

# FISHERY ASSESSMENT REPORT

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



<b>FISHERY:</b>	Summer spawning herring ( <i>Clupea harengus</i> )
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Iceland (ICES Division Va)
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	August 2015
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	Sam Peacock

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: Icelandic Association of Fishmeal Manufacturers			
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	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Sam Peacock	Deirdre Hoare	1	Surveillance
Assessment Period	August 2015		
Scope Details			
1. Scope of Assessment		IFFO Global Standard for Responsible Supply – Issue 1	
2. Fishery		Summer spawning herring ( <i>Clupea harrengus</i> )	
3. Fishery Location		Iceland (ICES Division Va)	
4. Fishery Method		Purse seine, pelagic trawl	
Outcome of Assessment			
5. Overall Fishery Compliance Rating		High/Medium	
6. Sub Components of Low Compliance		None	
7. Information deficiency		None	
8. Peer Review Evaluation			
9. Recommendation		Maintain approval	

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<b>2. QUALITY OF INFORMATION</b>
Good; primarily government and ICES websites and reports.
<b>3. COMPLIANCE LEVEL ACHIEVED</b>
High / Medium
<b>Recommendation</b>
Maintain approval
<b>4. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT</b>
None
<b>Based on HIGH compliance findings</b>
<b>Based on MEDIUM compliance findings</b>
<b>Based on LOW compliance findings</b>
<b>5. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION</b>
<p>There have been no substantial changes in the management of this fishery specifically or Icelandic fisheries management in general. Since the 2014 surveillance, the TAC has continued to be set in line with scientific advice. At the time of the previous surveillance, the assessment team noted that if TACs continued to match the advice, the rating could be upgraded from medium to high compliance in section D1. However, the one notable issue occurring since the previous surveillance is that unused quota from the 2013/14 season was transferred to 2014/15, and so despite the TAC matching the ICES advice the final landings exceeded it by around 14%. This means that fishing mortality in 2014/15 exceeded <math>F_{pa} / F_{MSY}</math>, and a medium compliance rating remains appropriate for D1. Additionally, because the precautionary reference point was exceeded, the score in C1 has been downgraded from high to medium. Finally, a medium compliance rating was maintained in section A3, as there is still no long-term management plan.</p>
<b>HIGH Compliance</b>
A1, A2, B1, B2, D2, D3, E1, E2
<b>MEDIUM Compliance</b>
A3, C1, D1
<b>LOW Compliance</b>

SUMMARY OF LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE					
	The Management Framework and Procedures	Stock assessment procedures and management advice	Precautionary approach	Management measures	Implementation
legal and administrative basis	A1				
Fisheries management should be concerned with the whole stock unit	A2				
Management actions should be scientifically based	A3				
Research in support of fisheries conservation and management should exist		B1			
Best scientific evidence available should be taken into account when designing conservation and management measures		B2			
The precautionary approach is applied in the formulation of management plans			C1		
The level of fishing permitted should be set according to management advice given by research organisations				D1	
Where excess fishing capacity exist, mechanisms should be in established to reduced capacity				D2	
Management measures should ensure that fishing gear and fishing practices do not have a significant impact on non-target species and the physical environment				D3	
A framework for sanctions of violation of laws and regulations should be efficiently exists					E1
A management system for fisheries control and enforcement should be established					E2

**KEY:**                      Low Compliance:                           Medium Compliance:                           High Compliance:                     

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6. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME	
A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>A1. The management of the fishery must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the conservation of the fishery.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery for its conservation is not established.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery for its conservation is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the conservation of the stock.
<b>HIGH</b>	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery for its conservation is established and works efficiently toward the conservation of the stock.
<p><b><i>Determination: There have been no substantial changes to the Icelandic fisheries management system since the time of the previous surveillance assessment.</i></b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>The most recent version of the Fisheries Management Act was published in 2006 and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A commitment to the conservation and efficient utilisation of Icelandic fishery resources (Article 1).</li> <li>• A commitment to set an annual TAC for each species “for which it is deemed necessary to limit the catch” (Article 3).</li> <li>• A requirement for all commercial fishers to obtain a general fishing permit; vessels not fishing for an entire 12 month period will have their permit revoked (Article 4).</li> <li>• An outline of the ITQ quota system (described in more detail in section D2, below) (Article 8).</li> <li>• An outline of the methodology and responsibility for enforcement and monitoring of fishery regulations (Articles 17 &amp; 18).</li> <li>• An outline of penalties for transgressions (Articles 24 – 27).</li> </ul> <p>Iceland’s national fisheries science organisation is the Marine Research Institute (MRI). The MRI carries out wide ranging and extensive research on the status and productivity of the commercial stocks, and long-term research on the marine environment and the ecosystem around Iceland.</p> <p>For more detail on the legal and administrative framework for fisheries management in Iceland, please refer to the 2013 re-assessment (R1).</p>	
<b>H</b>	
R1.	

