack of recruitment data.</p> <p>R2 – R5</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> | | |
| LOW | The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered by the IUCN. | |
| 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. Alternatively if a species is listed as ‘not assessed’ or ‘data deficient’ by the IUCN and no additional information is available. | |
| HIGH | 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. | |
| <p>Determination: <i>The species as a whole is not currently considered to be at risk of overfishing, though some individual stocks may be.</i></p> <p>The IUCN has categorised <i>Sebastes mentella</i> as a species of least concern. ICES reports on the status of stocks vary between regions and depending on the amount of information available; some stocks appear to be in decline whereas others are stable.</p> <p>R7</p> | | M |

5. REFERENCES

R1 – Icelandic fisheries management: <http://www.fisheries.is/management/fisheries-management/>

R2 – ICES 2012 beaked redfish (demersal) advice:

<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2012/2012/smn-grl.pdf>

R3 – ICES 2012 beaked redfish (Icelandic slope stock) advice:

<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2012/2012/smn-con.pdf>

R4 – ICES 2012 beaked redfish (Shallow pelagic stock) advice:

<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2012/2012/smn-sp.pdf>

R5 – ICES beaked redfish (deep pelagic stocks) advice:

<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2012/2012/smn-dp.pdf>

R6 – EU fishing quotas 2012: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/publications/poster_tac2012_en.pdf

R7 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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