

# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

## IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



<b>FISHERY By-Product:</b>	<b>Atlantic wolffish (<i>Anarhichas lupus</i>)</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>North Sea, Skagerrak</b>
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>December 2015</b>
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	<b>Giles Bartlett</b>

1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
<b>Name:</b>		
<b>Address:</b>		
<b>Country:</b> Norway	<b>Zip:</b>	
<b>Tel. No.</b>	<b>Fax. No.</b>	
<b>Email address:</b>	<b>Applicant Code</b>	
<b>Key Contact:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	
Certification Body Details		
<b>Name of Certification Body:</b>	Global Trust	
<b>Assessor Name</b>	<b>Peer Reviewer</b>	<b>Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification</b>
Giles Bartlett	Deirdre Hoare	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
1. Scope of Assessment		IFFO RS By-Product re-certification
2. Fishery By-Product		
2. Fishery By-Product		Atlantic wolffish / catfish ( <i>Anarhichas lupus</i> )
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
3. Fishery By-Product Location		North Sea, Skagerrak
4. Fishery Method		
4. Fishery Method		Unknown; likely trawling, longlines.
5. Outcome of Assessment		
5. Outcome of Assessment		Maintain approval

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
<p><b>As at the time of the previous assessment in 2014, the assessment team remains unable to find evidence for management or research of the Atlantic Wolffish stocks in European and Norwegian waters. As there have been no significant changes since the time of the previous assessment, the assessment team recommends maintaining the approval of this byproduct</b></p>

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>	
<b>LOW</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	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.
<b>HIGH</b>	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.

**Determination: An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is still established; however, as at the time of the previous assessment, the assessment team can find no evidence that there is any species or stock-specific management of Atlantic Wolffish fisheries.**

**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.

**Management of Atlantic Wolffish:**

The assessment team is unable to find any evidence of specific management of European or Norway Wolffish fisheries. It is also unclear whether there is a directed fishery or whether Wolffish byproduct is sourced entirely from the bycatch of other fisheries.

(R1 – R3)

**B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE**

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

*B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.*

<b>LOW</b>	Research to support the management of the stock does not exist
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.
<b>HIGH</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.

<p><b>Determination: The assessment team remains unable to find any research in support of the management of the stock, and so cannot assess this clause.</b></p> <p>The assessment team very limited evidence of any research into North Sea Atlantic Wolffish populations, and little research into the species in general. ICES does not appear to issue advice on this species, either specifically or as part of a group of stocks.</p> <p>Some species information is available from the FAO, although this appears to have been last updated more than ten years ago and provides no information on fishery research or management. The species has been better researched in the US fishery, where there are widespread concerns over its conservation.</p> <p>(R4)</p>		M
<b>C. STOCK STATUS</b>		
<b>LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE</b>		
<p><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></p>		
<b>LOW</b>	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.	
<b>MEDIUM</b>	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.	
<b>HIGH</b>	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.	
<p><b>Determination: The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that has not been assessed by the IUCN, although there is some concern from the authorities responsible for managing the US Atlantic Wolffish fisheries.</b></p> <p>The IUCN has not assessed <i>Anarhichas lupus</i>. The species is a “species of concern” for the US National Marine Fisheries Service.</p> <p>(R5, R6)</p>		H

**5. REFERENCES**

- R1 – Norway Fisheries website, ‘The Regulatory Chain’: [http://www.fisheries.no/resource\\_management/setting\\_quotas/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/](http://www.fisheries.no/resource_management/control_monitoring_surveillance/Control_and_enforcement/)
- R4 – FAO species information, Atlantic Wolffish: <http://www.fao.org/fishery/species/2456/en>
- R4 – IUCN red list: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>
- R5 – NOAA NMFS species of concern, Atlantic Wolffish: [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/species/atlanticwolf-fish\\_detailed.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/species/atlanticwolf-fish_detailed.pdf)