

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Atlanto-Scandian (Norwegian spring-spawning) herring, <i>Clupea harengus</i> .
LOCATION:	North East Atlantic, FAO 27
DATE OF REPORT:	December 2015
ASSESSOR:	Deirdre Hoare

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
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Name of Certification Body:	SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Sam Dignan	Initial
1. Scope of Assessment		
		By-Product initial
2. Fishery By-Product		
		Atlanto-Scandian (Norwegian spring-spawning) herring, <i>Clupea harengus</i> .
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
		North East Atlantic, FAO 27
4. Fishery Method		
		Purse Seine nets, Midwater pelagic trawls
5. Outcome of Assessment		
		Approve byproduct

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and Denmark levels, which is applied to specifically to the herring stocks in the assessment area. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment. The assessment team recommends the approval of 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>	
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: There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels. There is also some evidence that current management measures are not sufficient to ensure the long-term sustainability of the fisheries.

Fishery management framework:

Denmark 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 authorities with responsibility for implementing the CFP is the Danish Directorate of Fisheries, which is a part of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, under the 1999 Fisheries Act.

Species-specific management:

The fishery is primarily managed according to a long-term international management plan first agreed in 1999. There have been years in which the signatory nations have not been able to agree to set the total quota in line with the plan, and the most recent estimate of SSB indicates that biomass has fallen below Bpa. In general the total international TAC has matched that implied by the harvest control rules set out in this management plan. During 2003 – 2006 there was no international agreement on TAC, although the plan was adhered to by all signatories 2007-2013. There was again no international agreement on TAC for the 2013, 2014 or 2015 fisheries. The 2014 and 2015 ICES advice indicates that SSB has fallen below Bpa, although this was predicted in the 2013 advice to occur even without any fishing in 2014.

R1-R5

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 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	<p>Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.</p> <p>Determination: ICES carries out an annual stock assessment based on a number of fishery dependent and fishery independent data sources. The current level of scientific understanding of the stock has room for improvement but is generally considered to be adequate to enable the sustainable management of the fishery.</p> <p>Data on spring-spawning herring have been collected for over 100 years, and the results of stock assessments are available as far back as 1907. An annual stock assessment is now carried out by ICES and used to inform decisions made by fishery managers. The ICES assessments utilise a number of fishery-dependent and -independent data sources to provide a range of management recommendations to the nations prosecuting the fishery using an age-based analytical model.</p> <p>Fishery independent data</p> <p>Eight survey indices: Norwegian herring larvae survey on the Norwegian shelf (NHLS, 1988–2014), Eco-NoRu-Q3 (Acoustic) providing indices for recruitment (1989–2014) and juveniles (2000–2014), Norwegian acoustic survey on spawning grounds in February/March (NASF, 1994–2005, 2015); International Ecosystem Survey in the Nordic Seas (IESNS) covering the adult stock in the Nordic seas (1996–2015) and the juvenile stock in the Barents Sea (1991–2015), Norwegian acoustic survey in November/December (NASN, 1992–2001); and Norwegian acoustic survey in January (NASJ, 1991–1999). Maturity ogive variable by year-class strength. Natural mortalities are fixed values from historical analyses (ages 0–2 = 0.9, ages greater than 3 = 0.15).</p> <p>Fishery dependent data</p> <p>Every state participating in the fishery provides, as a minimum, data on total landings by quarter and ICES statistical area. Many fleets provide additional sample data including age, weight, length, mean weight-at-age, and mean length-at-age. ICES states that while discarding is low, slippage is known to occur and is not included in the assessment. ICES data indicate that the frequency of slipping and the total quantities of fish slipped are low and, although the quantity remains unknown, are too small to have a significant effect on the reliability of the assessment.</p> <p>R 6</p>
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.	
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.
<p>Determination: Atlanto-Scandian spring spawning herring has been categorised by the IUCN as a species of least concern; and there are several MSC certified herring fisheries in the North East Atlantic.</p> <p>The IUCN has categorised <i>Clupea harengus</i> as a species of least concern, and it is not listed in the CITES appendices.</p> <p>R7-R8</p>	

5. REFERENCES

R1 – About the Common Fisheries Policy: 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

R3 – CFP – Discarding and the Landing Obligation:
http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/discards/index_en.htm

R4 – Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries of Denmark, fisheries and aquaculture overview:
http://www.fvm.dk/fisheries_and_aquaculture.aspx?ID=15231

R5 - Danish Directorate of Fisheries, Control: <http://naturerhverv.fvm.dk/kontrol.aspx?ID=16792>

R6 - ICES advice, Norwegian spring-spawning herring, September 2015:
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/her-noss.pdf>

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

R8 – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

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