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>A2. Fisheries management should be concerned with the whole stock unit over its entire area of distribution and take into account fishery removals and the biology of the species.</i>		
<b>LOW</b>	Fisheries management is not concerned with the whole stock unit over its entire area of distribution and do not take into account any of the matters listed in 'A1'.	
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Fisheries management is concerned with matters listed in 'A1' but not entirely. Fisheries, in relation to 'A1' statement, should improve to ensure the long term conservation of the marine resource.	
<b>HIGH</b>	Fisheries management should be concerned with the whole stock unit over its entire area of distribution and take into account: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All fishery removals</li> <li>The biology of the species</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Determination: Both the management stock and the biological stock remain unchanged since the previous surveillance assessment, and all fishery removals continue to be taken into account.</b></p> <p>Summer-spawning herring is constrained to Icelandic coastal waters throughout its lifespan. Results from various research including tagging experiments, studies on larval transport, and studies on migration pattern and distribution, all suggest that the stock is local to Icelandic waters. Three Icelandic herring stocks are distinguished on the basis of their spawning time and spawning area, as presented by their names, and to date there is no evidence to suggest sufficient mixing to require updating the stock definitions. The summer-spawning stock is managed, in line with this scientific understanding of the biological population, as a single unit throughout ICES Division Va.</p> <p>For more detail on stock definition, including maps of fishing location and stock migration, please refer to the 2013 re-assessment report (R1).</p> <p>R1.</p>		H
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>A3. Management actions should be based on long-term conservation objectives</i>		
<b>LOW</b>	Management actions are not based on long term management objectives.	
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Management actions are based on long term management objectives. However the actions are not scientifically formulated.	
<b>HIGH</b>	Management actions are based on long term management objectives, and actions are science based.	
<p><b>Determination: As at the time of the previous surveillance, there is no formal management plan in place for the stock. Quotas for the fishery are set using the target fishing mortality implied by the ICES advice, which is consistent with the MSY approach. In the 2014/15 season, fishing mortality exceeded <math>F_{MSY}</math>.</b></p> <p>Although no formal management strategy has been adopted in the summer-spawning herring fishery, the practice has been to manage fisheries on this stock at <math>F = F_{0.1}</math> (<math>= 0.22 = F_{MSY} / F_{pa}</math>) for more than 20 years. The ICES Working Group responsible for the stock (NWWG) has determined that managing the stock at an exploitation rate at or above <math>F_{0.1}</math> has been successful in the past. ICES considers this target to be consistent with the MSY approach. At the time of the previous surveillance, fishing mortality had remained below <math>F_{MSY}</math> since 2009; fishing mortality in the 2014/15 season is estimated to have exceeded the reference point due to a transfer or quota from the previous season. No fishing effort limit reference point is defined for the stock.</p> <p>For more detail on the management objectives in place for the stock, please refer to the 2013 re-assessment (R1).</p> <p>R1, R3.</p>		M

