



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment Report Template

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Flounder (<i>Platichthys flesus</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 27 Northeast Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	Denmark
	Stock:	ICES in Subarea 4 and Division 3.a (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat)
Date	13/09/2021	
Report Code	BP150	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Denmark	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name:			
Address:			
Country: Denmark		Zip:	
Tel. No.:		Fax. No.:	
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Key Contact:		Title:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Virginia Polonio	Vito Romito	0.5	Initial
Assessment Period	To September 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Flounder (<i>Platichthys flesus</i>)
Stock	ICES in Subarea 4 and Division 3.a (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat)
Fishery Location	FAO 27 Northeast Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Commission (EC), Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark (MFVM)
Gear Type(s)	Bottom trawls and gillnets
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Approved
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>If a species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as Marin Trust raw material.</p> <p>Flounder, <i>Platichthys flesus</i> is listed on the IUCN Red List as globally Least Concern (LC) and is not listed in CITES such that Flounder derived products are eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>Flounder is mainly a bycatch species in the demersal fisheries in coastal areas of the North Sea. ICES framework for category 3 stocks was applied (ICES, 2012). The first quarter International Bottom Trawl Survey (NS-IBTS) was used as the index of stock development. The advice is based on the ratio of the mean of the last two index values (index A) and the mean of the three preceding values (index B), multiplied by the recent average catches. The index is estimated to have decreased by less than 20% and thus the uncertainty cap was not applied. The precautionary buffer was never applied before for this stock. Fishing pressure is below the FMSY proxy reference point; however, stock status in relation to reference points is unknown and therefore the precautionary buffer was applied.</p> <p>Consequently, due to the comparative lack of scientific information on the status of the population of the species means that a risk-assessment style approach must be taken, and the stock has been assessed under category D.</p> <p>As the stock passes the PSA analysis; Flounder, in FAO 27 is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current Marin Trust v 2.0 by-product standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The reviewer agrees that this stock should be APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current Marin Trust v 2.0 by-product standard.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor

Species Categorisation

NB: If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in CITES Appendix 1, it **cannot** be approved for use as an MARINTRUST raw material.

IUCN Red list Category

By-product material from a species listed by IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) under the Red List for the following categories shall immediately fail the assessment;

- EXTINCT (E) AND EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW)
- CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR) facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
- ENDANGERED (EN) facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

By-product material may be used from the following categories provided that all clauses in the MarinTrust standard are passed.

- VULNERABLE (VU) facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
- NEAR THREATENED (NT) does not qualify for above now, but is close or is likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future.
- LEAST CONCERN (LC) Widespread and abundant.
- DATA DEFICIENT (DD) and NOT EVALUATED (NE)

Table 3 Species Categorisation Table

Common name	Latin name	Stock	Management	Category	IUCN Red List Category ¹	CITES Appendix 1 ²
Flounder	<i>Platichthys flesus</i>	ICES in Subarea 4 and Division 3.a (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat)	European Commission (EC), Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark (MFVM)	D	LC	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

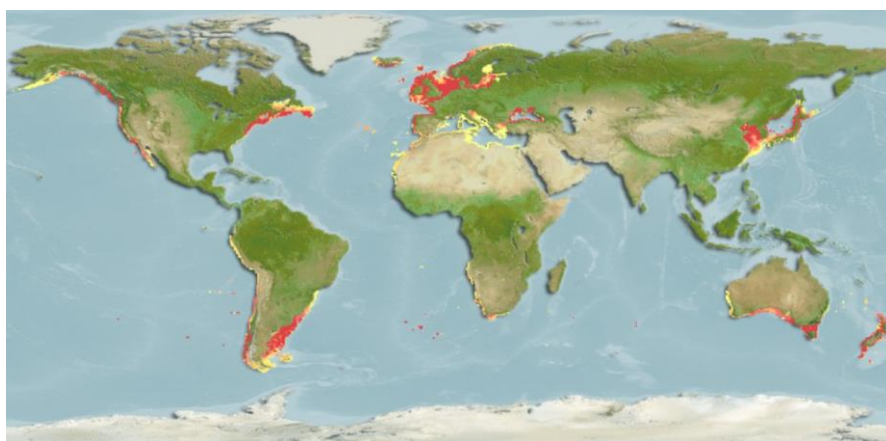
² <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

