

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Saithe / Coley (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)
LOCATION:	Division Va
DATE OF REPORT:	December 2014
ASSESSOR:	Sam Peacock

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name:		
Address:		
Country: Iceland	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact: :	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	Global Trust	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Sam Peacock	Deirdre Hoare	Re-certification
1. Scope of Assessment		
	IFFO RS By-Product re-certification	
2. Fishery By-Product		
	Saithe / Coley (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)	
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
	Division Va	
4. Fishery Method		
	Bottom trawl, gillnet	
5. Outcome of Assessment		
	Re-approve byproduct	

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

There is a robust fishery management framework in place in Iceland which is applied specifically to the saithe stock in the assessment area. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment. The assessment team recommends approving 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 is an effective fishery management framework in place in Iceland, which is applied specifically to the byproduct species under assessment. H

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:

Saithe in Division Va is managed as a discrete stock, which accurately reflects the current best scientific understanding of the biological stock structure of saithe in the Northeast Atlantic. An annual quota is set using harvest control rules defined by a management plan which has been in place since spring 2013. For 2013/14 this TAC was set at 57,000t.

R1 – R4

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	Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.

Determination: Management of the Icelandic saithe fishery is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment activities. H

Fisheries management in Icelandic waters is supported nationally by the Marine Research Institute (MRI). The MRI carries out ongoing research on the status and productivity of commercial stocks, and long-term research

on the marine environment and the ecosystem around Iceland. The results of this research are the foundations on which the majority of Icelandic fishery management decisions are made. Additional and international scientific advice is provided by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES). ICES utilises the best available scientific information collected by 20 member countries and others, and develops advice for the majority of commercially fished stocks in European waters.

Annual management advice is provided by both the MRI and ICES. ICES conducts a statistical catch-at-age assessment using catch-at-age data and the results of the spring groundfish survey. Reference points have been defined for both the MSY and precautionary approaches. The stock is considered to be well above $B_{pa} / B_{trigger}$, and in recent years fishing mortality has been close to F_{MSY} . ICES notes that the assessment does contain some sources of uncertainty due to fluctuations in the spring survey data and changes in fleet selectivity.

R3, R4

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.

Determination: Saithe has not been categorised by the IUCN; however the additional evidence described below leads the assessment team to believe the species is not at serious risk and so a high compliance rating is appropriate.

H

The IUCN has not categorised *Pollachius virens*, and it does not appear in the CITES appendices. There are around 12 saithe fisheries in the Northeast Atlantic which have been certified against the MSC standard.

R5, R6

5. REFERENCES

- R1 – Icelandic fisheries management: <http://www.fisheries.is/management/fisheries-management/>
- R2 – Marine Research Institute: http://www.hafro.is/undir_eng.php?ID=1&REF=1
- R3 – ICES advice, saithe in Division Va (Icelandic saithe): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2014/2014/sai-icel.pdf>
- R4 – MRI advice, saithe, 2014: <http://www.hafro.is/Astand/2014/english/03-saithe-14.pdf>
- R5 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>
- R6 – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

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