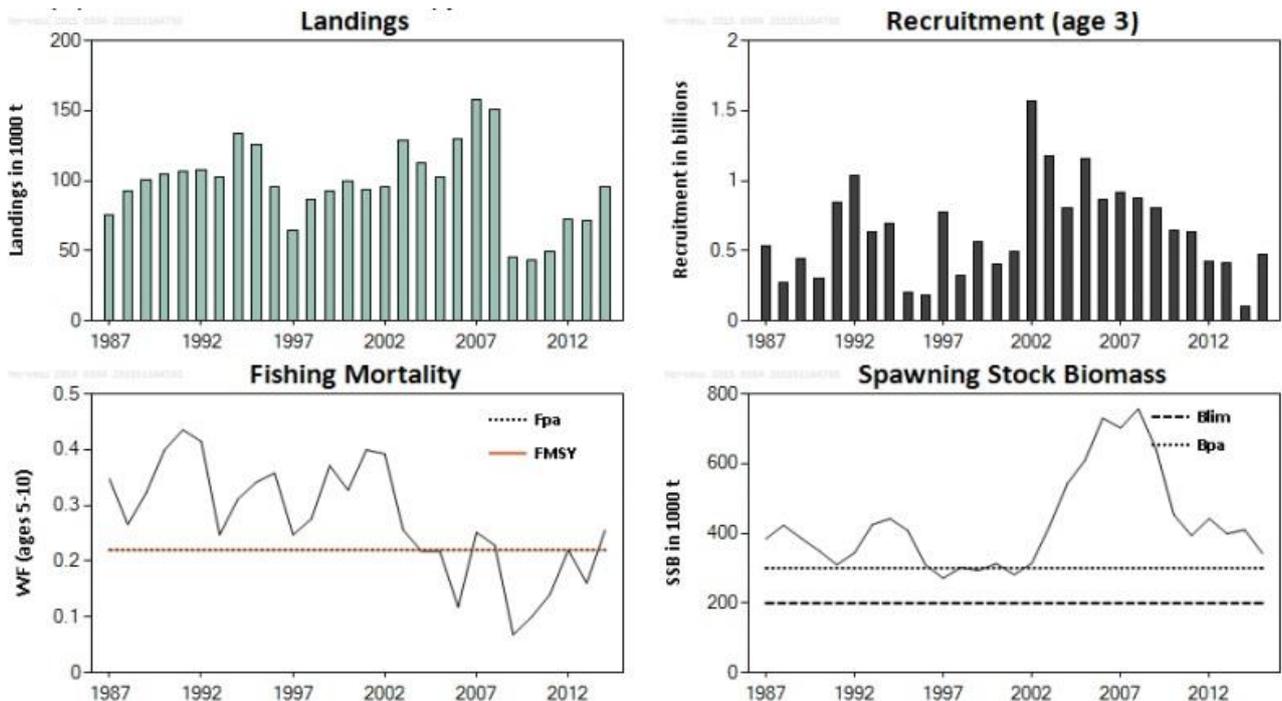
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B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>B1. Research in support of fisheries conservation and management should exist.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	Research to support the conservation and management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment does not exist
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Research to support the conservation and the management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.
<b>HIGH</b>	Research to support the conservation and the management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment exist, and existent research is considered most adequate for the long term conservation of the target, non-target and physical environment

**Determination: There have been no substantial changes to the data collection or stock assessment activities identified in the initial and first surveillance assessments, and ICES continues to consider the stock assessment consistent.**

ICES and the MRI both produce an annual stock assessment and management advice report for Icelandic summer-spawning herring. The stock assessment is an age-based analytical assessment utilising catch-at-age data and the results of an annual hydroacoustic survey, plus other fishery-dependent data including total landings, CPUE, geographical location of the fishery and discard estimates (though discarding is largely banned in Iceland). Natural mortality is assumed to be constant,  $M=0.1$ , for the whole range of ages and years. High levels of *Ichthyophonus* infection is thought to have been responsible for the relatively rapid decline in SSB from its peak in the late 2000's, but infection mortality is currently estimated to be negligible.



Herring in Division Va (Icelandic summer-spawning herring). Summary of stock assessment (weights in thousand tonnes). From the ICES advice, June 2015 (R3).

For more detail on the data collection and stock assessment processes in place for this stock, please refer to the 2013 re-assessment report (R1).

R1, R3.

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE			
<i>B2. Best scientific evidence available should be taken into account when designing conservation and management measures.</i>			
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<b>LOW</b>	Scientific advice is not taken into account when designing conservation and management measures.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Scientific advice is taken into account, when designing conservation and management measures. However some areas of discrepancy are identified that could have a significant impact in the long term conservation of the marine environment.
<b>HIGH</b>	Scientific advice is taken into account, when designing conservation and management measures, in a comprehensively manner.