CATEGORY D SPECIES

Category D species are those which make up less than 5% of landings and are not subject to a species-specific management regime. In the case of mixed trawl fisheries, Category D species may make up the majority of landings. The comparative lack of scientific information on the status of the population of the species means that

D1	Species Name	<i>Flounder, <i>Platichthys flesus</i></i>	
	Productivity Attribute	Value	Score
	Average age at maturity (years)	3	2
	Average maximum age (years)	12.4	2
	Fecundity (eggs/spawning)	894,427 [400,000-2,000,000]	1
	Average maximum size (cm)	60	2
	Average size at maturity (cm)	26.7	1
	Reproductive strategy	Non-guarders: open water/substratum egg scatterers	1
	Mean trophic level	3.3	3
	Average Productivity Score		1.71
	Susceptibility Attribute	Value	Score
	Overlap of adult species range with fishery	Not scored	Not scored
	Distribution	Throughout region/Global distribution	1
	Habitat	Demersal	3
	Depth range	1-100 m	3
	Selectivity	Species 1 to 2 times mesh size or 4 to 5m length	2
	Post-capture mortality	Most dead	3
	Average Susceptibility Score		2.4
	PSA Risk Rating (From Table D3)		PASS
	Compliance rating		PASS

References



Munroe, T.A. 2010. *Platichthys flesus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2010: e.T135717A4191586. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2010-4.RLTS.T135717A4191586.en>.
<https://www.fishbase.se/summary/Platichthys-flesus.html>

Standard clauses 1.3.2.2

a risk-assessment style approach must be taken.

Table D2 - Productivity / Susceptibility attributes and scores.

Productivity attributes	Low productivity/ High risk	Medium productivity/ Medium risk	High productivity/ Low risk
	Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
Average age at maturity (years)	>4	2 to 4	<2
Average maximum age (years)	>30	10 to 30	<10
Fecundity (eggs/spawning)	<1 000	1 000 to 10 000	>10 000
Average maximum size (cm)	>150	60 to 150	<60
Average size at maturity (cm)	>150	30 to 150	<30
Reproductive strategy	Live bearer, mouth brooder or significant parental investment	Demersal spawner "berried"	Broadcast spawner
Mean trophic level	>3.25	2.5–3.25	<2.5

Susceptibility attributes		High susceptibility/ High risk	Medium susceptibility/ Medium risk	Low susceptibility/ Low risk
		Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
Availability	1) Overlap of adult species range with fishery	>50% of stock occurs in the area fished	Between 25% and 50% of the stock occurs in the area fished	<25% of stock occurs in the area fished
	2) Distribution	Only in the country/ fishery	Limited range in the region	Throughout region/ global distribution
Encounterability	1) Habitat	Habitat preference of species make it highly likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. demersal, muddy/sandy bottom)	Habitat preference of species make it moderately likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. rocky bottom/reefs)	Depth or distribution of species make it unlikely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. epi-pelagic or meso-pelagic)
	2) Depth range	High overlap with trawl fishing gear (20 to 60 m depth)	Medium overlap with trawl fishing gear (10 to 20 m depth)	Low overlap with trawl fishing gear (0 to 10 m, >70 m depth)
Selectivity		Species >2 times mesh size or up to 4 m length	Species 1 to 2 times mesh size or 4 to 5 m length	Species <mesh size or >5 m length
Post capture mortality		Most dead or retained Trawl tow >3 hours	Alive after net hauled Trawl tow 0.5 to 3 hours	Released alive Trawl tow <0.5 hours

Note: Availability 2 is only used when there is no information for Availability 1; the most conservative score between Encounterability 1 and 2 is used.

D3		Average Susceptibility Score		
		1 - 1.75	1.76 - 2.24	2.25 - 3
Average Productivity Score	1 - 1.75	PASS	PASS	PASS
	1.76 - 2.24	PASS	PASS	TABLE D4
	2.25 - 3	PASS	TABLE D4	TABLE D4

D4		Species Name	
Impacts On Species Categorised as Vulnerable by D1-D3 - Minimum Requirements			
D4.1	The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts.		
D4.2	There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species.		
Outcome:			
Evidence			
D4.1: The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts.			
D4.2 There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species.			
References			
Links			
MARINTRUST Standard clause		1.3.2.2, 4.1.4	
FAO CCRF		7.5.1	
GSSI		D.5.01	