

FISHERY By-Product SURVEILLANCE REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Red mullet (<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>)
LOCATION:	UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2
DATE OF REPORT:	19/02/2012
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:	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	Red mullet (<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>)	
3. Fishery By-Product Location	UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2	
4. Fishery Method	Gillnet, bottom trawler	
5. Outcome of Assessment	Maintain approval	

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT
3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
<p>There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and UK & Ireland levels, which is supported by data collection and stock assessment. However, the extent to which these processes are applied specifically to red mullet is limited. The assessment team recommends the approval of this byproduct be maintained.</p>

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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.

Determination: *There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels, but while these frameworks apply to the byproduct in a general sense, they are not applied specifically to red mullet to any significant extent.*

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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.

With regard to resource management, the CFP regulations comprise:

- A traditional management tool based on TACs and quotas;
- Technical measures relating to gear or catch;
- Effort-related management, based on vessel engine power and the number of days at sea.

The CFP also provides for the introduction of measures to rebuild, over a period of several years, stocks that are threatened in terms of sustainable harvesting, and for recourse to effort-related management rules to supplement TACs and quotas. An extensive reform of the CFP is currently under discussion by the European parliament and council, with the aim being to finalise negotiations by the end of 2013.

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 the UK.

Species-specific management:

Red mullet in European waters is managed as two distinct stocks: red mullet in Subarea IV (North Sea) and Divisions VIId (Eastern English Channel) and IIIa (Skagerrak–Kattegat), and red mullet in Subareas and Divisions VI, VIIa–c, e–k, VIII, and IXa (Western area). Neither stock is subject to a quota, nor has a minimum landing size been established. There is no species-specific management plan.

R1 – R6

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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: Research is carried out to support the management of European fisheries, and red mullet are included in the EU Data Collection Framework. There are substantial gaps in the information available to ICES and significant improvements could be made.</p> <p>ICES provides annual advice on both red mullet stocks (although 2012 was the first year for which advice was provided on the North Sea stock), and considers them to be data-limited. There is insufficient information to develop estimates of fishing mortality or biomass, and no reference points have been established. However, ICES assessments are based on limited survey and landings data and will likely improve as this information improves.</p> <p>R4 & R5</p>		M
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: Red mullet has not been assessed by the IUCN redlist and there is no additional information available about the vulnerability of the species.</p> <p>The IUCN has not assessed <i>Mullus surmuletus</i>.</p> <p>R7</p>		M

5. REFERENCES

R1 – About the Common Fisheries Policy, Managing a Common Resource:

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index_en.htm

R2 – Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Fisheries Department:

<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/fisheries/>

R3 – Marine Management Organisation (About): <http://marinemanagement.org.uk/about/index.htm>

R4 – ICES advice, red mullet in Subarea IV (North Sea) and Divisions VIIId (Eastern English Channel) and IIIa (Skagerrak–Kattegat): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2012/2012/mut-347d.pdf>

R5 – ICES advice, red mullet in Subareas and Divisions VI, VIIa–c, e–k, VIII, and IXa (Western area):

<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2012/2012/mut-west.pdf>

R6 – EU fishing quotas 2012: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/publications/poster_tac2012_en.pdf

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

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