



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment Report Template

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

22 Amelia Street

London

SE17 3BZ

E: standards@marin-trust.com

T: +44 2039 780 819

Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

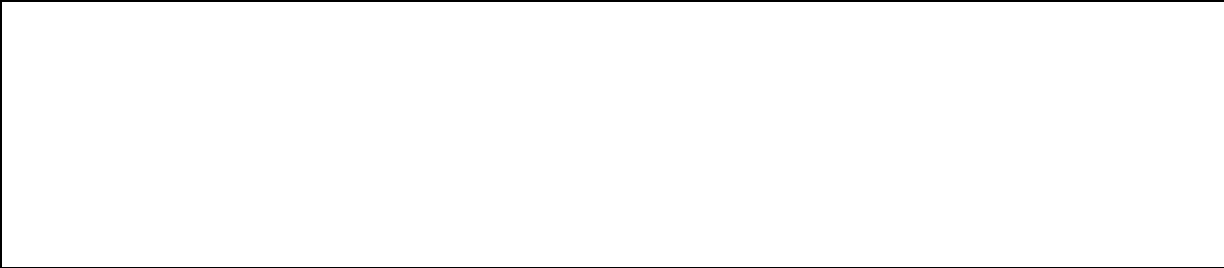
Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Megrim, <i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>
	Geographical area:	FAO Fishing Area 27 Northeast Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	U.K. & Ireland
	Stock:	Megrim in divisions 4.a and 6.a (northern North Sea, West of Scotland)
Date	11 August 2021	
Report Code	BP159	
Assessor	Vito Romito	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Pass	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name: Pelagia			
Address:			
Country: UK & Ireland		Zip:	
Tel. No.:		Fax. No.:	
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Key Contact:		Title:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:			
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Vito Romito	Geraldine Criquet	0.5	Surveillance 2
Assessment Period	August 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Megrim, <i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>
Stock	Megrim in divisions 4.a and 6.a (northern North Sea, West of Scotland)
Fishery Location	Northern North Sea, West of Scotland
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU CFP Framework and UK Marine Management Organisation.
Gear Type(s)	All gear types
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation of approval.
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>Megrim (<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i> made up of <i>Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis</i> and <i>L. boscii</i>) is not is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red list nor is listed in Appendix 1 of CITES.</p> <p>The stock is managed through a multiannual management plan (MAP) which has been adopted by the EU for this stock (EU, 2019) and which ICES considers to be precautionary. There is no agreed shared management plan with UK for this stock, and ICES provides advice according to ICES MSY approach. Catch scenarios consistent with the MAP FMSY ranges are been provided in the 2021 advice. The advice is for the two species, <i>L. whiffiagonis</i> and <i>L. boscii</i> combined. Available information indicates that <i>L. boscii</i> constitute a negligible proportion, based on historical sampling of the Scottish and Irish megrim catch. ICES advised in 2021 that when the MSY approach is applied, megrim catches in 2022 should be no more than 7350 tonnes.</p> <p>Fishery removals of the stock in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, C1.1 is met. The spawning-stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim, C1.2 being met.</p> <p>Therefore, megrim in divisions 4.a and 6.a (northern North Sea, West of Scotland) is recommended for APPROVAL for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust RS v 2.0 by-product standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified megrim in divisions 4.a and 6.a (northern North Sea, West of Scotland) as category C, reference points are defined to assess status of the stocks relative to.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment process so the stock PASSES Clause C1.1. The megrim stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point. Therefore, it PASSES Clause C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, megrim in divisions 4.a and 6.a (northern North Sea, West of Scotland) is APPROVED.</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
Megrim	<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i> <i>Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis</i> and <i>L. boscii</i>	Megrim (<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>) in divisions 4.a and 6.a (northern North Sea, West of Scotland)	EU CFP Framework and UK Marine Management Organisation.	C	NO	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a whole fish assessment, Category C species are those which make up less than 5% of landings, but which are subject to a species-specific management regime. In most cases this will be because they are a commercial target in a fishery other than the one under assessment.

Clause C1 should be completed for **each** Category C species. If there are no Category C species in the fishery under assessment, this section can be deleted. Where a species fails this Clause, it should be assessed as a Category D species instead.

Species Name		Megrim	
C1	Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements		
	C1.1	Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	Met
	C1.2	The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	Met
Clause outcome:			Met

C1.1 Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process.

The stock is distributed in divisions 4.a and 6.a (northern North Sea, West of Scotland), as shown in the figure below.

