



## MarinTrust Standard V2

### By-product Fishery Assessment

*Plaice Pleuronectes platessa (ICES  
Division 7.f-g Bristol Channel, Celtic Sea)*

**MarinTrust Programme**

Unit C, Printworks

22 Amelia Street

London

SE17 3BZ

E: [standards@marin-trust.com](mailto:standards@marin-trust.com)

T: +44 2039 780 819

**Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome**

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Plaice <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>
	Geographical area:	FAO 27 Northeast Atlantic. ICES divisions 7.f-g (Bristol Channel, Celtic Sea)
	Country of origin of the product:	Belgium, Ireland, UK, France (Flag states)
	Stock:	Plaice in ICES divisions 7.f-g (Bristol Channel, Celtic Sea)
Date	May 2022	
Report Code	DNK23	
Assessor	Conor Donnelly	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Belgium, Ireland, UK, France (Flag states)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL		

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Marine Ingredients Denmark; FFSkagen, TripleNine			
Country: Denmark			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Conor Donnelly	Vito Romito	0.5	TBC
Assessment Period	To May 2022		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Plaice <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>
Stock	ICES division 7.f-g (Bristol Channel, Celtic Sea)
Fishery Location	FAO 27 Northeast Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU/Common Fisheries Policy & UK
Gear Type(s)	Beam trawl, otter trawl, seine, gillnet, other gears
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's determination
Recommendation	<b>APPROVE</b>

## Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as Marin Trust raw material. Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, nor does it appear in the CITES appendices; therefore, plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) in ICES Division 7.f-g (Bristol Channel, Celtic Sea) is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust raw material.</p> <p>There is a species-specific management regime in place for this stock including a stock assessment with reference points defined and a TAC set and therefore, the stock was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>In the last stock assessment, removals are considered, and the stock is above <math>B_{lim}</math> and <math>MSY B_{trigger}</math>, therefore the fishery PASSES clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) in ICES Division 7.f-g (Bristol Channel, Celtic Sea) is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the Marin Trust Standard v.2.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) in ICES Division 7.f-g (Bristol Channel, Celtic Sea) as category C, this stock is managed, and reference points are defined.</p> <p>Fishery removals are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is above <math>B_{lim}</math> and <math>MSY B_{trigger}</math>. Therefore, the stock is considered to have a biomass above the limit reference point.</p> <p>Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) in ICES Division 7.f-g (Bristol Channel, Celtic Sea) passes both Clauses C1.1 and C1.2 and is therefore approved under the Marin Trust Standard v.2.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
<p>None.</p>

## 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 a 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 Division 7.f-g ( Bristol Channel, Celtic Sea )	EU/Common Fisheries Policy & UK	C	LC (Europe)	Not listed

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

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

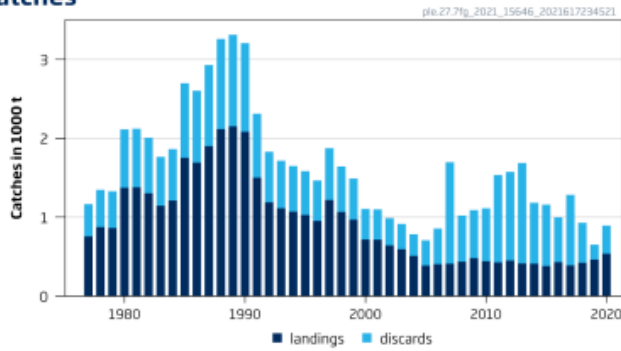
## CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a by-product assessment, Category C species are those which are subject to a species-specific management regime and are usually targeted species in fisheries for human consumption.

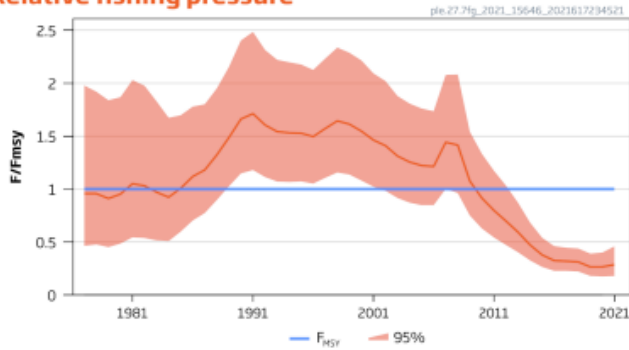
Clause C1 should be completed for each Category C species. If there are no Category C species in the fishery under assessment, this section can be deleted. Where a species fails this Clause, it should be assessed as a Category D species instead.