**Determination: There continues to be no evidence that any scientific advice provided by ICES or the MRI has been ignored.**

H

The 2013 re-assessment identified a number of examples of management measures being implemented in response to scientific advice. For example, For the fishing season 2011/2012, a regulation was enforced that in practiced prohibited fishing for herring outside of the area of Breiðafjörður in SW Iceland. This was requested by the MRI because of small herring mixed with adults in other areas and less prevalence of infection there. Minimum mesh sizes are also in place in all Icelandic fisheries, partially to minimise the impact of the no-discards rule on smaller individuals. Most notably, the TAC recommendations since 2009/10 have been substantially lower than historically, due to the additional mortality estimated as a result of the *Ichthyophonus* infection. These low recommendations were largely adopted by fishery managers.

For more detail on the *Ichthyophonus* outbreak, please refer to the 2013 re-assessment report (R1).

R1.

**C. THE PRECAUTIONARY APPROACH**

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

*C1. The precautionary approach is applied in the formulation of management plans.*

<b>LOW</b>	The precautionary approach is not applied in the formulation of management plans.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	The precautionary approach is applied, however not all uncertainties are taken into account.
<b>HIGH</b>	The precautionary approach is applied, taking into account uncertainties relating to the dynamic of fish population (recruitment, mortality, growth and fecundity), and the impact of the fishing activities, such as discards and by-catch of non-target species as well as on the physical environment (Habitats).

**Determination: The previous assessments concluded that the precautionary approach is applied throughout the management of the stock. The transfer of unused quota from the 2013/14 season to 2014/15 resulted in a total fishing effort above  $F_{pa}$ , and so a medium compliance rating is now appropriate.**

M

Reference points for the precautionary approach were agreed in 1998 and have remained unchanged since. In 2011, reference points for the MSY approach were added and in the 2012 advice ICES utilised these as a basis for the 2012/13 quota recommendation. The table below lists these reference points; note that MSY  $B_{trigger}$  is defined as  $B_{pa}$ , and the target fishing mortality of  $F = 0.22$  is based on  $F_{pa}$ .

**Icelandic summer-spawning herring reference points. From the ICES advice, June 2015 (R3).**

Framework	Reference point	Value	Technical basis	Source
MSY approach	MSY $B_{trigger}$	300 000 t	$B_{pa}$ .	ICES (2011)
	$F_{MSY}$	0.22	HCS model for simulated harvest rules.	ICES (2011)
Precautionary approach	$B_{lim}$	200 000 t	SSB with a high probability of impaired recruitment.	ICES (2011)
	$B_{pa}$	300 000 t	$B_{pa} = B_{lim} \times e^{1.645\sigma}$ , where $\sigma = 0.25$ .	ICES (2011)
	$F_{lim}$	Not defined		
Management plan	$F_{pa}$	0.22	$F_{pa} = F_{0.1} = 0.22$ (based on a weighted average) and used as a target.	ICES (2011)
	SSB <sub>MGT</sub>	Not defined		
	$F_{MGT}$	Not defined		

Fishing mortality is estimated to have been below  $F_{pa}$  between 2009 and 2014. The most recent stock assessment reports that due to a transfer of unused quota from the 2013/14 season, fishing mortality in

2014/15 exceeded  $F_{pa}$ . However, stock biomass is still currently estimated to be above  $B_{pa}$ .

		Fishing pressure			Stock size		
		2012	2013	2014	2013	2014	2015
Maximum Sustainable Yield	$F_{MSY}$	✓	✓	✗ Above $F_{MSY}$	MSY	✓	✓ Above trigger
Precautionary approach	$F_{pa}$	✓	✓	? Undefined	$B_{trigger}$	✓	✓
Management Plan	$F_{MGT}$	-	-	- Not applicable	$B_{pa}, B_{lim}$	✓	✓ Full reproductive capacity
					SSB <sub>MGT</sub>	-	- Not applicable

Stock status relative to reference points, 2012-2014. From the ICES advice, June 2015 (R3).

R1, R3.

**D. MANAGEMENT MEASURES**

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

D1. The level of fishing permitted should be set according to management advice given by research organisations.