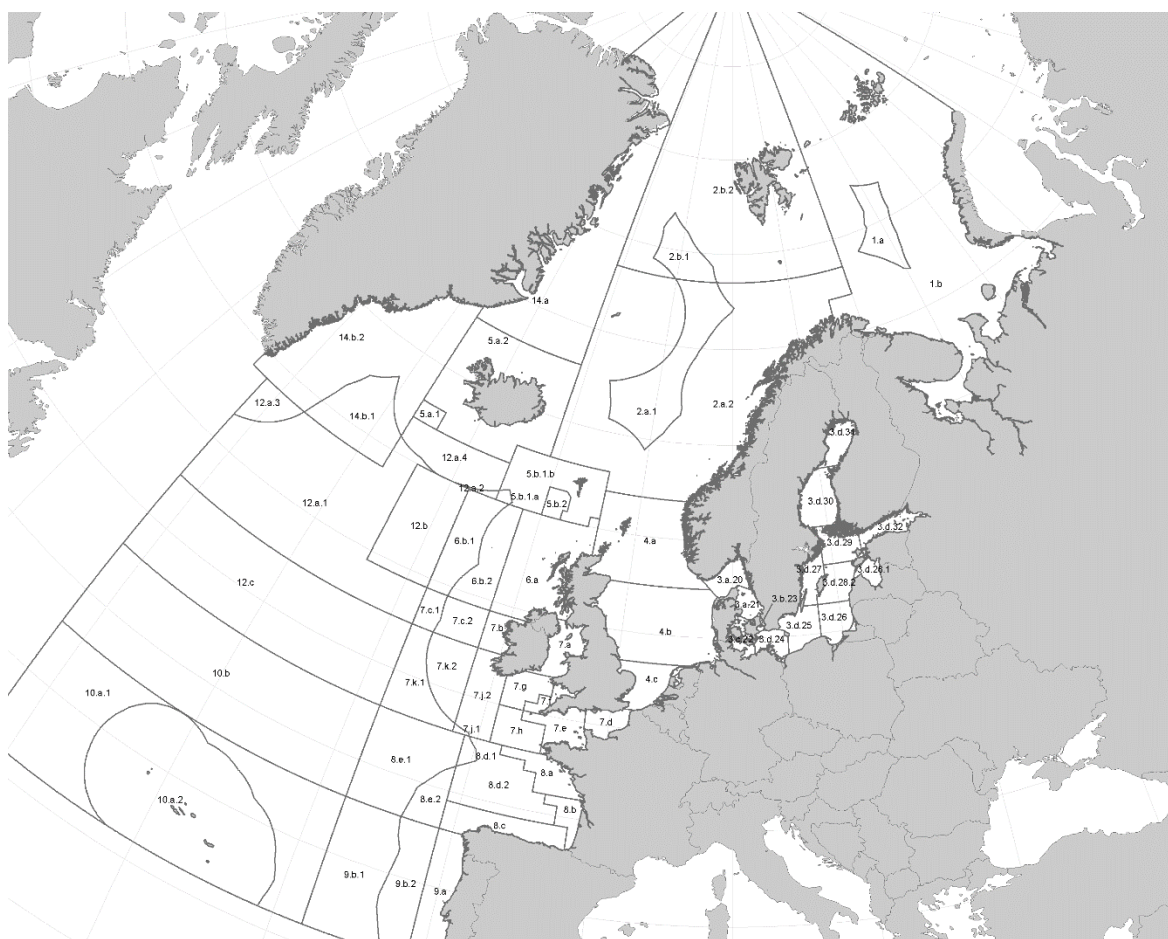


Figure 1. ICES divisions 4.a and 6.a (northern North Sea, West of Scotland).

The stock is assessed using a Bayesian state–space biomass dynamic model that uses catches in the model and in the forecast (ICES, 2021b) including commercial sampling of landings and discards; six survey indices SIAMISS-Q2 (G3745), IAMISS-Q2 (G1794),

Sco-IBTS-Q1 (G1022), Sco-IBTS-Q3 (G2829), Sco-WIBTS-Q1 until 2010 (G1179), and Sco-WIBTS-Q4 until 2010 (G4299). Discards have been included in the assessment, from bottom otter trawl fleets. Discard estimates since 2013 are based on observed discards. Discard estimates prior to 2013 have been estimated based on limited sampling information. C1.1. is met.

C1.2 The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point.

Fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY and spawning-stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim. C1.2 is met.

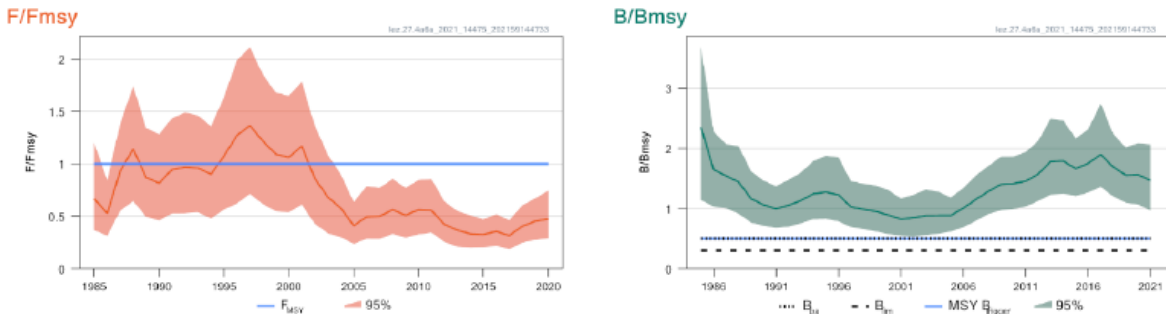


Figure 2. Megrim in divisions 4.a and 6.a. Summary of the stock assessment.

References

Álvarez, H. 2015. *Lepidorhombus boschii*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2015: e.T198729A18987073. Downloaded on 11 August 2021.

Álvarez, H. 2015. *Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2015: e.T198730A18987386. Downloaded on 11 August 2021.

ICES. 2021. Megrim (*Lepidorhombus* spp.) in divisions 4.a and 6.a (northern North Sea, West of Scotland). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2021. ICES Advice 2021, lez.27.4a6a <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7783>.

Links

MARINTRUST Standard clause	1.3.2.2
FAO CCRF	7.5.3
GSSI	D.3.04, D5.01