<b>Species Name</b>		Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> ) in ICES Division 7.f-g (Bristol Channel, Celtic Sea)	
<b>C1</b>	<b>Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements</b>		
	<b>C1.1</b>	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
	<b>C1.2</b>	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
			<b>Clause outcome:</b> PASS
<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>The stock is assessed using SPiCT (Surplus Production model in Continuous Time) which is considered indicative of trends only (ICES, 2021). Input data includes commercial landings and discards, two survey indices (UK [E&amp;W]-BTS-Q3 [B6596], IGFS-WIBTS-Q4 [G7212]) and LPUE from UK beam and otter trawlers. Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and the species <b>PASSES</b> 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>Biomass reference points are defined for this stock and in its most recent assessment the stock is above its limit reference point, <math>B_{lim}</math>, and also <math>MSY B_{trigger}</math> (see figure below). Therefore, the stock has a biomass above the limit reference point and <b>PASSES</b> clause C1.2.</p>			

### Catches



### Relative fishing pressure



### Relative biomass

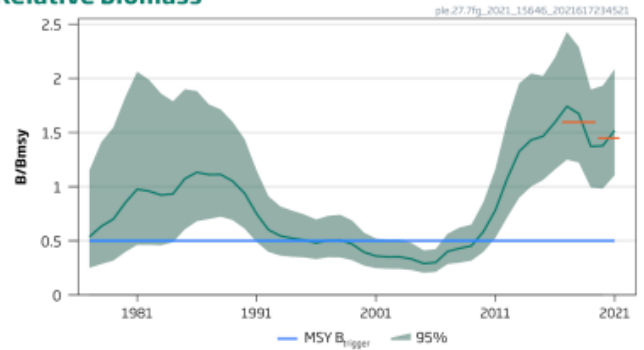


FIGURE 1. PLAICE IN DIVISIONS 7.F AND 7.G. CATCHES (THOUSAND TONNES). THE SHORT ORANGE LINES IN THE RELATIVE BIOMASS PLOT INDICATE THE AVERAGE VALUES OF THE RESPECTIVE YEARS (2017 TO 2019 AND 2020 TO 2021) (SOURCE: ICES. 2021).

### References

ICES. 2021. Plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) in divisions 7.f and 7.g (Bristol Channel, Celtic Sea). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2021. ICES Advice 2021, ple.27.7fg. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7823>

### Links

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

## CATEGORY D SPECIES

Category D species are those which 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 a risk-assessment style approach must be taken.

<b>D1</b>	<b>Species Name</b>		
	<b>Productivity Attribute</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Score</b>
	Average age at maturity (years)		
	Average maximum age (years)		
	Fecundity (eggs/spawning)		
	Average maximum size (cm)		
	Average size at maturity (cm)		
	Reproductive strategy		
	Mean trophic level		
	<b>Average Productivity Score</b>		
	<b>Susceptibility Attribute</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Score</b>
	Availability (area overlap)		
	Encounterability (the position of the stock/species within the water column relative to the fishing gear)		
	Selectivity of gear type		
	Post-capture mortality		
	<b>Average Susceptibility Score</b>		
	<b>PSA Risk Rating (From Table D3)</b>		
	<b>Compliance rating</b>		
	<b>Further justification for susceptibility scoring (where relevant)</b>		
	<i>For susceptibility attributes, please provide a brief rationale for scoring of parameters where there may be uncertainty affecting your decision</i>		
<b>References</b>			
Standard clauses 1.3.2.2			

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.



<b>D3</b>		<b>Average Susceptibility Score</b>		
		<b>1 - 1.75</b>	<b>1.76 - 2.24</b>	<b>2.25 - 3</b>
<b>Average Productivity Score</b>	<b>1 - 1.75</b>	PASS	PASS	PASS
	<b>1.76 - 2.24</b>	PASS	PASS	TABLE D4
	<b>2.25 - 3</b>	PASS	TABLE D4	TABLE D4

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