
FISHERY By-Product SURVEILLANCE REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)
LOCATION:	Iceland ICES (Division Va)
DATE OF REPORT:	26/02/2012
ASSESSOR:	Sam Peacock

Global Trust Certification Ltd, Quayside Business Centre, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864

Form No: 9	Report Ref: Ice By products	Page 1 of 5	CCM Code:
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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
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		
		By-Product surveillance
2. Fishery By-Product		
		Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
		Iceland ICES (Division Va)
4. Fishery Method		
		Handline, longline, gillnet fisheries, Danish seine and bottom trawl.
5. Outcome of Assessment		
		Maintain approval

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT
3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
<p>There is a robust fishery management framework at the national level, which is applied specifically to cod in the assessment area. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment. As there have been no substantial changes since the initial assessment, the assessment team recommends the approval of this byproduct be maintained.</p>

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Form No: 9	Report Ref:Ice By products	Page 2 of 5	CCM Code:

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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	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.	
<p>Determination: <i>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. There have been no significant changes since the initial assessment.</i></p> <p>Fishery management framework:</p> <p>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).</p> <p>Species-specific management:</p> <p>Cod is managed as a large number of distinct stocks in the North-East Atlantic, each of which is subject to an annual TAC and a variety of other management measures. The specific nature of management mechanisms in place and the nature (and effectiveness) of management plans varies between management units. Cod in Icelandic waters is assessed and managed as a single stock, which is subject to annual TACs and a management plan which has been in place since 2008. ICES has assessed the management plan and found it to be compliant with the precautionary approach.</p>		H
R1 – R3		

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. There have been no substantial changes since the initial assessment.</i></p> <p>ICES conducts an annual stock assessment for Icelandic cod and provides management advice based on the results. The assessment is based on landings and survey data, and is considered by ICES to be scientifically robust and reliable. In recent years fishery removals have been in line with ICES advice and biomass estimates have been steadily increasing.</p> <p>R2</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 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>Cod has been assessed by the IUCN red list and categorised as ‘vulnerable’. However, several cod fisheries have been certified against the MSC standard. There have been no substantial changes since the initial assessment.</i></p> <p>The IUCN has assessed <i>Gadus morhua</i> and categorised it as ‘vulnerable’. However, it is listed on the MSC website as a ‘fish to eat’ and there are several MSC-certified fisheries worldwide.</p> <p>R4 & R5</p>		M

5. REFERENCES

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

R2 – ICES Icelandic cod advice, 2012:
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2012/2012/cod-iceg.pdf>

R3 – EU fishing quotas 2012: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/publications/poster_tac2012_en.pdf

R4 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

R5 – MSC fish-to-eat, cod: <http://www.msc.org/cook-eat-enjoy/fish-to-eat/cod>

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Form No: 9	Report Ref:Ice By products	Page 5 of 5	CCM Code:

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