

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)
LOCATION:	North-East Atlantic
DATE OF REPORT:	September 2015
ASSESSOR:	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:		
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Sam Peacock	Deirdre Hoare	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
By-Product surveillance		
2. Fishery By-Product		
Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)		
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
North-East Atlantic (Norway)		
4. Fishery Method		
Pelagic trawl gear, purse seine nets and handlines.		
5. Outcome of Assessment		
Maintain approval		

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

Mackerel in the North-East Atlantic is an internationally-fished stock, with robust management and scientific infrastructure in place. Although the management plan has not been followed in recent years, the stock is estimated by ICES to have a biomass above the target reference point. As the species is categorised by the IUCN as a species of least concern and has been previously certified against the MSC standard, the assessment team recommends the approval of this byproduct.

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.

Determination: An administrative framework is in place and is applied specifically to mackerel in the North-East Atlantic. As in previous assessments, there is a significant discrepancy between scientific advice and final TAC, and the management plan does not appear to be implemented effectively. The assessment team considers a medium compliance rating to remain appropriate.

M

Administrative and legal framework:

The Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs is responsible for, amongst other activities, ensuring long-term, optimal exploitation of living marine resources; ensuring sound management of the marine environment; and progressing towards a profitable, self-sustained fisheries industry.

The regulatory system for fisheries management in Norway is an interactive and iterative process based on incremental changes, and is sometimes referred to as the regulatory chain. The chain has no set start or finish, but can rather be seen as a continuous process.

About 90 per cent of Norway’s fish stocks are shared with other states, and bilateral or multilateral negotiations for these stocks take place as the first stage of quota-setting. After these negotiations, the Directorate of Fisheries makes a proposal regarding the regulations for the upcoming year to a broad range of stakeholders. After this consultation, the Directorate of Fisheries recommends next year’s fisheries regulations to the Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs. The Ministry bases its final decision on outcomes from the quota negotiations with other states, discussions from the consultation process, the recommendation from the Directorate of Fisheries, as well as input from various fisheries industry organisations.

Enforcement:

Norwegian fisheries regulations are enforced at sea, when the fish is landed and when it is exported. At sea, the Coast Guard is responsible for inspecting fishing vessels and checking their catch against their log books.

Both Norwegian and foreign fishing vessels are subject to stringent controls in all Norwegian fishing waters. The Coast Guard performs more than 1800 inspections of Norwegian and the foreign vessels that fish in Norwegian waters annually. Vessels over 24 meters (15 meters for vessels from EU) are required to carry satellite transponders which make it possible to track their activity 24 hours a day.

Species-specific management:

Mackerel in the north-east Atlantic is managed as a combined stock due to its widely distributed and migratory nature. It is fished by Norway, the Faroe Islands and the EU, and a management plan was agreed between these countries in October 2008. ICES evaluated the plan and found it precautionary. However, since 2009 there has been no international agreement on TAC and a stock assessment required by the plan is currently unavailable. Total agreed TAC has considerably exceeded the TAC implied by the management plan, and landings have been

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approximately double the management plan recommendations since 2010.