<b>LOW</b>	The level of fishing permitted is not set according to management advice given by research organisations.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	The level of fishing permitted is higher than management advice given by research organisations. However, the difference is not considered to have a significant impact of the sustainability of the stock
<b>HIGH</b>	The level of fishing permitted is set according to management advice given by research organisations.

**Determination:** In the previous surveillance assessment, the assessment team noted that if the TAC continues to be set in line with the ICES advice the compliance rating could be upgraded. However, although the TAC has continued to match the scientific recommendation, the transfer of quota from one year to the next has led to the 2014/15 landings exceeding the advice (and  $F_{pa}$ ). A medium compliance rating remains appropriate.

M

Note: both the MRI and ICES provide annual management advice for the stock, and on occasion the MRI TAC recommendation is different to the ICES recommendation. In general the Ministry of Fisheries follows the MRI advice, even if this results in a lower TAC. The ICES advice since 1984 and the MRI advice since 1990 are shown in the tables below, along with final TACs and landings.

Since the 2014 surveillance, the 2014/15 TAC was set in line with the ICES (and MRI) advice at 83,000t; however, unused quota from the previous year was transferred and final landings were 95,000t. This does not represent a compliance failure, but does mean that  $F_{pa}$  was exceeded. The ICES recommendation for 2015/16 TAC is 71,000t.

Year	ICES advice	Predicted catch corresp. to advice	Predicted landings corresp. to advice	Agreed TAC	Official catch / Landings <sup>^</sup>	Landings <sup>^</sup>	ICES Discards
1984		50	50	-	50.3	50.3	0
1985		50	50	-	49.4	49.4	0
1986		65	65	-	65.5	65.5	0
1987	F <sub>0.1</sub>	70	70	72.9	75.4	75	0
1988	F <sub>0.1</sub>	~100	~100	90	92.8	92.8	0
1989	F <sub>0.1</sub>	95	95	90	97.3	97.3	3.7
1990/1991**	Status quo F	90	90	100	101.6	101.6	3.5
1991/1992**	F <sub>0.1</sub>	79	79	110	98.5	98.5	11
1992/1993**	F <sub>0.1</sub>	86	86	110	106.7	106.7	1.8
1993/1994**	No gain in yield by fishing higher than F <sub>0.1</sub>	110*	110*	110	101.5	101.5	1.2
1994/1995**	No gain in yield by fishing higher than F <sub>0.1</sub>	83*	83*	130	132	132	2
1995/1996**	No gain in yield by fishing higher than F <sub>0.1</sub>	120*	120*	110	125	125	0.9
1996/1997**	No gain in yield by fishing higher than F <sub>0.1</sub>	97*	97*	110	95.9	95.9	0
1997/1998	No gain in yield by fishing higher than F <sub>0.1</sub>	90*	90*	100	64.7	64.7	0
1998/1999	No gain in yield by fishing higher than F <sub>0.1</sub>	90*	90*	90	87.0	87	0
1999/2000	Current F is sustainable	100*	100*	100	92.9	92.9	0
2000/2001	Current F is sustainable	110*	110*	110	100.3	100.3	0
2001/2002	Current F is sustainable	125*	125*	125	95.3	95.7	0
2002/2003	Current F is sustainable	113*	113*	105	97	96.1	0
2003/2004	Current F is sustainable	113*	113*	110	131	130.7	0
2004/2005	F = 0.22	106	106	110	114.2	114.2	0
2005/2006	Status quo catch	110	110	110	103	103	0
2006/2007	Status quo catch	110	110	130	135	135	0
2007/2008	Average of the last 3 years' catch	117	117	150	159	158.9	0
2008/2009	F <sub>pa</sub> = 0.22	131	131	130	152	151.8	0
2009/2010	F <sub>pa</sub> = 0.22	75	75	40	46	46.3	0
2010/2011***	Domestic advice autumn 2010	40	40	40	44	43.5	0
2011/2012***	Domestic advice autumn 2011, no fishery until then	40	40	45	49	49.4	0
2012/2013	F <sub>MSY</sub> = 0.22	67	67	68.5	72	72	0
2013/2014	F <sub>MSY</sub> = 0.22	87	87	87	72	72	0
2014/2015	F <sub>MSY</sub> = 0.22	83	83	83	95	95	0
2015/2016	F <sub>MSY</sub> = 0.22	71	71				

Weights in thousand tonnes.

