

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Tusk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)
LOCATION:	North- East Atlantic
DATE OF REPORT:	January 2016
ASSESSOR:	Deirdre Hoare

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, 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		
Name: UFI		
Address: Killybegs, Ireland		
Country: UK & Ireland	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact: Frank Trearty	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Sam Dignan	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
	By-Product surveillance year: 2015	
2. Fishery By-Product		
	Tusk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
	North- East Atlantic	
4. Fishery Method		
	Trawl, gillnet, longline (bycatch in many areas)	
5. Outcome of Assessment		
	Maintain approval	

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and UK & Ireland levels, which is applied specifically to the tusk stocks in the Northeast Atlantic. Species-specific data collection and stock assessment activities appear to be limited, with significant room for improvement. The assessment team recommends that approval of this byproduct material against the IFFO RS standard is 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	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: As in the initial 2015 assessment, there are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels, and these frameworks are applied specifically to the byproduct stock under assessment. The management units do not match the ICES stock units, but this is primarily due to poor understanding of stock structure, for which the byproduct is marked down in section B. A high compliance rating is appropriate here.

Fishery management framework:

The UK & Ireland are members of the European Union and therefore in Community waters implement 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 are the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland, the Marine Management Organisation (in cooperation with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) in England and Wales, and Marine Scotland, a Directorate of the Scottish Government, in Scotland.

Species-specific management:

Tusk fisheries in the Northeast Atlantic are subject to annual quotas, divided between five separate stocks. The five stocks and their associated TACs for 2015 are as follows:

- I, II and XIV: 21t, bycatch only (no directed fishery)
- IIIa, EU waters of Subdivisions 22-32: 29t
- EU waters of IV: 235t
- V, VI and VII: 3,860t
- Norwegian waters of IV: 170t (EU share of Norwegian quota)

These management units do not match the ICES advice stock units, although there is considerable uncertainty regarding the stock structure of the species.

R1 – R8

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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 to support management exists, but could be significantly improved. In particular, a fuller understanding of stock structure would permit improved advice and management unit definitions.

Fisheries management in EU waters is supported 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. ICES provides scientific advice on the management of tusk in the following stock units:

Subareas I and II (Arctic)
 Advice is biennial and is based on a precautionary reduction in catches because of limited data. Assessment is based on CPUE trends. No reference points have been developed.

Division Va and Subarea XIV
 Advice is based on an analytical length-based assessment, using the March Icelandic groundfish survey and landings data. One reference point is defined (FMSY). Estimates of biomass and recruitment are available.

Subarea XII, excluding Division XIIb
 Advice is biennial and is based on a precautionary low level of catches due to limited data. No stock assessment is conducted and the only available data are total landings. No reference points have been defined.

Division VIb (Rockall)
 Advice is based on consideration of CPUE trends, calculated using commercial catch data and standardised CPUE from the Norwegian fleet. No reference points are defined and the stock is considered data-limited.

Divisions IIIa, Vb, VIa and XIIb, and Subareas IV, VII, VIII, and IX (other areas)
 This grouping represents a combination of isolated fishing grounds which are not necessarily a single biological stock, but are grouped together due to a mutual lack of data. Advice is biennial and based on total landings and CPUE data. No reference points are defined.

R7, R8

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: Tusk has not been categorised by the IUCN; however there is no additional evidence to lead the assessment team to believe the species is at serious risk and so a medium compliance rating is appropriate.

The IUCN has not categorised *Brosme brosme*, and it does not appear in the CITES appendices.

R9

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 – Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Fisheries Department:
<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/fisheries/>

R5 – Marine Management Organisation (About):
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/marinemanagement-organisation>

R6 - Marine Scotland (About): <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/About>

R7 – ICES advice, Tusk, 2014:

- Subareas I and II (Arctic): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/usk-arct.pdf>
- Division Va and Subarea XIV: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/usk-icel.pdf>
- Subarea XII, excluding division XIIb (Mid-Atlantic Ridge):
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/usk-mar.pdf>
- Division VIb (Rockall) Advice for 2015 and 2016:
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2014/2014/uskrock.pdf>
- Divisions IIIa, Vb, VIa and XIIb, and Subareas IV, VII, VIII and IX (Other areas):
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/usk-oth.pdf>

R8 – EU fishing quotas 2015: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legalcontent/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2015.022.01.0001.01.ENG

R9 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>