



## 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:	Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )
	Geographical area:	FAO Major Fishing Area 27
	Country of origin of the product:	UK and Ireland
	Stock:	Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> ) in Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak)
Date	12/11/2021	
Report Code	BP220	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
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 and Ireland		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	Geraldine Criquet	0.5	Surveillance 2
Assessment Period	To November 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Plaice
Stock	Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> ) in Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak)
Fishery Location	FAO Major Fishing Area 27
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU Common Fisheries Policy Framework
Gear Type(s)	Beam and otter trawls
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation of approval
Recommendation	<b>APPROVED</b>

**Table 2. Assessment Determination**

Assessment Determination
<p>If any 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 MARINTRUST raw material. Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) in Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak) is not is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red list nor is listed in Appendix 1 of CITES.</p> <p>An EU multiannual management plan (MAP) has been agreed by the EU for this stock (EU, 2018). There is no agreement with Norway regarding this plan, and it is not used as the basis of the advice for this shared stock. ICES was requested by the EC and UK to provide advice based on the MSY approach and to include FMSY ranges in the catch scenarios. Reference points are defined for this stock and therefore, there is a species-specific management plan and the stock has been assessed under category C.</p> <p>Removals of the species has been considered in the stock assessment therefore the stock passes clause C1.1</p> <p>The spawning–stock biomass (SSB) has increased since 2012 and has been well above MSY Btrigger since 2013. Therefore, the stock passes clause C1.2.</p> <p>In order to be approved, the stock assessed must pass both Clause C1.1 and C1.2; therefore, Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) in Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak) is <b>APPROVED</b> for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MARINTRUST v2 by-product standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified plaice in Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak) as category C, reference points are defined to assess status of the stock relative to.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment process so the stock PASSES Clause C1.1. The plaice stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point, it PASSES Clause C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, the North Sea and Skagerrak plaice stock should be 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 <sup>1</sup>	CITES Appendix 1 <sup>2</sup>
Plaice	<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	ICES Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak)	EU Common Fisheries Policy Framework	C	LC	Not listed

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

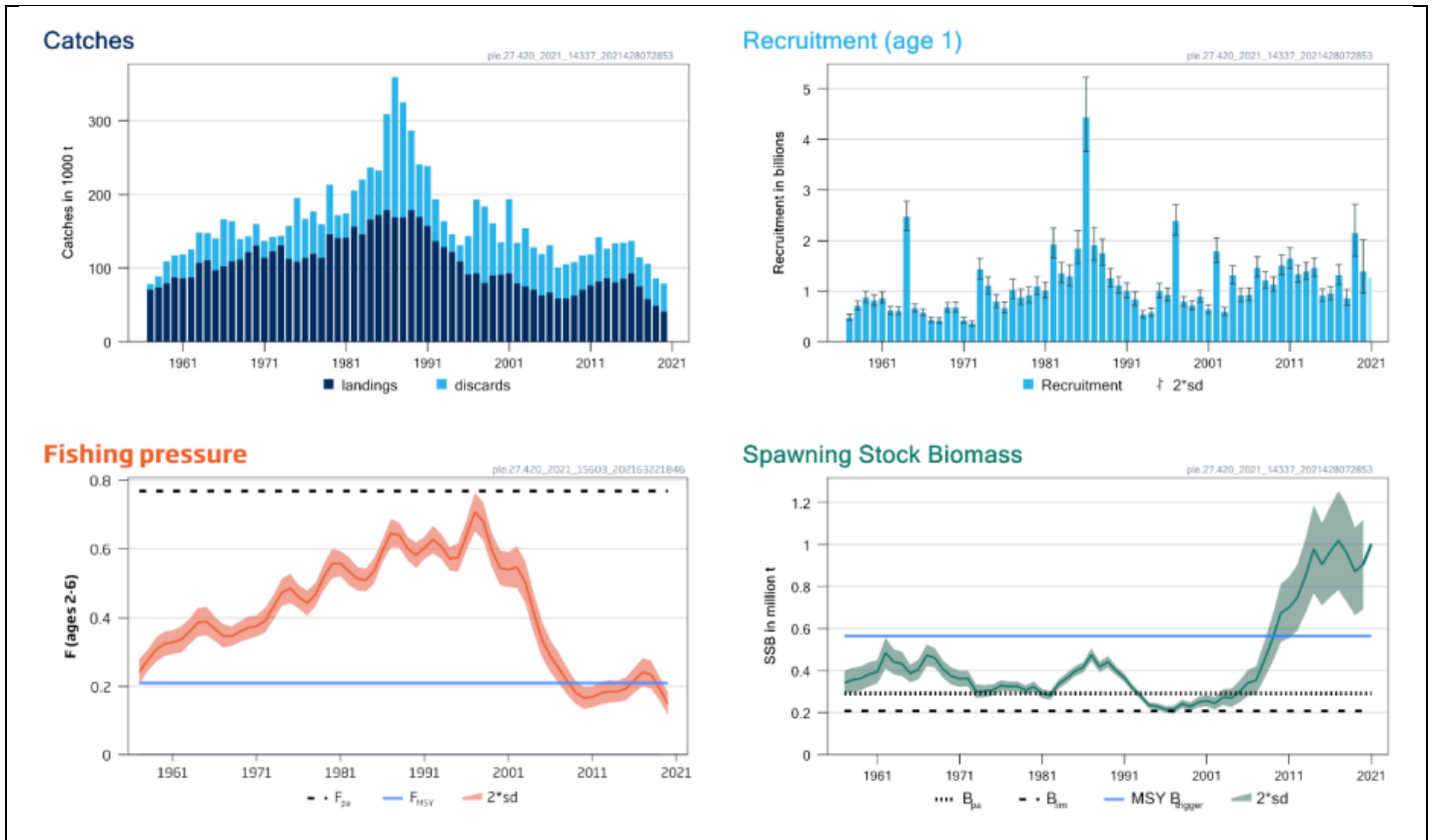
<sup>2</sup> <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