\* Catch at F<sub>0.1</sub>.

\*\* Season starting in October of first year.

\*\*\* No advice was given by ICES until new information on *Ichthyophonus* infection was available from survey monitoring in the following autumn.

<sup>^</sup> Official landings and ICES landings are the same in all fishing seasons and are used for the assessment.

ICES advice, official TAC and final landings 1984 – 2015/16. From the ICES advice, June 2015 (R3).

<b>TAFLA 2.23.1.</b> <b>SÍLD. Tillögur Hafrannsóknastofnunar um aflahámark, ákvörðun stjórnvalda um aflamark og afli (þús. tonn).</b> <b>HERRING. TAC recommended by the Marine Research Institute, national TAC, and landings in the quota years (thous. tonnes).</b>			
<b>Ár</b> <b>Year</b>	<b>Tillaga</b> <b>Rec. TAC</b>	<b>Aflamark</b> <b>National TAC</b>	<b>Afli</b> <b>Landings (Iceland)</b>
1990/91	80	110	105
1991/92	80	110	109
1992/93	90	110	107
1993/94	90	100	103
1994/95	120	120	132
1995/96	110	110	126
1996/97	100	100	96
1997/98	100	100	64
1998/99	90	70 <sup>1)</sup>	87
1999/00	100	100	93
2000/01	110	110	100
2001/02	125	125	95
2002/03	105	105	94
2003/04	110	110	126
2004/05	110	110	115
2005/06	110	110	103
2006/07	130	130	135
2007/08	130	150	159
2008/09	131	150	152
2009/10	40	47	46
2010/11	40	40	44
2011/12	40	45	49
2012/13	67	68.5	72
2013/14	87	87	72
2014/15	83		

<sup>1)</sup> Sjávarútvegsráðuneytið úthlutaði 70 þús. tonnum en samtals urðu veiðiheimildir um 90 þús. tonn þar sem 20 þús. tonn voru færð frá vertiðinni 1997/98. Allocated TAC was 70 thous. tonnes but because of transfers from the previous quota year the national TAC became 90 thous. tonnes.

MRI advice, official TACs and final landings 1990/91 – 2014/15. From the MRI advice, 2013/14 (R4).

R1 – R4.

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

D2. Where excess fishing capacity exist, mechanisms should be in established to reduced capacity to allow for the recovery of the stock to sustainable levels.

<b>LOW</b>	Mechanisms to allow for recovery of the stock to sustainable levels are not established.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Mechanisms to allow for recovery of the stock to sustainable levels are somehow established. However there is no evidence of the efficiency of the methods used.
<b>HIGH</b>	Mechanisms are established to reduce capacity to allow for the recovery of the stock to sustainable levels and there are evidences of recovery.

**Determination: Annual quotas remain the primary mechanism for limiting fishing effort in Iceland, and there have been no substantial changes since the previous surveillance assessment.**

The main instrument in Icelandic fisheries and fleet management is a system based on Individual Transferable Quota (ITQs), which has been in place in its current form since 1990. During the past 15 years there has been no specific fleet management system in Iceland; fishing licenses are readily available for anyone with a

seaworthy vessel, and no decommissioning schemes are in place. Under the ITQ system, each vessel is allocated a certain share of the TAC of the relevant species. Decommissioning occurs indirectly, as companies increase their share of the TAC by buying out vessels and thus receiving the quota attached to those vessels.

R1

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>D3. Management measures should ensure that fishing gear and fishing practices do not have a significant impact on non-target species and the physical environment.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	There are no management measures to prevent the impact of the fishing methods and fishing practices on non-target species and the physical environment.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	There are management measures to prevent the impact of the fishing methods and fishing practices on non-target species and the physical environment. However it is not science based.
<b>HIGH</b>	There are management measures to prevent the impact of the fishing methods and fishing practices on non-target species and the physical environment. Measures are based on scientific information.

