

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)
LOCATION:	UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2
DATE OF REPORT:	28/02/2014
ASSESSOR:	Sam Peacock

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:		
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	David Garforth	Re-certification
1. Scope of Assessment	Byproduct re-certification	
2. Fishery By-Product	Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	
3. Fishery By-Product Location	UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2 (R6)	
4. Fishery Method	Purse seine, longline.	
5. Outcome of Assessment	Approve byproduct	

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 applied to some extent to yellowfin tuna 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.</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.	
<p>Determination: <i>There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels, however the extent to which these frameworks are applied at a species level within the EU appears to be limited.</i></p> <p>Fishery management framework:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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), starting in 2015 and eventually encompassing 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.</p> <p>The primary authorities with responsibility for implementing the CFP are the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland, and the Marine Management Organisation (in cooperation with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) in the UK.</p> <p>Species-specific management:</p> <p>The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), to which the EU is a signatory, is responsible for the conservation of tunas and tuna-like species (including yellowfin tuna) in the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas. ICCAT has advised a 15 year recovery plan which the EU have taken steps to implement. ICCAT also provides periodical stock assessments and management advice, the most recent of which was produced in 2011. It is unclear to the assessment team whether yellowfin is subject to an annual TAC in EU waters, or what other species-specific management measures are in place.</p>		M
R1 – R7		

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: <i>Research is carried out specifically to support the management of yellowfin tuna.</i></p> <p>The last full stock assessment conducted for yellowfin tuna was in 2011 by ICCAT, applying both an age-structured model and a non-equilibrium production model to the available catch data through 2010. In summary, 2010 catches were estimated to be well below MSY levels, stock biomass is estimated to most likely be about 15% below the Convention Objective and fishing mortality rates most likely about 13% below FMSY. The recent trends through 2010 were uncertain, with the age-structured models indicating increasing fishing mortality rates and decline in stock levels over the last several years, and the production models indicating the opposite trends.</p> <p>The next stock assessment is scheduled for 2015.</p> <p>R6</p>		H
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: <i>Yellowfin tuna has been categorised as 'near threatened' on the IUCN redlist, meaning it is not currently considered to be at risk of over-exploitation.</i></p> <p>Yellowfin tuna has been categorised as 'near threatened' on the IUCN red list.</p> <p>R8</p>		H

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): <http://marinemanagement.org.uk/about/index.htm>

R6 – ICCAT yellowfin tuna stock assessment,

2011: http://www.iccat.es/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2011_YFT_ASSESS_REP.pdf

R7 – EU fishing quotas 2013: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/publications/poster_tac2013_en.pdf

R8 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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