## 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		Plaice, <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	
C1	EU Common Fisheries Policy Framework		
	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.	Yes
	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.	Yes
			Clause outcome: <b>PASS</b>
<p><b>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.</b></p> <p>An age-structured stock assessment based on Aarts and Poos (2009) that uses catches in the model and the forecast is used to assess this stock. The input data are commercial catch, ages, and length frequencies from port and observer sampling. Six survey indices: combined BTS (Tridens, Isis, Belgica, Solea, UK-BTS; 1996–2020, [B2453]), BTS-Isis (1985–1995, [B2453]), SNS (split into two series, SNS1 1970–1999 and SNS2 2000–2020, [B3499]), IBTS Q1 (2007–2020, [G1022]), and IBTS Q3 (1997–2020, G2829)). Both the combined BTS Tridens and Isis and the IBTS (Q1 and Q3) survey indices are updated yearly using a delta-GAM model (Berg et al., 2014). Maturity-at-age is assumed constant over time; natural mortality-at-age is assumed constant at 0.1 year<sup>-1</sup> (ICES, 2017). Discards, BMS landings, and bycatch data from the majority of fleets were included in the assessment. In 2020, 68% of the total discards in Subarea 4 were obtained from sampling programmes. For Subdivision 20, 43% of the total discards were obtained from sampling programmes. BMS landings, where reported, are included with discards in the assessment from 2016 onwards.</p> <p>Catches can be seen in the figure 1 and they have been decreasing in recent years. Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and it PASSES clause C1.1.</p> <p><b>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.</b></p> <p>As shown below, the plaice spawning–stock biomass (SSB) has increased since 2010 and has been well above MSY Btrigger since 2011. Recruitment (R) has fluctuated in recent years. Fishing mortality (F) has been generally decreasing since 1992 and has been below FMSY since 2011.</p>			



**Figure 1.** Plaice in Subarea 4 and Subdivision 20. Summary of the stock assessment. The assumed recruitment value for 2021 is shaded in a lighter colour. ICES 2021

Therefore, fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY, Fpa, and Flim, and spawning-stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim and it PASSES clause C1.2.

**References**

Freyhof, J. 2015. *Pleuronectes platessa*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2015: e.T135690A55118705.

ICES. 2021. Plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) in Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2021. ICES Advice 2021, ple.27.420. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7819>.

Links: see above

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