R1 – R4

B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE

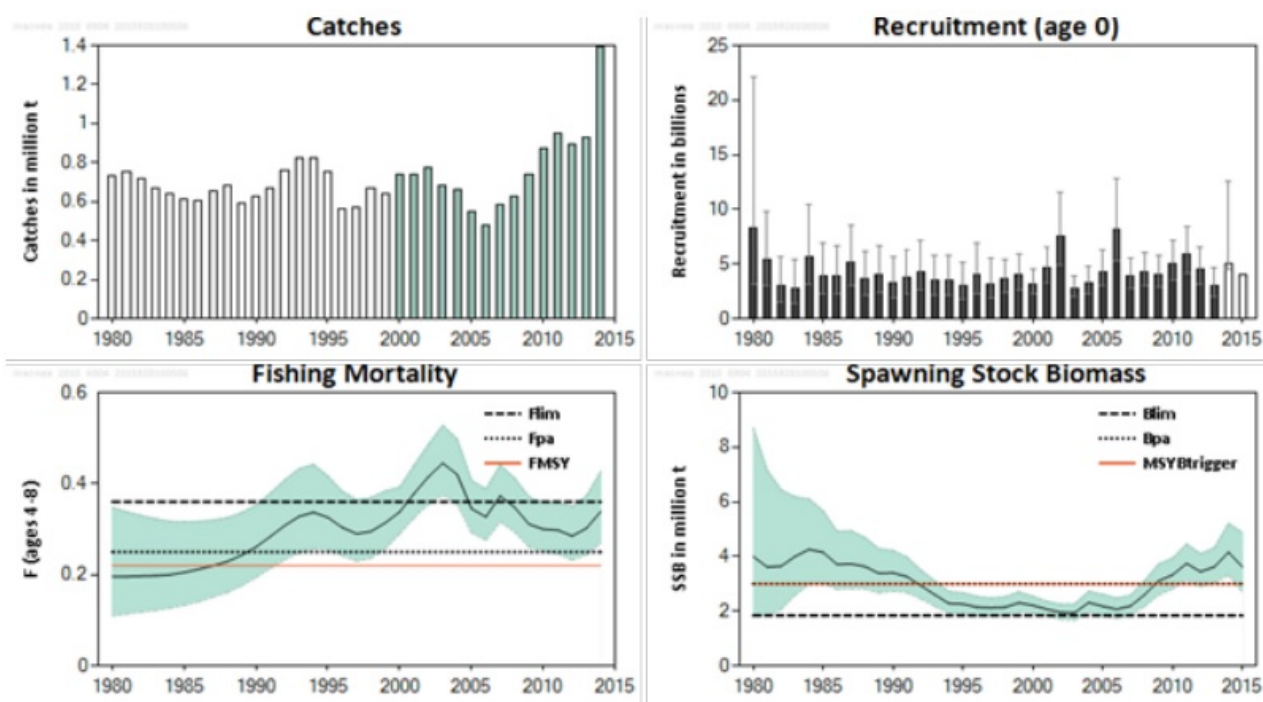
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE

B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.

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.

Determination: Research is carried out in support of the management of the species under assessment, and continues to be sufficient to enable an analytical stock assessment with estimates of uncertainty.

The most recent ICES advice continues the analytical assessment made possible by the 2014 benchmarking. The assessment is based on catch data, tagging data, three survey indices, and discard data. The new assessment model is considered to give reliable information on the state of the stock, along with estimates of uncertainty in all stock parameters. The mackerel stock is considered to be subject to overfishing, but biomass is currently estimated to be above both the limit and target reference points.



Mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic. From the ICES advice, September 2015.

Norway Institute of Marine Research:

The Institute of Marine Research (IMR) is Norway's largest centre of marine science. The aim of the research and management advice provided by IMR is to ensure that Norway's marine resources are harvested in a sustainable way. IMR's headquarters are in Bergen, but important activities are also carried out in Tromsø, at the research stations in Matre, Austevoll and Flødevigen and on board research vessels, which are at sea for a total of 1600 days a year. The Institute is heavily engaged in development aid activities through the Centre for

Development Cooperation in Fisheries. The IMR conducts research specifically on monkfish species, including tagging.		
R4, R5		
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.	
Determination: The byproduct comes from a species which is not deemed at risk of over exploitation.		H
<p><i>Scomber scombrus</i> has been categorised by the IUCN as a species of least concern. The stock from which this byproduct is sourced has previously been certified by the MSC, but that certification is currently suspended as a result of catch exceeding scientific advice in recent years.</p>		
R6		

5. REFERENCES

- R1 – Norway Fisheries website, ‘The Regulatory Chain’: http://www.fisheries.no/resource_management/setting_quotas/The-regulatory-chain/
- R2 – Norway Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs website: <http://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/fkd/The-Ministry-of-Fisheries-and-Coastal-Affairs.html?id=262>
- R3 – Norway Fisheries website, ‘Control and Enforcement’: http://www.fisheries.no/resource_management/control_monitoring_surveillance/Control_and_enforcement/
- R4 – ICES advice, Mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic (combined Southern, Western, and North Sea spawning components), September 2015: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/mac-nea.pdf>
- R5 – Institute of Marine Research, about: http://www.imr.no/om_havforskningsinstituttet/en
- R6 – IUCN Red List: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>
- R7 – MSC certified fisheries by species, mackerel: <https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries-in-the-program/fisheries-by-species/fisheries-by-species#mackerel>