**Determination: There is no new evidence relating to the potential impacts of the fishery on non-target species, the ecosystem, or the physical environment, nor relating to the measures in place to minimise these impacts.**

With a handful of minor exceptions, discarding is banned in Icelandic fisheries and so all bycatch is landed, and therefore recorded by MRI or government officials and included in annual reports. Likewise, bycatch of summer-spawning herring in other commercial fisheries is included in the estimates of total landings in the tables in section D1. Neither ICES nor the MRI have raised concerns over bycatch in the summer-spawning herring fishery. Icelandic legislation (557/2007) states that all fishing vessels must keep a Fishery Log-book. Birds and Mammals that are caught in fishing gear are to be reported and recorded in the Fishery Log-book. Adult herring is food resource for various animals in Icelandic waters, including mink whale (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), several sea bird species, cod (*Gadus morhua*) and pollack (*Pollachius virens*). Direct effects on habitat and seafloor are typically minimal for pelagic gears, although occasional contact is known to occur and, in these cases, can potentially cause damage to fragile ecosystems (e.g. corals).

For more detail on the impacts of the fishery on non-target species and the physical environment, and the technical measures in place, please refer to the 2013 re-assessment (R1).

R1.

**E. IMPLEMENTATION**

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>E1. There should be a framework for sanctions of violation of Laws and regulations.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	A framework for sanctions of violation of Laws and regulations do not efficiently exist.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	A framework for sanctions of violation of Laws and regulations do exist but do not work efficiently.
<b>HIGH</b>	A framework for sanctions of violation of Laws and regulations exists and is proven to be efficient.

**Determination: There continues to be a robust framework in place for sanctioning violations of fishery laws and regulations in Iceland.**

Breaches of the law and regulations on fisheries management are subject to fines or revoking of the fishing permit, irrespective of whether such conduct is by intent or negligence. Major or repeated intentional offenses are subject to up to six years imprisonment. If the catch of a vessel exceeds the allowable catch of the said vessel of individual species, the relevant fishing company must obtain an additional catch quota for the relevant species.

Penalties are outlined in Articles 24-27 of the Fisheries Management Act, including:

- Violations of the Act shall be prosecuted according to the Criminal Proceedings Act.
- Violations against the Act shall be liable to fines, and cases of serious or repeated deliberate violation shall be liable to imprisonment for up to six years.
- Fines may vary between ISK 400,000 (US\$3,200) and ISK 8,000,000 (US\$65,000), depending on the nature and scope, and whether it represents a repeat offence.

R1

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>E2. A management system for fisheries control and enforcement should be established.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	A management system for fisheries control and enforcement is not established.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	A management system for fisheries control and enforcement is established but do not work efficiently.
<b>HIGH</b>	A management system for fisheries control and enforcement is established and work efficiently.

***Determination: Effective fisheries control and enforcement mechanisms remain in place in Icelandic fisheries.*** H

Day to day administration and enforcement of the Fisheries Act and related legislation is in the hands of the Directorate of Fisheries, a government body responsible to the Minister of Fisheries. The Directorate is also responsible for the continuous monitoring of compliance with the Act. The Icelandic Coast Guard, responsible to the Minister of Justice, monitors fishing activities in Icelandic waters, including surveillance of areas closed for fishing and inspection of mesh sizes and other gear related practices. Under a bilateral agreement between Iceland and the European Union (EU), Icelandic inspectors are required on board all EU fishing vessels in Icelandic waters.

R1

## 7. KEY STAKEHOLDERS

### 8. REFERENCES

R1 – IFFO RS assessment, Iceland Summer-spawning herring re-assessment, June 2013:  
<http://www.iffo.net/files/iffoweb/approved-raw-materials/whole-fish/iceland-summer-spawning-herring-re-assessment-june.pdf>

R2 – IFFO RS assessment, Iceland Summer-spawning herring surveillance, August 2014:  
<http://www.iffo.net/files/iffoweb/approved-raw-materials/whole-fish/iceland-summer-spawning-herring-surveillance.pdf>

R3 – ICES advice, Herring in Division Va (Icelandic summer-spawning herring), June 2015:  
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/her-vasu.pdf>

R4 – MRI status of Icelandic stocks 2013/14 and prospects 2014/15, herring:

<http://www.hafro.is/Astand/2014/english/23-herring-14.pdf>

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864

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